



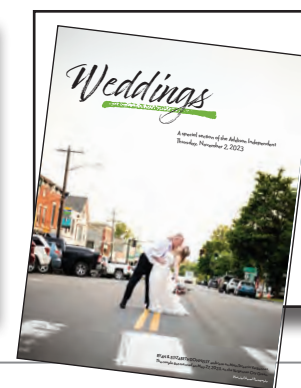
A poet's life

Susan Jefts talks about what goes into a poem as she brings out a new collection. See Arts + Leisure.



Tigers roar

Middlebury boys' soccer had a fast start in the Division II tournament. See Page 1B.



Saying 'I do'

We profile nine couples with county ties who got married this year in our Weddings section.

ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT

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Teen charged in fatal shooting

Shelburne youth killed in Bristol; teen suspect charged as adult & released

By MARIN HOWELL

BRISTOL/MIDDLEBURY — A 14-year-old Burlington youth was released on bail into the custody of his family on Wednesday after pleading innocent in court to charges that he had shot and killed a 14-year-old Shelburne youth in Bristol on Monday evening.

In Addison County Superior Court/Criminal Division in

Middlebury, Hussein Mohamed made the pleas to charges of second degree murder, manslaughter and aggravated assault. The teenager is being charged as an adult.

Madden Gouveia was sitting in a car outside a home off North Street in Bristol on Monday evening, when he was shot by a handgun. He died at University of Vermont (See Bristol, Page 11A)

Big projects to bring more childcare slots

Otter Creek, Red Clover set to grow

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — The Middlebury area will see a major infusion of much-needed childcare slots during the next two years, thanks to a big expansion of an established center and the launch of a new one.

Assuming a smooth permitting

process, construction will begin next spring on a much-anticipated "Community Childcare Expansion Project" at the Otter Creek Child Center (OCCC) at 150 Weybridge St., a project designed to create 77 new childcare slots (for a total of 139) and 28 related new jobs in our (See Childcare, Page 13A)



Halloween inside the box

WEARING HER HOMEMADE "Claw" costume, 8-year-old Hatley Dishaw pauses near the Middlebury Post Office on Sunday afternoon during the annual Spooktacular celebration that attracted hundreds of kids in costume to collect candy from downtown merchants. See more photos on Pages 4A and 10A.

Independent photo/Steve James

Troop of jellyfish shines in Bristol

By MARIN HOWELL

BRISTOL — Halloween night in Bristol was a bit brighter this year.

Among the ghosts, goblins and spooky characters that filled the town's streets on Tuesday, around a dozen glowing jellyfish lit up the dark, chilly night with a colorful display.

The group of jellies was made up of Bristol and Starksboro (See Jellyfish, Page 16A)



AROUND A DOZEN luminescent jellyfish took to the streets of Bristol on Tuesday night to dazzle trick-or-treaters and community members with a colorful performance. The group, which calls itself the Bristol Jellies, was made up of Bristol residents and a couple from Starksboro.

Photo courtesy of Karen Swanson

Zeno takes a spin on the 'Wheel of Fortune'

Bristol woman tackles TV game show

By MARIN HOWELL

BRISTOL — After spending 44 years largely within the boundaries of Addison County, Hannah Zeno found herself this summer looking for an adventure that would take her outside her comfort zone. The Bristol resident had recently wrapped up a series of moves, her three children were all entering adulthood, and she'd begun to ask herself, "What's next?"

It turned out the answer was a



HANNA ZENO

trip to Culver City, Calif., to test her wits on the Wheel of Fortune TV game show.

Zeno was among a handful of contestants to compete in an episode of the popular show that'll air at 7:30 p.m. this Thursday, Nov. 2. She said she's glad she pushed herself to try out for the show and wants to motivate others to pursue their own big adventures.

"That was a once-in-a-lifetime experience," Zeno told the (See Zeno, Page 15A)

Students learn as they help others

By ANDY KIRKALDY

VERGENNES — A new, multi-grade Vergennes Union Middle School (VUMS) course asks its students to work in groups on hands-on service learning projects that range from building bat boxes to boosting gender equality.

Other projects created by teacher Nan Guilmette's 16 groups of (See VUMS, Page 8A)

Moseley to trade library for museum

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — Coco Moseley has always felt comfortable surrounded by books. And as director of the Lawrence Memorial Library, she's had plenty of tomes of all sizes and genres to keep her company.

But after three-and-a-half years serving as steward of Bristol's literacy hub, Moseley is taking (See Moseley, Page 11A)



The A Team

RETIRING MIDDLEBURY POLICE Chief Tom Hanley was joined by members of his force on stage at Town Hall Theater this past Thursday, Oct. 26, for an open house recognizing his more than 32 years of service to the community. Shown, from left, are Sgt. Casey Covey, Officer Kevin Emilio, Hanley, new Chief Jason Covey, Sgt. Vegar Boe, and Sgt. Nathan Hayes. See more photos on Page 17A.

Independent photo/Steve James



By the way

Homeward Bound, Addison County's Humane Society, is looking for foster homes for dogs. Fostering plays a very important role at the Middlebury shelter. It helps Homeward Bound staff learn more about the dogs and their behavior, can provide stress relief for dogs who are overwhelmed, and provides overall enrichment for pups who take a while to find their (See By the way, Page 15A)

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WILL KASSO CONDRY painted this Middlebury Skate Park auction artwork, above, called "Cycle of Life." It is up for bids online now through Nov. 10.

Auction to aid skatepark project

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — Organizers of a Middlebury Skatepark Project are holding an artwork auction to generate more funding for what's expected to be a 7,500-square-foot, delightfully undulating concrete recreation park.

Members of the Middlebury Skatepark Project (MSP) board have successfully recruited 24 artists to donate their time and creativity to fashion unique works of skateboard art for the fundraiser. Online bidding started on Oct. 27 and will end on Friday, Nov. 10, at 7 p.m. as part of a special, in-person event at Notte at 86 Main St. in Middlebury.

Skatepark boosters have set a goal of \$5,000 for the auction, which would be on par with the \$5,500 organizers raised at last year's event.

The MSP has been diligently raising money and seeking grants for a project that's been estimated at \$375,000 to \$562,500, according to MSP President Ethan Murphy. That

works out to around \$50 to \$70 per square foot "to account for design complexity and construction cost variation," Murphy said through a recent email.

adorned with a wonderfully talented artist's colorful interpretation. Among the participating artists are Mike Mayone, Alexa Herrera Condry and Silas Quinn.

One skateboard bears a stunning acrylic depiction of a northern view up Middlebury's Main Street, with the Congregational Church as the centerpiece. Others feature cows, a forest scene, a porcupine climbing a tree, skulls, an eagle-owl, extraterrestrials and legends.

"There's something for everyone," Murphy said. "We've had this fundraiser brewing for over a year now, and it is so amazing to see the community come together through art to support skateboarding and other wheeled sports that are inherently creative in their practice and that have a long history of weaving art within the culture."

The auction items are currently on display in the window of National Bank of Middlebury's Main Street building. They'll move over to Notte for the Nov. 10 in-person event, slated for 5-9 p.m.

More information about the Middlebury Skatepark Project can be found at middleburyskatepark.com.

Reporter John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.



The online auction, which can be found at tinyurl.com/4m75r3k, features a fleet of skateboards, each

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MIDDLEBURY NATURAL FOODS CO-OP

AMONG THE TWO-DOZEN artist-adorned skateboards being auctioned for the Middlebury Skatepark Project is this board painted by noted illustrator and painter Ashley Wolff, (above, left).

ARTIST OLI BERLIC thought outside the board when he painted this submission for the Middlebury Skate Park auction. It's called "Funky Palm," (above, right).

No Act 250 bow-out for city housing plan

By ANDY KIRKALDY

VERGENNES — The owner of two Vergennes condominium and apartment buildings under construction overlooking Otter Creek has been denied a final attempt to avoid an Act 250 permit requirement.

Even though the Oct. 18 decision went against the company, Cornerstone Solutions LLC in the meantime has continued to work to meet conditions of a draft Act 250 permit issued in July.

Cornerstone Solutions halted work in June on the buildings on a 1.1-acre West Main Street parcel after Act 250 officials informed the company it needed a state permit for what is known as the "Portage Project."

The principals in the family-owned business, real estate broker Anna Charlebois-Ouellette; her husband, Randy Ouellette; and contractor Josh Lawton and his family, have said it was their understanding it was a fully permitted property when they purchased it from its former owners and began construction late in 2022. Since this summer, Charlebois-Ouellette said, they have been working to comply with Act 250, a process that includes requests from state agencies for wetlands delineation, riverbank protection, and historic preservation measures.

She said they've brought aboard engineers and a historic preservation expert to work on the requirements outlined in a July 23 Act 250 draft permit, but aren't yet ready to submit documentation.

"It takes work, time and money to prepare a permit, and it's stuff you can't do on your own," Charlebois-Ouellette said.

The building that sits further from the road is more complete, according to Charlebois-Ouellette. Four units have three bedrooms and two bathrooms, and one has two

bedrooms. Cornerstone plans to market three-bedroom townhouses in that structure for up to around \$575,000. The four apartments in the second building closer to the road, which Charlebois-Ouellette also describes as "high end," will have two or three bedrooms when completed.

Cornerstone began work on the Portage Project about a year ago, but had to halt construction in late June when informed the project required a permit under Act 250, Vermont's land use and development law, because Cornerstone had also developed a number of units of the nearby Country Commons condominium project.

One of the criteria that triggers an Act 250 review relates to a developers' unit count. If a property owner or developer creates more than 10 units within a five-mile radius during a five-year period, an Act 250 permit is required. The combined project total for Cornerstone and Country Commons exceeds that 10-unit trigger.

SEEKING RELIEF

Cornerstone thus requires an Act 250 permit even though one of the lot's earlier owners had in 1988 obtained one "for construction of a 24-unit motel," on the property, according to an Oct. 18 Jurisdictional Opinion written by Act 250 District 9 Coordinator Joshua Donabedian.

Donabedian wrote the opinion at the request of an attorney on behalf of Cornerstone, which hoped to escape the Act 250 requirement with a further review of previous permitting and new legislation. Vergennes is in Act 250's District 9, along with the rest of Addison County.

However, Donabedian, wrote regarding the earlier permitting, "the project was never constructed and on June 25, 2007, the District 9 Commission formally declared

Land Use Permit #9A0165 (and amendments) to be abandoned ... at which time Act 250 jurisdiction lifted off the property in its entirety." Therefore, no existing state permit applied to the parcel.

Cornerstone had also argued in requesting Donabedian's Jurisdictional Opinion that the HOME Act, or Act 47, which rewrote Vermont law underpinning zoning and planning laws, should exempt the Portage Project from Act 250. That law took effect in July.

Cornerstone sought that consideration based on HOME Act language that states multi-unit housing like theirs "with 25 or more units" being built "in a designated neighborhood development area" deserves special consideration. All parties agree the Portage Project fits those criteria.

The relevant language concludes, "For purposes of this subsection, the construction of four units or fewer of housing in an existing structure shall only count as one unit towards the total number of units."

But Donabedian in his Jurisdictional Opinion wrote that Act 47 does not apply to projects that were already underway before the law was adopted on July 3.

"Although the Portage Project located at 1-3 Main Street indeed falls within the City of Vergennes Designated Downtown District, by landowner's own admission, construction of the Portage Project commenced in November 2022, meaning that Act 250 jurisdiction was triggered and attached to the Portage Project and underlying project parcel over seven months prior to the enactment of the Act 47/S.100 legislation.

"First, vesting rules established by the Vermont Supreme Court do not apply in this instance as construction of the project (See Portage, Page 3A)

ACSD ramps up superintendent search

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — Members of the Addison Central School District board and representatives of other ACSD stakeholder groups will get a chance on Nov. 13-15 to personally size up and question three finalists seeking to become the district's next superintendent.

The interviewers — who will include carefully culled groups of students, parents, district educators, staff and administrators — will help the school board determine, as soon as Nov. 16, a ranking order for the trio of hopefuls. This will ideally lead to a deal with the board's top choice by early December, according to ACSD board Chair Barbara Wilson.

It's a vetting process that's being conducted behind closed doors. The board and its consultant, Judy Sclair-Stein from McPherson & Jacobson LLC, have elected to withhold the identities of the finalists from the media and general public; the interviewers have been sworn to secrecy.

The ACSD board this past summer switched to a confidential selection process fearing some qualified candidates might not apply for the district's top job if they were publicly identified.

"Having a more public process converts an education leadership position into a political position by opening it up and putting names

into the newspaper before the board is done talking with them," ACSD board member Mary Heather Noble said this past August, when the board mapped out its confidential hiring process.

This past February ACSD Superintendent Peter Burrows announced he'd be stepping down at the end of the academic year to helm the Milton, Mass., school system.

The timing of Burrows's announcement resulted in a late search process for his successor. That search yielded 10 applicants, who were eventually whittled down to two finalists: one who withdrew her application after being publicly questioned about an investigation into her performance at her current job, and the other whom the school board chose not to hire.

The ACSD regrouped and decided to search for an interim superintendent. Tim Williams — who served as interim superintendent of the Patricia Hannaford Career Center last year — made a similar one-year leadership commitment to the ACSD, which delivers preK-12 public education to students in Bridport, Cornwall, Middlebury, Ripton, Salisbury Shoreham and Weybridge.

McPherson & Jacobson in September posted the ACSD superintendent vacancy in several state, regional and national publications and online platforms.

That effort drew around 15 applicants, according to Wilson. Sclair-Stein told the ACSD board that six of the 15 deserved further scrutiny. One of the six dropped out for personal reasons, according to Wilson. Officials flagged three of the remaining five candidates for interviews. Each hopeful will submit to a full day of onsite visits/interviews, scheduled for Nov. 13, 14 and 15.

The ACSD, in its ad, asked that applicants for the superintendent's job:

- Have a proven record of success in leadership positions as evidenced by positive recommendations from former staff and work supervisors.
- Be a data-driven decision-maker who prioritizes equity and understands the diverse needs of students, families, and staff.
- Be collaborative and skillful at bringing people with different opinions together to build on common ground to reach consensus, a uniter.
- Have a commitment to improving student outcomes for all, with a strong knowledge of special education, understanding of rural communities and socioeconomic diversity/disparity.
- Have the ability to delegate and demonstrate accountability across their team, can assess the

(See ACSD, Page 7A)

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Duguay reflects on BMP tenure

By JOHN FLOWERS
MIDDLEBURY — Karen Duguay has spent the past decade supporting, promoting and celebrating businesses in downtown Middlebury.

She's now ready to carry out that same mission for the entire county.

Duguay on Nov. 11 will step down as executive director of the Better Middlebury Partnership (BMP) to become the Addison County Economic Development Corp's (ACEDC) first-ever associate director. The ACEDC helps county businesses grow and create good-paying jobs. Its staff routinely networks with area business leaders and other local, regional, state and federal partners to advance community and economic development in the county.

Duguay's new duties will include assisting ACEDC Executive Director Fred Kenney; providing outreach and assistance to area businesses, non-profits and municipalities; researching, applying for and administering grants; advancing ACEDC's exploration of a business incubator; assisting with management of the organization's Revolving Loan Fund; and helping develop a regional economic development strategy.

Kenney is confident she'll be a good fit.

"ACEDC and the region will benefit greatly from Karen's experience and expertise," he said. "Her knowledge of the region and the relationships she has developed will help advance our mission to create an entrepreneurial and innovative environment in Addison County."

Duguay has spent 10 fruitful years as the BMP's point person for assisting downtown businesses, organizing events, and marketing Middlebury to folks nearby and indeed throughout the country.

She was originally hired as BMP's part-time marketing coordinator — the organization's only paid staffer. Duguay's main task in those days was to consult with what was then a 24-member BMP board of directors, and help volunteers promote and stage activities designed to boost downtown merchants.

The BMP board soon elevated her to "marketing director," whereupon Duguay played a bigger role in planning promotional events. Then, around six years ago, Duguay was named BMP's executive director — which better reflected her varied duties. She'd taken a lead in organizing promotional events and had assumed a leadership role in representing the BMP's interests before the selectboard and state and local economic development officials.

About five years ago the BMP board made her a full-time employee, a decision that coincided with the formation of the "Neighbors Together" citizens group, charged with navigating merchants, shoppers and commuters through

the construction disruption of the downtown Middlebury rail tunnel project.

The Neighbors Together collaboration was a highlight of Duguay's BMP career. The group and the BMP came up with a project mitigation plan that included a series of downtown business promotions, wayfinding signs, public transportation and information booths.

"Not only am I incredibly proud of all that work, it was such a community-led effort that was almost entirely volunteer, with people who were really invested in the welfare of our community," Duguay recalled.

As if a major construction project wasn't enough of a burden for downtown merchants, they got a concurrent dose of bad news in the form of a global pandemic that sent sales into a tailspin. Duguay has drawn praise for her efforts to help many businesses survive that double whammy.

She spearheaded fundraising for the "Kickstart Middlebury" program, a competition for business startups seeking to fill storefront vacancies in the downtown. Applicants with the best pitches received incentive-and-assistance packages.

Duguay also worked with a new nonprofit called "Table 21" that provided grants to farms, restaurants and retailers whose operations were severely hampered by pandemic restrictions.

It was during Duguay's watch that the BMP spearheaded the Midd Summer Markets, a series of shopping, entertainment and social gatherings on Middlebury's Triangle Park each Thursday during the summer and early fall.

Her economic development contributions have reverberated beyond downtown Middlebury. Duguay was one of three leaders of the Vermont Downtowns Coalition, representing the interests of the 24 communities in Vermont that have achieved "Designated Downtown" status from the state.

The Vermont Downtowns Coalition this past winter successfully lobbied the Legislature and Gov. Phil Scott to award grants of \$25,000 to each of the 24 designated downtowns, allowing them to pay for services to support and promote their business communities.

"I'm really proud that within two years, we were able to get to a point of base funding of \$25,000 each for the Designated Downtown programs," Duguay said. "It not only helps Middlebury's program, but has a huge impact on Bristol, Vergennes, Brandon and all these

other downtowns. (The new funding) has changed a lot of programs' trajectories in a really positive way."

STRETCHED THIN

She hopes to see other Vermont downtowns hire staff, like herself, to help local businesses succeed — individually and collectively.

"These jobs are a lot of fun, but they're hard," she said. "You have to wear so many hats and are stretched really thin."

A typical week might see Duguay go to a new business opening, attend a selectboard meeting to request support for a downtown Wi-Fi grant, and roll up her sleeves to help lay down temporary sod for a downtown block party.

Staying busy has been key, and Duguay is thrilled that so many are invested in downtown Middlebury's welfare.

"Downtowns die when there's apathy," she said, adding an event like a block party "is an opportunity for community engagement like no other."

Asked if she leaves with any unfinished business, Duguay said she wishes she'd been able to do more promotion of Middlebury. But she conceded advertising in regional and national publications and platforms can be expensive, and there's just so much one staffer can do.

Duguay's departure coincides with recent friction between some downtown businesses and houseless individuals — particularly in the Bakery Lane area. Homelessness often converges with substance use disorder, mental health challenges and/or other circumstances that make it a problem that can't be solved overnight, Duguay acknowledged.

"These are hard conversations, in part because there are no easy answers," she said.

Duguay will miss a lot about her BMP role — especially the relationships she built with so many downtown stakeholders.

The BMP board will spend the coming weeks deciding how to fill an executive director's job that evolved during Duguay's successful run.

"I grew with the job and the job grew with me," she said with a smile.

Longtime BMP board member Amey Ryan said the board is sorry to see Duguay go, but glad she won't be going too far.

"Karen has been the backbone of the BMP and what she has accomplished for this organization and, by extension the town and businesses within our area, is incredible," Ryan said. "She took a marketing position and has turned it into a business advocacy, event planning, economic development and tourism attraction career. She will be missed by the BMP and the volunteer board members with whom she served, but we're lucky enough to keep her in town and in a position where she'll continue to make Middlebury a better place."

The BMP will hold a celebratory event for Duguay on Friday, Nov. 3, from 5:30-7p.m., at Shiretown Marketplace at 54 College St.

Reporter John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.



LONGTIME BETTER MIDDLEBURY Partnership Executive Director Karen Duguay is stepping down after 10 years, but she won't be going far — she's about to become the first-ever associate director of Addison County Economic Development Corp.
Independent photo/John S. McCright

"Not only am I incredibly proud of all that work, it was such a community-led effort that was almost entirely volunteer, with people who were really invested in the welfare of our community."

— Karen Duguay

Portage

(Continued from Page 2A)
commenced and continued for many months in violation of Act 250.

"Further, it is clear on its face that the Act 47/S.100 legislation does not include any provisions that reach back in time to undo Act 250 jurisdiction over projects in which jurisdiction has already attached."

Charlebois-Ouellette said Cornerstone's attorney had a different take, and she also respectfully disagrees. She believes the intent of the HOME Act was to encourage more housing, and the failure to grandfather existing projects doesn't honor that intent.

"It's in my opinion a project this size should be grandfathered," she said. "I feel it's OK to disagree on that."

MOVING FORWARD

While appealing Act 250 jurisdiction, Cornerstone has

continued to prepare its Act 250 permit, according to Charlebois-Ouellette. In an email she outlined steps taken:

- Engineer Matthew Murawski from Ripple Natural Resources LLC will prepare "the Flood Hazard Area and River Corridor Individual Permit Narrative for the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources."

She acknowledged this work was delayed by circumstances this summer beyond everyone's control.

"We've been working on it. It was hard to get an engineer to work on the river narrative that was needed because of all the flooding, but we do have one that is working with us now," Charlebois-Ouellette said.

- University of Vermont Associate Professor and Director of Consulting Archaeology Program John Crock will work on a report for the Vermont Division of Historic

Preservation. Charlebois-Ouellette noted the parcel was once home to mills and other historic structures, including a Shade Roller Company mill, and is also "highly sensitive for Precontact Native American" archaeology. She expects it'll require an onsite plaque marker.

- Jamie Simpson from Landmark Engineering & Design will prepare Historical Preservation and ANR site maps and Resources and complete the overall ACT 250 permit.

Charlebois-Ouellette looks forward to work starting again at some point, but couldn't say when.

"We're really excited to get this project back underway and provide some more saleable housing in the community, as well as rentals," Charlebois-Ouellette said. "I'll be very happy when we can get this thing completed."



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Guest editorial

Gov. Scott is MIA on health care issues

Editor's note: Hamilton Davis writes the blog A Vermont Journal. The following post ran on Oct. 31, 2023. Davis has been a journalist and policy analyst for more than 50 years. His main areas of interest are health care reform, American politics, agriculture and food, the environment and education.

By Hamilton Davis

There is no shortage of complexity involved in Vermont's healthcare reform project. Act 48, passed by the Legislature in 2011 ran to 141 pages. In 2022, the lawmakers added another 19 pages in Act 167, which after just 11 years of work provided some touching up and encouragement. A total wonk fest and lawyers' dream. No section or subparagraph, however, counts for as much as the political support for the substance of reform itself. And in Vermont, no political voice can match up with that of Governor Philip Scott.

So, where does Scott stand on reform of the state's doctor-and-hospital system, which accounts for 10 percent of Vermont's state product and constitutes arguably the biggest prop under the Vermont economy? Well, it's hard to say—and that's a huge problem, for the health care system and for the state as a whole.

Let's look at the record.

The reform project encompasses two major problems—the financial standing of the UVM Health Network, and specifically the flagship Medical Center Hospital in Burlington; and rationalizing the non-UVM small hospital network, which operates 11 very small and pretty small facilities across the state. The Medical Center is the most critical issue, and it is in serious trouble, which Phil Scott knows.

Evidence. On June 1 of 2022, Scott wrote a blistering letter to the Green Mountain Care Board, saying their performance was unacceptable, and that he was ordering that body to address the problem immediately. Immediately clearly referred to the FY 2023 hospital budgets, which were about to undergo their annual review. To drive the point home, Scott said that he was ordering his Agency of Human Services to set up a "Committee" to oversee that process, to be managed by his Secretary of Human Services, Jenny Samuelson. The Committee members were to be a small group of senior physicians and hospital managers to advise on where the system should go; the process was to be entirely transparent, and the decisions of the Committee would be released to the public.

Virtually all the specifics set out in the Governor's June 1 letter went glimmering in the first few days—the envisioned membership of eight or nine blew out to 26 as every lobbyist and advocate in town howled at the moon; and over the summer the whole Committee scheme slid into irrelevance. Samuelson had no idea how to manage a gnarly political process and neither did her chief deputy, Shayla Livingston. That wasn't the worst of it, however.

In the late summer of the 2022 budget process, the Green Mountain Care Board made as big a hash of the budget process as it had each year since 2018—grinding down the UVMHC budget while ignoring the much higher spending and markedly worse quality in the 11-unit small hospital system. Yet, when Scott was asked his reaction, he responded that he had "full confidence in the Green Mountain Care Board to carry out its duties in a responsible way." Okay, wow, so much for aggressive oversight.

And Scott's hands-off treatment of the single most financial, cultural and politically significant issue facing the state continues. The latest example is totally inside baseball—the public won't even notice it, let alone care about it. Nevertheless, it confirms the proposition above: that in complicated matters, the Scott Administration simply doesn't play. The event was the announcement a few days ago that Scott was reappointing Robin Lunge to her seat on the Green Mountain Care Board.

Lunge served as the Director of Health Care Reform in the early years of the Shumlin Administration; Shumlin named her to fill a vacancy on the Board in the mid-teens. Her term was to expire on Nov. 1 of this year. In early 2022, Lunge collaborated with Board Member Jessica Holmes in an effort to get Lunge appointed the new chair following the retirement of then-Chair Kevin Mullin, who was retiring in August of 2022.

The Scotties, however, informed Lunge that she could forget the chairpersonship, and that, in fact, they wouldn't even let her keep her current seat... which they just did. Lunge is of no particular importance one way or another, but Scott's disinterest in the mechanics of healthcare reform is of enormous importance to the future of the hospital-doctor system in the state.

As of today, nobody has his or her hand on the political tiller of the state. It is unmistakable on health care, and it is pretty obvious, too, on issues like the state colleges, where we are running three when we can afford one, on the outlook for Lake Champlain, where we have no idea how to both maintain the dairy industry and cure the Lake's ills, or the problem of how to maintain our rural high schools when they have lost half their students, or to manage our rural counties when you can run your computer only with difficulty and your phone is worse than cranky...

All 645,570, give or take, Vermonters need to be concerned about that.



Fast-food family

SUNDAY'S SPOOKTACULAR EVENT was a time when youngsters flitted around downtown Middlebury dreaming of sweet treats, but this family instead evoked visions of savory scrumptiousness.

Independent photo/John S. McCright

Dividing the good & bad not easy

Most of us have heard the story of Noah's ark. It's often told to young children, perhaps because of the compelling images of all those animals, coming two by two. I remember illustrations with giraffes' heads atop their long necks, stretching high above the others: bulky elephants, delicate deer, tiny mice. I thought about being on that boat for so many days and weeks, while the rest of the world washed away.

I soon got thinking about all the animals that did not get to go on that ark — that did not get to be saved. Was that fair? And the people who were not part of Noah's family were also left to die in the floods. What about them? Supposedly it was their fate because they were all bad, but really? All of them? Even as a very young child, it seemed unlikely to me that they were all bad people. So that lovely story of animals and God saving them, the dove and the rainbow — all tainted for me.

Here is our world now, full of so many people who for a multitude of reasons get divided into the good and the bad. I was going to write about the desperate immigrants at our southern border, seeking those most basic of needs: food, water, shelter, safety, plus a chance for something more. Not just at our border, but all across the world, pushing across the essentially random political lines when considered over the many thousands of years of human existence. These are people fleeing the modern-day equivalent of that long ago flood. It may be an actual flood, or a drought, fire or earthquake. It may be wars, terrorism, violent gangs and human trafficking. While some may actually travel

by boat, most come on their own two feet, or in the arms of their parents. Are they good or bad? Should they live or die?

And then I thought about the people in our own country — even in our own communities — who lack shelter. Many of them also children. Are they good or bad? They have the same basic needs that we all do — although it is true that some of them have managed to get burdened with that oh-so-consuming extra need for opiates. Is there a place for them on our ark, or should

we throw up our hands and let them perish in whatever the current version of a flood is?

Enter the situation with Gaza: how do we grapple with that? We know that after the 9/11 attacks in our own country, some people violently turned upon fellow citizens who might or might not have been of Middle Eastern descent. We know that our armies took on the task of "going after the terrorists," though many of the people who were killed or badly impacted by those efforts had nothing to do with the men who turned airplanes into weapons of destruction.

In our yard is a screen that can be used to separate stone from soil. Is there such a device to separate the "good" people from the "bad"? How convenient if there were such a mechanism, though most people have probably had times in their lives when someone might have considered them "bad." True, few of us have wreaked terror and murder on other humans. Most of us have not broken doors nor stolen goods nor

(See Ways of Seeing, Page 5A)

Ways of Seeing

By Laurie Cox



Miss Fidget meets posture issues

When I was a kid, my mother sometimes called me "Tabitha Twitchit," less for my resemblance to the Beatrix Potter character and more for my inability to stay still when I was bored.

I remember once sitting across from her in a booth at a Howard Johnson's while we waited — three to four hours, by my seven-year-old judgment — for our dinners to arrive. I had the idea that I'd pass the time by working on my headstand, a real challenge given that the vinyl-upholstered bench seat was both squishy and slippery.

Mom got downright snippy about my gymnastics and made me stop, calling it "bad manners" to even attempt to balance on my head in a booth at a family restaurant.

That's just how her generation was, I guess.

As an adult, I still have a hard time not moving. Nowadays it's less because of my one-time squirrel-level metabolism and more because if I remain in any one position for too long, parts of my anatomy — joints, muscles, entire limbs — go stiff or start to ache.

At the office, I have a proper chair and a monitor at the correct height. But if I don't take a lot of breaks, I turn into a mannequin, one that appears to be wincing and clutching its hip or lumbar region.

And at home, where I primarily work, I lack a dedicated office or even desk. I bounce at intervals

from the kitchen table to the back porch, to the living room, and sometimes even to the treadmill. In the colder months, I mostly park myself at the kitchen island, 18 to 24 inches from the wood stove, moving farther away when my keyboard begins to melt.

A few weeks ago, I developed a stiff neck. Maybe it was from frequently looking over my shoulder to check for the undead (I need to stop watching horror movies). Maybe it was from sleeping while wedged between the cat at the head of the bed and the dog at the foot.

But I knew the real cause: my recent tendency to work on the couch with my legs on the coffee table and my laptop on my knees. If you took my picture and then stamped a red "X" on it, it would

look just like the "don't" image in the "Ergonomics for Dummies" guide.

I thought of the couch as a comfortable spot. My neck and shoulders, however, disagreed, objecting to my spending day after day hunched over the computer like a vulture over a fresh carcass.

One friend, tired of my whining, suggested I sit on the floor in front of the couch, with the laptop on the coffee table.

The floor sounded eerily bohemian, just a step away from wearing patchouli and a toe ring.

(See Jessie, Page 5A)

Around the bend

By Jessie Raymond



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Letters to the Editor

Calling the loud crowd!

Did you know the MUHS Boys Soccer Team is making a terrific play for a state championship?

A No. 2 seed, they won their quarterfinal match with Lake Region 4-0. Montpelier, the No. 1 seed, has already been eliminated. A win against a tough Harwood team on Nov. 1 would put them in the championship match on Nov. 4.

Even if you've never seen a match, right now, you have an opportunity to be part of something that has never happened before.

Forty years ago, The Loud Crowd helped that MUHS championship basketball team believe in the dream. I know; I was there.

So, calling all who dare to believe! Let's turn out, and turn it up!!!

Rick Wesley
 West New York, N.J.

Questions on Snake Mt. work

I was appalled to read the letter from J. Beamish (*Addison Independent*, Oct. 26) about the destruction on the east side of Snake Mountain due to what looks like unwise logging that has already occurred and is ongoing, so I decided to have a look this morning. Here is what my husband and I found.

Yes, the hiking trail is gone. Instead, there are huge, muddy ruts and waist-high water bars made from huge piles of mud and the remains of trees that have been cut. I do not recommend hiking there unless you want to come home muddy, wet and discouraged, as I did.

The logging has disrupted a wide area of formerly pristine forest. We saw huge new stumps and counted the rings on one tree we estimate was 200 years old. In order to get to the trees they were cutting, the loggers had to make large trails into the sometimes very steep slopes, resulting in sediment flowing down into small streams. We saw one clear-cut area we estimate was two to three acres on a very steep slope, leaving absolutely no trees to serve as a seed source for new trees. Instead, this area is now wide open and perfect for invasive plants such as buckthorn and non-native honeysuckle to take hold.

Brett Gilman, a student at Middlebury College and a co-founder of the Pollinator Pathway of Addison County, discovered this damage on a recent hike up Snake Mountain when he stumbled upon the scene described by J. Beamish. He shared photos he took there with me and a group of students in the Sunday Night Environmental Group (SNEG).

The students and I are concerned about the loss of important wildlife habitat in this special, environmentally diverse ecosystem. Brett has studied the rare wildflowers in the area directly adjacent to the logging site and told us he has never seen so many anywhere in New England. He has also visited other logging sites in Vermont and believes that this one on Snake Mountain appears far more destructive than normal.

Our group, SNEG, is mounting an information effort to learn what is going on at the Snake Mountain site. Our questions are: Is the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department aware of the logging operation being carried out there? Has the area been studied to identify rare and important plants and animals that are being affected? Why is this logging being done now, during the wettest part of the year, and not in winter? Is the logging being done in the most sustainable manner possible in order to protect future trees? Is there a role for the Weybridge Conservation Commission, and the people of Weybridge, in whose town this operation is taking place? And who will speak for the natural environment to make sure no more habitat is destroyed?

I have been reaching out to various officials and individuals (See Putnam letter, Page 5A)

Letters to the Editor

Snake Mountain logging follows accepted practices

The letter by J. Beamish (*Addison Independent*, Oct. 26) dramatically misrepresents what is happening on Snake Mountain on the timber rights that my family owns and have harvested on for many years. My grandfather Fred Johnson assembled 13 properties where the timber rights are now located, buying wood lots owned by farmers who harvested them for firewood until coal became widely available. In 1958, Fred sold the land to the state of Vermont. Fred retained the right to grow, manage and harvest timber on these and other lands, that right was not granted to us by the state. At that time, many logging roads were already in place.

While harvesting, we ensure the work complies with the Acceptable Management Practices for maintaining water quality in the state of Vermont. Before the harvest, our team was in discussions with state biologists, who flagged sensitive areas for the logger to avoid. The logger also avoided using the trail where possible, even though it is the logging road. There have been numerous visits by the state forester to observe the progress of the work in the challenging conditions. The beaver pond and bog that drained did so on their own through natural processes; no logging activity occurred near them.

It has rained a lot this year, making for difficult working conditions for loggers, farmers and others. On this harvest, treetops have been laid down to help minimize erosion, an important component of good logging work. I agree, up into the woods, it's muddy on the section of the trail we had to use. And it should be noted that the nice trails we all enjoy are in many instances located on logging roads.

Great care has been taken to avoid runoff and a bridge was used at the stream crossing. When the job is closed out, the ground will be smoothed out, water bars installed, and some areas will be seeded with conservation mix and hay. The water will settle out of the road and conditions will return to normal. Over time, the trail will grow in, and people will start to forget, again, that this is a logging road.

Logging also provides products that we all use and helps support jobs in Vermont, perhaps even the job of your neighbor. Having local sources of raw materials is important for many woodworkers in Vermont and for other industries, such as animal bedding for farms. We are all interconnected, as was demonstrated by our open house back in September, with many exhibitors who buy from us or sell

to us showing how we all depend on each other.

Over the coming years, the forest will recover quickly. The new openings in the canopy will let in sunlight that stimulates vigorous growth. The tops rot down to provide organic matter for the next crop while providing shelter for small animals. For a few years, the tops also protect the vigorous regeneration that is so wonderful to see in hardwood forest. The great abundance of wildlife on Snake Mountain is testimony to the good work our team has done over many years of harvesting in many locations in that area.

Good forestry practices improve the health of the forest and greatly enhances wildlife habitat, which is one of the many goals of a Wildlife Management Area. There is no "wanton destruction" on Snake Mountain, there is good forestry in difficult logging conditions producing enhanced wildlife habitat and providing jobs and raw materials for local businesses. What is needed now is the long view, appreciating results of the work over the next 10, 20 and 50 years and the abundant new growth that is stimulated by the harvest.

Kenneth D. Johnson
General Manager
The A. Johnson Co. LLC
Bristol

A troubled world, and the yearning to heal

At Middlebury College, students in my courses "Writing to Heal" and "The Rhetorics of Death" grapple with a profound incredulity: we couldn't have anticipated the world's swift descent into such darkness. Death's omnipresence and the yearning for healing weigh heavily on our hearts. Often dismissed as cliché, Charles Dickens bears repeating, "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity, it was the season of light, it was the season of darkness, it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair."

Regrettably, these words still resonate with our era. "A Tale of Two Cities," published in 1859, continues to strike a chord. One hundred and sixty-four years have passed since the novel's release, marked by wars, famines, various devastations, oppressive oligarchs, overbearing governments, and relentless suffering endured by the chronically oppressed, the invisible. What, if anything, has changed? Inequality and injustice prevail.

More to the point, I find that the late, great E.O. Wilson, in "The Social Conquest of Earth," published in 2012, fine tunes Dickens: "Humanity today is like a waking dreamer, caught between the fantasies of sleep and the chaos of the real world. The mind seeks but cannot find the precise place and hour. We have created a Star Wars civilization, with Stone Age emotions, medieval institutions, and godlike technology." Nowhere can I find a better description of what we have become. But when you teach courses such as "Writing to Heal" and "The Rhetorics of Death," this is a problem. How do we work through these devastating descriptions and find hope? How do we heal? Can we?

At Middlebury College, amidst the backdrop of today's complex and transactional higher education landscape, where degrees often equate to material gains, we face a somewhat distinctive challenge when up against the incessant darkness of our times. Students often follow pre-established paths, perceiving a lack of choice as resources dwindle, climate changes for the worse, and technology promises nothing but unpredictability — nothing, then, is for sure. Students methodically check off boxes, which we define as achievements and excellence. Their progression continues to the next course, grade level, or internship, with their sights set on a future marked by the prospect of self-reliance and material comfort. This is entirely understandable.

Yet they realize this is all going on in a world of "medieval institutions, and godlike technology." Nothing seems to be working, they say, anxiously grasping for hope. They are becoming desensitized and inured, beaten down by the daunting realities of our world flashing twenty-four seven through their always lit phones.

In "Writing to Heal," students grieve the absence of space and time to genuinely mourn. The prevailing message, as students articulate it, is straightforward:

stay focused, keep pushing forward, and you'll eventually reach your goals. However, internally, within their spirits, they are not alright. They yearn to communicate, and not solely with a Zoom therapist; they crave daily engagement with adults who acknowledge their existence, recognize their struggles, listen, and engage in meaningful conversations that go beyond additional checkboxes.

Students are in search of the meaningful connections that come from human interaction, especially with adults.

David Brooks, in "In The Essential Skills for Being Human," in the *New York Times*, has a suggestion: "When you offer a gaze that communicates respect, you are positively

answering the questions people are unconsciously asking themselves when they meet you: Am I a person to you? Am I a priority to you?" Students often ask: "Do you truly see me, Professor?" Whether in a classroom, office, on the athletic field, or passing each other in town, they believe that meaningful conversations with faculty and staff can occur regardless of the setting.

"If we are going to accompany someone well," Brooks adds, "we need to abandon the efficiency mindset. We need to take our time and simply delight in another person's way of being." The "efficiency mindset" colors higher education. Those of us charged with educating others are not accompanying our students into their lives; but students, asking that we see them, notice where they're at, trust them, and listen are asking that we accompany them part way. Are we doing that, particularly in these dark times that have turned what we thought we knew into the very real notion that we don't seem to know much?

"A good accompanist does nothing more than practice the art of presence, just being there," says Brooks. Students are actively seeking escape from the chaos. Securing the right job for a better future by any means necessary is a pressing reality and these objectives appear to provide safety in their minds. Education, in this context, is no longer primarily about acquiring knowledge or fostering lifelong learning; the foremost concern is the transaction.

This is the Sandy Hook generation, having witnessed 54 shootings since. My generation practiced bomb drills with fears of "Russians are coming," while this generation has had to practice active shooter drills. They enter college with a sense of

desensitization from the aftermath of violent, unpredictable deaths. Students often carry anxiety and detachment, as unpredictability evolves just as rapidly as artificial intelligence, another challenge to their long-held beliefs about future employment and life in general.

Death is everywhere but nowhere in conversation. When I was their age registering for the Vietnam War draft and witnessing racial riots in New York City and Newark, I never felt that my life could be taken at any moment. Our students do. Death is very real, and judging from the enrollment in "The Rhetorics of Death," where we look at different cultural approaches to Death using novels, students are eager to pry open the mysterious lack of conversation in our culture about Death.

What is it about Death today that seemingly has a different hue than it did forty-plus years ago? Is it the proximity we have to it, that it persistently looms in our consciousness so much so that we even dream of Death?

"Deaths of Despair are a leading cause of mortality in the United States," writes a student. "Suicide, overdose, and alcoholic liver disease are all entirely avoidable, yet they consume marginally more individuals each year. While I'm not currently at risk for such a death, the opportunity for escape from modern responsibility offered by substances or suicide is increasingly enticing for those who struggle the most. Our world seems characterized by a general prioritization of self over community, and getting genuine help from neighbors is a burden."

This student captures an overall sense of things in these courses. There is malaise, a blind acceptance to the inevitability presented in today's world. It's sad, even disheartening. How do you teach against this? What could be my response? "The Middlebury bubble can be incredibly disconnected from the things that foster realness," continues the student. "Falsifying a story about myself to best fit an interview question, or utilizing classmates as assets for problem-set aid is familiar to me. These actions are not genuine and do not facilitate realness, yet they are often necessary to stay the course of the dream."

You might ask, why not retire, leave? I can. But then a student knocks on my office door and asks, "Professor, can you help me?" And I'm in ... In this surreal semester amid a chaotic world, "Writing to Heal" and "The Rhetorics of Death" have led me to ponder whether we are inadvertently teaching students to disconnect, rather than guiding them to confront vulnerabilities and discover the profound healing potential within them.

Jessie

(Continued from Page 4A)

But when I tried it, I found instant relief for my neck. Sitting on the firm floor with the laptop screen at eye level lifted my chin off my sternum and opened up my chest like a set of double doors. It was the best I'd felt in weeks.

I did some research online and found a surprising amount of information about sitting on the floor to work. One site warned that it would cause irreversible spine and hip damage, and getting up and down would cripple me. A better site recommended it for

good posture and a strong core and said getting up and down would increase my lifespan. (That's why I love the internet: You get to pick the facts you like.)

I know if I sat on the floor long enough, my hips would seize up and I'd spend an hour evolving from wounded crab to upright human. But that hasn't happened yet because so far I've been increasing my lifespan every 20 minutes, getting up to let the dog in or out or feed a yowling cat who then refuses whatever I serve her.

For now, the floor is my favorite place to work — provided I don't do it for hours or let it be the only place I sit.

That shouldn't be a problem. While I'm not quite as energetic as I once was, I'm still a bit too fidgety to remain immobile for any length of time. I'll walk or stretch or sometimes even get that irresistible childhood urge to practice a headstand or two.

That's fine, at least when I'm working from home. But let's just say there's a reason Mark doesn't take me out to dinner too often.

Putnam letter

(Continued from Page 4A)

and have learned that the laws regulating logging in Vermont are very lax. Best practices are advisory, not legally binding. This is disheartening and needs to be changed.

The sign at the entrance to the trail says, "The mission of the Vermont Fish and Wildlife

Department is the conservation of all species of fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the people of Vermont. To accomplish this mission, the integrity, diversity and vitality of their natural systems must be protected." They also list a number to call for more information about this area: Fish and Wildlife Department

Essex Junction District Office at 802-878-1564, or see vtfishandwildlife.com.

I plan to call today.

Our wild lands are precious. We can't afford to lose any more of them.

Fran Putnam
Weybridge

Ways of Seeing

(Continued from Page 4A)

threatened passers-by. There probably are just too many people on our Earth, especially as we continue to make vast areas of the globe less habitable. This creates much instability as people seek a place to not only survive but make a home. Do we wish them gone, washed away in some catastrophic event, or can we make a little room?

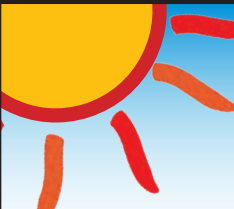
We can look upon these others and see their differences, emphasize those differences to make them

seem more expendable. Are they all our same species but just a little too much unlike ourselves? When a huge, shaggy Newfoundland dog meets up with a sleek little Boston terrier, they both recognize each other as a dog. Yet we humans are constantly seeking out any reason to consider other humans as not really people like us: their skin, their eyes, their hair, their beliefs? — not our peers, not our worthies.

Alas, I lack the answers to all these massive issues, but I do believe that we somehow need to

make bigger arks or more arks. And if, as a society, we must sometimes wipe out the truly "bad" people, can we make every effort to not include in that process all those other people — and animals — as just collateral damage? Then I'll believe in a rainbow.

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




Bridport, VT Homeowner Recommends Bristol Electronics

The solar system that Bristol Electronics installed in 2016 has paid entirely for the power at my home and my tenants' home since they installed it. In addition to our general electricity needs, we have also used heat pumps extensively in the summer for air conditioning and in the fall and spring for heating. I haven't paid a "light" bill since we put the solar panels up.

I made it clear that I like even rows. Since I only needed (32) panels they centered the bottom row. It came out beautiful. I look at it and I am proud of how it looks.

Bristol Electronics was nice to work with and very thoughtful of my wishes throughout the project.

Art Provencher – Bridport, VT



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ADDISON COUNTY

Obituaries

Ethan James Sulik-Doty, 22, of Whiting

WHITING — It is with broken hearts that the family of Ethan Sulik-Doty announces his passing on Oct. 24, 2023, at the age of 22. Ethan was born on April 18, 2001, in Burlington, Vt. He was the beloved son of Christine Sulik and Russell Doty, and brother of Kaitlin Sulik-Doty of Whiting.

Ethan was an exceptional individual, and if you were lucky enough to know him, you are truly blessed. Ethan had an infectious passion for life and a smile that was contagious. He made the most of every minute he spent with his family and many amazing friends. He was kind, intelligent, self-driven, and adventurous. There is no job or request he would not honor without a smile on his face. Ethan found joy in every part of his life.

Ethan loved working out and spending many hours with friends and family. He enjoyed going to the lake and driving the boat, as well as making the best memories with family and friends. Ethan also enjoyed spending time downhill skiing. Ethan attended Otter Valley



ETHAN JAMES SULIK-DOTY

Union High School, where he graduated in 2019. While there, he was an exceptional student, graduating near the top of his class. While at Otter Valley, he was the recipient of many academic achievement awards. He was a member of the National Honor Society as well as a member of both the varsity soccer and lacrosse teams.

After graduating, Ethan enrolled in the Rochester Institute of

Technology. While there, he excelled in his studies and was set to graduate in May 2024 with a master's degree in electrical engineering.

Ethan leaves behind his parents, Christine and Russell; his beloved sister, Kaitlin; his maternal grandmother, Florence (Dearnley) Sulik; and his paternal grandparents, Clifford and Nancy Doty. Ethan is also survived by his uncle, Brad Sulik, and his wife, Christi; his aunt, Karen Doty; his cousins, Brandon Doty, Emily, and Justin Sulik; as well as many other aunts, uncles and cousins. Ethan was predeceased by his maternal grandfather, Alan Sulik.

A Mass of Christian burial will be celebrated on Friday, Nov. 3, 2023, at 12:30 p.m., at Our Lady of Good Help — St. Mary's Church, Brandon. Graveside committal services and burial will follow in the Hillside Cemetery, Castleton. A reception will follow. Calling hours will take place on Thursday, Nov. 2, from 4-6 p.m., at the Miller & Ketcham Funeral Home, Brandon. ◊

Leola Mildred Deering, 95, of Bridport

BRIDPORT — Leola Mildred Deering, a native of Chester, N.H., and a resident of Bridport, Vt., passed away on Oct. 26, 2023, at the age of 95. She was a loving wife, mother to 10 children, and a homemaker.

Leola loved sewing, quilting, and enjoyed spending time on the lanes bowling. She was also a member of The Order of the Eastern Star.

She is survived by eight children, Merry Ellen (Michael) Duclos, Betty Lou Gorton, Betty Lee Hutchins, Clarence (Karen) Deering, David (Debbie) Deering, Chesley (Tina) Deering, Paul (Brenda) Deering and Polly (Michael) Rheaume; 23 grandchildren, Shana (Mark) Cheeks, Melody (Mickey) Gilley, Dawna Taylor, Lena (Mark) Freeman, Quinlan (Nargus) Rakin, Jonathan (Heather) Taylor, Alyssa (John) Davi, Wendy (Mike) McCallion, Nancy (David) Carlson,



LEOLA MILDRED DEERING

Bobbie (Brad) Hesla, Scott (Amy) Riley, Bryan (Marielis) Riley, Virginia (Joe) Munson, Allison (Mark) Levasseur, Harold (Robert) Deering, Patrick Deering, André (Annemarie) Deering, Jason Deering, Mark (Liz) Deering, Eric (Chelsea) Rheaume and Nicole

(Brian) Heffernan; 41 great-grandchildren and 16 great-great grandchildren; and special niece and great nephew, Janice (Jim) Fusco and Connor.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Lester and Christy Hunt Mitchell; husband, Harold E. Deering; sister and brother-in-law, Mary and David Griffin; daughters Anna Taylor and Zilda Deering; and grandsons Jeffrey Taylor and Mathew Deering.

Calling hours will be on Wednesday, Nov. 1, from 10 to 11 a.m., at Sanderson Funeral Home in Middlebury. Funeral service will begin at 11 a.m. in the funeral home chapel. Interment will be at Forest Hill Cemetery in Derry, N.H.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to the Homeward Bound and a special thank you to the Bridport and Middlebury Emergency Response for their outstanding services. ◊

Reverend Christina Jane DelPiero celebration of life

MIDDLEBURY — A celebration of the life of the Reverend Christina Jane DelPiero will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Nov. 11, at the United Methodist Church, 43 North Pleasant Street, Middlebury. A warm welcome to attend is extended to all family, friends and witnesses of Christina's life and

ministry.

Those unable to be in Middlebury that day are invited to join the service via zoom at the following address: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87092417030?pwd=enFFB0ZzODZ5Q3g1NHh1K1Q1cH10Zz09>, with the passcode 021361.

Those attending in person

are welcome to bring a flower or flowers of their choice to the church. Stories of remembrance will be shared over refreshments at a reception immediately following the service in the church's Fellowship Hall. Please do join Christina's loved ones in this celebration of a remarkable life. ◊

Roger E. Choiniere, 87, of Lincoln

LINCOLN — Roger E. Choiniere died on Oct. 30, 2023, at home in Lincoln, Vt.

He was born in Addison, Vt., on July 26, 1936, the son of Emile Choiniere and Amelia Quesnel.

He is survived by daughters Annette Choiniere and Michele (Bill) Bernier of Connecticut; four grandsons, a granddaughter, and four great-granddaughters, all of Connecticut; his best friend, Betty Patterson and her children; brothers Mark (Betty) of Bristol, Vt., Stanley (Joan) of Southwick, Mass.; and sister Joanne Roda

(Tom) of Agawam, Mass.

He managed the tractor barn at Field Days for years, played his accordion at campsites, and went whitewater rafting. Roger and Betty went on a lot of trips.

He worked for Hamilton Standard for 25 years in Connecticut, and Green Mountain Tractor and Martin's Hardware in Vermont. He was called "The Tractor Man." Many farmers asked him how to keep their tractors running. Roger was a man of many talents; we miss him and his smile.

Visiting hours will be held from 10 to 11 a.m. on Saturday, Nov. 11, at Brown-McClay Funeral Home in Bristol, followed by a funeral service at 11 a.m. at the funeral home. Interment will be at Mt. St. Joseph Cemetery in Bristol with a reception following at St. Ambrose Parish Hall in Bristol.

In lieu of flowers contributions may be made to Addison County Field Days, 1790 Field Days Road, Vergennes, VT 05491. To send online condolences to his family please visit www.brownmccclayfuneralhomes.com. ◊

Roger Roy Ketcham, 77, of Middlebury

MIDDLEBURY — Roger Roy Ketcham, 77, of Middlebury passed away peacefully at Helen Porter Nursing home on Oct. 31. He is survived by his loving wife of 34 years, Janice, as well as his stepsons, Richard (Robin) Eddy of Vergennes and John (June) Eddy of Rutland, and stepdaughter, Lisa Mella of Bloomington, Ind.; his five grandchildren, Lauren (Andrew), Linnea (Isaiah), Tyler, Alan, and Sarah; as well as great-grandson Layne. He was predeceased by his brother John and sister Alice. The family greatly appreciates the excellent care provided him by Addison County Home Health and Hospice.



ROGER ROY KETCHAM

Roger was born July 31, 1946, to parents Kenneth and Ruth, growing up on their farm in Sudbury. He attended Otter Valley High School and then Vermont Technical College, where he earned an

associates' degree in Electrical Engineering.

Roger learned a number of trades, including welding, and later worked for 12 years as Adaptive Technician at Brandon

Jeanne (Mayer) Ciemniowski, 90, of Middlebury

MIDDLEBURY — Jeanne Ciemniowski, 90, passed away on Oct. 26, 2023, at the McClure Miller Respite House after a brief battle with cancer. She and her twin sister Jeannette were born on Oct. 28, 1932, in Shoreham, Vt. They were the seventh and eighth of 10 children born to Edmond and Elie-Anna Mayer.



JEANNE (MAYER) CIEMNIOWSKI

In her twenties she bravely packed up and moved to New Britain, Conn., where she met her husband Charlie and had her three children before returning to Vermont in 1966. She worked for many years at the Van Raalte sewing factory and at CPC, both in Middlebury. In retirement she and her twin sister, Jeannette, cared for and doted upon many children in their home, including nieces, nephews and grandnieces and grandnephews. She also loved to make character cakes and once made a cow birthday cake for Woody Jackson.

Jeanne was an avid reader and subscribed to the Harlequin Reader service for more than 50 years. Twelve books a month for 50 plus years is a lot of romance novels!

She is survived by her sister Pauline Welch, brother Raymond Mayer, son Eric Ciemniowski

(Christine Forde), daughter Sheila Dodd; grandchildren Dylan, Sheldon, Christopher, Sarah, Rachael and Dallas; two great-grandsons, Matthew and Jameson; and many nieces and nephews.

She is predeceased by her son Carl Ciemniowski; her son-in-law, Stan Dodd; three sisters, Peggy St. George, Lucille Smith and Jeannette Mayer; and four of her brothers, Fernand, Paul, Rael and Rene Mayer.

Calling hours will be held on Nov. 9, from 4-6 p.m., at Sanderson-Ducharme Funeral Home. A devoted Catholic and longtime parishioner at St. Mary's Church of the Assumption, a service will be held there at 10:30 a.m. on Nov. 10, with reception and burial immediately following. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the Carl Ciemniowski Legacy Scholarship Fund (CCLSF) PO Box 374, Hinesburg, VT 05461. ◊

Raymond Charles Billings, 75, of Cornwall

CORNWALL — Raymond Charles Billings passed away on Oct. 30, 2023, at 11:40 a.m. in Porter Medical Center with his wife, Linda Billings by his side. He was born on Sept. 15, 1948, to his parents, Raymond L. Billings and Josephine (Lengyel) Billings.

Raymond "Ramie" is survived by his wife, Linda; children Donald, Adam and Mathew Billings as well as his "foster son," Chris Claire; his brothers Stephan (Linda) Billings and Gerald Billings; and sister Deborah (Michael) Kirby. Also surviving Raymond are Sandra Wimet, Julia and Bryon Emilo, Bill and Donna Siebert, Martin Schuppert, and Bill and Claudia Riley, along with numerous nieces and nephews.

Raymond was predeceased by his parents; parents-in-law Bud and Betty Greene; and Marcia Schuppert, Ron Wimet and Warren Greene.

Ramie Grew up on a farm in Cornwall, where his brothers, sister and parents would work on the farm. This is where he became a member of 4-H and FFA. It is also where he picked up the nickname in high school of "Farmer" as well as the development of a love for tractors and "toys" and cars. He loved his antique tractors, cars and trucks. In the mid-1960s, when he was in 4-H, he won the George Highter Senior Showmanship Award with his "Grade" Jersey. This was an award that was and still is presented to one 4-H member yearly at the Addison County Field Days.

Once Linda and Ray were married on May 19, 1973, at The Waybury Inn in East Middlebury, Ray started building the family's home in Cornwall on the property adjacent to the farm he grew up on.

Ramie was best known for his hard work ethic and wood-crafting

abilities. His construction company built the first post and beam house in Middlebury in the early 1980s. The homes that they built were one of kind at the time, something that he was very proud of. His wife would bring his boys to work with him during the summer breaks — something that he loved — and the boys enjoyed getting to climb around and "help."

Raymond would have worked every day if he could have. In most recent years he maintained a client base that he continued to provide his skills to whether it be in their homes or businesses.

The family would like to express thanks to Bayada Home Health for the most recent care for Raymond.

Services and a family gathering will be held at Sanderson-Ducharme Funeral Home in Middlebury on Sunday, Nov. 5, at 10 a.m.

Online condolences at www.sandersonfuneralservice.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.

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Samuel R. Booska, 72, of East Middlebury

EAST MIDDLEBURY — Samuel R. Booska, age 72, passed away Saturday, Oct. 28, 2023, at his home in East Middlebury.

Funeral arrangements are pending at the Miller & Ketcham Funeral Home in Brandon. A complete obituary will appear in a later edition of the *Independent*.

SubSCRIBE, CALL 388-4944

Lois Mary (Jennison) Randall, 93, of Middlebury

MIDDLEBURY — Lois Mary (Jennison) Randall passed away Oct. 1, 2023, at the age of 93. She is survived by daughter Linda (James) of Westminster, Colo., and son Lawrence (Linda) of Medina, N.Y.; and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She was predeceased by her husband, Lawrence, and several children (Michael 2004, Jonathan 2017, and Nancianne 2020) and grandchildren (Courtney 2022 and Jeffrey 2023).

During retirement, she was an avid reader, often reading four or five books at one time. She was

always busy with her needlework or knitting. Many of her friends enjoy her handicrafts. She and Lawrence knitted thousands of winter hats for homeless shelters and other charities.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Addison County Home Health and Hospice, P.O. Box 754, Middlebury, VT 05753.

Private services will be held later in West Northfield, Mass.

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



LOIS MARY (JENNISON) RANDALL

Weidensaul to headline OCAS Talk

MIDDLEBURY — At Otter Creek Audubon Society's annual meeting and lecture, Amy Weidensaul, Ph.D., senior regional director of Mass Audubon, will speak on "Protecting Nature for Birds and People: Opportunities, lessons and hope from the Massachusetts coast." Weidensaul will give her talk at Champlain Valley Unitarian Universalist Society, 2 Duane Ct., Middlebury on Nov. 9 at 7 p.m.

Dr. Weidensaul will discuss Mass Audubon's work on the natural and human communities along coastlines that are facing climate impacts such as sea level rise and stronger, more frequent storms; and restoring habitats including salt marshes, dunes, coastal uplands and beaches. Great Egrets, Snowy Egrets, Glossy Ibis, Little Blue Heron, Black-crowned Night Heron, American Oystercatcher, Common Eider, Piping Plover, Common Tern, Saltmarsh Sparrow, Osprey — are part of her story.

Addison County is now accustomed to seeing mid-Atlantic birds such as red-bellied woodpeckers, that have gradually moved north in a warming climate to the forests and meadows of the area. This summer's severe rainstorms are a reminder that change has accelerated, and that extreme weather events will challenge both our and our birds' adaptive capacity more immediately. Ornithologists and conservation scientists are struggling to anticipate and, when possible, remediate the negative effects of these events on our natural environments and associated bird populations.

This is particularly true of the seasonal migrations of millions of birds along our coasts, mountains and rivers. Along the Atlantic coast, stronger storms and higher tides associated with climate change threaten both the nesting sites of resident birds as well as the semi-annual migrations of hundreds of species, millions of birds, in their journeys south in the fall and north in the spring.

Weidensaul's professional



AMY WEIDENSAUL

conservation background spans wild forests and mountains, urban parks and most recently, as Director of Mass Audubon's North Shore region, including Cape Ann and Plum Island and the Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary. Her recent appointment as Coastal Senior Regional Director for Mass Audubon is a testimony to her leadership success. This position includes responsibility for wildlife sanctuaries and conservation efforts up and down the Massachusetts' coastline, including the North Shore, South Coast, Cape Cod and the Islands with oversight of Mass Audubon's Coastal Waterbird Program. Her new role reflects Audubon's focus on the natural and human communities along coastlines that are facing climate impacts such as sea level rise and stronger, more frequent storms; and a commitment to support and restore habitats including salt marshes, dunes, coastal uplands and beaches.

Previously Weidensaul worked for National Audubon running a 1,000-acre sanctuary in Maryland and more recently served for nine years as Deputy Director of

Conservation and Engagement at Audubon Pennsylvania, where she coordinated strategic planning and development of conservation research and education programs statewide. She played a key role in development of the Discovery Center in Philadelphia, sponsored by Audubon and Outward Bound, and oversaw citywide conservation and outreach programs. She holds a B.S. in Biology from the University of New Hampshire and a M.Ed. from Lehigh University in non-profit leadership and received her Ph.D. in Environmental Studies at Antioch University.

The talk is free and open to the public. Light refreshments will be served. Also at the event OCAS President Ron Payne will present a Chapter report before a brief business meeting and board election. David Mears, Audubon Vermont Executive Director will speak and the 2023 Silver Feather Award, given in recognition of someone who has shown devotion and dedication to the preservation of natural communities of Addison County, will be presented to Bill Roper for his many years of work in this spirit.

Campbell family shares his journey

Strokes' effects can be minimized if signs are learned and recognized

MIDDLEBURY — This past Sunday, Oct. 29, was World Stroke Day. The American Stroke Association, a division of the American Heart Association — a global force for healthier lives for all — is dedicated to saving people from stroke. Stroke is the No. 2 cause of death in the world and a leading cause of serious disability.

Strokes can happen to anyone at any age. In fact, globally one in four adults over the age of 25 will have a stroke in their lifetime. Each year, roughly 800,000 people in the U.S. suffer a stroke. Most adults in the U.S. do not know the F.A.S.T. warning signs of a stroke, and that stroke is largely treatable if you call 911 as soon as you recognize the symptoms.

A "Walk for Stroke Awareness" was held on Saturday, Oct. 28, from 9-11 a.m. About a dozen participants gathered at the Middlebury Town Offices at 77 Main St. and walked a short loop through downtown. This was in recognition of World Stroke Day, with the goal of spreading awareness of the prevalence of strokes.

Walkers helped raise funds for the American Stroke Association, learn the signs of a stroke — and met Miss Addison County. The event was co-organized by Nikki Juvan and Hannah Roque, spouse and stepdaughter, respectively, of former *Addison Independent* photographer Trent Campbell.

Unfortunately, Campbell couldn't come to the walk on Saturday in person as he was battling a case of COVID-19. He did make an appearance via the Facetime videoconferencing app.

Middlebury resident Campbell survived three strokes over the past five years. In October of 2018, Campbell was working as a photographer for the *Addison Independent*. While walking back to his car after photographing a college sporting event, he couldn't walk straight and was veering in one direction. Later that day, he vomited but then felt better. During the night he woke up to use the bathroom and still noticed he was struggling to get his balance.

The next morning, he went to the ER where they found evidence through a CT scan of a prior stroke. His wife of seven years, Nikki Juvan, recalls that he had been sick earlier that year, however, they had no idea he suffered a stroke. An MRI confirmed that he had had a cerebellar stroke, which happens when blood supply to the cerebellum is stopped. This part of the brain helps with body movement, eye movement, and balance.

By the following March, Campbell had made progress with physical and occupational therapy and had traded in his walker for a cane. While reaching for his cane to stand up, he fell right back down on the bed. After an overnight stay at the hospital, another stroke was confirmed, this time the location of the stroke was in his brain stem.

Over the next month, he developed aspiration pneumonia as a result of his last stroke which paralyzed one of his vocal chords causing him to have difficulty swallowing. He needed to be on a feeding tube during a two-month hospital stay. He also realized he suffered from atrial fibrillation (AFib) after his second stroke, putting him at a five times higher risk of stroke. Most strokes caused by AFib could have been prevented with effective treatment, but only about half of AFib patients receive proper therapy.

Over the last several years since that stroke, Campbell has continued therapy but also deals with severe peripheral neuropathy, which has made progress challenging.



NIKKI JUVAN, LEFT, and Hannah Roque, wife and stepdaughter, respectively, of Middlebury resident Trent Campbell, march with others through Middlebury on Saturday raising awareness about strokes.

Independent photo/John S. McCright

He started attending Project Independence, an adult day center, and has become an integral part of that community. Campbell said he wishes he had known "how hard it was going to be to do the work of recovery at home." Unfortunately, in March of 2022, he had another — yet smaller — stroke.

Recognizing the stroke warning signs and calling 911 immediately may make the difference between a strong recovery or long-term disability, survival or death. New this year, by uploading a selfie and recording your voice, you can see and hear what some common stroke warning signs may look and sound like on you with the Association's new F.A.S.T. experience. Visit www.Stroke.org/Fast-Experience to use this new interactive tool to help you recognize stroke warning signs in yourself and others.

Learn how to spot a stroke F.A.S.T.:

- Face Drooping — Does one side off the face droop or is it numb? Ask the person to smile. Is the person's smile uneven?

- Arm Weakness — Is one arm weak or numb? Ask the person to raise both arms. Does one arm drift downward?

- Speech Difficulty — Is speech slurred? Is the person unable to speak or hard to understand? Ask the person to repeat a simple sentence, like "The sky is blue."

- Time to call 9-1-1 — If someone shows any of these symptoms, even if the symptoms go away, call 9-1-1 and get to a hospital immediately. Check the time so you'll know when the first symptoms appeared.

Other stroke symptoms include sudden onset of the following:

- Numbness or weakness of face, arm, or leg, especially on one side of the body

- Confusion, trouble speaking or understanding speech

- Trouble seeing in one or both eyes

- Trouble walking, dizziness, loss of balance or coordination

- Severe headache with no known cause

Through all of their challenges, Campbell and his wife have both

learned how important it is to advocate for him and to keep track of nurses, therapists, and doctors who have helped in the past because they could be the key to getting help in the future.

Campbell's doctors can't guarantee he won't have another stroke, but he and his wife Nikki believe that they can still have a meaningful life and can do anything with planning, determination, humor, and hope. They participate in a local stroke support group and share some of the difficulties of navigating life after a stroke.

"I have to stay hopeful and find the strength that we both need to have to carry us through the inevitable difficulties. I have to fight the insurance company to give him more physical therapy sessions even though I know we probably won't get them. I have to research ways for us to travel to New York City, one of our favorite places pre-stroke, and maneuver the streets without launching him out of the wheelchair on an unexpected bump. I see the world through different eyes now," said Nikki Juvan.

According to the Association, a large majority of strokes can be prevented through education and lifestyle changes such as moving more, eating smart and managing your blood pressure. Knowing your numbers such as total cholesterol, blood pressure, blood sugar and body mass index can help reduce your risk, as well as knowing your family history of heart disease and stroke.

The Association encourages you to learn these numbers and your family history, and then talk to your doctor about lowering your personal risk for stroke. In addition to checking your blood pressure and taking medication as prescribed, quit smoking and vaping, eat better, get healthy sleep and be active—these things not only help you avoid health problems issues later, but they also set a great example for those around you.

For more information, visit www.Stroke.org/WorldStrokeDay.

ACSD

(Continued from Page 2A) staff have the necessary resources to be successful.

- Be systems-oriented around student outcomes and decision-making, monitors and adjusts actions as needed, and anticipates

unintended consequences of actions.

If this latest ACSD superintendent search results in a contract, the person will be expected to start on July 1, 2024.

Wilson remains optimistic. She said each of the three finalists are

experienced, adding she believes "we have a strong pool of candidates from Vermont as well as outside of Vermont."

Reporter John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.

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Call Connie Trudeau at 802-388-7259 with questions. Thank you.

VUMS

(Continued from Page 1A)

students across the three sections of her and long-term substitute Phoebe de Noronha's Humanities Course include making a VUMS time capsule and putting a new coat of paint on the school's central corridor — after conferring with administrators and surveying other students.

Guilmette, who came to VUMS this fall after years at Mount Abraham's middle school, said while in Bristol she typically offered hands-on, art-based elements with a similar goal: to create "a sense of belonging" and community among students.

Guilmette said research has shown those qualities improve students' self-esteem and academic performance. And this summer, when Guilmette attended a Middle Grades Institute to further her own education, she was impressed with her professor, Katy Farber, and Farber's work along those lines.

Guilmette said Farber's ideas inspired her to create the service learning unit in the Humanities course, which blends Language Arts and Social Studies.

"She wrote, 'How to Change the World with Service Learning,' which I used as a major resource to create and assess this unit," Guilmette said.

Guilmette said creating that sense of belonging could be even more important than usual given VUMS has restructured for this fall. Elements of that makeover include grouping 7th- and 8th-graders in most courses (math is an exception) and on teams, now called Houses.

That means change for the school's 8th-graders, and meanwhile 7th-graders are transitioning to VUMS from Vergennes Union Elementary and Ferrisburgh Central schools.

"This summer I was really looking for something to do at the very beginning of the Humanities course to not only teach them reading and writing and some social studies, but to build a sense of belonging and purpose on the new team that they're on," Guilmette said.

Guilmette said she's had success with somewhat similar units in the past.

"I've done this kind of work with students at the beginning of the year when we've had new students for about eight years now, but most of my work has been based on community-based art to build this sense of belonging," she said.

Guilmette explained how she felt the course has been going and what its effect has been, and she'll do an exit survey to collect data and more formally assess how well it went. But her preliminary take is positive. "This is new for me this year, a service learning project instead of community art. So it's been intense," she said. "But I've been really pleased with the outcome."

STUDENTS SPEAK

A half-dozen groups of students in one of the Humanities course's sections sat down with the *Independent* last week and gave positive feedback.

Seventh-grader Erik White



ONE PROJECT TWO VUMS students organized for their Humanities Course service learning project was a book fair in the school library. Students were allowed to pick up free books donated by local residents and book stores.

Photo courtesy of Nan Guilmette



VUMS STUDENTS MARTIN Jewell, left, Kaiden LeCompte and Izaiha Deyette are planning to entertain residents of a senior center with origami, music and card games as their Humanities Course service learning project.

Independent photo/Andy Kirkaldy



CREATING A TIME capsule documenting their school's history was the service learning goal of this group of VUMS students: from left, Sophia James, Erik White and Kalder Steen.

Independent photo/Andy Kirkaldy

worked with 8th-graders Sophia James and Kalder Steen on a school history project that involved interviewing veteran teachers and staff members. He said the process helped him become more comfortable at VUMS.

"Yesterday I got to meet a couple new teachers," White said. "And working in groups you get to know people more."

Seventh-grader Hunter Wagner and teammates 8th-grader Marek Jablonski and 7th-grader Drew Houghton are building bat boxes

they plan to install near the outdoor classroom their school shares with VUES. Wagner expressed a common sentiment: Working largely self-guided and self-chosen projects provided an extra spark of interest and motivation.

"It's definitely better than sitting at a desk and listening to a teacher talk," Wagner said.

Students were allowed to choose their own projects, but each had to relate to one of 17 United Nations Global Goals for Sustainable Development and to benefit their

school and/or community.

White, James and Steen cast a wide net as they sought to research school history.

"We first started looking online, and then we started talking to some of the older teachers at the school, and that's where we got most of our information," Steen said. "And we got some from old yearbooks."

They ultimately decided the best approach was to make a time capsule that'll depict the current state of VUHS and VUMS.

"We had to do a lot of research to figure out what we were going to do," James said. "But basically, we're going to make a time capsule, and hopefully we're going to make a clear history for people coming after us, because we had a hard time finding our history from this school."

The group of Marley Quinn and Annika Smits (both 8th-graders) and 7th-graders Autumn Peacock and Roxanne Griffin opted to spruce up the VUMS wing's hospital-white central corridor. They settled on a light shade of blue for the walls with an offset color for the alcoves that house the classroom doors, and plan to add stencils of the school's sailing ship logo.

"We've done research on how color affects schools and learning, and how creating a colorful environment in schools creates a more calming and relaxed and focused space," Quinn said. "And especially the color blue does that."

As well as getting permission from administrators, the four are preparing to get feedback from their peers on final hues of blue to be used for a project tentatively scheduled to be done in January with more student volunteers.

"We have to send out a survey and wait for everyone to answer that," Peacock said.

The trio of 7th-graders Bentley Pickett, Gregory Sabick and Glenn St. Jean is focusing on expanding afterschool offerings.

The group's goal is "to introduce new activities that kids may like and they don't already know how



VUMS STUDENTS MARLEY Quinn, left, Roxanne Griffin, Annika Smits and Autumn Peacock, are planning to repaint the main middle school corridor as their interdisciplinary Humanities Course service learning project.

Independent photo/Andy Kirkaldy



VUMS STUDENTS KRIS Miles, left and Abby Letendre for their Humanities Course service learning project plan to meet with elementary school students to teach them respect for gender equality.

Independent photo/Andy Kirkaldy

to play and they want to learn" and make "social connections with kids they haven't met yet," Pickett said. They plan a survey, and games could be indoors or outdoors.

"We were feeling like the school's afterschool program didn't have lots of options," Sabick said.

Another trio, this one of 8th-graders Martin Jewell, Kaiden LeCompte and Izaiha Deyette, intends to visit at least one senior center. Their plans include LeCompte playing guitar, Jewell

teaching origami, and all three playing card games with residents.

"Our project is trying to get together with older citizens," LeCompte said. "We just want to put a smile on their face and make their day."

They enjoyed the freedom to learn on their own.

"We came up with the origami. We came up with the games," Jewell said. "We came up with how we're going to do it and how it's going to go through."

Eighth-graders Kris Miles and Abby Letendre said their project will promote "gender equality around our community" by presenting to elementary school classes. Both said they believed gender equality and equal treatment and respect for all were important issues.

"We are going to the elementary school, and we're going to explain to them what gender equality is and why it's important to avoid stereotyping people," Letendre said.

Miles said they'll present a slide show using ambiguous pictures. One slide will show a pair of eyes with makeup, and the second slide will show those eyes belong to a man.

Miles said they'll ask the younger students "what they think when they see that (first slide), and then on the next slide show the whole picture and ask them what they think of that. And then on the rest of the slides it's about gender equality and why it's good not to stereotype."

Projects in other classrooms included organizing food drives, creating a book fair offering free books to students that had been donated from community sources, mapping the outdoor classroom and its trail system, painting a mural on the school's soccer kickboard, and collecting hygiene products for the John Graham Shelter.

Letendre summed up what many said about their projects:

"You're not going to learn as much as you would if it wasn't hands-on."



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Chamber honors awardees

VERGENNES — At the annual Addison County Chamber of Commerce meeting held Thursday, Oct. 26, at the Vergennes Opera House, four local citizens were adopted in the chamber's hall of fame while individual awards went to four exceptional awardees.

Vergennes Partnership Executive Director Julie Basol was named the Buster Brush Citizen of the Year; Otter Creek Engineering was recognized as the Business of the Year; Sarah Audet of Hedgehog and Fox won the Young Professional of the Year; and the Counseling Service of Addison County was recognized as the Non Profit of the Year.

Named to the Chamber's Hall of Fame were: Sue Ritter, who has many roles at Middlebury College; Angelo Lynn, publisher of the *Addison County Independent*; and Pete and Betty Horton, founders of the Addison County Chamber and former Addison County business owners.

Here's a brief bio of each honoree:

BUSTER BRUSH CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

Growing up on a farm near Portland, N.D., Julie Basol and her husband, Mark, were attracted to Vermont through the Bob Newhart Show, and they moved here without jobs.

Julie's Vermont career has seen gigs at the *Burlington Free Press*, the University Mall and others before finding her way to the Vergennes Partnership as a board member and then as the Coordinator of Marketing and Development in 2018.

Julie is currently the executive director of the Partnership and although she is a "part-time" employee, she puts in 40-plus hours a week. Julie is constantly posting on social media promoting Vergennes as a wonderful place to visit and supporting local events in the city.

NON-PROFIT OF THE YEAR

The Counseling Service of Addison County, or CSAC, is Addison County's designated mental healthcare agency, providing mental health, developmental, substance use, and 24/7 emergency/crisis services. CSAC envisions a compassionate, resilient community that honors everyone's full potential.

The agency offer mental health counseling for adults, youth and families; developmental services like supported employment and individualized services for adults with developmental disabilities;



BUSTER BRUSH CITIZEN of the Year is Julie Basol, with presenter Karen Duguay.



YOUNG PROFESSIONAL OF the Year is Sarah Audet, left, with presenter Megan Mandigo.

emergency and crisis services via a 24/7 phone line that connects individuals experiencing a mental health emergency to a CSAC staff person who works with them to resolve the immediate crisis; school-based clinicians in most of Addison County public schools; and substance use services including employment services to transition adults into sustainable employment.

BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

Founded in 1998, Otter Creek Engineering (OCE) started with four employees focused primarily on water and wastewater design and permitting in a second floor office on Court Street in Middlebury. Twenty-five years later, OCE has offices in Rutland, East Middlebury and West Lebanon, N.H., with a staff of 25.

YOUNG PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR

Sarah McGowen Audet is the principal owner of Hedgehog+Fox Collaborative. Originally from Maine, she arrived in Addison

County 19 years ago to attend Middlebury College and never left.

She has dedicated her professional life to helping nonprofit leaders shine by supporting them with strategic planning, board development, and communications. She currently serves as Board President of the Counseling Service of Addison County.

Sarah resides on a dairy farm in Bridport with her husband, Nathan, and their two children, Margo and Nash.

HALL OF FAME

Bette and Pete Horton moved to Middlebury in 1968 after selling their family vacation lodge in Wilmington to transition from the hospitality sector to start a new public relations firm.

Pete had previously been a director of the Brattleboro Chamber, and they could both see an opportunity to affiliate the Downtown Middlebury Business Bureau with the Middlebury Chamber of Commerce. They also saw future opportunities in a county chamber that included divisions for legislative, economic development and environmental affairs, as well as expanding it to include the Bristol, Vergennes and Brandon areas.

Bette would become the executive secretary of the first county chamber of commerce and Pete became the executive director. At the time, they served the chamber through a nine-year public relations gig and didn't even have a contract.

Sue Ritter, who was formerly a practicing attorney in Philadelphia, Boston and Vermont, currently serves as Middlebury College's Chief Risk Officer, Deputy General Counsel, Associate Secretary of the Corporation and Director of Community Relations.



HALL OF FAMERS Bette and Pete Horton, and Angelo Lynn. Sue Ritter also was named to the Hall of Fame but was unable to attend.



THE NONPROFIT OF the Year is the Counseling Service of Addison County.

She has also held numerous positions at the college, including Title IX Coordinator, Associate Director of Alumni Relations, and Special Assistant to the President. Currently, she is responsible for enterprise risk management; does legal work for the institution; works directly with the Board of Trustees; and oversees community relations.

She is a former board member of the Chamber of Commerce and a current board member of the Addison County Economic Development Corporation. She is a 1983 graduate of Middlebury College and a 1986 Magna Cum Laude graduate of Temple University Beasley School of Law.

Angelo Lynn has been editor/publisher of the *Addison Independent* for the past 40 years. During that period he has also been the owner/publisher of the Little Phone Books (Freedom Publications) that served Addison County, along with five other phone books in central and southern Vermont for more than 20 years; was in partnership with his brother Emerson for 20-plus years with three community newspapers in Chittenden County; has been editor/publisher of *Vermont Ski + Ride Magazine* for the past 20 years, and *Vermont Sports* magazine for the past dozen years, and is currently co-publisher of both magazines with his wife, editor and co-publisher Lisa Gosselin Lynn; recently sold the *Mountain Times* to Polly Lynn Mikula, after a dozen years of shared ownership; and recently transitioned the Brandon-based community weekly, *The*



ACCEPTING THE AWARD for Otter Creek Engineering are Vice President Brent Rakowski, left, and President Jason Larocque.

Reporter, to a community nonprofit newspaper.

Angelo's other two daughters, Christy Lynn and Elsie Lynn Parini, have been working at many of those same publications for the past decade or more and are transitioning to take the reins of the *Addison Independent*.

Since arriving in Middlebury as in 1984, Angelo has served on several boards, including the Chamber of Commerce, the Middlebury Business Association, Porter Medical Center, the Moosalamoo Association for 12 years and the past seven as president, and he's been involved with the Middlebury Maple Run since its inception in

2009. Throughout those 40 years, the *Addison Independent* has played a supporting role in countless community activities, and has provided vital support for organizations like the Vergennes Opera House, Middlebury's Town Hall Theater, the Opera Company of Middlebury and Middlebury New Filmmakers Festival, as well as the newspaper's equally important role as news provider and watchdog of government affairs throughout Addison County.

(Editor's note: For the fuller story on each of the award winners, please see this piece online at addisonindependent.com.)

ENROLLMENT

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AN EVENING OF POETRY & MUSIC WITH STEVE BRITTAIN

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3rd @ 7PM

Gather,
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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



Spooktacular!

GHOSTS, GOBLINS AND superheroes converged on downtown Middlebury this past Sunday for the annual "Spooktacular," a Halloween festival organized by the Better Middlebury Partnership. Participants included, counter-clockwise from left, nifty ninja Evelyn St. Louis of Bridport; three helpers passing out candy to trick-or-treaters in Cannon Park; the Huff family of Brandon including a tricorn hat wearing patriot and a tiger; three "Frozen" princesses outside the Middlebury Post Office, namely, Annabella Mayo, 4, Rowan Blodgett, 6, and Jade Porter, 4; a witch and two princesses at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church doorway, five-year-old Poppy and Charlotte Hanson flanking witch Harper Raymond, 4; a group of Middlebury firefighters on candy detail; a diligent dispenser of goodies outside of Sabai Sabai Restaurant on Merchants Row; an eager princess with a king-sized candy bag; and a junior spiderman with dad heading across the Battell Bridge. Also featured here in the center row, beginning at top: Mary Poppins mom Whitney Mical with skeleton Grace Mical, 12, avatar Elise Mical, 9, and "Pirate of the Caribbean" Mathias Mical, 4; and Mario Brother Greeley Dishaw, 6.

Independent photos/Steve James and John S. McCright



Bristol

(Continued from Page 1A)

Medical Center less than two hours later. Police claim that Mohamed, one of three other people in the car, fired the fatal shot, possibly by accident.

Mohamed's release on conditional bail followed a two-hour-long hearing on Wednesday morning, during which Addison County State's Attorney Eva Vekos withdrew an earlier motion to hold the teenager without bail.

Vekos explained her decision to withdraw the motion to a group of reporters following the hearing. The state's attorney referenced testimony provided during the hearing by a Vermont Department of Corrections official, who described the limitations of holding a juvenile without bail in a state that doesn't operate a juvenile detention center.

"This case has brought to light one of the most serious failures that our state has made when it comes to juveniles, crime and how to deal with it," Vekos said. "After hearing that testimony it was evident and it should be brought out to light, that the only options really to house a youth with adult inmates, which is never a good idea, or the only other possibility is have him in isolation, which is extremely harmful."

MONDAY SHOOTING

Mohamed initially entered the innocent pleas in court on Tuesday, less than 24 hours after the shooting. A Vermont State Police officer recounted in an affidavit how Mohamed and Gouveia were sitting in a car with two other people outside a home at 120 North St. in Bristol a little before 7:20 p.m. on Oct. 30. They were passing around a Smith & Wesson M&P9 handgun, and Mohamed apparently was fooling around with the weapon when it fired, striking Gouveia in the back and causing an injury that proved to be fatal, according to court records.

"I didn't mean to shoot you," Mohamed said, according to a



ADDISON COUNTY STATE'S Attorney Eva Vekos speaks with reporters on Wednesday following the arraignment of 14-year-old Hussein Mohamed of Burlington. The teenager pleaded not guilty to charges he shot and killed a 14-year-old Shelburne youth in Bristol on Monday.

Independent photo/Marin Howell

statement from the driver of the car who was quoted in the affidavit.

A call was made to 911, and Bristol police officer Frances Smith arrived at 7:24 p.m. State police arrived soon thereafter. According to the affidavit, police were told several different stories about what had transpired. What was consistent is that Mason Bullock, 18, of New Haven drove up to the North Street residence around 6:30 that evening with Gouveia in the passenger seat and Mohamed in the back seat. A juvenile male at the home came out and got in the car, sliding in behind Bullock while Mohamed sat behind Gouveia.

In his affidavit, state police Detective Sgt. Seth Richardson didn't speculate on why the four young men were in the car, noting he was not providing every detail of the investigation, but just enough to show probable cause and take the case to the next stage.

The youths initially told police that another car had pulled up behind them, someone jumped out and shot Gouveia through the back window before racing away. The officer, however, noted the window

was closed and intact. One of the trio told police Mohamed was in the house at the time of the shooting, not in the car.

Under questioning at the New Haven state police barracks, Bullock and the juvenile male who was not identified by name or age told police a different story. In one account, Gouveia showed off the Smith & Wesson gun, implying, apparently, that it was stolen.

State police allege Mohamed was holding the handgun while sitting in the rear, passenger-side seat of the car parked outside the North Street home. State police were told that Gouveia "passed the gun" to the unnamed juvenile sitting in the rear seat, who then "removed the magazine and racked the gun to clear (empty) it" and "put a round/bullet in the magazine and put the magazine back into the gun."

According to the affidavit, Mohamed then "grabbed the gun and racked it." The unnamed juvenile managed to get the magazine out of the gun while Mohamed held it, he told police.

State police were told Mohamed was "waving the gun around at which time it went off." Bullock told police he and Gouveia were speaking with one another when "he heard the gun fire with a loud bang." According to the affidavit, Bullock heard Gouveia say he was shot and "then heard Mohamed say, 'I didn't mean to shoot you.'"

Bullock hauled Gouveia out of the car, he told police, and a female neighbor came and gave the bleeding teen CPR.

The unnamed juvenile went into the house and hid the gun's magazine under his bed, where the police later found it. Police also later found the gun on the lawn.

First responders found Gouveia critically injured and rendered aid before taking him by ambulance to the UVM Medical Center in Burlington. He was pronounced dead at the hospital just after 9 p.m.

Det. Sgt. Richardson's affidavit didn't give Mohamed's take on the events.

ARRAIGNMENT

Mohamed appeared in court on Tuesday for an arraignment, wearing a red jumpsuit and with his legs shackled. The defendant appeared stone-faced throughout the hearing, at times staring down into his lap.

During Tuesday's hearing, defense attorney Jonathan Heppell asked that Mohamed be released into the custody of his family. Heppell told the judge the defendant lives with his parents, who needed a Somali language translator in court, and three older brothers, all of whom attended Tuesday's hearing.

"While home, Hussein's father, Sharif, does not work, so he would be able to watch Hussein," Heppell said. "Because he'd be having eyes on him, supervision, there would be no risk of flight. Especially given his age, it would be appropriate to have him home with the family."

Vekos on Tuesday argued against Mohamed's release, stating "even though he is a juvenile, he is charged with a felony with the possibility of life imprisonment," and that the state had moved to hold Mohamed without bail "given the seriousness of the allegations, the seriousness of the potential penalty." She pointed out that Mohamed would need an "interest of justice" hearing in order to be held in an adult facility, as the state doesn't have a juvenile detention center.

The state's attorney also suggested other arguments the state had for holding Mohamed without bail, but asked that the courtroom be closed to the public while those issues were raised, because of evidence related to confidential juvenile matters.

Superior Court Judge David Fenster wondered aloud if he had the authority to do that. Media organizations covering the arraignment protested, noting the defendant was being arraigned as an adult.

Fenster ultimately agreed to keep the courtroom open to the public, after which Vekos called a state Department for Children & Families employee to testify by video.

As Vekos began her questioning, Heppell objected, arguing that

whatever information the witness disclosed might reveal confidential information pertaining to Mohamed and other juveniles.

The court proceeding was recessed until Wednesday's proceeding.

RELEASE TO FAMILY

When court reconvened on Wednesday, Vekos told the judge the state would no longer present evidence for the interest of justice hearing due to the decision to keep the courtroom open. The state also maintained its motion to hold Mohamed without bail.

Fenster asked Vekos and the defense counsel how Mohamed would be held if the court ordered to hold him without bail, but didn't issue an interest of justice order, which would be needed for the youth to have contact with adult inmates. Both parties were unsure of how that situation would be handled.

Defense attorney Marshall Pahl, who joined the defense counsel on Wednesday, then called to the witness stand Joshua Rutherford, a facilities operation manager with the Vermont Department of Corrections, to testify via video.

Rutherford was asked what would happen if the court ordered a 14-year-old to be held without bail but didn't find it to be in the interest of justice for the youth to have contact with adult inmates.

Rutherford said the department hasn't faced such a situation since the state's "Raise the Age" law took effect in 2020. The law classifies 18-year-olds as juveniles in the criminal justice system and requires the department to provide appropriate housing and services for the juvenile defendants.

"Since this law came into effect, the department has not yet faced a circumstance where the court has simultaneously ordered us to hold an individual and simultaneously found that we couldn't hold the individual in a correctional facility," he said. "The department does not operate any juvenile facility and I think that question would start going above my paygrade, so to speak, very quickly. I don't know what the solution is."

Following Rutherford's

testimony, Vekos asked for a brief recess in the hearing to allow the state's counsel to deliberate. When the hearing resumed, Vekos told the judge the state was withdrawing its motion to hold Mohamed without bail, with the understanding the defendant agree to the proposed conditions of release. Included in those conditions was the stipulation that Mohamed be placed under a 24-hour curfew unless he's attending school, medical/counseling appointments and court dates.

Fenster ordered Mohamed be released on conditional bail, after establishing Mohamed's parents as the adults responsible for helping ensure he adhere to the proposed conditions. Upon agreeing to those conditions, Mohamed was released into the custody of his family.

Following Wednesday's hearing, Vekos was asked by reporters about her decision to charge the 14-year-old as an adult.

"A life was lost because of what happened, so we have to address that in the most serious of terms. Being charged as an adult doesn't mean necessarily it's going to end up in conviction as an adult, but it's a starting point," Vekos explained.

The state's attorney was also asked about the Sept. 15 killing of a Waltham woman, another instance of a shooting involving a juvenile defendant. Vekos was asked why she hadn't decided to charge the juvenile as an adult in that case.

Others noted the alleged shooter in that earlier incident who was not charged is white, while the alleged shooter in this case — who was charged and named in public — is a person of color.

Vekos noted she could not provide a lot of information on the Waltham killing case, which is still being investigated, but that the defendant in that case was much younger than Mohamed.

"Age made a big difference," Vekos said, adding there were other extenuating circumstances that led to her decision. "Those two shootings, fatalities, really aren't comparable in my mind."

Mohamed's trial is set to continue with a status conference on Nov. 27 at 1:30 p.m.

Moseley

(Continued from Page 1A)

charge of another cherished public venue — Middlebury's Henry Sheldon Museum of Vermont History. She'll still rub shoulders with an abundance of books, but also a surfeit of maps, textiles, artwork, toys, periodicals, furnishings, family histories and other artifacts that illuminate the history of Addison County and its citizens.

"The Sheldon has such an eclectic collection," Moseley said during a recent interview. "That can sometimes feel overwhelming, but I try to think about it as a point of possibility (and a) powerful means of finding connections in our community."

Moseley, 38, is taking charge of the much-celebrated community museum at 1 Park St. that has been modeling a shared leadership structure since the January resignation of Executive Director Stephanie Skenyon, after less than a year on the job. A lack of available housing has hampered the Sheldon board's efforts to hire a new director.

But the museum re-launched its search in July and has now found its new leader, who'll be able to easily commute to work from her Bristol home. Moseley has been a fan of the Sheldon since her arrival in Addison County. Her first visit was to see its spectacular train exhibit (with her daughter), an annual holiday favorite. That visit alerted her to the many other fascinating objects that repose at the museum.

"I remember thinking, 'This is such a gem in our community,'" she recalled.

She's often recommended the Sheldon to Lawrence Library patrons looking for other fun, intellectually stimulating things to do.

Moseley will spend the coming weeks conferring with her new Sheldon colleagues as they brainstorm new exhibits, programs and other attractions for the museum. Meanwhile, she shared one priority she believes could make the Sheldon an even bigger draw.

"I'd love to see the Sheldon bring back some of the space they used to have for kids and families," Moseley said. "As someone in Addison County who has a young child, you're always looking for

something to do and a place to go. I think the Sheldon can participate in that experience for kids. I've loved the work the museum has done to showcase kids' collections and help us all think about ourselves as curators of our history and the history of Addison County."

It was in May of 2020 — as the COVID-19 pandemic was taking hold — that Moseley took the helm of Lawrence Library.

"When I started, the library was closed," she said, recalling social distancing protocols. "There was a lot of uncertainty about what community space would look like."

About every six months, Moseley found herself pivoting to new operating standards to observe public health protocols.

"Soon after I started, we brought curbside service to the library and then brought back in-person visits, then scaled that back at one point, and then opened the library fully," Moseley said.

Fortunately, Bristol values its library and made sure that institution exited the pandemic healthier than when it went in, according to Moseley. Under her leadership, Lawrence staff successfully implemented summer programs, building improvements, upgrades of the library website and catalogue, and technology improvements.

Moseley was also instrumental in snagging grant and foundation dollars for Lawrence Library facilities and programming, a skill she'll take with her to the Sheldon in an effort to nurture and grow its audience.

"I think libraries and museums are siblings; they're both places that offer opportunities to learn and reflect," Moseley said. "Museums are much more than archives and collections. I think about these institutions as points of connection for people in the community."

"I really love envisioning the way our cultural institutions can expand and embrace the complexities of our day," she added. "I feel the Sheldon is ripe for that opportunity."

Museums shouldn't be looked upon as simply portals into the past; their contents can also inform our future, according to Moseley.

"I revel in the idea of the challenge

of a history museum to prove itself germane to the present," she said. "It motivates my thinking and brought me to a place of interest in the opportunity in wanting to see the Sheldon step into that space in Middlebury."

Moseley believes her graduate work in the "history of science" and women's studies has helped prepare her for her new Sheldon role. She earned a master's degree in the area of Gender & Women's Studies from University of Wisconsin. She noted society is currently navigating some complex issues, including the ever-changing climate, racial reckoning and income disparity.

"I think our cultural institutions have a real role to play in offering a space where we can really address some of those key social issues," she said. "Some of those larger questions about how we frame history, how we record history and how we think about what gets shared and what gets valued are all really relevant to the position at the Sheldon — and especially relevant to some of the larger questions museums are asking of each other and themselves."

Sheldon board President Lucinda Cockrell said Moseley was one of four finalists for the director's job and she emerged as the "overwhelming" frontrunner.

"She's local, is a community builder, a proven grant award winner, presents herself well, has excellent technical skills, people skills, and will no doubt bring energy, vision and new ideas to the museum," Cockrell said. "During her interviews, we all were excited about Coco's envisioning of ways in which the Sheldon could expand to the next level in the community, including educational programs, fundraising, collaborations and new audiences. We are delighted to have her starting in a couple of weeks as our new executive director."

Moseley is looking forward to her new job but will miss her experiences at the Lawrence.

"I feel really sad to not be there on a regular basis, but buoyed by the fact that I get to live in this community and will get to be a patron of the library going forward," she said. "I've come to love the folks in Bristol and who work at the library. The library is a personal space, a community living room; there's a kind of intimacy with people's experience with small libraries."



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Rutland woman cited for DUI

MIDDLEBURY — Middlebury police cited Krissee Ward-Arnold, 23, of Rutland for driving under the influence (second offense), following a traffic stop on Mary Hogan Drive on Oct. 28. Police said Ward-Arnold declined to provide an evidentiary breath sample.

In addition to conducting daily patrols of the Bakery Lane and Cross Street Bridge areas to check on a campsite of houseless persons, Middlebury police last week:

- Cleared debris that had been blocking Lower Plains Road on Oct. 23.
- Responded to a report of a suspicious person in the Maple Street area on Oct. 23. Police said they couldn't find the person.
- On Oct. 23 helped a Court Street business owner who reported receiving threatening and racist voicemail messages left by a customer.
- Found a student to be in possession of bullets at Middlebury Union Middle School on Oct. 23. Police said the youth had forgotten he had the rounds in his possession following youth deer hunting weekend.
- Assisted Middlebury Regional EMS on a service call to a Court Street address on Oct. 24.
- Investigated a report of a person "acting erratically" in a Washington Street parking lot on Oct. 24.
- Received a call from a woman who alleged a houseless person had harassed her in the Bakery Lane area on Oct. 24.
- Returned a found cell phone to its owner on Oct. 24.
- Responded to a mental health-related incident in the South Street

Middlebury Police Log

area on Oct. 25.

- Assisted a local resident whose child had been misbehaving on Oct. 25. Police said the town's school resource officer will follow up with the parent and child.
- Turned over to a sober party a drunken man found walking along Route 7 North at around 6:25 p.m. on Oct. 25.
- Responded to a multi-vehicle accident, with minor injuries, on Court Street during the early evening of Oct. 25.
- Checked on the welfare of a man who had been sitting on the rail bridge spanning Seymour Street on Oct. 25. Police said the man told them he was just enjoying the weather and needed no assistance.
- Conducted additional patrols on Route 7 South during the afternoon of Oct. 25 after receiving reports of vehicles passing school buses dropping off students.
- Were informed of the theft of a Huffly-brand bike from Middlebury College campus on Oct. 25.
- Responded to a reported domestic disturbance at a Weybridge Street home on Oct. 25. The case remains under investigation.
- Warned a person for violating the town's open-container law on College Street on Oct. 26.
- Responded to a reported altercation between two people in the Bakery Lane area at around 6:30 p.m. on Oct. 26.

• Investigated a report of a vehicle possibly being targeted by gunfire on Route 7 near Exchange Street on Oct. 26. Police said they checked the area and found no evidence of shooting activity.

- Responded to a Case Street residence on Oct. 27 after a report of an intoxicated person.
- Offered support to an elderly person who had been enduring a mental health crisis on Oct. 27.
- Investigated a report of a suspicious person on Route 116 on Oct. 27. Police said the person was gone upon their arrival.
- Patrolled Route 7 South during the afternoon of Oct. 27 after receiving reports of vehicles passing, and not stopping for, red-light signals on school buses.
- Assisted Vermont State Police at the scene of a possible road-rage incident on Route 125 in Cornwall on Oct. 27.
- On Oct. 28, took part in a driving-under-the-influence checkpoint at the intersection of Routes 7 and 17 in concert with the VSP and Addison County Sheriff's Department.
- Responded to a report of a suspicious individual in the area of Quarry Road and Seminary Street Extension on Oct. 28. Police said the person was gone upon their arrival.
- Helped workers at an Elm Street store get into a locked bathroom on Oct. 28 to check on an unresponsive person.
- Responded to a loitering report at a North Pleasant Street business on Oct. 28.
- On Oct. 29, checked on the welfare of a local person who had reportedly been experiencing a mental crisis.
- Investigated a reported theft from a Court Street residence on Oct. 29.

College advances climate goals

By MARIN HOWELL

MIDDLEBURY — Middlebury College continues to work toward meeting the goals for addressing climate change outlined in its Energy2028 initiative.

The institution has secured \$7 million in gifts that will advance its Energy2028 initiative by supporting the college's Climate Action Program (see story in Oct. 26 *Addison Independent*) and a variety of other climate-action projects are in the works.

Middlebury College formally announced its Energy2028 initiative in 2019. The 10-year plan sets four climate goals for the institution to meet. Those goals are:

- Use 100% renewable energy by 2028.
- Reduce energy consumption on Middlebury College's core campus by 25% by 2028.
- Phase out direct fossil fuel investments in the endowment, reducing the value of these investments by 50% by 2027 and by 100% by 2034.
- Prepare students to address the climate crisis by incorporating the Energy2028 initiative into the college's educational mission.

The college recently netted two gifts that will help build on Energy2028's fourth goal. Through a new partnership with philanthropic foundation Erol and NextWorld Philanthropies, the college will receive \$7 million over the next 10 years to bolster

its Climate Action Program. The program supports students in their efforts to tackle climate change through paid fellowships, connections with Middlebury alumni and other offerings.

Jack Byrne, dean of environmental affairs and sustainability and director of the Franklin Environmental Center at the college, said the institution has been tackling projects aimed at meeting Energy2028's other goals as well.

Those efforts include replacing lightbulbs with LED lights in Bicentennial Hall and other buildings on campus.

"I think the Bicentennial Hall bulb replacement was \$1 million of bulbs, and those are bulbs that will reduce the consumption of electricity by a quarter of what the previous bulbs were doing."

— Jack Byrne

"We should see pretty significant improvements in efficiency," Byrne said of the effort. "I think the Bicentennial Hall bulb replacement was \$1 million of bulbs, and those are bulbs that will reduce the consumption of electricity by a quarter of what the previous bulbs were doing."

Byrne said the college has also been experimenting with heat pumps in some of the more-recently renovated buildings on campus, such as Warner Hall.

"We're looking down the road and thinking about how at some point our biomass system will be replaced and it should be replaced with something different, something that ideally doesn't burn things," he explained. "We're looking at how that (heat pump installation) does over several years to see maybe we don't need

to use steam as a primary heating source."

Other Energy2028-related efforts include increased installation of point-of-use smart controls that lower heating/cooling settings in an unoccupied room to reduce energy use and construction of a 5-megawatt solar array nearing completion on Middlebury's South Street Extension.

"That will provide about 35% of the electricity that the campus uses, and we're excited about that," Byrne said.

Byrne noted that members of the college community in recent years have contributed to other projects aimed at tackling the climate crisis. Those efforts include a collaboration among the college's Sustainability Solutions Lab, Climate Action Program and architecture department.

The multi-year project was aimed at identifying the needs for improving energy consumption in Addison County homes. College community members over the past two summers worked in collaboration with the Climate Economy Action Center of Addison County to explore those needs in towns throughout the county.

"To me that's a really nice example of taking what we're learning and some of the resources we have at the college and working with community members to help communities achieve some of the goals similar to our Energy2028 goals," Byrne said. "We're excited about the opportunities that we might have doing more of that kind of thing going forward with the Climate Action Program and some of the other things that we're doing."

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Vergennes Police Log

VERGENNES — Vergennes police on Oct. 28 cited a Burlington man for allegedly driving under the influence of alcohol.

Police said they stopped Kevin Tower, 27, on South Water Street after hearing from a concerned acquaintance that Tower might be impaired. Police allege Tower's blood-alcohol content tested at 0.15, about twice the legal limit for operating a motor vehicle.

In other action between Oct. 23 and 29, Vergennes police conducted 17 patrols, 16 in cruisers and one on foot; conducted eight traffic stops; fingerprinted five job seekers; responded to a false alarm; and:

- On Oct. 23: Took reports that two vehicles had been entered while parked on White Street; \$25 in cash was stolen from one, and nothing was taken from the other.
- Advised a local resident not to be concerned about a woman in the neighborhood who was

dealing with a mental health challenge.

On Oct. 24, cited Matthew Porcaro, 36, of Vergennes to appear in court on an outstanding warrant for failure to appear in court.

On Oct. 25: Spoke to members of the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Vergennes about the dangers of illegal drugs and underage drinking.

• Took a report of a minor fender-bender on School Street.

On Oct. 28: Accepted a credit card found on Main Street; police as of earlier this week had not reached its owner.

• Calmed an arguing couple at a Hillside Drive apartment.

• Told one woman allegedly harassing another woman via phone messages to stop doing so.

On Oct. 29: Participated in a Trunk Or Treat event at 50 Armory Lane.

• Returned a wallet found on West Main Street to its owner.

State police respond to a truck hitting a pedestrian

ADDISON COUNTY — Vermont State Police were called to the Aubuchon Hardware parking lot off Monkton Road in Ferrisburgh this past Monday morning for a report that a pickup truck had struck a pedestrian.

Troopers report that at around 10 a.m. on Oct. 30, Juanita Simmons, 81, of Addison walked into the parking lot from the store and was struck by a Ford F-150 driven by Kenneth Lafountain Jr., 78, of Bristol. Lafountain apparently pulling out of a parking space when the accident happened, police said.

The Vergennes Area Rescue Squad took Simmons to UVM Medical Center for treatment of a suspected head injury.

Police cited Lafountain for negligent driving and issued a traffic ticket as well.

Troopers were assisted on scene by Vergennes police.

On Oct. 28, state police joined with Middlebury police and Addison County Sheriff's

Vt. State Police Log

deputies to conduct a sobriety checkpoint in the New Haven Junction on Route 7. The purpose of the checkpoint was to detect and identify impaired drivers and promote safe driving. Between 8 and 9:30 p.m., police encountered 223 vehicles and officers stopped and talked with 11 drivers. Police cited Joshua Faulkner, 43, of Starksboro for driving under the influence.

State police responded to a report of a shooting in Bristol on Monday evening. They ended up arresting a Burlington teen, who was arraigned on Tuesday for second-degree murder. See story on Page 1A.

ADDISON COUNTY

School News

Liliana Luksch of Middlebury became a student at Lasell University this fall. Luksch joins more than 370 new students at the University.

Jordan R. Martin, a SUNY Canton Construction Technology: Management major from Middlebury, received the Peter Nevaldine Endowed Scholarship and the Canton College Foundation North Country Academic Scholarship.

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NEWS

FERRISBURGH — Ferrisburgh Grange “King Pede” card parties are scheduled for the Saturdays of Nov. 11 and 25. These get-togethers are held at the Ferrisburgh Town Hall and Community Center beginning at 6:30 p.m. with 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!

Rokeby Museum has now closed after a successful 2023 season. They will reopen May, 2024. Meanwhile, don’t forget Rokeby’s annual Holiday Shopping Sale on Saturday, Dec. 2, from 10a.m.-1p.m. Door swags, made by Rokeby volunteers, will be for sale, and the museum store will be open for your holiday shopping.

The Lake Champlain Maritime Museum is closed after a successful 2023 season; however, several educational opportunities are still available for teachers and schools. A wonderful learning project is the Giant Lake Champlain Map with age-appropriate curriculum that schools can arrange to come to their classrooms. The Giant Map, an accurate and detailed 35’ x 25’ vinyl map of the Lake Champlain watershed, is designed to be a spatial and geographical learning tool for teachers and students. By interacting with the map, students of all ages will learn about how where they live is connected to the lake and be inspired to take care of Lake Champlain.

Lessons on the map can truly explore any aspect of the Lake Champlain Basin: history, water quality, geography, science, music, math, literature, and more. Teachers are encouraged to bring this map of the watershed to their school and community. The map is easy to customize to various lesson plans. Also, a LCMM educator can accompany the map for the day to assist with the presentation.

The Bixby Library continues to offer all its regular events such as Tai Chi and children’s story times. The Bixby Book Club meets the

second Tuesday of every month at 6 p.m. The Club reads a variety of books, spanning the genres of contemporary, literary, and historical fiction, as well as non-fiction, biography, and classics. Its next meeting is on Nov. 14. Join in and discuss “Remarkable Creatures” by Tracy Chevalier, author of “Girl with a Pearl Earring.” Remarkable Creatures is a gripping historical novel that follows the story of Mary and Elizabeth, two extraordinary 19th-century English fossil hunters who changed the scientific world forever.

The Friends of the Union Meeting Hall will be hosting movie nights the second Saturday of each month beginning at 6:30 p.m. These events will be held at the Ferrisburgh Town Hall and Community Center. Movies throughout the year will include a mix of black and white, cult-classic and family-friendly movies. This November will be a “Ladies Movie Night” where the film will send you to a summer in the Catskills where dancing reigns supreme. This movie is rated PG-13. Entry is free and pre-registration is not required. Snacks, popcorn, and other light refreshments will be available for purchase. The Town Hall is located at 3279

Route 7 in Ferrisburgh and is ADA accessible. Movie Nights are generously sponsored by Gilfeather’s Fine Provisions, Captain Drew of Master Class Angling and 2 Cowboys Sound Club. Questions about what movie we’ll be showing? Email us at unionmeetinghall@gmail.com. Information on future movie nights will be posted on social media as well as on our website, www.unionmeetinghall.org.

Note: We are always interested in including a variety of Ferrisburgh-related news in this column, so if you have events that would be of interest, contact Sally Kerschner at smwksch@comcast.net. You are also able to access these columns and other information about Ferrisburgh news and events by viewing the Ferrisburgh Town Website at www.ferrisburghvt.org.



THIS IS THE latest design of the “Community Childcare Expansion Project” that will result in a major expansion and renovation of the Otter Creek Child Center at 150 Weybridge St. in Middlebury. Planners are hoping for a spring groundbreaking for the project, which will add 77 new childcare slots.

Image courtesy of OCCC

Childcare

(Continued from Page 1A)
area by the spring/summer of 2025.

Meanwhile, organizers are making final preparations for a new “Red Clover Childcare Center” within the Congregational Church of Middlebury that will offer 24 slots for children ages six weeks to 3 years old. Officials said a smooth hiring and permitting process could see Red Clover open, initially on a limited basis, as soon as mid-January.

Folks close to both projects recently took time to update the Independent on their efforts, aimed at satisfying at least some of Addison County’s pent-up demand for childcare services.

The nonprofit childcare advocacy organization Let’s Grow Kids places Addison County’s childcare needs at 471 slots for infants and 240 slots for toddlers. But current capacity in our area offers only 148 infant placements and 111 for toddlers, according to Let’s Grow Kids, whose research also shows an estimated need for 148 additional preschool spots to meet the county’s demand.

Otter Creek Child Center eyes spring groundbreaking

Linda January, executive director of OCCC, is excited to see funding and design work come together for the facility’s long-planned expansion. She anticipates a new project cost estimate and firmer construction timeline will both be available by early December.

Officials had ballparked the project at \$10 million, and January is guardedly optimistic that forecast will hold true.

“We’re working really hard to not exceed that number,” she said.

Planners had originally mapped out a two-phased project. Phase one called for a 13-month construction timeline for the addition, followed by a complete gut rehab of the early 20th-century farmhouse that OCCC has called home since its founding in 1984. Phase two was expected to take around a year.

But officials have now decided to do the entire project — the addition and rehab — in one fell swoop. This means the OCCC will get the work done more quickly and with some savings, but the center will have to find a temporary home for its programming during the roughly yearlong construction period, January explained.

Officials have already identified temporary hosts for OCCC, all of which “are within walking distance of downtown Middlebury,” January stressed.

Another recent change to plans: Placement of the center driveway on the southern side of the building, through what is now

OCCC’s parking lot. The driveway was originally pegged to stretch through an adjacent lot (donated by Middlebury College) to serve the north side of the facility. January said the original driveway plan had to be scrapped due to the amount of fill that would’ve been required in its construction.

“Putting the drive to the south of the building shortens it drastically and reduces costs,” she said.

Costs are a huge consideration, and January cited several big grants and a huge contribution from Middlebury College that will together underwrite more than half the project price tag. They include:

- A \$4 million commitment from Middlebury College that includes the aforementioned 2.5-acre Weybridge Street parcel just west of OCCC that will make the building addition possible.
- A federal earmark of \$3,105,351 that flows through Let’s Grow Kids. January praised former U.S. Sen. Patrick Leahy for his work in securing that aid.
- A Vermont Community Recovery & Revitalization grant of \$500,000.
- \$350,000 through the Northern Borders Regional Commission.
- \$200,000 from the Let’s Grow Kids “Make Way for Kids” program.
- \$100,000 from the Hoehl Family Foundation, which will serve as seed month for OCCC’s capital project fund drive.

Organizers will soon equip the OCCC website with an online donation option. In the meantime, anyone interested in contributing should reach out to expansion@ottercreekcc.org.

The Middlebury Development Review Board will soon evaluate OCCC’s plans, which are now undergoing an environmental review.

A potential spring 2024 groundbreaking can’t come soon enough for all OCCC stakeholders, who got a taste of bigger things to come.

“For the children, it’s very exciting to have excavators and drills and other equipment at the site doing pre-construction stuff,” January laughed. “They are loving it.”

Red Clover set for winter opening

Congregational Church volunteers have spent many months planning Red Clover, which will function as an independent nonprofit within rent-free space in the church building at 2 Main St. Church leaders saw a pressing need for affordable, well-run childcare services and resolved to help fill that void. The nascent Red Clover Childcare Center has received a huge assist from \$560,000 in donated seed money, including \$200,000 from local nonprofit Table 21 and a staggering \$360,000 donation from an anonymous, longtime supporter of the church’s community outreach efforts.

Naylor & Breen earlier this year completed renovations to Red Clover’s future home in the Congregational Church. The biggest tasks were installing sinks in three future center classrooms and transforming an unused elevator shaft and stairwell into a laundry room for both the church and Red Clover to use.

Next, the independent Red Clover board, chaired by Ellen Whelan-Wuest, got to work on the various permits, state licensures and other foundational tasks for the new childcare center. And on Sept. 25, the board welcomed Red Clover’s first executive director, Tessa Dearborn. Dearborn is in her 11th year in the childcare field and spent her last three leading the Kid Logic Learning center in South Burlington.

“I’ve worked in every role in a center capacity,” said Dearborn, who’s also a parent and Addison County resident. Her roles have included being a substitute teacher, assistant teacher, lead teacher and director.

Dearborn saw Red Clover as an intriguing new challenge.

“I wanted to be more involved in the groundbreaking piece of creating a new program, bringing more quality spots to Addison County,” she said.

“I was really moved by the mission, the concept of giving to the greater community,” Dearborn added.

Red Clover officials will spend the next two-plus months getting the center ready for what would ideally be a mid-winter opening, starting with one classroom and then gradually ramping up to its 24-child capacity.



TESSA DEARBORN

Dearborn and the Red Clover board are still sorting out enrollment criteria, likely to include a lottery system to ensure fairness. Center teachers will be the only parents who might get an advantage for center childcare spot, officials said.

“The goal is for it to be equitable for all,” Dearborn said.

Once fully staffed, Red Clover is expected to have seven teachers — six classroom educators, plus one who’ll be available program-wide.

Both Dearborn and Whelan-Wuest hailed passage of Vermont’s 2023 Childcare Bill as offering key financial stability for a Red Clover operation that was expected to run deficits during the early going, due in part to a young age of the children the center will care for, which means more intensive supervision. The new state law will invest \$125 million annually into Vermont’s childcare system, allowing centers to more successfully attract and retain educators, while making more families eligible for childcare subsidies.

“It’s game-changing,” Whelan-Wuest said of the childcare law’s financial impact. “The potential change in our bottom line is profound.”

“It makes high-quality care truly affordable for families and helps programs stay sustainable,” Dearborn said.

That said, Red Clover boosters will continue to seek grants, foundation funding and private donations to help sustain the new center. For more information on the center and how to donate, go to tinyurl.com/vnnufn66.

“We’ve never stopped trying to fundraise,” Whelan-Wuest said.

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Equine antics

BOTH HUMANS AND horses alike donned creative costumes for the Eddy Farm's Halloween barn in Middlebury on Sunday. Among the spooky and silly sights at the farm this past weekend were (clockwise from top left): a horse-headed scarecrow; Eddy Farm assistant manager Alicia Odell and her horse Chief giving wide grins; Joanie Roberge (middle), her horse comet and Gary Kruml sporting sea-themed costumes; Beatrice Doria and horse Checkers dressed as jigsaw puzzle pieces; Ghostbusters Mali Ward (left) and Hope Bellinger with supernatural steeds Teddy and Joe; princess Lucy Bannister of Addison with pony Buttercup; and Hazel Albertini of Ripton dressed as Hermione with her horse Harry Trotter.

Independent photos/Steve James

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We've Got Mulch!

Addison County Solid Waste Management District is giving away **FREE** wood chip mulch to District residents on a first-come, first-served basis while supplies last.

Stop by the District Transfer Station, located at 1223 Route 7 South, Middlebury, during our normal business hours (M-F, 7am-3pm and Sat, 8am-1pm) to pick up a load. BYOS (Bring Your Own Shovel), please! You may load your own, or District staff will load your truck or trailer for \$10 per scoop.

The mulch may contain some larger-size pieces of wood, but should be suitable for new tree or shrub plantings, weed control, or trail cover.

The mulch is made from branches, brush, and clean dimensional lumber collected at the District Transfer Station.

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Zeno

(Continued from Page 1A)
 Independent. "I'm so glad that despite all of the reasons I told myself I couldn't do it, that I did. I hope that encourages other people to try something new."

While she was thrilled to participate on the show, Zeno admits she's not a regular Wheel of Fortune viewer nor an avid puzzle-solver. However, she said she is a whiz when it comes to hangman, the well-known guessing game from which Wheel of Fortune takes its inspiration.

On the game show, which has been broadcast since 1975, contestants solve hangman-style word puzzles to win cash and other prizes. What they win is determined by spinning the giant "Wheel of Fortune."

"When I've watched the show throughout my life, it just felt really easy to solve the puzzles, and so I thought 'Why not?'" Zeno said of her interest in competing on the show.

AUDITION PROCESS

Zeno first auditioned for the show back in 2018, when the Wheel of Fortune's Wheelmobile made its way to Saratoga Springs, N.Y., to scout future contestants.

"I got through the first round and went to the second round of auditions," she recalled. "I didn't get a call back, and I thought, 'Well, that was fun.'"

Zeno decided to try her hand again this past winter and submitted a video audition to the Wheel of Fortune's website. Her second attempt proved to be more successful, and this time she was invited to participate in a larger online audition with other applicants after completing first and second round interviews.

"I went into that (audition) super nervous because at that point they're testing your skills and abilities," Zeno said. "I nailed the first part of the audition and got to the second part and was so nervous I kind of flopped. Again, I thought 'OK, well that was fun, and I'll never hear back from them again.'"

Months later, Zeno received an email inviting her to participate in an August taping of the show. She had 24 hours to accept the offer and three weeks to coordinate a trip to Sony Pictures Studios in California.

Zeno said her biggest hesitation at the time was missing out on an iconic part of August in Addison County.

"My initial response was 'No, I can't go, it's the middle of the Addison County Fair and Field Days,'" she recalled with a laugh.

The Addison County native ultimately decided to go for it, after receiving some encouragement from her children.

"I haven't really gone outside of the bubble of Addison County many times in my life, and I wanted to show my kids that they can do new things, or hard things, or scary things," she said.

A TRIP FULL OF FIRSTS

Zeno flew out to Los Angeles to compete on the show this past August. She noted her trip to the West Coast was full of firsts.

"I had never been to California, I had never stayed in a hotel room alone, I had never taken an Uber, and I certainly had never been on television," she said.

The day of the taping, Zeno reported to the Wheel of Fortune set at 6:30 a.m. The first half of the day was spent completing trainings and reviewing things like legalities and puzzle categories.

After that, contestants were randomly selected to participate in one of six shows filmed throughout the day.

"They basically pick ping pong balls out of a cup to see which show you would be on, and I was the last one," Zeno said. "When you see me on TV, it's almost 9 o'clock at night. I was exhausted and living on Diet Coke and wintergreen Altoids."

Zeno found that participating in the day's final episode had its perks, as she got to watch five other rounds of contestants move through the show and practice her skills along with them. Her nerves started to crest as it came time to film the episode, though Zeno said she found her groove once the cameras started rolling.

"Something else definitely took over in me once that game started; I was not nervous at all," she said.

Zeno wasn't able to disclose the results of the episode prior to its airing, though readers can see how she fared when the show premieres



ADDISON COUNTY NATIVE Hannah Zeno had the adventure of a lifetime this past August, when she flew to Sony Pictures Studios in California to compete on the Wheel of Fortune. Zeno said she was glad she pushed herself to audition for the TV game show and wants to encourage others to try new things.
 Photo courtesy of Carol Kaelson/Wheel of Fortune, Califon Productions

on Nov. 2.

The county resident was able to share some of the highlights from her participation on the show, which included getting to meet Wheel of Fortune hosts Pat Sajak and Vanna White. The pair has hosted the nighttime iteration of the show since the 1980s.

"It was really neat, I got to stand closest to Pat Sajak the whole time," Zeno said. "It was the first week of taping of his last season ever, which was also really special. There will be a new host next year, and this is his last year."

Zeno said she enjoyed getting to be a part of the behind-the-scenes of the show, from getting her hair and makeup done to learning the secret behind spinning the iconic wheel.

"The wheel weighs 2,400 pounds. You don't realize that they warm you up, and you have to stand there and do practice rounds of spinning the wheel because it's actually really hard," she told the *Independent*.

Looking back on her experience on the show, Zeno said there's one

part that she enjoyed most.

"Meeting the other contestants and other people who are willing to reach toward goals that they wanted to make happen or dreams that they had," she said. "It was inspiring listening to all of the reasons that people tried out. I loved that. For a lot of people this was a dream come true; they had watched the show their whole lives."

"I haven't really gone outside of the bubble of Addison County many times in my life, and I wanted to show my kids that they can do new things, or hard things, or scary things."

— Hannah Zeno

She was also pleased to be able to make it back to Vermont in time to catch the final stretch of Field Days.

"I got home at 11:30 p.m. Thursday night and I was at the fair Friday morning," Zeno said. "People said that it was the worst fair ever, but nothing could have stopped me from believing that it was the best year ever. I was just so happy to be back home and be at the fair."

When the *Independent* spoke with Zeno this past Thursday, she was looking forward to watching her episode of the show air with a viewing party of family and friends.

The Wheel of Fortune veteran

was looking forward to sharing her latest adventure with her Addison County community and was also eager to see what else this next chapter of her life brings.

"I think it's just this time in my life where I'm going 'what's next, what brings me joy?' and exploring that," Zeno said. "I would definitely say that adventure is on my list and, boy, did I get one."

By the way

(Continued from Page 1A)
 forever families. When dogs are in the shelter, the behaviors they exhibit can be different from how they would act in a home. In short, foster home placements can help Homeward Bound better tailor dog adoptions to families looking for a canine companion. Homeward Bound provides training, food, medications and resources to people willing to open their homes to foster dogs. To learn more, contact foster coordinator Lauren Peterson at volunteer@homewardboundanimals.org, or visit homewardboundanimals.org to find a link to the foster application. You can also reach the shelter directly at 802-388-1100.

The Congregational Church of Middlebury will hold its annual Holiday Bazaar this Saturday, Nov. 4, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. As usual, all proceeds from the event benefit the church's many philanthropic programs. This year's 99th bazaar features a wide variety of items for sale on the building's two levels. 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, bid on a wide variety of theme baskets that make wonderful gifts. On the lower level, in Fellowship Hall, is a room with games, puzzles and toys (including Barbies) for both children and adults. A garden table will have a wide variety of indoor plants and garden-related accessories. Food tables will be filled with jams and jellies, breads and homemade soups, as well as specialty and traditional pies. Also, upstairs and down quilt 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). Entrances will be open at 30 North Pleasant St. and also under the Seymour Street

portico. Face masks are optional. More information at mducc.org.

The Starksboro Food Shelf is seeking help from the community to provide Thanksgiving meals to several local families with limited resources. You can help by donating items to make up Thanksgiving boxes, including stuffing mix, gravy, cranberry sauce, instant mashed potatoes, quick bread mixes, canned pumpkin pie mix, evaporated milk, pie crust mix and other dessert mixes. Donations of frozen turkeys are also welcomed after Nov. 8. Leave non-perishable items in the drop box beside the Food Shelf door (across the parking lot from the Starksboro Post Office). If you plan to drop off a turkey, please call 802-453-6775 before you do, as food shelf coordinators want to make sure the bird gets into the freezer. Money donations are always gratefully accepted. Make your check out to the town of Starksboro, with "Food Shelf" in the comment line. Drop off or send checks to the town office.

All aboard! The Henry Sheldon Museum of Vermont History's annual model train exhibit will get rolling on Friday, Nov. 24, from 1-3:30 p.m. It will be offered through Jan. 13. The train exhibit stands three levels high, with two tracks running Lionel O gauge trains and the upper track running HO trains. In recognition of the 30th anniversary of the train layout, this year will feature a special display tracing the history of the Sheldon's trains. Last year saw an entire remake of the train exhibit's mountain, including gondola ski lift, skiers, rock climbers, and tunnels through the peak to show off the HO train. Popular "Gabe the Lamplighter" will be back this year; push the button and watch Gabe climb the tower and turn on the floodlights.



Thank you Addison County for helping the children, families, and staff of Mary Johnson Children's Center in the creation of MJCC's 2023-2026 strategic plan!



The resulting document lays out our new bold vision and mission for the future of MJCC and can be found at <https://www.mjccvt.org/strategic-plan>. This strategic plan is the result of the hard work and dedication involving dozens of staff members, our board of directors, former and current families, community partners, and you. Your voices were heard!

Behind the scenes, the plan includes what we want to achieve and the strategies we believe will help us get there. We have deployed important metrics and surveys to track our progress and hold ourselves accountable along the way. This strategic plan will guide MJCC in meeting its mission to nurture children and families of all backgrounds to strengthen belonging and well-being. We will continue to strive for excellence and work toward MJCC's vision of all children and families having access to high quality care and education to ensure they become happy, engaged community members.

Mary Johnson Children's Center • 802-388-2853

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.

Jellyfish

(Continued from Page 1A) residents, each carrying a luminescent “jellyfish” as they danced through town. “(There were) lots of oohs and aahs from the costumed crowd and cameras coming out to capture the scene. We were carrying a

portable speaker with a playlist of appropriate sea and beach-based music, and the smuck would stop frequently, form a circle and do a little dance,” said Karen Swanson, a Bristol resident who helped organize the effort. “Along the way, we would call out, ‘Happy

Halloween from the Bristol Jellies’ or similar. One of my favorite comments from the crowd was, ‘Oh my God! This is so magical!’” The group of jellyfish has been planning their Halloween promenade for about a month, though the idea for the effort was

first conceived several years ago when Swanson viewed a similar spectacle at the Falcon Ridge Folk Festival in Hillsdale, N.Y. “They have a tradition, one band plays to kind of close out Saturday night, and that band has groupies that follow it that do this jellyfish thing,” she recalled. “I saw that that was very effective in that context, and I’ve always thought in my head that Bristol is always so engaging for Halloween and this would be the perfect group costume. I’ve been waiting and waiting for the right time to do it.” Swanson pitched the idea to a group of local friends and soon

after, the team began creating their costumes. The luminescent jellyfish are made of clear, bubble umbrellas decked out with colorful lights and organza fabric that helps reflect the color of the lights. Swanson said the group spent around a month organizing and preparing for the Halloween display. “We did some brainstorming and got commitments from people. We brainstormed materials that we would need for it, secured a prototype and secured more of the materials,” she told the *Independent*. “We had a work session a week ago where we

all came together and made the (jellyfish), and then we did a little rehearsal out in the park.” The group debuted their colorful display on Halloween night, starting at 6:30 p.m. on Bristol’s Church Street and dancing through the village for a little over an hour. While it was the group’s first performance, Swanson noted that it might not be their last, and residents might see the Bristol Jellies in action again next Halloween. “This is the first time we’re doing it, this is the kind of thing that may well turn into an annual thing. It’s hard to know for sure,” she said.

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Leos lend a hand
THE DAR JOHN Strong Mansion/Museum closed up for the season on Saturday, October 14. The Vergennes area Leo Club offered to help with yard work. After a tour of the museum the group got to work raking leaves and pulling herb garden stakes. They were careful to leave plenty of leaves for the animals and pollinators during the winter. Pictured are Mason Charlebois, left, Megan Mentzer and Cookie Steponaitis. Photo courtesy of Joy Minns

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Police look in vehicles being stolen, vandalized

BRISTOL — Bristol police are asking for information related to recent incidents of vehicles being vandalized, stolen and having items taken from them.

Police received a report of a wallet and shotgun being stolen from a car on West Street during the evening of Oct. 17. The wallet was located nearby. Anyone with information regarding this incident is asked to contact Bristol police at 802-453-2533 and cite incident 23BR002846.

Bristol police were also told of multiple instances in which vehicles on Spring Street were searched during the evening of Oct. 18.

Police are asking residents to contact the department with any information regarding these recent incidents and to check their doorbell and surveillance cameras. Anyone with recordings of suspicious activity is asked to contact the Bristol Police Department.

Between Oct. 1 and 14 Bristol police completed 48 foot patrols and two car patrols, conducted 15 traffic stops and checked security at Mount Abraham Union High School 10 times, at Bristol Elementary School 10 times and at local businesses eight times.

Police also processed 28 fingerprint requests, helped two individuals gain access to their locked vehicles and conducted two welfare checks.

In other recent activity, Bristol police:

- On Oct. 1 helped two individuals resolve a dispute on Main Street.
- On Oct. 2 issued paperwork to a juvenile in possession of marijuana on Airport Drive.
- On Oct. 2 received a report of unlawful mischief on North Street. An investigation is ongoing.
- On Oct. 2 received a motor vehicle complaint on Briggs Road. Police identified and warned the driver.
- On Oct. 2 assisted a person on West Street. Police offered the individual mental health services, which were declined.
- On Oct. 3 participated in the health fair at Beeman Elementary School in New Haven.

Bristol Police Log

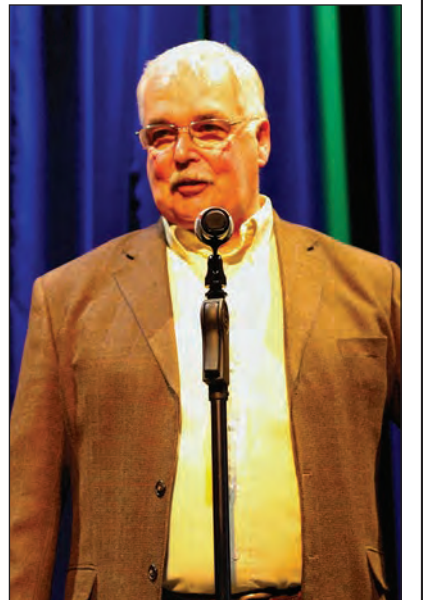
- On Oct. 4 assisted someone in need of transportation from Munsill Avenue.
- On Oct. 5 received a report of aggressive driving on Liberty Street. Police found and warned the driver.
- On Oct. 6 responded to a juvenile problem at Mount Abe.
- On Oct. 6 responded to a dispute on Main Street. Police determined no action rose to the level of an offense.
- On Oct. 6 responded to a complaint of an individual growing marijuana in an open area on Hermit Thrush Lane. Police spoke with the individual about the laws regarding securing the plants.
- On Oct. 6 received a report of a possible trespass on West Street. Police found no individuals in the area upon arrival and observed no indication that anyone had trespassed on the property.
- On Oct. 7 received a report of loose horses on Hardscrabble Road. The animals were returned.
- On Oct. 8 received a late report of a motor vehicle crash that had occurred on Main Street.
- On Oct. 8 looked into a report of suspicious activity at the Bristol Public Works Department. Police determined that the individual in question was associated with a solar company and authorized to be at the property.
- On Oct. 11 helped with traffic control during bus evacuation drills at Bristol Elementary School.
- On Oct. 12 recovered a stolen vehicle on Lincoln Road.
- On Oct. 13 responded to a dispute between neighbors on Main Street. Police determined no action rose to the level of an offense.
- On Oct. 14 received a report of an iPhone 12 Mini that was taken on Airport Drive during an Oct. 12 sporting event. An investigation is ongoing.
- On Oct. 14 responded to a two-car collision at the intersection of North and South streets.



Hail to the Chief

RETIRING MIDDLEBURY POLICE Chief Tom Hanley, who has served the community since 1991, was celebrated last Thursday with a going away party at Town Hall Theater. It went very well and was very well attended, with people coming from as far away as Connecticut, including two gentlemen who worked with Chief Hanley at the Wallingford PD where he was a detective before coming to Middlebury. Pictured with Hanley, clockwise from top left, were Town Manager Kathleen Ramsay; former selectboard members Peter Lebenbaum and Gail Smith, who hired him in 1991; and his daughter Rebecca. The mood was celebratory and Chief Hanley seemed to very much enjoy and appreciate the tremendous show of support and gratitude from the community.

Independent photos/Steve James



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<p>Beautyrest BLACK™ C-CLASS™ MEDIUM</p> <p>Twin Set \$3199 Full Set \$3599 Queen Set \$3899 King Set \$4799</p>		<p>WOODWARE</p>		<p>Beautyrest BLACK™ L-CLASS™ FIRM</p> <p>Twin Set \$2299 Full Set \$2799 Queen Set \$2999 King Set \$3799</p>

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CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2023 GARDEN GAME WINNERS!

It was another inspiring year as Addison County's talented green thumbs showed off their garden's best. We received dozens of entries and the gardeners below each took the top spot. Thank you to all who participated!

presents the



2023 Garden Game

Congratulations to the Winners!

It's been a whirlwind of a growing season this year but our local gardeners still managed to cultivate some impressive fruits and veggies. We had a few final entries to close out this year's game. **Debbie & Teddie Manning** brought in a beautiful butter-nut squash. Measuring 21" L x 19" C, it's not quite large enough to take the top spot but still deserves a round of applause. **Ed Lafayette** submitted a massive 102-pound pumpkin. Surprisingly it's the only pumpkin entry in this year's game, however, at 66" C x 57" C it's certainly earned its place as a winner. An 18" diameter cauliflower from **David Quenneville** was the first and only entry in that cruciferous category and he also takes the lead.



Debbie & Teddie Manning



Cabbage & Tomato
Carol Krawczyk



Asparagus
Matt Vogel



Beet
Kathy Hogdon



Broccoli
Ted Foster



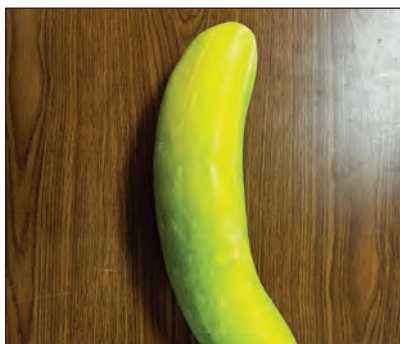
Carrot
Gary Miller



Cauliflower
David Quenneville



Corn
Peter Demong



Cucumber
Roger Scarborough



Edible Leafy Greens
Sue Galipo



Eggplant
Peter Halpin



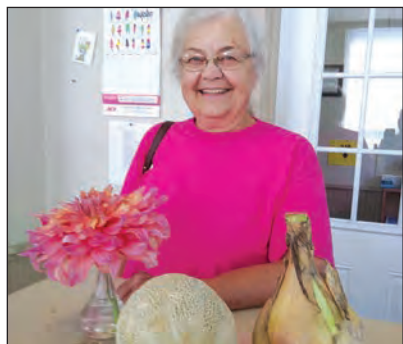
Green Bean
Gary Miller



Leek & Sunflower
Ed Blechner



Melon
Paul Cousino



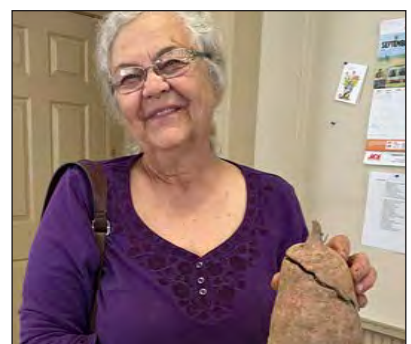
Onion & Cantaloupe
Carol Krawczyk



Parsnip
Ted Foster



Pepper
Gary Miller



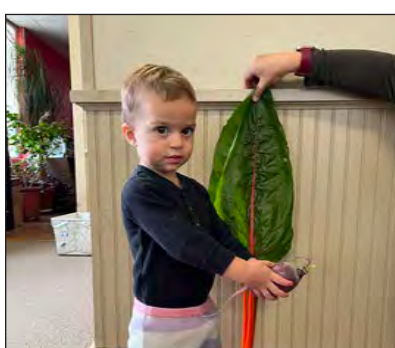
Potato
Carol Krawczyk

2022 GARDEN GAME WINNERS

- **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) - David Quenneville, 18"
- **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"
- **Green Bean** (length) - Gary Miller, 34"
- **Leek** (length x circumference) - Ed Blechner, 12" x 2"
- **Melon** (circumference) - Paul Cousino, 30"
- **Onion** (circumference) -



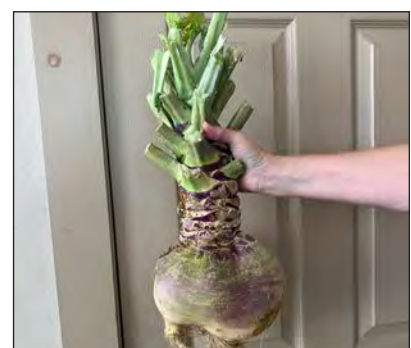
Pumpkin
Ed Lafayette



Radish
Theo, Elianna & Willamina Venables Vogel



Rhubarb
Lorraine Abramson



Rutabaga
Sue Galipo



Summer Squash
Aubree & Josh Mohan



Winter Squash
Kathy Hogdon



Zucchini
David Quenneville

- **Tomato** (circumference) - Carol Krawczyk, 17.75"
- **Rutabaga** (circumference) - Kathy Hodgdon, 30" x 44"
- **Zucchini** (length x circumference) - David Quenneville, 28" x 19"

This contest is made possible thanks to our sponsor, Middlebury Agway. Prizes (limited to one per person) will be mailed to each winner. All winners will be contacted for their mailing address within the next week.

- School News
- Legal Notices
- Classifieds
- Police Logs

Score BOARD

HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

Football	
D-I Playoffs	
10/27 #5 MUHS vs #4 St. J.....	7-3
D-III Playoffs	
10/28 #6 Springfield vs #3 OV.....	18-12
Field Hockey	
D-II Playoffs	
10/27 #3 Spaulding vs #6 OV.....	0-0 (Spaulding Wins Shootout, 3-0)
10/27 #1 Hartford vs #8 Mt Abe.....	8-1
Girls' Soccer	
D-II Playoffs	
10/27 #4 Harwood vs #5 Mt. Abe.....	2-0
D-III Playoffs	
10/25 #8 VUHS vs #9 GMUHS.....	3-1
10/27 #1 Fair Haven vs #8 VUHS.....	2-0
Boys' Soccer	
D-II Playoffs	
10/25 #2 MUHS vs #15 Spaulding.....	5-1
10/25 #9 Rice vs #8 Mt Abe.....	2-0
10/28 MUHS vs #10 Lake Region.....	4-0
11/1 #3 Harwood at MUHS.....	Late
D-III Playoffs	
10/25 #6 Fair Haven vs #11 VUHS.....	2-1
Girls' Volleyball	
Playoffs	
10/25 #4 MUHS vs #13 Montpelier.....	3-0
10/28 #5 St Albans vs #4 MUHS.....	3-1
COLLEGE SPORTS	
Field Hockey	
10/25 Midd vs Williams.....	3-0
NESCAC Quarterfinal	
10/28 #1 Midd vs #8 Trinity.....	6-1
Men's Soccer	
NESCAC Quarterfinal	
10/28 #1 Midd vs #8 Williams.....	2-0
Football	
10/28 Midd vs Colby.....	Ppd. to 11/18

Schedule

HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

Football	
D-I Playoffs	
11/4 #5 MUHS at #1 Hartford.....	7 PM
11/11 Final at Rutland.....	TBA
Boys' Soccer	
D-II Playoffs	
11/4 Final.....	10 AM or 1 PM
COLLEGE SPORTS	
Field Hockey	
NESCAC Final Four at Midd	
11/4 #7 Amherst vs #1 Midd.....	11 AM
11/4 #3 Bates vs #4 Williams.....	1:30 PM
11/5 Final.....	Noon
Men's Soccer	
NESCAC Final Four at Midd	
11/4 #4 Tufts at #1 Midd.....	11 AM
11/4 #3 Conn vs #2 Amherst.....	1:30 PM
11/5 Final.....	Noon
Football	
11/4 Midd at Hamilton.....	12:30 PM
11/11 Tufts at Midd.....	12:30 PM
11/18 Midd at Colby.....	11:30 PM



HAVING JUST WON the ball in the MUHS defensive end, Tiger junior midfielder Oliver Choudury hurdles a tackle attempt by Lake Region's Liam Oliver during the Tiger boys' 4-0 D-II quarterfinal triumph.

Independent photo/Steve James

MUHS boys' soccer on to D-II semifinal

By ANDY KIRKALDY
MIDDLEBURY — The No. 2 seed Middlebury Union High School boys' soccer team opened the Division II playoffs with a pair of victories last week, and by doing so improved to 12-2-2 and reached at least the semifinal round of the tournament for the fifth straight season.

The Tiger program looked to take its next step toward a first-ever state title on Wednesday when it hosted No. 3 Harwood (11-1-4) in a game that occurred after the *Independent's* deadline. The winner of that game advanced to the final, which is scheduled for either 10 a.m. or 1 p.m. on Saturday at Hartford's Maxfield Sports Complex. This story will be updated online at addisonindependent.com with the results of the Harwood game.

The Tigers and Harwood tied 2-2 in September on the Highlanders' field, and Wednesday's game was a rematch of the 2022 semifinal won by Harwood on Fucile Field, 3-2, in overtime.

At the same time on Wednesday, No. 12 Milton (7-7-2), the

(See Soccer, Page 4B)



JACKSON GILLETT CELEBRATES his game-winning catch for the MUHS football team at St. Johnsbury in a Division I quarterfinal on Oct. 27.

Photo by Michael Beniash/Caledonian Record

Tiger 11 reaches semi MUHS nips St. J; Hartford up next

By ANDY KIRKALDY
ST. JOHNSBURY — The No. 5 Middlebury Union High School football team mounted a game-winning drive in the final five minutes against host No. 4 St. Johnsbury on Oct. 27 to pull out a 7-3 Division I quarterfinal victory.

The Tigers scored the decisive touchdown with 1:09 remaining on a 13-yard pass from senior quarterback Jacob Kemp to classmate Jackson Gillett, who outmaneuvered two Hilltopper defenders in the end zone to make the catch on third-and-six.

The play capped a 73-yard drive

that began with 3:55 on the clock. It began when St. J turned the ball over on downs on the Tiger 27 after a seven-minute possession. The key play on the MUHS march, according to the Tiger coaching staff, was a 30-yard Kemp completion to Gavin McNulty.

After the MUHS TD, Hilltopper QB Carter Bunnell tossed a couple deep passes, missing one receiver before Gillett sealed the victory with an interception. Bunnell finished with 110 passing yards and 101 rushing yards on 19 carries to lead St. J, which finished

(See Football, Page 4B)



MUHS JUNIOR MAGGIE Klingensmith defends at the net against St. Albans hitter Aiyana Auer during the Tiger girls' volleyball quarterfinal in Middlebury on Saturday.

Independent photo/Steve James

Volleyball out of playoffs

By ANDY KIRKALDY
MIDDLEBURY — The Middlebury Union High School girls' volleyball team embarked on its journey as a first-year varsity program back in September not really knowing what to expect after one year at the JV level and two years as a club.

Maybe a better question to ask would have been what should the other 18 varsity programs have

expected from the Tigers. An MUHS team with only two seniors saw its season come to an end on Saturday afternoon in a home quarterfinal, but not before finishing with a 13-3 record, earning the No. 4 seed for the tournament, winning a first-round playoff match, and during the course of the fall taking sets from two of the top five tournament seeds.

(See Volleyball, Page 3B)



TIGER JUNIOR ETHAN Spritzer, left, and sophomore Matias Citarella cruise through the 5K course in Thetford Saturday during the Division II high school cross country championship race. Citarella, 29, and Spritzer, 34, helped the Tigers earn fourth place as a team.

Photo by Joe McVeigh

Tiger cross-country teams 4th in D2; VUHS boys 5th

By ANDY KIRKALDY
THETFORD — The Middlebury Union High School girls' and boys' cross-country teams both finished fourth in Division II at Saturday's state championship meet in Thetford, with Vergennes on the Tiger boys' heels in fifth.

Tiger girls Mary Harrington and Beth McIntosh posted the best individual results for the local schools, finishing second and fourth, respectively, in the D-II race.

Tiger senior Baxter Harrington finished 16th to lead local runners in the D-II boys' race, with Commodore Grey Fearon just about three seconds behind him in 17th.

Lincoln's Estella Laird finished second in the Division I girls' race in 19:54.9 to help the champion Champlain Valley team score a perfect 15 points with a sweep of the top five places.

The Otter Valley boys finished seventh in D-III, with Luke Calvin leading the way in 22nd place. Craftsbury (43) edged host Thetford (50) for the D-III boys' crown.

The Mount Abraham boys' and girls' teams and the VUHS girls did not field enough runners to score as a team.

U-32 swept both D-II titles. The Raider girls scored 52 points, followed by Harwood, 83; Burr & Burton, 90; MUHS, 118; and Woodstock, 129. U-32's Ginger

Long won the race in 20:33.3.

The Raider boys won their eighth straight title, scoring 23 points. Montpelier (36) took second, followed by Burr & Burton, 90; MUHS, 121; and VUHS, 167. Cyrus Hansen helped his U-32 team win the D-II title by finishing first in 16:56.8.

The local girls teams' runners and their overall finishes and times were:

TIGER GIRLS: 2. Mary Harrington, 21:57; 4. Beth McIntosh; 22:14.4; 19. Ava Schneider, 23:51.1; 57. Sarah Benz, 29:07.9; and 65. Jessie Bodette, 32:51.2.

EAGLE GIRLS: 32. Isabella Shea, 25:34.1; 48. Rhiannon Andrews, 27:25.9; 60. Merissa Gordon, 29:31.4.

COMMODORE GIRLS: 47. Eleanor Wilkinson-Sachs, 27:25.5; 52. Torrey Hanna; 27:47.8; 61. Madeleine Stroup, 30:51.2.

Otter Valley's only female runner, Sara Loyzelle, finished 27th in the D-II race in 27:04.2. Stowe (39) won the D-III girls' title, with Thetford (73) in second.

The local boys' teams' runners and their overall finishes and times were:

TIGER BOYS: 16. Baxter Harrington, 19:02.6; 23. Kaden Hammond, 19:23.1; 25. Baker Nelson, 19:42.3; 29. Matias Citarella, 19:56.6; 34. Ethan Spritzer, 20:10.3; 45. Aaron

(See X-Country, Page 3B)

Volleyball

(Continued from Page 1B)

One of those set wins came during the Tigers' 3-1 quarterfinal loss to visiting No. 5 BFA-St. Albans on Saturday. The Comets prevailed, 25-22, 25-18, 19-25, 25-14, to advance to a semifinal this Thursday against undefeated defending champion Essex. Also, in their final regular season match, MUHS lost at No. 3 seed Enosburg, 3-1.

After Saturday's match vs. St. Albans, Coach Bethany Morrissey was happy with her team's effort against the 12-4 Comets, and given the quality of her young team's play, was already thinking about its bright future.

"I feel like we've improved. We were playing really well. If we could go back and clean up a few things that would be great, right? But there are a lot of moments we are looking forward to for next year, too," Morrissey said.

Certainly, the Tigers were competitive with the Comets. The difference, if any, in skill level, was minimal. What was different was St. Albans' height advantage on the front line: Comet juniors Amelia Weber and Kristie LaBelle were particular forces at the net.

The first set was tense. BFA took an early 6-2 lead as the Tigers made a couple return errors, and Weber recorded her first kill. But then the Tigers went on a 7-0 run behind the serving

of junior Georgie Kiel, a streak in which she hit three aces and Tiger Maggie Klingensmith capped with a well-placed kill.

Shortly afterward, Tiger freshman Tenny Laroche's ace and two Comet fouls pushed the MUHS advantage to 13-9. Two kills by Comet Aiyana Auer snapped the momentum, although MUHS still led 14-11, on a kill by senior captain CC Rubright.

The teams then traded the lead. BFA went up, 17-16, on a 6-0 run that included three aces from Ava Hutchins. Two aces by Tiger junior Emma Morrissey helped the Tigers take a 19-17 lead.

MUHS still led 21-19, after a Kiel kill, but a service error and two aces by Comet Ava Harrison gave BFA a 22-21 lead. A Klingensmith kill knotted the score at 22-22, but the Comets ran the table from there, closing with a Weber ace to win, 25-22.

In the second set, service aces by Ronan Young, Laroche and Sara Kent helped the Tigers take an 11-9 lead, but the Comets went on serving runs behind LaBelle and Hutchins to go up by 18-13. A huge Kiel stuff of a Weber attempted spike brought the Tigers to within 19-16, but that was as close as they came as the Comets pulled away to win the set, 25-18.

The Tigers took an early 7-1 lead in the third set, sparked by two Kiel kills and one from junior Aven Frankovic. But the Comets

slowly worked their way back into the match with aces from Hutchins and kills from Weber. A Weber kill finally tied the score at 18-18.

But the Tigers regained the lead when the Comets committed a foul at the end of a lengthy point. Then senior Addison Copeland followed with a kill and Kiel with an ace, and it was 21-18, MUHS.

The teams traded a point apiece, and then the Tigers closed the set out with Laroche serving, winning two points before she ended the match with an ace, a play that had the big crowd in the MUHS gym rocking.

The Tigers opened the fourth set with two Rubright aces, and a comeback looked possible. But the Comets ripped off eight straight points, including three in a row on Weber plays at the net. After that, the closest the Tigers came was down four points at 8-4 as the Comets cruised in the decisive set, 25-14.

In their Oct. 25 quarterfinal, the Tigers defeated visiting No. 13 Montpelier, 3-0 (25-19, 25-7, 25-8).

"Every single person on the team contributed with aces, kills, digs or assists," Morrissey said.

In the third set, Kent had a 12-point serving run, while Emma Morrissey had a seven-point serving run to close out the second set, Coach Morrissey noted.

Rubright finished with six kills, Frankovic and Kiel each contributed four, and Copeland had three. Young led with eight assists.

Morrissey also pointed out she and Activities Director Sean Farrell had expected a two-tier



TIGER JUNIOR RONAN Young sends the ball over the net to St. Albans during the teams' quarterfinal playoff match at MUHS on Saturday.

Independent photo/Steve James

tournament and had only learned halfway through the season that all 19 teams would have one postseason. A regular-season schedule adjustment next season might allow the Tigers to sharpen their net play, in particular, she said.

"We never thought we would be playing the D-I teams," she said. "It would have been fun to play more of them in the season if we're going to play them in the playoffs, too. Blocking and all of that stuff doesn't come with all the other teams. So we need to play a team like (BFA)."

Morrissey said she was pleased with her team's devotion to the sport and improvement during the course of the season.

"Everybody wants to keep

playing," she said. "It started to catch on, and everybody wanted to do things right."

She was also pleased with the team's spirit, pointing to big regular-season comeback during a set against a 9-5 Colchester

team in a 3-0 win.

"They have a lot of resilience. There was one time this year we came back from down 10-0," she said. "I feel like they think anything is within the realm of possibility."

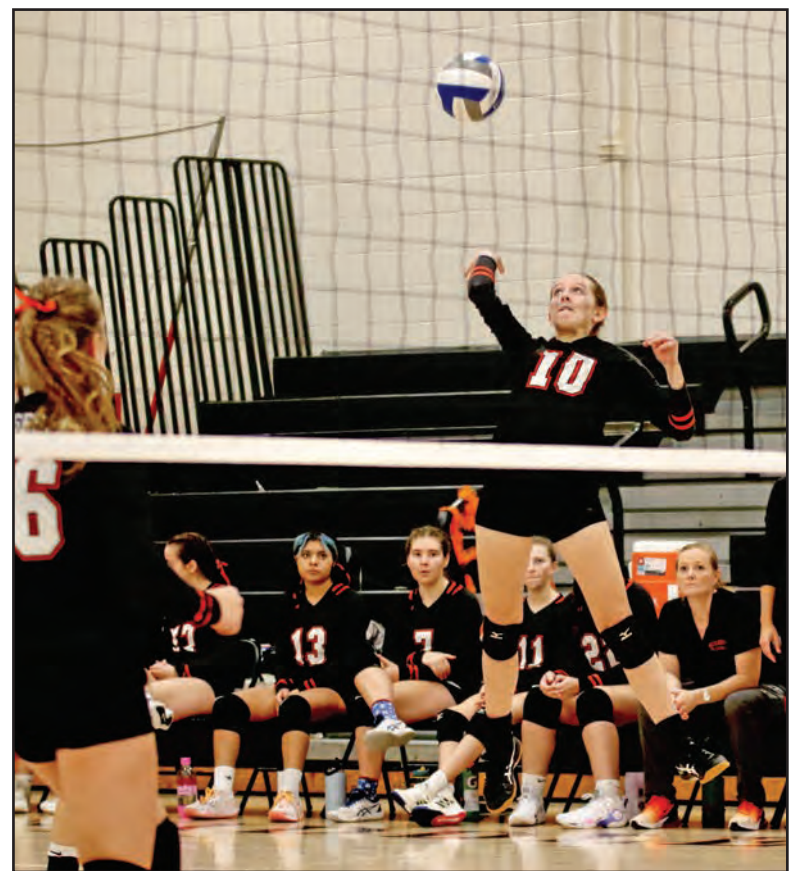


MUHS JUNIOR EMMA Morrissey stretches to return a serve on Saturday during the Tiger volleyball team's home quarterfinal vs. BFA-St. Albans.



TIGER JUNIOR GEORGIE Kiel goes up for a block on St. Albans standout Amelia Weber during the MUHS volleyball team's home quarterfinal on Saturday.

Independent photo/Steve James



TIGER JUNIOR AVEN Frankovic lines up a hit during the MUHS volleyball team's home quarterfinal vs. BFA-St. Albans on Saturday.

Independent photo/Steve James

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Midd field hockey, men's soccer host

By ANDY KIRKALDY

MIDDLEBURY — The top-seeded Middlebury College field hockey and men's soccer teams both breezed in their NESCAC quarterfinal matches on Saturday and will host NESCAC final four tournaments this weekend.

The first-place football team had been set to visit Colby this past Saturday, but NESCAC postponed most games in Maine following the deadly mass shooting in Lewiston last week. Middlebury will instead visit Colby on Nov. 18.

Field Hockey

The Panther field hockey team, ranked No. 1 in NCAA Division III all season, moved to 16-0 by rolling past visiting No. 8 seed Trinity, 6-1, in its Saturday NESCAC quarterfinal. Middlebury dominated the 9-7 Bantams, piling up advantages of 40-5 in shots and 15-2 in penalty corners and taking a 3-0 lead in the first quarter on goals by Katie George, Audrey Lazar and Amy Griffin.

Demi Janis got one back for Trinity in the second period, but the Panthers pulled away quickly in the third period with goals from Griffin and Hannah Medwar. Griffin completed her hat trick in the fourth quarter. Caroline Segal and Lilly Branka picked up assists, and goalie KK Newton made two saves. In the shooting gallery that was the Bantam cage, goalie Olivia McMichael stopped 16 shots and Trinity defenders chipped in with three defensive saves as their team dropped to 9-7.

This Saturday the Panthers will take on No. 7 seed Amherst (10-6, 5-5 NESCAC) at 11 a.m. At 1:30 p.m. No. 4 Williams will face No. 3 Bates (11-4, 7-3).

Middlebury shut out all of those teams during the regular season: Bates by 2-0, and Amherst and

Williams by 3-0.

The tournament winner is guaranteed a bid to the NCAA D-III tournament, not really a Panther concern, but the other teams would all enjoy locking down a spot in the dance.

Men's Soccer

In the men's soccer NESCAC quarterfinal, top seed Middlebury, ranked No. 3 in the most recent NCAA D-III poll, scored twice in the first 23 minutes in its 2-0 defeat of visiting No. 8 tournament seed Williams.

The Panthers will next entertain No. 4 Tufts (11-2-3, 6-2-2 NESCAC) at 11 a.m. this Saturday. Middlebury recently defeated the Jumbos at home, 3-0. In the other semi at 1:30 on Saturday, No. 2 Amherst (11-2-3, 6-1-3 NESCAC) and No. 3 Connecticut (11-0-5, 5-0-5 NESCAC) will square off. The Panthers tied both of those teams in the regular season.

The winners will meet on Sunday at noon for the NESCAC playoff title and an automatic NCAA bid; it would be a surprise if at least three of those teams do not receive bids.

Vs. Williams this past Saturday, the Panthers took the lead at 20:01 when Will Sawin headed home a loose ball after a long Kyle Nilsson throw-in that Luke Madden had first headed off a defender.

Middlebury's Eufin Chae made it 2-0 in the 23rd minute. Nilsson sent a through ball to Chae, who sprinted past the defense and blasted a shot from point-blank range into the net off Eph goalie Ben Duffley.

Panther goalie Ryan Grady numbered a couple of tough saves among his five stops, as did Duffley in making four saves for the 8-6-2 Ephs. Middlebury outshot Williams, 17-11 and earned a 6-1 advantage in corner kicks.

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MIDDLEBURY UNION HIGH School sophomore Mary Harrington has a comfortable lead over a pack led by junior teammate Beth McIntosh near the end of the Division II state cross country race in Thetford on Saturday. Harrington finished second and McIntosh was fourth.

Photo by Joe McVeigh

X-Country

(Continued from Page 1B)

Carr-Perlow, 21:30.1; 58. Keil Broderson, 22:32.

COMMODORE BOYS: 17. Grey Fearon, 19:05.1; 21. Calder Rakowski, 19:17.5; 35. Carter McGuire, 20:32.6; 43. Calvin Gramling, 20:56.9; 61. Chance Koenig, 22:56.8.

EAGLE BOYS: 68. Elliot Senecal, 24:22.5; 82. Ezaia Herben, 28:10.1.

OV BOYS (D-III): 22. Luke Calvin, 21:00.1; 35. Baker Larock, 22:34.5; 42. Jonathan Johnson, 22:56.4; 48. Elisha Bagley, 23:30.7; 83. Cooper Rubright, 33:35.5; 89. Jackson Rawls, 41:34.2.

OV football ousted

No. 6 Springfield upsets No. 3 Otters

BRANDON — Visiting No. 6 Springfield ended the No. 3 seeded Otter Valley football team's season this past Saturday with an 18-12 upset in a Division III quarterfinal matchup.

Luke Stocker's eight-yard touchdown run and following two-point conversion reception erased a 12-10 Otter lead and created the final margin. Earlier Springfield quarterback Cameron

Williams tossed a six-yard TD pass to Dimitri Jasinski, and Nick Villamayor booted a 24-yard field goal to account for the rest of the Cosmos' offense.

OV running back Isaac Whitney accounted for all of his team's points with scoring runs of four and 95 yards.

Springfield improved to 5-4 with the victory, while the Otters finished their season at 6-3.

Hartford bests Eagle hockey

WHITE RIVER JUNCTION — Top-seeded Hartford eliminated the No. 8 Mount Abraham Union High School field hockey team from the Division II postseason on Oct. 27, 8-1, in a quarterfinal matchup.

Madison Willey and Kamryn Brower each recorded hat tricks for the 13-2 Hurricanes, and Madison Barwood scored twice. Hartford

goalie Paige Vielleux made one save.

Hailee Allen, who scored the game-winner in the Eagles' first-round victory over Brattleboro earlier last week, scored for Mount Abe, which finished 3-12-1.

Top seed knocks out VUHS girls

By ANDY KIRKALDY
VERGENNES — The Vergennes Union High School girls' soccer team won one Division III playoff game before falling to the top seed in closely contested quarterfinal.

On Oct. 25, the No. 8 Commodores erupted in the second half to defeat visiting No. 9 seed Green Mountain Union, 3-1. After a scoreless first half, Ashtin Stearns scored twice after the break, in the 53rd and 63rd minutes, both with assists from Ava Francis. Those goals were sandwiched around a Francis score on a direct kick.

GMU's Sophia Cherubini scored a late goal for her 7-7-1 team, and Honore Hazen made eight saves. Faith McCallister blocked six shots for the Commodores, including a penalty kick. VUHS snapped a seven-game skid and improved to 6-8-1.

On Oct. 27, No. 1 seed Fair Haven got a goal in each half from Maddy Perry to defeat the Commodores, 2-0. VUHS forced Slater goalie Kate Hadwen to make 11 saves, while McCallister made 15 as the Commodores wrapped up their season at 6-9-1.

Slaters best VUHS boys

By ANDY KIRKALDY

VERGENNES — No. 11 Vergennes Union High School boys' soccer drew a familiar foe in the Division III playoffs this past Wednesday, Oct. 25: No. 6 Fair Haven.

VUHS had lost to the Slaters, 2-1, back on Sept. 15. And this past Wednesday, history repeated itself, as the Slaters improved to 6-5-1 with another 2-1 victory.

All the goals were scored in the second half. Fair Haven's Jack Spaulding scored in the half's 14th minute on a corner kick with an assist from Jace Hetrick, and 10 minutes later Hetrick made it 2-0 with an assist from Spaulding.

Commodore Ryder Messinger's unassisted goal with 1:10 to go created the final score. Slater goalie Noah Woodbury made four saves. VUHS keeper Devin Brisson made 16 saves as the Commodores wrapped up a 4-10-1 season that included a number of close losses.

Mt. Abe boys' soccer upset in opener

By ANDY KIRKALDY

BRISTOL — The Mount Abraham Union High School boys' soccer team, the number 8 seed in the Division II playoffs, had defeated Lake Division foe Rice — the No. 9 seed — twice during the regular season, 2-0 and 2-1. But on Oct. 25, the visiting Green Knights won the joust, 2-0.

"Rice played an excellent game," acknowledged Eagle Coach Rider MacCrellich, whose team finished above .500 at 7-6-2. Rice poked its head over .500 at 7-6-1 with the victory.

Sharmarke Hassan gave Rice the lead early in the first half, and Wilfred St. Francis added an insurance goal with 15 minutes left in the game. Luke Broussard assisted both goals.

MacCrellich said Eagle goalie Evan Audy came up big, stopping a penalty kick early on and afterward making "a handful of huge saves to hold off Rice."



Stocking up

A BLUE JAY briefly pauses in his hunt for food, acorn in mouth, in a Middlebury garden.

Photo by Dottie Nelson

OV field hockey falls in Div. II quarterfinal

BARRE TOWN — No. 3 Spaulding ousted the No. 6 Otter Valley field hockey team from the Division II tournament on Oct. 27, winning in a shootout, 3-0, after neither team score in regulation or overtime.

Tide Maddie Churchill made

three shootout saves for her 12-2 team, while teammates Ruby Harrington, Ashley Morrison and Abigail Viens found the cage after starting from the top of the circle and carrying the ball in on OV goalie Lily Morgan.

Morgan's 14 saves had

helped keep the 7-7 Otters in the quarterfinal matchup during regulation and the extra sessions. Churchill finished with eight saves for the Tide, a team that had eliminated the Otters with 2-1 quarterfinal victories in each of the past two seasons.



Upcoming Events

Thursday November 2:
9:00 - 11:00 AM Public Skating
3:45 - 4:45 PM Stick & Puck

Friday November 3:
3:30 - 4:45 PM Stick & Puck

Sunday November 5:
2:00 - 3:30 PM Public Skating

Monday November 6:
3:45 - 4:45 PM Stick & Puck

Tuesday November 7:
9:00 - 11:00 AM Public Skating
3:45 - 4:45 PM Stick & Puck

Thursday November 9:
9:00 - 11:00 AM Public Skating
3:45 - 4:45 PM Stick & Puck

Friday November 10:
3:45 - 4:45 PM Stick & Puck

Tuesday November 14:
9:00 - 11:00 AM Public Skating

Thursday November 16:
9:00 - 11:00 AM Public Skating
3:45 - 4:45 PM Stick & Puck

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TIGER LEADING SCORER Eddie Fallis touches the ball past Lake Region goalie Lincoln Racine on his way to a breakaway score in the first half of the Tiger's 4-0 D-II quarterfinal victory on Saturday.

Independent photo/Steve James



TIGER FRESHMAN ELLINGTON Patterson battles for the ball with Lake Region's Tristan Blay during the Tiger boys' soccer team's 4-0 D-II quarterfinal victory on Saturday.

Independent photo/Steve James

Soccer

(Continued from Page 1B) defending champion, was set to visit No. 9 Rice (9-6-1). Both teams had defeated two higher seeds to reach the other D-II semifinal. Rice upset No. 1 Montpelier in the quarterfinal round.

The Tigers split two games with Rice this season, losing at home, 1-0 in overtime, but winning at Rice, 4-1. The Tigers

won at Milton, 5-1, and topped the Yellowjackets at home, 2-1, in overtime. They are undefeated on the road this season.

To reach the semifinal, the Tigers on Saturday had to get past No. 10 Lake Region, which upset No. 7 Green Mountain Valley in the first round.

Lake Region came to Fucile Field with an 8-6-1 record and a

scrappy attitude that kept the Tigers off balance for the first 10 minutes or so. But the Rangers ultimately left with a 4-0 loss courtesy of their hosts' superior ball movement, playmaking and finishing.

The Tigers outshot the Rangers, 27-7, and earned nine corner kicks to none for their visitors.

"I'm proud of the work the boys did today," said MUHS Coach

Chris George. "We were focused and did exactly what we needed to be successful. Good performances from all of our guys."

But Rangers early on pressed the Tigers at midfield, and one Lake Region shot from about 22 yards found its way to MUHS goalie Jonathan Kafumbe, who only had to make three saves. Still, he remained active, occasionally

picking off crosses or snagging through-ball attempts.

Before long, the Tigers started to turn the screws. Rangers Ben Thompson and Beren Lovejoy both made defensive saves in one sequence, and the Tigers earned four corner kicks during the first 16 minutes.

The first MUHS goal came in the 13th minute. Leading scorer Eddie Fallis (his two goals and two assists Saturday gave him 25 goals and 20 assists for the season) carved out space on the left flank and drove the ball across the front of the goal. It rolled just out of striker Sam Weenk's reach, but Caleb Burrows had time to catch up with the service and knocked the ball inside the right post with the outside of his right foot.

Four minutes later, Fallis cashed in on a breakaway. Weenk broke up an attempted Ranger clearance at midfield, and Fallis picked up the loose ball about 45 yards out. He outraced two defenders into the left side of the box. Lake Region goalie Lincoln Racine came out to cut down the angle, but Fallis touched the ball by him and left-footed it into the vacated net.

Soon afterward, Racine, who made a dozen stops, denied Burrows and a defender made a kick save on Oliver Choudhury's bid on the rebound. Another defensive save denied Fallis in the 24th minute on at Tiger corner kick. Lake Region had one more shot in the half, a long direct kick by Liam Oliver that Kafumbe hauled in.

The Tigers were a little slow out of the gate in the second half,

and Lake Region had two chances. Kafumbe handled one shot from just inside the 18, and Ranger Owen Rogers shot high from close range near the left post.

But the Tiger defense of Eddie Hodde and Milo Rees in the middle and Ben Longman and Jake Mitchell on the flanks allowed nothing more except a few speculative looks from long range.

"Lake Region is a good team," George said. "When a good team feels like they need to take shots from 25 to 30 yards out to create chances, that says a lot about the work our guys in the back did today."

Midway through the half, Fallis sent a long ball to Weenk at the top of the box to the left, and Weenk touched to the middle before finding the lower right corner. Then, with about five minutes left, Fallis maneuvered from left to right across the 18 and right-footed the ball into the right side to create the 4-0 final.

Last Wednesday, the Tigers allowed only two shots on goal in a 5-1 first-round victory over No. 15 Spaulding (1-14). Fallis picked up three assists, all on corners, to Mitchell, midfielder Iver Anderson and Weenk. Ellington Patterson found the net with an assist from Anderson, and Weenk capped the scoring with an unassisted strike.

"All season we've been talking about playing our best soccer when it matters most, and we're doing that," George said. "We did have a great regular season, but we've found that extra something that making a deep playoff run takes."

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MUHS SENIOR MIDFIELDER Iver Anderson moves the ball up the field during the Tiger boys' soccer team's 4-0 D-II quarterfinal victory on Saturday over Lake Region.

Independent photo/Steve James

Football

(Continued from Page 1B)

Both teams moved the ball well for the most part, but stalled out when they reached the red zone, according to MUHS Head Coach Jed Malcolm.

St. Johnsbury took a 3-0 lead with a 30-yard Cooper Calkins field goal in the second quarter. Tiger kicker Tucker Morter also had a 30-yard attempt in that period, but it missed wide to the left by inches.

For MUHS Gavin McNulty rushed 16 times for 79 yards, and caught two balls for 42 more. Jackson Gillett added 36 yards on 12 carries, and Kemp threw for 55 yards.

The Tigers improved to 6-3 and will visit undefeated Hartford on Friday at 7 p.m. The winner will head to Rutland High School for the D-I final on Saturday, Nov. 11, at a time to be announced.

Hartford defeated the Tigers on Doc Collins Field back on Oct. 26, 35-21, in a competitive game that was the Hurricanes' closest of the fall.

After this past Friday's game, Tiger players and coaches pointed out they've not lost an away game this season.

Michael Beniash of the Caledonian Record provided information for this story.

community calendar

nov 2 THURSDAY

Twist o' Wool Guild meeting in Middlebury. Thursday, Nov. 2, 7 p.m., American Legion, 40 Wilson Rd. For anyone interested in fiber arts the Twist o' Wool Guild has an upcoming meeting. All are welcome! Masks are strongly encouraged but not required.

nov 3 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.

nov 4 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.

Artisan fair in Middlebury. Saturday, Nov. 4, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., The Residence at Otter Creek, 350 Lodge Rd. Selected artisans will be selling many kinds of holiday ornaments, hats and other knit items, dishcloths, printed tea towels, woven potholders, felted mittens, jewelry, woven scarves, hand painted silk, fused glass, small art, mini bird paintings on canvas, honey and other creative items. Free and open to all.

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.

nov 5 SUNDAY

Pancake breakfast in Middlebury. Sunday, Nov. 5, 8-10 a.m., VFW 530 Exchange St. Menu includes pancakes with Vermont maple syrup, sausage and gravy biscuits, bacon, hash, sausage, hash browns, eggs toast, coffee and orange juice. Cost \$12 adults/\$6 children. Open to the public. All proceeds benefit veterans' programs.

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.

Joe and Jackie in Middlebury. Sunday, Nov. 5,



Lights of remembrance

ADDISON COUNTY HOME Health & Hospice will hold its annual Candle Lighting Service of Remembrance in Middlebury on Sunday, Nov. 5, 2-4 p.m., at Middlebury United Methodist Church, 47 North Pleasant St. All members of the community are welcome to remember and honor the hospice and palliative care patients ACHHH were privileged to care for who have passed away during the past year.

Photo/Metro Creative

3-6 p.m., VFW, 530 Exchange St. Come dance to Joe and Jackie at this free open house. The kitchen will be open.

nov 7 TUESDAY

"Does your loved one have memory loss" in Middlebury. Tuesday, Nov. 7, 4:30-6 p.m., Congregational Church of Middlebury. Come to the final session of the Elderly Services Community Education Series, presented by Joanne Corbett, a clinical social worker with Elderly Services. She will discuss tips for everyday living with a person who has memory loss. Free and open to the entire community. More info and RSVP call Eileen Lawson at Elderly Services, 802-388-3983.

nov 8 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.

nov 9 THURSDAY

"Protecting Nature for Birds and People: Opportunities, lessons and hope from the Massachusetts coast" in Middlebury. Thursday, Nov. 9, 7 p.m., Champlain Valley Unitarian Universalist Society, 2 Duane Ct. Amy Weidensaul, Ph.D., Senior Regional Director of Mass Audubon will tell us about Mass Audubon's work on the natural and human communities along coastlines that are facing climate impacts such as sea level rise and stronger, more frequent storms; and restoring habitats including salt marshes, dunes, coastal uplands and beaches. Free and open to the public, light refreshments will be served.

"Frozen: The Musical" in Middlebury. Thursday, Nov. 9, 7 p.m., Auditorium, Middlebury Union High School, 73 Charles Ave. Elsa and Anna and company take the stage in MUHS' fall musical production. Tickets at www.showtix4u.com/event-details/76858.

"An Evening with Spirit" in Middlebury. Thursday, Nov. 9, 7 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 South Pleasant St. Psychic Medium and Author Josh Simonds comes to Middlebury for an evening of spiritual connection, love, and humor. Tickets \$45, available at tickets@townhalltheater.org or 802-382-9222.

nov 10 FRIDAY

"Frozen: The Musical" in Middlebury. Friday, Nov. 10, 7 p.m., Auditorium, Middlebury Union High School, 73 Charles Ave. See Nov. 9 listing.

The Sound Investment in Middlebury. Friday, Nov. 10, 7:30 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 South Pleasant St. The Sound Investment Jazz Ensemble is the Middlebury College Music Department's 17-piece big band that builds on the 80-year history of swingin' music. David Allan Rose will be on hand at 6:45 to provide swing dance lessons. Tickets \$15 adult/\$10 student, available at tickets@townhalltheater.org or 802-382-9222.

nov 11 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.

Prisoners of War living history event in Ticonderoga, N.Y. Saturday, Nov. 11, Fort Ticonderoga. Experience life for captured British soldiers and their families with their harrowing stories as prisoners of war. Explore their perspective during this living history event a glimpse into their tenuous situation as prisoners of war, even before American patriots declared

independence. For the full visitor schedule and other details, visit www.fortticonderoga.org.

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.

Veterans Day celebration in Middlebury. Saturday, Nov. 11, 11 a.m., VFW, 530 Exchange St. Come commemorate the men and women who served our country. Refreshments and light food will follow the ceremony. More info at 802-238-0074.

"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.

Prize Bingo in Leicester. Saturday, Nov. 11, 1 p.m., Senior Center, Leicester Four Corners. Hosted by the Leicester historical Society. Refreshments served. All are welcome.

Ferrisburgh Historical Society in Vergennes. Saturday, Nov. 11, 1 p.m. Bixby Memorial Library, 258 Main St. Bixby board member and history committee chair Nancy Remsen will share new "finding aides" and online access, as well as recent exhibits that include special collections related to Ferrisburgh history. Volunteer Catherine Brooks will share examples of local history research findings associated with the development of four artifact and document kits now available for borrowing from the library to groups, homeschooled, and schools. Selected documents will be available to examine.

"Frozen: The Musical" in Middlebury. Saturday, Nov. 11, 2 p.m., Auditorium, Middlebury Union High School, 73 Charles Ave. See Nov. 9 listing.

Goshen Historical Society open house in Goshen. Saturday, Nov. 11, 2-4 p.m., Goshen Town Hall, 5 Carlisle Hill Rd. Looking to learn more about the history of our beautiful mountain town? Enjoy history in general? Interested in becoming a member? There will be information, displays and items of interest plus refreshments for all. For info or questions contact Madine Reed at 802-353-9554.

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.

Takeout ham supper in Vergennes. Saturday, Nov. 11, 5-6 p.m., Vergennes United Methodist Church (across from the opera house). Menu includes ham, mashed sweet potatoes, green beans, roll and dessert. Adults \$12. Preorder by Thursday Nov. 7, at 802-877-3150.

Community potluck dinner in Salisbury. Saturday, Nov. 11, 5:30 p.m., Salisbury Meetinghouse, 853 Maple St. Please bring your own place setting and a dish to share. Beverages will be provided. Welcome new town residents and have a chance to win a gift basket.

King Pede card party in Ferrisburgh. Saturday, Nov. 11, 6:30 p.m., Ferrisburgh Town Hall and Community Center, 3279 Route 7. A sandwich supper and then on to an evening of fun and games. King Pede is a game that involves "trick-taking" such as in Hearts and Spades or Pitch. This is a game of fun and skill so come prepared to use your strategic thinking.

Ladies' movie night in Middlebury. Saturday, Nov. 11, 6:30 p.m., Ferrisburgh Town Hall and Community Center, 3279 Route 7. The first movie offering by The Friends of the Union Meeting Hall. This month's film will send you to a summer in the Catskills, where dancing reigns supreme. Rated PG-13. Free, no pre-registration required. Snacks, popcorn, and other light refreshments will be available for purchase.

Leicester

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

NEWS

LEICESTER — Town Clerk Julie Delphia reminds property owners that taxes are due, paid in full, on Wednesday, Nov. 15. Postmarks are not accepted as proof of timely payment. Delphia is in the office Monday, Tuesday,

and Thursday from 9 a.m. to noon.

Leicester Historical Society is sponsoring Prize Bingo on Sat., Nov. 11, at 1 p.m., at the Senior Center. Refreshments served and all are welcome.

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WEDDINGS



ALICIA SCOOPPO AND ALBERT BANNER

Photo by Dino Petrocelli

Banner, Scoopo

Albert Banner and Alicia Scoopo were married Sept. 9, 2023 at Canfield Casino in Saratoga Springs, N.Y.

Banner is the son of Albert Banner of Middlebury and

Janine Gauvin of Tampa, Fla. Scoopo is the daughter of John and Michele Scoopo of Saratoga Springs.

The ceremony was officiated by Jim Manuel. Eddie Banner

served as best man and Sophie Peters as Maid of Honor. The joining families enjoyed a night of togetherness, laughter, and dancing.

Local shares insights from international health career

MIDDLEBURY — The Middlebury AAUW (American Association of University Women) and Ilsley Public Library will host a presentation by women's health nurse practitioner Linda Andrews, MPH on "Sharing Lessons Learned Working in International Reproductive Health Programs."



LINDA ANDREWS, MPH

Andrews will speak Wednesday evening, Nov. 15, at 7 p.m., in the Jessica Swift Community Room.

Andrews was in second grade, dressed as a nurse for a Middlebury

sharing insights on sustainable reproductive health programs both in her recent book, "Building a Better World Together," and in

her AAUW/Ilsley talk. She calls those insights "lessons learned" and admits, "I made mistakes and learned many of these lessons the hard way."

Come learn about both sustainable (in Thailand and Tanzania) and unsustainable (in Somalia) reproductive health systems, and about the challenges and satisfactions of working internationally.

Look for more AAUW talks in the coming year, when Middlebury College Professor Virginia Thomas will speak Feb. 20, on embracing solitude; Dr. Naomi Hodde will speak on combatting perfectionism on March 19; and on April 16, Julia Power Rupert will speak on female leadership in intercollegiate athletics.

Look for more AAUW talks in the coming year, when Middlebury College Professor Virginia Thomas will speak Feb. 20, on embracing solitude; Dr. Naomi Hodde will speak on combatting perfectionism on March 19; and on April 16, Julia Power Rupert will speak on female leadership in intercollegiate athletics.

4-H Clubs compete at CV Fair

ESSEX JUNCTION — Local 4-H members fared well at the Champlain Valley Fair, held Aug. 25-Sept. 4 in Essex Junction.

Caroline Allen of Ferrisburgh was named Fitting and Showmanship Champion at the 4-H dairy show. Brailey Livingston of New Haven, was the Reserve Fitting and Showmanship Champion.

Livingston took home the Grand Champion prize in the winning breed category for her Lineback. Other local winning breed champions included: Thomas Allen of Ferrisburgh in the Guernsey division; Mackenzie Chase of Bristol with her Holstein; and Isabella Wilbur of Orwell in the Jersey division.

It was a very good day for Livingston and Chase. Livingston's cow won Supreme Champion Junior Female, while Chase's entry was named Supreme Champion Senior Female. Chase also won a Best of Show rosette for her tabletop display.



PAIGE CHAMBERLIN OF Bridport dressed up her Ayrshire calf in a fun costume class on 4-H Day, Aug. 27, at the Champlain Valley Fair in Essex Junction.

Photo by Margaret Coan/UVM Extension 4-H



FITTING AND SHOWMANSHIP Champion Caroline Allen, Ferrisburgh (left) and Reserve Fitting and Showmanship Champion Brailey Livingston, New Haven, pose with Joseph Real, Georgia Center, judge for the 4-H dairy show at the Champlain Valley Fair in Essex Junction.

Photo by Dawn Livingston

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK FROM AREA HIGH SCHOOLS

Mount Abraham Union High School

Hannah Gallivan

Hannah Gallivan is Mt. Abe's outstanding student of the week. Hannah lives in Bristol, where she enjoys attending the weekly farmers market and the Chocolate Walk in December. She resides with her family, including siblings Sam and Isabelle, Gabby her service dog, Betsie another dog and their cat, Thunder. Hannah loves to listen to and play music. She is a writer, avid reader and enjoys creating all kinds of art. She is spontaneous, adventurous and always willing to try new things with her beloved family and friends. She takes the opportunity to talk to people about how disability relates to the arts and hopes to increase representation in the industry someday.

Hannah is an accomplished artist. She has received the Maestro Award for musicianship at the WorldStrides Performing Arts competition last year. She participates in all of the school musicals, as they are one of her favorite parts of the school community, as well as in the Addison Repertory Theatre program at the Hannaford Career Center. The Mt. Abe school community has the opportunity to hear her perform with our amazing a cappella group, which sings from time to time in the new lobby and delivers singing grams in February. She is an outstanding scholar and is on the honor roll every semester. She attended the HOBY Youth Leadership Conference in 2022, with students from around the state. The school appreciates all of the advocacy work Hannah does around disability.

Hannah's favorite classes are French and AP Language and Composition. She particularly appreciates Ms. Thompson and Ms. Burdett — not only do they share great book recommendations, but they have been so supportive. "The most important thing I learned in high school was how to let go of perfection and expectation," she says. "A lot of us want to do everything right all the time, and that's just not how it works. Once I let go of that need, things became much more enjoyable for me." Her biggest piece of advice to her peers? — "Put yourself out there and be your own person. Find things that you like, not just what your friends are doing. Be confident in who you are, even if it takes time."

Mount Abraham Union Middle and High School wishes Hannah a bright future with studying Film or English in college, and with her goal of increasing disability representation in all aspects of the arts industry.



Hannah Gallivan
MAUHS

Otter Valley Union High School

Elizabeth Atherton

Otter Valley Union Middle and High School's Student of the Week is Elizabeth Atherton. She lives in Brandon with her parents, Heather and Dave, brother, Benjamin, and cat, Rootbeer.

While Elizabeth hasn't always been excited about school, during the second semester of her junior year she enrolled in calculus class and first felt like she belonged. There she was surrounded by her friends and felt like she could finally step out of her shell. Math is now her favorite subject. Teacher Mr. Peduto was the one who pushed her to not think in mechanical ways and to persevere once she got to a point that seemed impossible. Elizabeth has been inducted into the Society of Women Engineers. She is also a member of the National Honor Society and received the Saint Anselm Book Award. This past summer she attended Girls State, where she was appointed town attorney.

Elizabeth is a very passionate field hockey player and was named Captain this year. She has held a starting defender position all four years of high school. While having fun playing, Elizabeth also appreciates learning the skill of being a team player along with building great relationships with teammates. She has also been active in the school's spirit committee, leading pep rallies, spirit weeks, and the House of Noise Instagram account. She was class president her sophomore year.

She works at Gourmet Provence, where she has gained a sense of the responsibility and skills needed to move forward in college and life in general. This year she is interning at Carroll, Poe, Bell & Kite P.C., a law firm in Middlebury. Since her dream job is to become a lawyer, Elizabeth is looking forward to getting an inside view of the profession. In her spare time Elizabeth enjoys hiking, going to the gym or running, trying new activities, snowboarding, and most definitely driving around and listening to music with her friends.

Elizabeth says the most important lesson she has learned at school is that you can't always be right. "The concept of being able to understand and take into consideration each point of view a person holds will truly educate you more than anything," she says. She advises her peers to learn the most from those with different opinions and approaches and if they aren't challenged and don't have to think about a topic overnight, then they are not learning.

Elizabeth's current plan after high school is to attend college, hopefully either Penn State or the University of Tennessee, to study Finance or Legal Studies, and to become a business or real estate lawyer. All of us at Otter Valley wish her luck.



Elizabeth Atherton
OVUHS

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If you are interested in advertising in Student of the Week contact advertising@addisonindependent.com

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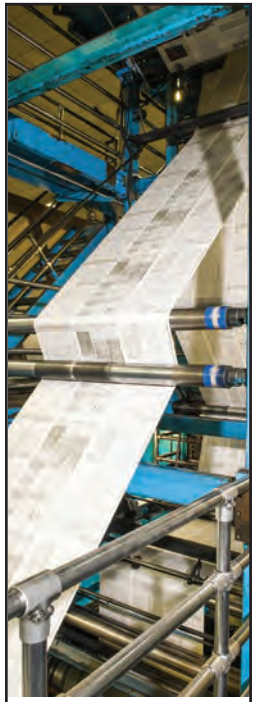
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QUALIFICATIONS/BASIC JOB REQUIREMENTS

- Relevant education in library science.
- Prior experience working in a public and/or school library.
- A Bachelor's Degree is required. A Master's Degree is preferred.

HOURS AND PAY

- This is a salaried, full-time position. Salary and benefits are commensurate with experience and education.

TO APPLY:

Please submit a cover letter, resume and three references to the Lawrence Memorial Board of Trustees at: board@lawrencelibraryvt.org

The Director position, which begins Jan 2, 2024, will be open until filled. Preference will be given to candidates who submit their applications prior to December 1st, 2023.

Opportunities

Opportunities

Opportunities

Opportunities

Opportunities

Opportunities



Middlebury Maple Run Volunteers

The Middlebury Maple Run is on track to welcome 400+ runners and their friends and families to the race again this year, boosting vitality and commerce for the whole community. BUT we can't do it without volunteers!

To learn more about volunteering at the race, please reach out to info@middleburymaplerun.com or call/text 802-349-4778.



United Way of Addison County

Addison Independent CLASSIFIED ORDER FORM

ADDISON INDEPENDENT
58 Maple Street, Middlebury, VT 05753
802-388-4944
addisonindependent.com • email: classifieds@addisonindependent.com

Cash in on our 4-for-3 rates! Pay for 3 issues, get 4th issue free! An ad placed for consecutive issues runs the 4th time for free!

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____

Or, submit your classified ad on our website: addisonindependent.com

RATES

DEADLINE: Monday at 5 p.m.

- 25¢ per word • minimum \$2.50 per ad
- \$2 internet listing for up to 4 issues • minimum 2 insertions

• Special 4 for 3 rates not valid for the following categories: Services, Opportunities, Real Estate, Wood heat, Attn. Farmers, For Rent & Help Wanted

<input type="checkbox"/> Notices	<input type="checkbox"/> Work Wanted	<input type="checkbox"/> Att. Farmers
<input type="checkbox"/> Card of Thanks	<input type="checkbox"/> Help Wanted	<input type="checkbox"/> Motorcycles
<input type="checkbox"/> Personals	<input type="checkbox"/> For Sale	<input type="checkbox"/> Cars
<input type="checkbox"/> Services	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Meetings**	<input type="checkbox"/> Trucks
<input type="checkbox"/> Free**	<input type="checkbox"/> For Rent	<input type="checkbox"/> SUVs
<input type="checkbox"/> Lost 'N Found**	<input type="checkbox"/> Want to Rent	<input type="checkbox"/> Snowmobiles
<input type="checkbox"/> Garage Sales	<input type="checkbox"/> Wood Heat	<input type="checkbox"/> Boats
<input type="checkbox"/> Lawn & Garden	<input type="checkbox"/> Real Estate	<input type="checkbox"/> Wanted
<input type="checkbox"/> Opportunities	<input type="checkbox"/> Animals	<input type="checkbox"/> Real Estate Wanted
<input type="checkbox"/> Adoption		<input type="checkbox"/> Vacation Rentals

** no charge for these ads Spotlight with large ✓ \$2

PLEASE PRINT YOUR AD...

Number of words: _____
Cost: _____
of runs: _____
Spotlight Charge: _____
Internet Listing: **\$2.00**
TOTAL: _____

The Independent assumes no financial responsibility for errors in ads, but will rerun classified ad in which the error occurred. No refunds will be possible. Advertiser will please notify us of any errors which may occur after first publication.

Addison Independent CLASSIFIEDS

Help Wanted

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

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.

For Sale

2022 CAN AM 4X2, 90 CC'S in excellent condition. \$2,200 or best offer. Call 802-759-2030.

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.

WINCHESTER FEATHER-WEIGHT MODEL 70 6.8 western. In box. \$1,200 or best offer. Call 802-759-2030.

Help Wanted

For Rent

12' X 25' STORAGE SPACES in Brandon. Call 802-349-4212.



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.

Help Wanted

For Rent

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.

LAKE DUNMORE: COZY 2BR cottage for short (4 or more days) or longer rentals until June 1, 2024. Comfortably furnished, plowing, WiFi, satellite TV, fully equipped kitchen. 10 minutes to Middlebury or Brandon. 802 352-4236; karen@northcovecottages.com

MIDDLEBURY BRIARWOOD APARTMENTS is currently taking wait-list applications for 2- br apartments. No smoking/ No pets. Income limits apply- rent based on income- 2 person minimum occupancy. Equal Housing Opportunity. Handicapped accessible. 802-247-0165 TTY: 800-253-0191 www.SummitPMG.com.

MIDDLEBURY, OFF CAMPUS HOUSING available. 802-388-4831, AJ Neri Property Rentals.

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

VERGENNES, GREAT LOCATION by the Otter Creek Falls and city docks to Lake Champlain. Small, older 4 bedroom house with garage. Rent is \$1,500 per month. Pay your own utilities. Call 518-546-7424.

Help Wanted

For Rent

VERGENNES: WOMAN in her 50s, active outdoors with kayaking, horseback-riding, and photography, seeking housemate who will enjoy 2 friendly large dogs! Private bath, unfurnished bedroom. \$550/month plus utilities-sharing. No additional pets. 802-863-5625 or HomeShareVermont.org for application. Interview, references, background checks required. EHO

WEYBRIDGE: RURAL HOME to share, just 5 minutes to Middlebury College. Retired professional woman who enjoys opera, art, and community involvement. Furnished bedroom, private bath, with shared kitchen. \$500/month plus taking turns with cooking and cleaning common areas. Attending events together would be a plus! Must be cat-friendly, no additional pets. 802-863-5625 or HomeShareVermont.org for application. Interview, references, background checks required. EHO

Want to Rent

LOOKING FOR OFFICE/STUDIO space in Midd or vicinity. 300-500 sq. ft. Max rent \$600 - call Patty 802-989-5188.

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.

Wanted

OLD & USED GUNS WANTED

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

For Rent

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 1-800-424-8590. For the Washington, DC area please call HUD at 426-3500.



Public Notices Index

Public Notices for the following can be found in this **ADDISON INDEPENDENT** on Pages 10B and 11B.

Act 250 (1)	Federal Emergency Management Agency (1)
Addison (1)	Middlebury (1)
Addison Central School District (1)	Monkton (1)
Addison County Regional Planning Commission (1)	State of Vermont (1)
Addison Northwest School District (1)	Vergennes (2)

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).

- 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

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 second item of new business, for the following purpose:

To consider site plan review for application #2023-44 by the City of Vergennes to add lighting to the "Pavilion Project" in Veterans Park. Reviews will consider Article VII, Section 1611, and Section 311.

Please note that the hearing will be held as a "hybrid meeting", with participation either in person, by Zoom, or by phone. The in-person meeting will be held in the conference room at City Hall.

Join by computer: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85906470948>, meeting password: 656417.

Join by phone: Dial 1 (929) 205-6099; Meeting ID: 859 0647 0948; Meeting Passcode: 656417.

For participants joining by phone:

To raise your hand during the meeting, press *9.

To mute/unmute during the meeting, press *6

If you experience any difficulty in accessing this meeting, contact Zoning Administrator Peter Garon at 802-377-9527.

You must participate in the public hearing either in person or in writing, in order to take any subsequent appeal. The City of Vergennes is an "on the record" appeal municipality with regard to appeals to Environmental Court from Development Review Board decisions. This means that the Environmental Court shall only consider testimony or information provided during public hearings on the application. Interested parties should therefore assure that their participation in the public hearing proceedings is complete and represents the totality of their desired considerations.

A copy of the application is available for public review by contacting Peter Garon at pgaron@vergenes.org.

October 26, 2023
Peter Garon
Administrative Officer

MEETING OF THE ADDISON COUNTY REGIONAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE NOVEMBER 8, 2023 AT 12PM

A meeting of the Addison County Regional Emergency Management Committee (REMC) will be held on **November 8 at 12pm** (in person at the ACRPC office 14 Seminary St. with Zoom option). Details can be found at: <https://acrpc.org/acrpc-remc/>

Meetings are held quarterly, with future meetings scheduled for the:

- Second Wednesday of February
- Second Wednesday of August
- Second Wednesday of May
- Second Wednesday of November

The REMC conducts All-Hazards preparedness planning and coordinates with Vermont Emergency Management (VEM), the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC), and the statewide Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC).

The REMC is made up of **Local Emergency Management Directors and Emergency Services Representatives** from each municipality in the region. Representatives from fire departments, emergency medical services, law enforcement, media, transportation, hospitals, the Department of Health district office, organizations serving vulnerable populations, and any other interested public or private individual or organization, are welcome to attend and participate!

For more information, contact ACRPC Emergency Management Planner, Andrew L'Roe, at alroe@acrpc.org or 802-388-3141.

ADDISON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT CONTRACTOR PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUEST HVAC CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

The Addison Central School District invites interested Contractors to submit a Letter of Interest and Pre-Qualifications for School Board determination of eligible prospective project bidders. The Board of School Commissioners has established pre-qualification criteria which a contractor must meet. The criteria and the full Request for Qualifications document are available upon request.

All firms submitting a request for pre-qualification determination will be notified, in writing, 30 days or more prior to the proposed bid opening. The Board of School Commissioners reserves the right to reject any and all submitted Pre-Qualifications, to re-advertise, and to waive any and/or all informalities.

Project Description: The Addison Central School District is seeking a General Contractor to upgrade the HVAC system at the Mary Hogan Elementary School. The HVAC upgrade consists primarily of removal of existing ventilation systems in A-Wing and replacement with individual variable speed Energy Recovery Ventilators (ERVs) for each of eight (8) classrooms. In addition, a new multi-zone Variable Refrigerant Flow (VRF) system will be added to serve each classroom to provide A/C and heating. A new DDC control system will be installed to control the system and interface with existing mechanical equipment. The affected areas will receive new suspended ceilings and soffits to support and conceal the HVAC work.

The project start date is June 2024 to be completed by August 2024

Pre-qualification statement & submission information:
Addison Central School District requests General Contractors submit Letters of Interest and pre-qualification statements in electronic format no later than November 17, 2023 to PCI - Capital Project Consultants. Contact Marty Spaulding at marty@pcivt.com to obtain the full RFQ and pre-qualification criteria.

Help Wanted ads can be found on Pages 9B and 10B.



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/>

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.



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



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 [dbailey@addisoncountypcc.org](mailto:d Bailey@addisoncountypcc.org)

Looking for something different?

Your local newspaper is your **BEST RESOURCE** for local job opportunities!



Also available online: addisonindependent.com

ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT

Public Notices can be found in this *ADDISON INDEPENDENT* on Pages 10B and 11B.

**ACT 250 NOTICE
MINOR APPLICATION #9A0164-2 –
PREHEARING CONFERENCE & SITE VISIT
10 V.S.A. §§ 6001 - 6111**

New England Building Movers has filed Application #9A0164-2 for a project generally described as a variety of improvements in support of a proposed business relocation. The proposed project includes the following changes to an existing, previously approved ±4,500 square foot furniture store and ±300 square foot textile production area: (1) expansion of the existing gravel parking area to include truck parking and beam storage; (2) conversion of the existing store to office use; (3) raising of the existing store/office structure and construction of a main level shop below; (4) relocation and renovation of the existing garage to be used as a shop; (5) construction of a ±3,200 square foot (40'x80') hoop barn; and (6) reconfiguration of the existing access drive to meet current VTrans standards. The project is located at 1193 Route 7 in Salisbury, Vermont.

Pursuant to Act 250 Rule 16, the District 9 Commission will convene a Prehearing Conference and site visit on Friday, November 17th, 2023, at 9:00AM at the Project location.

This application can be viewed online by visiting the Act 250 Database here: <https://anrweb.vt.gov/ANR/Act250/Details.aspx?Num=9A0164-2>.

To request party status, fill out the Party Status Petition Form on the Board's website: <https://nrb.vermont.gov/documents/party-status-petition-form>, and email it to the District 9 Office at: NRB.Act250Barre@vermont.gov.

If you have a disability for which you need accommodation in order to participate in this process (including participating in the prehearing conference), please notify us as soon as possible, in order to allow us as much time as possible to accommodate your needs. For more information, contact the District 9 Coordinator listed below prior to the date of the Prehearing Conference and site visit.

Josh Donabedian
Joshua.Donabedian@vermont.gov
Mail: 10 Baldwin Street, Montpelier VT 05633-3201
Physical: 111 West Street, Essex Junction, VT 05452

**ANWSD BOARD MEETING NOTICES
FOR NOVEMBER 2023**

Friday, Nov. 3 7:30 AM **Facilities Committee Meeting**
ANWSD Central Office
Monday, Nov. 6 4:50 PM **Policy Committee Meeting**
VUMHS Library
6:00 PM **ANWSD Board Meeting**
VUMHS Library
Monday, Nov. 13 5:00 PM **Finance Committee Meeting**
VUMHS Library
6:00 PM **ANWSD Board Meeting**
VUMHS Library
Wednesday, Nov. 15 5:00 PM **Community Engagement Committee Meeting**
VUMHS Library

**PUBLIC NOTICE
MAJOR DISASTER DECLARATION
FEMA-4744-DR-VT**

The Federal Emergency Management Agency ("FEMA") is giving public notice of its intent to provide assistance to the State of Vermont, local and tribal governments, and certain private nonprofit organizations under the Public Assistance ("PA") and Hazard Mitigation Grant ("HMGP") programs for major disaster declaration FEMA-4744-DR-VT pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act. A detailed notice can be accessed at www.fema.gov/disaster/4744 or a hard copy can be requested in writing using the address listed at the end of this notice.

The President declared a major disaster for the State of Vermont, on October 6, 2023 as a result of the severe storms and flooding that occurred from August 3-5, 2023. This declaration, designated FEMA-4744-DR-VT, authorized HMGP statewide and PA for Addison County. Additional counties or the Individual Assistance program may be authorized later.

Under PA, work may include debris removal, emergency protective measures, and permanent restoration of facilities damaged or destroyed by the incident. Under HMGP, work may include construction of new facilities, modification of existing, undamaged facilities, relocation of facilities out of floodplains, demolition of structures, or other types of projects to mitigate future disaster damage.

Some FEMA-funded activities may affect historic properties or be located in or affect wetlands or the floodplain. In these cases, FEMA must comply with its implementing regulations at Title 44 of the Code of Federal Regulations Part 9, Executive Orders 11988 (Floodplain Management) and 11990 (Protection of Wetlands), Federal Flood Risk Management Standard partial implementation policies, and the National Historic Preservation Act.

FEMA is required to provide notice for certain activities in or affecting wetlands or a floodplain, as well as review alternatives to avoid adverse effects and incompatible developments. Certain actions under the PA program only require a limited review or are fully excluded from these requirements, such as emergency protective measures necessary to save lives and protect property and public health. For other actions, FEMA will evaluate alternatives to carrying out a proposed action in or near a wetland or floodplain. Where work must occur in or near wetlands or a floodplain, FEMA will determine any potential adverse impacts and identify measures to minimize flood risk and potential harm to lives. For both programs, FEMA may publish subsequent project-specific notices as needed.

For certain PA and HMGP projects, the National Historic Preservation Act requires FEMA to consider the effects of its activities on any historic property and consider public comments on such projects before making final decisions. For historic properties that will not be adversely affected, this will be the only public notice. FEMA may provide additional notices if a proposed project would adversely affect a historic property.

Comments concerning this public notice must be submitted in writing to FEMA within 30 days of its publication using the address below. A detailed notice can be accessed at www.fema.gov/disaster/4744 or a hard copy can be requested in writing also using the following address.

Federal Emergency Management Agency
Attn: William F. Roy, National FCO Program
312 Hurricane Lane
Williston, VT 05495

**TOWN OF MONKTON
DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD**

The Monkton Development Review Board will hold the following hearing on November 13th, 2023, beginning at 7:30 P.M. The hearings will be held in person at the Town Office, located at 92 Monkton Ridge. The hearings will also be available via Zoom and login information is below.

Conditional Use Application #23-303 Chris, Kimbal & Cal Hopwood for an extension to primary dwelling and an accessory use building located at 237 White Lane (Parcel ID 05.225.010.002) in the RA-5 zoning district, subject to the Ridgeline ordinance.

An electronic copy of the applications can be obtained by emailing zoning@monktonvt.com. A hard copy of the application is available at Town Hall by appointment. Please call 802-453-3800 to make an appointment.

Pursuant to 24 V.S.A. §§ 4464(a)(1)(C) and 4471(a), participation in this local proceeding is a prerequisite to the right to take any subsequent appeal.

Remote Access: Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/82116839768> • Meeting ID: 821 1683 9768 • Passcode: 679652
Phone In: 1-646-558-8656 • Meeting ID: 821 1683 9768 • Passcode: 679652

**PUBLIC NOTICE
TOWN OF ADDISON**

The Addison Planning Commission meeting will be held on Monday, November 20, 2023 at the Town Clerk's Office at 6:30 PM.

- To approve the meeting minutes for October 16, 2023.
- To transact any business found necessary before the board.
- To allow time for public comment interaction at the end of the meeting.
- Continue to work on updating & revisions on the Zoning Regulations.
- Continue & discuss a Municipal Grant for help with the Town Plan (rough draft).
- We have a rough draft to work from to review the Zoning Regulations. Plans are to set a possible date for the public hearing in early December.
- Continue to work on Town Plan which is a project in progress.
- Adjournment — stating time.

We are planning to have a work meeting after the regular monthly meeting on Monday, November 20, 2023 at the Addison Town Clerk's Office at 6:30PM. We have a work meeting planned for Monday, October 30, 2023 at 6:30PM at T.C.O.

Amber Riley, Vice-Chair
Starr Phillips, Secretary
Addison 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 third item of new business, for the following purpose:

To consider site plan and conditional use review for application #2023-45 by Frank Koster for a change of use from retail to office use to the property at 206 Main Street. Reviews will consider Article VII, Article VIII, and Section 1607.

Please note that the hearing will be held as a "hybrid meeting", with participation either in person, by Zoom, or by phone. The in-person meeting will be held in the conference room at City Hall.

Join by computer: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85906470948>, meeting password: 656417.

Join by phone: Dial 1 (929) 205-6099; Meeting ID: 859 0647 0948; Meeting Passcode: 656417.

**For participants joining by phone:
To raise your hand during the meeting, press *9.
To mute/unmute during the meeting, press *6**

If you experience any difficulty in accessing this meeting, contact Zoning Administrator Peter Garon at 802-377-9527.

You must participate in the public hearing either in person or in writing, in order to take any subsequent appeal. The City of Vergennes is an "on the record" appeal municipality with regard to appeals to Environmental Court from Development Review Board decisions. This means that the Environmental Court shall only consider testimony or information provided during public hearings on the application. Interested parties should therefore assure that their participation in the public hearing proceedings is complete and represents the totality of their desired considerations.

A copy of the application is available for public review by contacting Peter Garon at pgaron@vergenes.org.

October 30, 2023
Peter Garon
Administrative Officer

THE INDEPENDENT MAKES A GREAT GIFT! CALL 388-4944

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).

Rules of the Board of Medical Practice.

Vermont Proposed Rule: 23P039

AGENCY: Agency of Human Services, Department of Health

CONCISE SUMMARY: The proposed rulemaking primarily responds to statutory changes, but also reflects revisions to Board policy. 1) 26 V.S.A. § 3061 creates two new forms of health care credentials, telehealth license and telehealth registration. This rulemaking implements these new credentials. 2) The public health emergency disrupted access to the testing required to become a Vermont physician. Delayed access caused some applicants to exceed established time limitations. This rulemaking extends the time limit for applicants affected by the disruption. 3) Act 38 (2023) revised supervision and practice location requirements for radiologist assistants (RAs). This rulemaking aligns the rule with statutory changes. 4) 26 V.S.A. § 1377 authorizes the Board, through rulemaking, to offer licensees a nondisciplinary financial penalty option for a violation of purely an administrative nature (e.g., failure to maintain a current address with the Board). 5) Modifies the rule for clarity and consistency with Board 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.

Council Rules.

Vermont Proposed Rule: 23P040

AGENCY: Vermont Criminal Justice Training Council

CONCISE SUMMARY: The Vermont Criminal Justice Council (VCJC) Rules require multiple revisions due to statutory changes to 20 VSA 2352 and 2355 in 2018, 2020 and 2023. These statutory amendments changed the composition of the Council and the Council's powers and duties. The proposed Rule changes align the Council's Rules and regulations with our current governing statutory language in Title 20, Chap. 151. In addition, there are proposed amendments to the Rule sections for Instructor and Basic Training. These changes are proposed to allow the Council to be adaptable and responsive to training changes as the Council moves into a three-year curriculum review for law enforcement training.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT: Kim McManus, Vermont Criminal Justice Training Council, 317 Academy Road, Pittsford, VT 05763 Tel: 802-483-2741 Email: kim.mcmanus@vermont.gov URL: <https://vcjc.vermont.gov/council/rules>.

Rule Governing the Prescribing of Opioids for Pain.

Vermont Proposed Rule: 23P041

AGENCY: Agency of Human Services, Department of Health

CONCISE SUMMARY: This rulemaking replaces "naloxone" with "opioid antagonist" to allow for a broader range of medications that can be co-prescribed with opioids when required.

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.

Investigation and Remediation of Contaminated Properties Rule (IRule).

Vermont Proposed Rule: 23P042

AGENCY: Agency of Natural Resources

CONCISE SUMMARY: The primary reason for updating the Rule is to codify the interim PCB indoor air standards as final prior to their expiration in February 2024. Other changes include updating definitions to be consistent with other Rules, including a requirement that the DEC be notified prior to conducting any earth disturbance work at an active or closed hazardous site, include updated numerical standards for regulated environmental media, add additional clarity for expected outcomes of site specific risk assessments, additional clarity for allowing partial corrective action plans, and additional requirements for the evaluation of corrective action alternatives (ECAA) report which focus on the objectives of the remediation and detailed justification for the selected remedy.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT: Lynda Provencher, Agency of Natural Resources, 1 National Life Drive, Davis 1, Montpelier VT 05620 Tel: 802-249-5562 Email: lynda.provencher@vermont.gov URL: <https://dec.vermont.gov/waste-management/contaminated-sites>.

FOR COPIES: Shawn Donovan, Agency of Natural Resources, 1 National Life Drive, Davis 1, Montpelier VT 05620 Tel: 802-522-5683 Email: shawn.donovan@vermont.gov.

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ADDISON COUNTY
COMMISSION SALES**

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Sales for 10/26/23 & 10/30/23

		COST		
BEEF	LBS.	/LB	\$	
M. Hewitt	1440	1.20	\$1728.00	
R. Orr	1120	1.05	\$1176.00	
Ethan Allen Farm	1690	1.03	\$1740.70	
J. Havill	1305	1.00	\$1305.00	
P. Livingston	1695	.98	\$1661.30	
Wilson Farm	1830	.95	\$1738.50	
Goslisa Farm	1765	.92	\$1623.80	
D. Titus	1225	.91	\$1114.75	

		COST		
CALVES	LBS.	/LB	\$	
Barnes Bros.	99	7.00	\$693.00	
A. Brisson	92	7.00	\$644.00	
H. Sunderland	93	6.80	\$632.40	
Vorsteveld Farm	108	6.60	\$712.80	
J. Fifield	99	6.20	\$613.80	

Total Beef - 200 Total Calves - 309

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ARTS + LEISURE

The Addison Independent

November 2, 2023

LEARN ABOUT THE LIFE OF A POET

Susan A. Jefts is the author of "Breathing Lessons," a new full-length collection of her own poetry, which was published by Shanti Arts this fall.

COURTESY PHOTO

Publishing a full-length collection of poetry isn't typically a focus for Susan A. Jefts. "My work has mostly been about writing and getting poems published," she said. Jefts, who produces the delightful poetry column that's published monthly in this Arts + Leisure section, has earned a couple

BY **ELSIE**
LYNN PARINI

honorable mentions for her own poems, including in the

anthology *Quiet Diamonds* in 2021.

"Another big part of my work for a long time has been offering workshops, or poetry experiences really, for small groups where I use a carefully chosen poem to bring people into a deeper experience of their lives," Jefts said. "This often involves feeling into the natural world and how it can teach us about what can be living beneath the surface, wanting expression."

So it is with excitement that we saw the former Middlebury resident — she has moved into her "forest house" in the southeastern Adirondacks (Diamond Point, N.Y., to be precise) — just this fall published a new book of poetry, "Breathing Lessons," put out by Shanti Arts.

"I knew I wanted put a book together and take a break from full-time work," shared

SEE POEMS ON PAGE 2

POEMS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

area. Jefts moved to Middlebury in 2016 — a place she was familiar with from having earned her undergraduate degree at St. Michael's College — and got to work on her book.

"My manuscript was finalized in 2019 and then COVID hit, so I didn't send it out much during that time," she explained. "I started sending it out again in 2022 and had it accepted in early 2023 by Shanti Arts, who became my publisher."

To get to know more about Jefts, she's shared a Q&A style interview about herself as a creative writer, educator and editor.

WHAT EARLY EXPERIENCES SHAPED YOU AS A WRITER?

My parents were influential in my creative life, especially my dad who was delighted when I started writing poems around the age of eight, even though he was not a poetry reader. But he'd often ask me about them and say how much he enjoyed reading them.

He thought creative expression was very important, and was himself a photographer, among other things. That really instilled in me as a child that writing was something of value and I needed to keep doing it. He was also a big nature lover, always in the forest when he wasn't working (or out sailing on Lake George), but it was on the large forest he purchased in the 1970s that my sister and I spent a lot of time rambling and exploring.

My father taught me not just about the tree species and ways of the forest, but just as much how to be still and listen. He learned and gained as much this way as he did through books, and understood how deep a forest's intelligence and healing capacities go. This same forest is where I now have a house, and sometimes hold nature focused meditation and writing groups.

My mom was not as woodsy, but she was a huge reader and also a magazine editor for several years. I have come to love editing other people's work as well, and feel I get some

of that skill from her. She gradually came to appreciate poetry more, and to value my unpredictable creative spirit once she saw where it could lead me.

HOW DID YOUR WRITING PROGRESS FROM HOBBY TO PROFESSION?

I thought of writing mainly as a hobby until my late 30s when some health issues pulled me deeply into poetry and its power to heal. This set me on a serious writing path, which led to having a couple poems published and then a bunch more.

I started studying poetry as an expressive and healing art in a program based near Washington, D.C. A few years later, I was accepted at a few writers' residencies including Norton Island in Maine, and then later applied to Bread Loaf Writers Conference, which was a very rich experience. Both Bread Loaf and my previous studies were big influencers and opened my mind to the many different ways to use language and the deep history of poetry back to ancient cultures who used poetry as incantation and for transformation, among other things.



WHAT DID YOU HAVE IN MIND WHILE COMPOSING THIS COLLECTION?

While some books of poetry are written from the outset with a particular theme or subject in mind, I think most tend to come together after the author has a large number of poems and begins to feel a theme emerge. That is how "Breathing Lessons" came about.

While my book's poems are very much ones of place and spirit, largely inspired by the Adirondacks, Vermont and Canada, they are also poems that are full of pauses, or bardos if you will; moments where a kind of stillness or emptiness comes over you allowing a space for something new to come through. Sometimes that something is a deeper awareness of the world around you — of the intense aliveness of a brook or grove of trees and how they have their own music and agency that you never noticed before. Other times it might be an epiphany of sorts or a personal insight that might even shift your life in a new direction. There is also a lot of breath in the poems, whether that of the speaker or of something else. I think breath is closely

tied to these little bardos, and to the work of being alive and present enough to see them, something I'm continually relearning.

This idea of pauses or bardos can also serve a useful purpose. So much of our daily lives are dictated by the emails we get and the information over the airwaves, that it can be hard to make spaces for what comes from a deeper place. Whether they are ideas or creative musings, or spiritual insights into our lives and our how we fit into the world, it's vital that we make room for them.

WHAT IS YOUR WRITING PROCESS LIKE?

For me, creating isn't so much a process as a honing over time of my creative spirit, gradually attuning it to be more receptive — to my surroundings, to beauty and wonder, but also to the truths that might be lying beneath the surface of a place, experience or relationship. To what is captured by something other than our five senses, something akin to a contemplative or intuitive sense. The times when I'm in a flow with this creative energy, I can get into a more regular practice of writing and rewriting, at least a few days a week. But not on too rigid a routine or pattern, at least not for me.

CAN YOU ELABORATE ON THE POEM "FIRST TUESDAY IN NOVEMBER"?

I wrote this poem in 2018 or 2019, during a pretty chaotic time politically, and I was aware that spending too much time on screens was adding to my strife. Even just for writing and email, let alone surfing the internet, which I don't even do a whole lot of. Between being on the computer and listening to the chaos on the radio news — I was feeling a huge need to get away from all of it, and often. So this was the first day in a while I went off without my laptop or phone and had the most peaceful meaningful morning I'd had in a while. I remember the feeling of gazing at the vibrant alive mountains I could see from the café window, and feeling with my whole being how energetically different and more inspiring this was than staring at the computer. So I wrote about that, among other things.

It's interesting — I'm starting to feel a need for such a wake-up again, even though I'm someone who goes hiking or paddling every few days. Reading this poem brings me back to that epiphany I had five years ago. I've been focusing lately on getting off email lists so I have fewer emails each day that clog up my mornings. I feel I'm slowly reclaiming my life and time, making room for those deeply pausing moments I spoke of earlier that are so necessary. I think it's really about letting our soul or our higher self guide us, rather than everything else directing us. No easy task, but so important I think. I remember a time years ago when this was not that hard to do.

An evening of blues at the Vergennes Opera House

Gina Coleman and the Misty Blues Band returns to perform at the Vergennes Opera House on Saturday, Nov. 4, at 7:30 p.m.

Coleman was first introduced to the Vergennes Opera House audience in 2021 when she appeared as a guest vocalist in the final performance of Bob Stannard and those Dangerous Bluesmen. She was invited back in March of 2022 to perform her “Queens of the Blues” show which sold out completely. The performance on Nov. 4 is the first time Gina Coleman and the Misty Blues Band will be performing many of their original songs, some of which are currently up for Grammy nominations.

This prolific group has been nominated for a few Independent Blues Music Awards and their original recordings have broad international airplay. By the end of 2023, in the band's 25th year, they will have successfully released three albums with Guitar One Records, two of which (Outside the Lines and Misty Blues) are under consideration for Grammy nominations in seven categories. Earlier this year they embarked on their first UK tour, performing at iconic venues such as

the 100 Club in London and the Cavern Club in Liverpool.

“Gina’s voice is deep, moody, soulful, and arresting,” said Gerianne Smart, President of the Friends of the Vergennes Opera House. “When I first heard her sing, my head snapped straight up. I have been hooked ever since! I am so glad that we get to hear her sing her original songs and hear the full breadth of musical talent that the Misty Blues Band brings to the stage.”

“GINA’S VOICE IS DEEP, MOODY, SOULFUL AND ARRESTING... WHEN I FIRST HEARD HER SING, MY HEAD SNAPPED STRAIGHT UP.”

— Gerianne Smart

Coleman founded the Misty Blues Band in 1999, which is based out of Berkshire County, Mass. They are known for their exceptional original and traditional blues music and songs with hints of jazz, soul, funk and tent revival gospel. They have recorded with Eric Gales, Charles Neville and Joe Louis Walker, and opened for contemporary blues artists like Tab Benoit, James Montgomery, John Primer, Roomful of Blues, Albert Cummings and

Michael Powers. They have performed extensively throughout New England and toured the continental U.S., Canada and recently the UK. The band recently earned an Independent Blues Music Award nomination for the best contemporary blues song. The band's

SEE MUSIC ON PAGE 4



Gina Coleman and the Misty Blues Band will perform an evening of original music on Saturday, Nov. 4 at the Vergennes Opera House. COURTESY PHOTO

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

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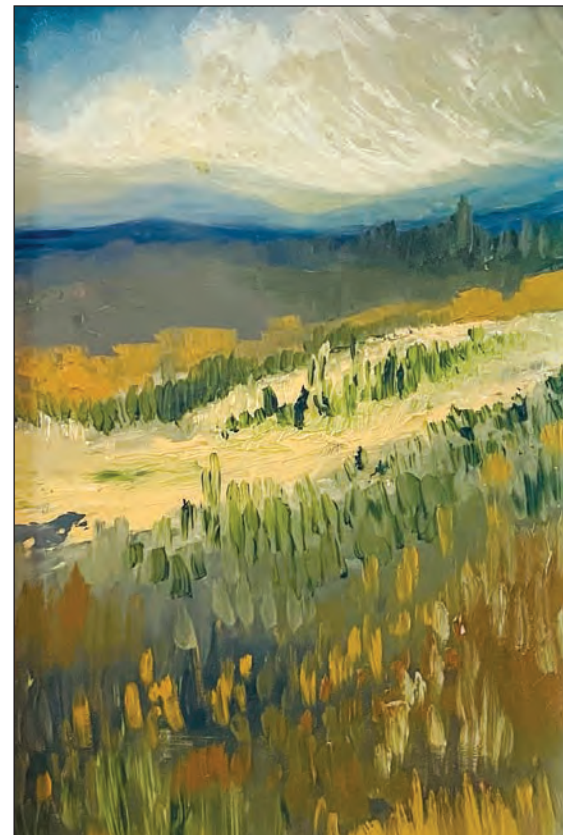
ART ON EXHIBIT

Learning Together: An exhibition of Middlebury Studio School student and teacher work, open Nov. 10-Dec. 22

Town Hall Theater and Middlebury Studio School are proud to present a new exhibition at the Jackson Gallery from Nov. 10-Dec. 22. "Learning Together" is an exhibition of MSS student and instructor work, showcasing the breadth of artistic mediums taught at the school to people of all ages and abilities as well as the joy of the creative process. Viewers will learn about MSS programs while getting to know the artistic voices of our Middlebury community. Some artworks will be for sale and would make a wonderful and

unique holiday gift. This show is a celebration of the artists in our town who commune to create and learn together.

An opening reception with a cash bar will be held at the Jackson Gallery on Friday, Nov. 10, from 5-7 p.m. The Jackson Gallery is located in the lower level of Town Hall Theater on Merchants Row in downtown Middlebury. Gallery hours are Monday through Friday noon to five, and when performances are taking place.



THOMAS CHARD



BETHANY FARRELL



ELLYN MACK



KATHY HALL

MUSIC

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

original recordings have wide radio airplay in the U.S. and UK.

The full band features: Coleman, lead vocalist; Bill Patriquin, bass and vocals; Rob Tatten, drums, trumpet and vocals; Aaron Dean on saxophone; and Seth Fleischmann, guitar and vocals.

The entire event is being produced in partnership with the Vermont Blues Society (VBS), a non-profit organization formed some years ago by Vermont Blues musicians to keep the community connected and to promote blues music. The evening is also supported by the full slate of season sponsors.

The doors and cash bar open for Saturday's performance at 6:30 p.m., and the concert begins at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$20 in advance online at VergennesOperaHouse.org or \$25 at the door.

All proceeds from ticket sales go to benefit the theater's All Access Project which calls for an elevator tower to the second-floor theater as well as ADA access to the stage and dressing room levels. More information can be found at vergennesoperahouse.org/the-project.html.

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ART ON EXHIBIT

ART ON MAIN

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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. 30.

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. 28.

JACKSON GALLERY

68 S Pleasant St, Middlebury

Visit townhalltheater.org/jackson-gallery or call 802-382-9222 for more info.

"Learning Together," is an exhibition of MSS student and instructor work, showcasing the breadth of artistic mediums taught at the school to people of all ages and abilities as well as the joy of the creative process. An opening reception will be held on Friday, Nov. 10, from 5-7 p.m. Open to all. On view Nov. 10-Dec. 22.

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-

SEE EXHIBITS ON PAGE 15

Cosmic Forecast

ARIES: March 21/April 20. Play to your strengths to reach your goals, Aries. You do not have to change much about yourself to get ahead. In fact, people will appreciate you being honest about who you are.

TAURUS: April 21/May 21. Taurus, do not worry about being passionate about what you do. If you weren't this passionate, you may not be able to persuade others to listen up and follow your suggestions.

GEMINI: May 22/June 21. Gemini, you may not have had the entire story, but you certainly will get it this week. It's up to you to make up your mind how you want to act on the information you gather.

CANCER: June 22/July 22. For some reason you are really interested in a friend or family member's behavior and comings and goings, Cancer. Are you having trust issues? Give them the benefit of the doubt.

LEO: July 23/Aug. 23. A romantic adventure may prove the catalyst for change in your life, Virgo. Many exciting prospects are ahead if you allow yourself to get swept along in the momentum of your feelings.

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. Unchecked anxiety can lead you down a slippery slope, Libra. It's not easy facing new situations, but worrying about things before it is necessary will not do right now.

SCORPIO: Oct. 24/Nov. 22. Scorpio, you are no stranger to psychic feelings. This week you know what a loved one is thinking and want to help this person out in any way you can.

SAGITTARIUS: Nov. 23/Dec. 21. Sagittarius, you cannot control the world or others' behaviors. All you can do is control how you react to situations. Don't be sidetracked by noisy distractions in the days ahead.

CAPRICORN: Dec. 22/Jan. 20. Capricorn, you have been making pleasure and play time your priority of late. It's now time to get down to business. Own up to your responsibilities.

AQUARIUS: Jan. 21/Feb. 18. Unraveling old patterns or actions will be good for you right now, Aquarius. If you can't do it on your own, work with a friend or therapist to get to the root of any issues.

PISCES: Feb. 19/March 20. Pisces, think about collaborating with others to bring out the best in yourself. In fact, you might find any group activity transformative. Don't shy away from these ventures.

Pirates love yarrrrn!



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FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

NOV. 3 — Anna Wintour, editor, *Vogue* (74)
NOV. 4 — Matthew McConaughey, actor (54)
NOV. 5 — Eliud Kipchoge, marathoner (39)

NOV. 6 — Suleiman the Magnificent, Ottoman Emperor, poet, (d)
NOV. 7 — Joni Mitchell, singer-songwriter (80)
NOV. 8 — Alfre Woodard, actor (71)
NOV. 9 — Susan Tedeschi, singer, guitarist (53)

CALENDAR

NOV. 2-19
2023



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 oddangellc@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 vergennessoperahouse.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.

JOE AND JACKIE IN MIDDLEBURY. Sunday, Nov. 5, 3-6p.m., VFW, 530 Exchange St. Come dance to Joe and Jackie at tis free open house. The kitchen will be open.

"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?

TUESDAY, NOV. 7

GENEVIEVE PLUNKETT, "IN THE LOBBY

OF THE DREAM HOTEL" IN MIDDLEBURY. Tuesday, Nov. 7, 7p.m., Ilsley Public Library. Plunkett will discuss and read from her latest work, "In the Lobby of the Dream Hotel" as part of the Ilsley and Vermont Book Shop First Tuesday series. A young mother stops taking her bipolar medication and finds herself caught between a love affair and the wrath of her husband, who will do anything — including using his wife's diagnosis against her — to put an end to it.

THURSDAY, NOV. 9

"SOUTH KOREAN CINEMA, AKA K-CINEMA: WHAT'S IN A NAME?" IN MIDDLEBURY. Wednesday, Nov. 9, 1 p.m., Ilsley Public Library, 75 Main St. What does South Korea's vibrant cinema have to say about our understanding of society and the human subject? Hyon Joo Yoo will unpack how South Korean cinema, as an aesthetic response to conditions in South Korea and beyond, reflects upon the universal human subject in the era of global capitalism. Also live-streamed. Register for live stream at vermonthumanities.org/event/k-cinema-whats-in-a-name-10-25-23.

"FROZEN: THE MUSICAL" IN MIDDLEBURY. Thursday, Nov. 9, 7 p.m., Auditorium, Middlebury Union High School, 73 Charles Ave. Elsa and Anna and company take the stage in MUHS' fall musical production. Tickets at showtix4u.com/event-details/76858.

"AN EVENING WITH SPIRIT" IN MIDDLEBURY. Thursday, Nov. 9, 7 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 South Pleasant St. Psychic Medium and Author Josh Simonds comes to Middlebury for an evening of spiritual connection, love, and humor. Tickets \$45, available at tickets@townhalltheater.org, townhalltheater.org or 802-382-9222.

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, November 3 Through the Night: Public Affairs 4 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 7:30 a.m. Congregational Church 9 a.m. Energy Week 10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs p.m. Energy Week 4 p.m. Memorial Baptist Church 9 p.m. Dr. John Campbell Saturday, November 4 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 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, November 5 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 3 p.m. Energy Week 4 p.m. Congregational Service 6:30 p.m. Eckankar 7 p.m. Catholic Mass 7:30 p.m. Public Affairs Monday, November 6 Through the Night: Public Affairs 5 a.m. Energy Week, Public Affairs 10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 3:30 p.m. Dr. John Campbell 8:30 p.m. Energy Week 9:30 p.m. Eckankar Tuesday, November 7 Through the Night: Public Affairs 4:30 a.m. Energy Week 5:30 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 8 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 9 Through the Night: Public Affairs 7 a.m. Selectboard 8 a.m. Congregational Service 11 a.m. Energy Week 12 p.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 9:30 p.m. Eckankar 10 p.m. Energy Week 11 a.m. Dr. John Campbell MCTV Channel 1091 Friday, November 3 5 a.m. All Things LGBTQ 6 a.m. At the Ilsley - AAUW - Putin in Chechnya & Ukraine 7:38 a.m. Miss Vermont Voice 8 a.m. OLLI Lecture Series - The Many Variations of Medicare 9:30 a.m. OLLI Lecture Series - From the Parlor to the Polling Place 11 a.m. Labor In the Food System 5 p.m. All Things LGBTQ 6 p.m. School Board Meetings	Saturday, November 4 5 a.m. Variations of Medicare 8 a.m. School Board Meetings 1 p.m. Putin in Chechnya & Ukraine 2:38 p.m. Brattleboro Literary Festival 6 p.m. All Brains Belong 7 p.m. School Board Meetings 11 p.m. Putin in Chechnya & Ukraine Sunday, November 5 5 a.m. All Things LGBTQ 6 a.m. Variations of Medicare 7:30 a.m. Parlor to the Polling 9 a.m. School Board Meeting/s 1 p.m. Putin in Chechnya & Ukraine 5 p.m. All Things LGBTQ 6 p.m. The Constellations, History, Mythology, and Identification 7:15 p.m. Brattleboro Literary Festival 8:30 p.m. Danville Town Band 10 p.m. Youth Firearm Suicide in VT Monday, November 6 5 a.m. Brattleboro Literary Festival 9 a.m. Food & Cooking Programs 10 a.m. Youth Firearm Suicide in VT 1 p.m. School Board Meetings 6 p.m. All Things LGBTQ 7 p.m. Putin in Chechnya & Ukraine	8:38 p.m. Variations of Medicare Tuesday, November 7 5:30 a.m. Chair Yoga 6:30 a.m. Putin in Chechnya & Ukraine 8:10 a.m. The Constellations 9:30 a.m. Variations of Medicare 1:30 p.m. OLLI Lecture Series 3 p.m. All Brains Belong VT 4 p.m. Yoga 5 p.m. School Board Meetings Wednesday, November 8 5 a.m. Chair Yoga 6 a.m. All Things LGBTQ 7 a.m. Brattleboro Literary Festival 12 p.m. State Board of Education 6 p.m. School Board Meetings 10 p.m. Youth Firearm Suicide in VT Thursday, November 9 5 a.m. Putin in Chechnya & Ukraine 6:38 a.m. Brattleboro Literary Festival 10 a.m. Yoga 11 a.m. Food & Cooking Programs 12 p.m. School Board Meetings 7 p.m. Foltz Studio 8 p.m. All Brains Belong VT 9 p.m. All Things LGBTQ 10 p.m. Youth Firearm Suicide in VT

INSPIRIT DANCE: WHAT WE ASK OF FLESH IN MIDDLEBURY. Thursday, Nov. 9, 7:30 p.m., Dance Theater, Mahaney Arts Center, 72 Porter Field Rd. The premiere of choreographer Christal Brown's evening-length dance and installation is inspired by the writings of poet Remica Bingham-Risher, as well as Brown's caregiver journey with Alzheimer's and dementia, and her explorations of legacy. This soulful, profound performance is a physical examination of the capacity of human life and the intricacies of the mind. Tickets: \$25/20/10/5 available at go.middlebury.edu/tickets.

FRIDAY, NOV. 10

ART OPENING RECEPTION IN MIDDLEBURY. Friday, Nov. 10, 5-7 p.m., Jackson Gallery, town Hall Theater, 68 S. Maple St. "Learning Together: An Exhibition of Middlebury Studio School Student and Teacher Work," showcases the breadth of artistic mediums taught at the school to people of all ages and abilities as well as the joy of the creative process. Viewers will learn about MSS programs while getting to know the artistic voices of our Middlebury community.

"FROZEN: THE MUSICAL" IN MIDDLEBURY. Friday, Nov. 10, 7 p.m., Auditorium, Middlebury Union High School, 73 Charles Ave. See Nov. 9 listing.

INSPIRIT DANCE: WHAT WE ASK OF FLESH IN MIDDLEBURY. Friday, Nov. 10, 7:30 p.m., Dance Theater, Mahaney Arts Center, 72 Porter Field Rd. See Nov. 9 listing.

THE SOUND INVESTMENT IN MIDDLEBURY. Friday, Nov. 10, 7:30 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 South Pleasant St. The Sound Investment Jazz Ensemble is the Middlebury College Music Department's 17-piece big band that builds on the 80-year history of swingin' music. David Allan Rose will be on hand at 6:45 to provide swing dance lessons. Tickets \$15 adult/\$10 student, available at tickets@townhalltheater.org, townhalltheater.org or 802-382-9222.

DISSIPATED 8 IN BRANDON. Friday, Nov. 10, 7:30 p.m., Brandon Town Hall, 1 Conant Sq. Middlebury Colleges all-Male a capella group returns for their 7th year. Their signature harmonies, touch of comedy and interaction with the audience make them a Town Hall favorite. Tickets \$8 adults/\$6 seniors and students.

SATURDAY, NOV. 11

GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB LEADERS CHOICE HIKE. Saturday, Nov. 11, weather dependent. Who knows what early November will bring this year. A local hike of 5-10 miles will be planned based on trail conditions. Contact Ellen Cronan for more info at 908-595-2926. More at gmcbreadloaf.org.

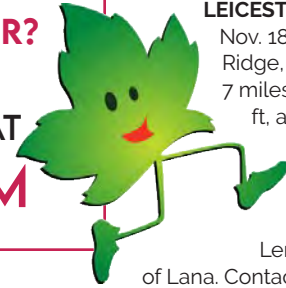
INSPIRIT DANCE: WHAT WE ASK OF FLESH IN MIDDLEBURY. Saturday, Nov. 11, 2 p.m., Dance Theater, Mahaney Arts Center, 72 Porter Field Rd. See Nov. 9 listing.

"FROZEN: THE MUSICAL" IN MIDDLEBURY. Saturday, Nov. 11, 2 p.m., Auditorium, Middlebury Union High School, 73 Charles Ave. See Nov. 9 listing.

KING PEDE CARD PARTY IN FERRISBURGH. Saturday, Nov. 11, 6:30 p.m., Ferrisburgh Town Hall and Community Center, 3279 Route 7. A sandwich supper and then on to an evening of fun and games. King Pede is a game that involves "trick-taking" such as in Hearts and Spades or Pitch. This is a game

TOP PICK

THE MIDDLEBURY MAPLE RUN IS THIS SUNDAY! SIGN UP FOR THE FULL HALF-MARATHON, RELAYS OR THE 3-MILE FUN RUN. NOT A RUNNER? VOLUNTEER AND JOIN THE FUN! THE RACE NEEDS YOU! SIGN UP TO RUN OR VOLUNTEER AT MIDDLEBURYMAPLERUN.COM



of fun and skill so come prepared to use your strategic thinking

LADIES' MOVIE NIGHT IN MIDDLEBURY. Saturday, Nov. 11, 6:30 p.m., Ferrisburgh Town Hall and Community Center, 3279 Route 7. The first movie offering by The Friends of the Union Meeting Hall. This month's film will send you to a summer in the Catskills, where dancing reigns supreme. Rated PG-13. Free, no pre-registration required. Snacks, popcorn, and other light refreshments will be available for purchase.

"THE BIG PARADE" SILENT FILM ON SCREEN IN BRANDON. Saturday, Nov. 11, 7 p.m., Brandon Town Hall, 1 Conant Sq. We salute Veterans Day with this sweeping saga about U.S. doughboys signing up and shipping off to France in 1917, when they face experiences that will change their lives forever — if they return. A free will donation event.

CONTRA DANCE IN CORNWALL. Saturday, Nov. 11, 7-9:30 p.m., Cornwall Town Hall, Route 30. Will Mentor will be calling, with music by Red Dog Riley. Masks optional. \$5 to \$10 or pay what you can.

DANISH STRING QUARTET IN MIDDLEBURY. Saturday, Nov. 11, 7:30 p.m., Robison Hall, Mahaney Arts Center, 72 Porter Field Rd. Named "one of the best string quartets before the public today" by the Washington Post, the Danish String Quartet certainly made an impression when first performing here in 2017: Our sold-out audience gave them a standing ovation before we even hit intermission, and audiences have been asking for their re-engagement ever since. Tickets \$25/20/10/5, available at go.middlebury.edu/tickets.

TUESDAY, NOV. 14

BIXBY BOOK CLUB IN VERGENNES. Tuesday, Nov. 14, 6 p.m., Bixby Memorial Library, 258 Main St. Come discuss "Remarkable Creatures" by Tracy Chevalier, a gripping historical novel that follows the story of Mary and Elizabeth, two extraordinary 19th century English fossil hunters who changed the scientific world forever.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 15

GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB BACK ROADS HISTORY WALK IN LINCOLN. Wednesday, Nov. 15. Walk on the back roads of Lincoln with sweeping views of the Monroe Skyline and bits of local history. Easy to moderate pace and a few hundred feet of elevation gain. Contact Cecilia Ewert at ceciliaelwert@yahoo.com or 802-377-7196 to register and for more information. More at gmcbreadloaf.org.

THURSDAY, NOV. 16

GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB HIKE IN BRISTOL.

Thursday, Nov. 16, Watershed Center, Plank Rd. Moderate 5.5-mile hike to a scenic west-facing ridge with possible extensions on side trails. Steady elevation gain about 640 feet. Dress in warm layers. Waterproof boots and poles recommended. Limit 10 participants. For more information and to register contact Ruth Penfield at ruthpenfield@gmail.com or 802-388-5407 to register or for more info. More at gmcbreadloaf.org.

"THE LEAGUE" ON SCREEN IN MIDDLEBURY. Thursday, Nov. 16, 7 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. Directed by acclaimed filmmaker Sam Pollard, The League celebrates the dynamic journey of Negro League baseball's triumphs and challenges through the first half of the twentieth century. The story is told through previously unearthed archival footage and never-before-seen interviews with legendary players like Satchel Paige and Buck O'Neil — whose early careers paved the way for the Jackie Robinson era — as well as celebrated Hall of Famers Willie Mays and Hank Aaron who started out in the Negro Leagues. An MNFF Selects Series film. Individual tickets \$14 in advance/\$16 at the door/series pass \$90. More info at townhalltheater.org.

RODGERS & HAMMERSTEIN'S "CINDERELLA" IN BRISTOL. Thursday, Nov. 16, 7 p.m., Auditorium, Mount Abraham Union High School, Airport Rd. More than 100 Mt. Abraham 7-12th grade performers will dance, sing, and shine their way through this contemporary take on the magical classic tale. Tickets: \$15 adult/\$12 seniors and children under 12, available at showtix4u.com/event-details/76494.

FRIDAY, NOV. 17

GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB HIKE IN COLCHESTER. Friday, Nov. 17, Niquette Bay. Enjoy several natural communities along two forested ridges and a sandy terrace for a moderate 3.8-mile loop with about 480 ft. elevation gain. Approximately 2.5 to 3 hours with lunch and visit to shoreline of Lake Champlain. Contact leader Ken Corey at kencorey53@gmail.com or 802-349-3733 to register or for more information. More at gmcbreadloaf.org.

RODGERS & HAMMERSTEIN'S "CINDERELLA" IN BRISTOL. Friday, Nov. 17, 7 p.m., Auditorium, Mount Abraham Union High School, Airport Rd. See Nov. 16 listing.

WARREN MILLER'S "ALL TIME" ON SCREEN IN MIDDLEBURY. Friday, Nov. 17, 7:30 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. "All Time" features deep dives into elements that Miller first identified as the stuff of which snowy dreams are made. From the birth of ski towns like Sun Valley and Aspen to the icons and innovators, the film will spin through the years like snow ghosts, bringing

humor and inspiration from today. Tickets \$25 in advance/\$27 day of show, available at townhalltheater.org.

SATURDAY, NOV. 18

GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB HIKE IN LEICESTER/GOSHEN. Saturday, Nov. 18, Minnie Baker, Chandler Ridge, and Silver Lake Trails. Hike 7 miles, elevation gain about 1,200 ft, approximately 5-hour hike involving a car spot. Enjoy great views of Silver Lake, cascades, Lake Dunmore, the Adirondacks from Lennie's Lookout, and Falls

of Lana. Contact Susie Davis Patterson at spatters@uvm.edu or at 802-777-1832. More at gmcbreadloaf.org.

"X: THE LIFE AND TIMES OF MALCOLM X" LIVE IN HD IN MIDDLEBURY. Saturday, Nov. 18, 1 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. Anthony Davis's groundbreaking and influential opera, which premiered in 1986, arrives at the Met at long last. Theater luminary and Tony-nominated director of Slave Play Robert O'Hara oversees a potent new staging that imagines Malcolm as an Everyman whose story transcends time and space. Tickets \$26 adult/\$12 student available at townhalltheater.org.

NO STRINGS MARIONETTES "SCROOGE, A CHRISTMAS CAROL" IN BRANDON. Saturday, Nov. 18, 2 p.m., Brandon Town Hall, 1 Conant Sq. Families and children of all ages can celebrate the season and enter the wonders of a traditional adaptation of this well-loved holiday classic. A special finger puppet workshop will be held prior to the performance from 1:00-1:45 p.m. with the show starting at 2 p.m. Tickets \$8 adults/\$5 seniors and students/children 5 and under free.

RODGERS & HAMMERSTEIN'S "CINDERELLA" IN BRISTOL. Saturday, Nov. 18, 2 and 7 p.m., Auditorium, Mount Abraham Union High School, Airport Rd. See Nov. 16 listing.

SUNDAY, NOV. 19

TURKEY TROT IN MIDDLEBURY. Sunday, Nov. 19, noon-2 p.m., 154 Creek Rd. Mark your calendars for the 45th annual running of this pre-Thanksgiving event. All participants will receive a special gift and we'll be giving away turkeys, gift certificates, and much more. Bring two or more non-perishable food items to donate to the Addison County Food Shelf and you will automatically be entered to win special prizes from a donors-only drawing.

CHAMPLAIN VALLEY FIDDLERS LUNCHEON AND FIDDLE JAM IN MIDDLEBURY. Sunday, Nov. 19, noon-4 p.m., VFW, 530 Exchange St. Menu includes chicken tenders, potato salad, shepherd's pie, green bean casserole, macaroni and cheese, rolls, apple crisp or chocolate cake/ \$10 members, \$20 non-members. More info contact Susie Coburn at 802-352-4489. Music by Joe and Jackie Rivers from 1-4 p.m.

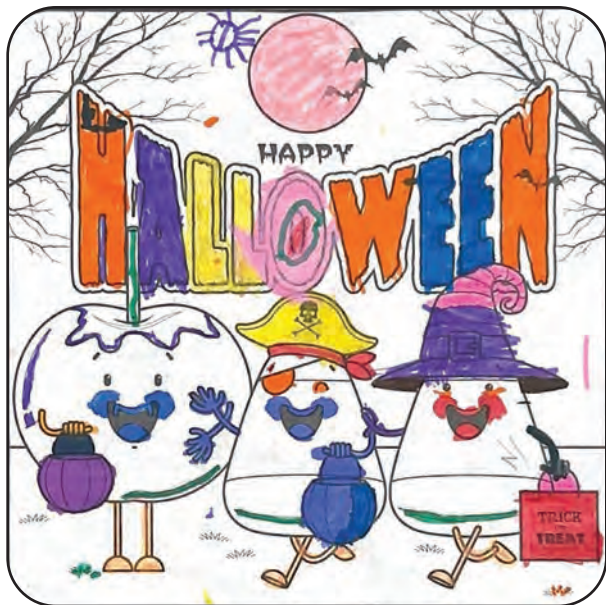
THANKSGIVING COMMUNITY HYMN SING IN VERGENNES. Sunday, Nov. 19, 3 p.m., Vergennes Opera House, 120 Main St. Local musicians from several area churches unite for this community event. Sing along to traditional favorite hymns led by a full band of piano, guitar, bass, percussion, brass and a special appearance by the Addison County Gospel Choir. Song books will be provided at the door. Donations toward the All Access Project gratefully accepted. Doors open at 2:30 p.m.

2023

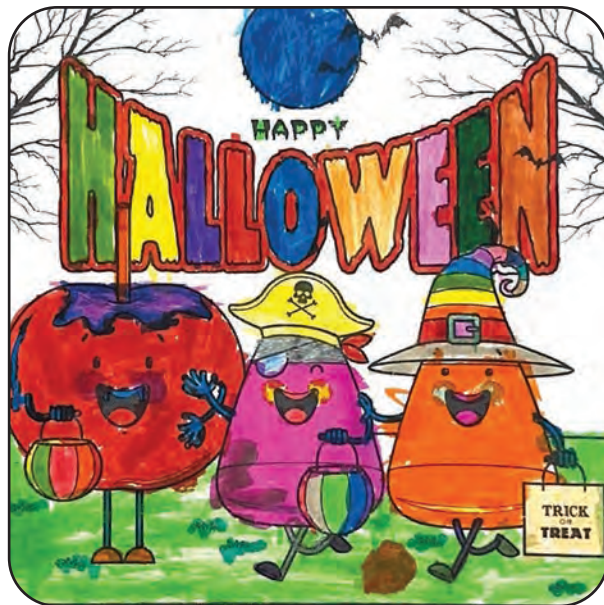


HALLOWEEN COLORING & DECORATING CONTEST

We received over 80 spooktacularly creative entries in this year's Halloween Coloring & Decorating Contest, and glitter to stickers and chalk to bring our eerie trick-or-treat scene to life. Congratulations to the winners!



Louise Copeland, Weybridge
Age 4



Nora Zeno, Starksboro
Age 4



Rose Bergevin, Cornwall
Age 5



Nora Bergevin, Cornwall
Age 10



Brayden Farr, Bristol
Age 11



Ila Corrigan, Bristol
Age 12



This contest was made possible through the support of:



All parties to



RATING CONTEST

test. The artists used an array of media from markers
ners below and thank you to all who participated!



ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT



Sklyer Bushey, Vergennes
Age 6



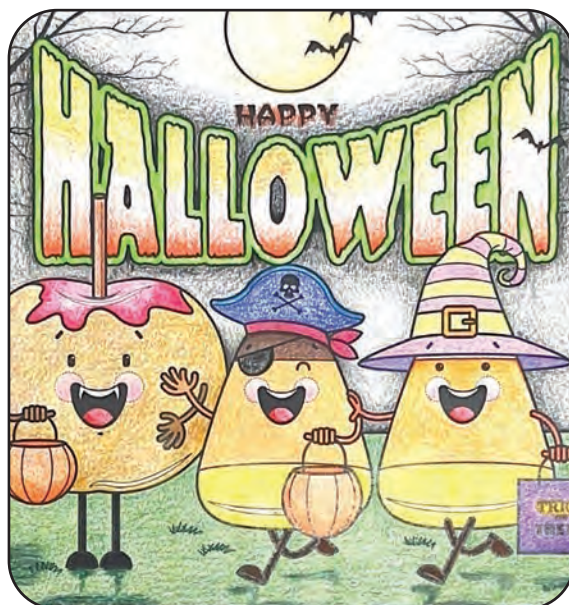
Evie Wilson, Middlebury
Age 7



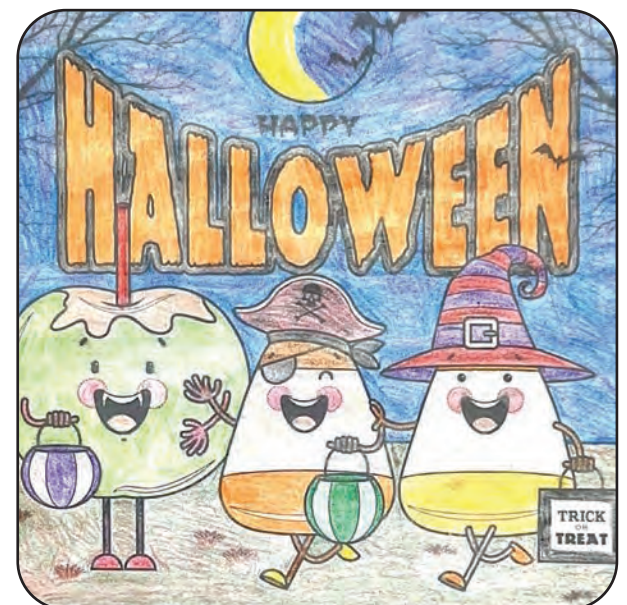
Kaitlyn Friend, Bristol
Age 8



Mady King, Bristol
Age 13



Erin Jones-Poppe, Middlebury
Adult



Tiffany Clark, Middlebury
Adult

Participants are encouraged to visit our office at 58 Maple Street, Middlebury, pick up their artwork and/or prizes before 4pm on November 22nd.

PUZZLES

sponsored by SPARROW ART SUPPLY

ACROSS

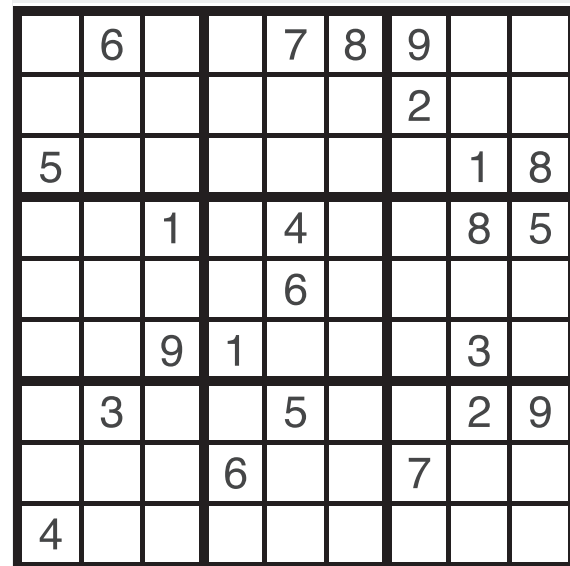
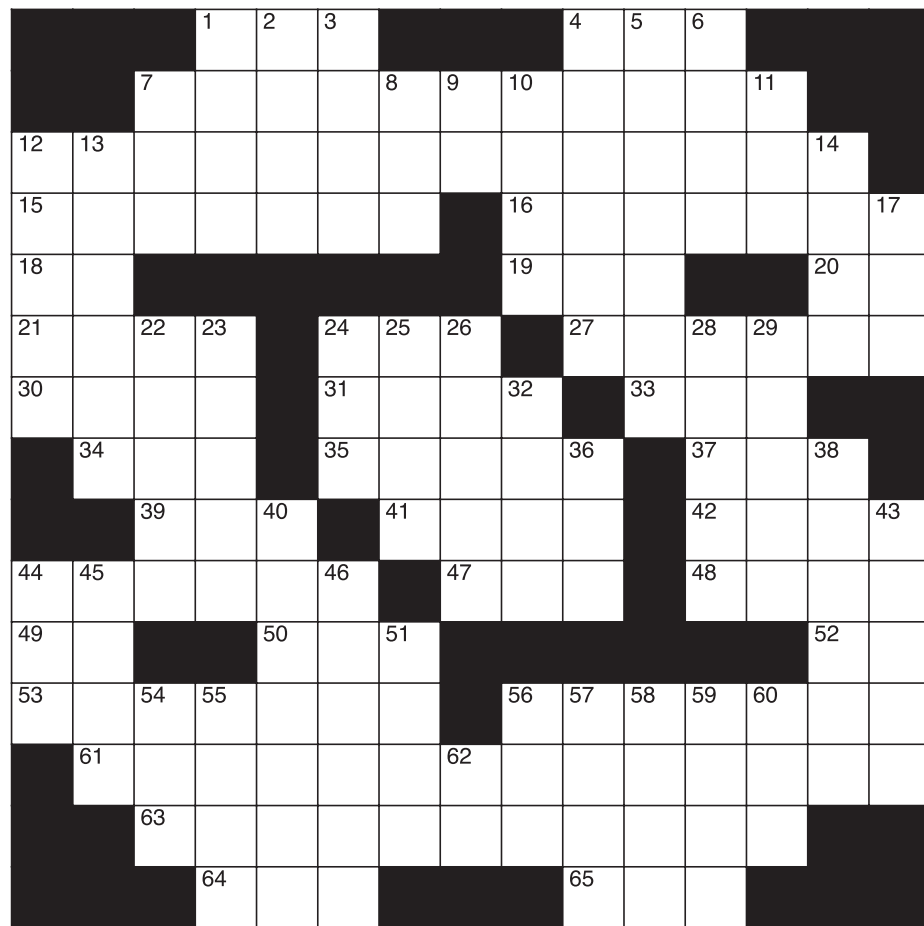
- 1. A way to drop
- 4. Bits per inch
- 7. Ghosts
- 12. Presents
- 15. Noises
- 16. Honorable fourth name in ancient Rome
- 18. Elevated railroad
- 19. A way to drench
- 20. The Tarheel State
- 21. Lilly and Manning are two
- 24. Where golfers begin
- 27. Harvester
- 30. Unit of subjective loudness
- 31. Jewish calendar month
- 33. Dash

- 34. Armed conflict
- 35. Daisy __: Broadway actress
- 37. Jump
- 39. Get free of
- 41. A written proposal or reminder
- 42. Organic chemistry reactive structure
- 44. African country
- 47. Cool!
- 48. Used to treat Parkinson's disease
- 49. __ route
- 50. Ed Murrow's home
- 52. Lethal dose
- 53. Give cards incorrectly
- 56. A treeless grassy plain
- 61. Famed R.L.

- Stevenson novel
- 63. In an incisive way
- 64. Mark Wahlberg's screen partner
- 65. Criticize

DOWN

- 1. Mountain in the Julian Alps
- 2. A domed or vaulted recess
- 3. Trade agreement
- 4. Larger
- 5. Edged
- 6. Data
- 7. Something curved in shape
- 8. Root mean square (abbr.)
- 9. Farm state
- 10. Pre-1917 emperor



Sudoku

Each Sudoku puzzle consists of a 9x9 grid that has been subdivided into nine smaller grids of 3x3 squares. To solve the puzzle each row, column and box must contain each of the numbers 1 to 9. Puzzles come in three grades: easy, medium and difficult.

Level: Medium

This week's puzzle solutions can be found on Page 13.

- of Russia
- 11. Short-term memory
- 12. Indigenous peoples of central Canada
- 13. Honor as holy
- 14. Monetary unit of Samoa
- 17. Company that rings receipts
- 22. City in Finland
- 23. Small finch
- 24. Arctic explorers
- (abbr.)
- 25. Mild yellow Dutch cheese made in balls
- 26. Very willing
- 28. Partner to "oohed"
- 29. Turntable
- 32. Major Hindu deity
- 36. Move head slightly
- 38. Plain-woven fabric
- 40. Die
- 43. Shipped as cargo
- 44. Something highly prized
- 45. Individual thing or person
- 46. Humbled
- 51. Speak indistinctly
- 54. No seats available
- 55. Financial obligation
- 56. Green vegetable
- 57. Tough outer skin of fruit
- 58. __ Spumante (Italian wine)
- 59. Troubles
- 60. Singer Charles
- 62. Camper

52 Main St
Middlebury, VT 05753
(802) 989-7225

Tuesday-Saturday
10:30 AM - 5:30 PM

info@sparrowartsupply.com
sparrowartsupply.com
@sparrowartsupply

*Code valid through 11/11/23
Does not apply to gallery items

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for 10% off your first
online order of
art supplies!

BOOK

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

WHY DID YOU SELECT THE THREE QUOTES INCLUDED IN THIS BOOK?

I didn't have these three quotes from Elizabeth Barrett Browning, Betsy Cañas Garmon and Haruki Murakami in mind, but came across them in different places. The breath is what gives us life and is what allows our true selves to come through and shine, so the first one by Browning is very fitting. The second one, where "the truth began to emerge from the mist," reflects another leitmotif of the book, that of getting at the truth of things whatever the subject is. The third one by Murakami I just thought was so beautiful and captures how I feel about the trees, though the quote is also speaking of stars. I do feel when I'm in the forest, especially as it gets towards evening, that the trees are alive and watching me. That there's even a communication of sorts, something scientists Diana Beresford-Kroeger and Suzanne Simard speak of.

WHAT ARE YOUR FAVORITE PASSAGES FROM THIS COLLECTION?

I would say one is in the poem "Sometimes it Happens this Way." It conveys the experience of something coming to you that you don't expect, this time an actual poem, at least in part. I like it because it has a bit of reference to Ruth Stone, who said that poems sometimes just came to her, as if "from over the mountains," or something similar to that. And this was a morning in Vermont, where I really felt something coming as if from over the mountains (of Ripton no less).

something that wanted to be known.

Another passage are the last lines of "The Unearthing":

*We relish their multiple syllables
on our tongues, / their small bright
nutrients, their still potent seed.*

I think that language and the words we choose are so powerful and important to keep in mind in times like these. They are like seeds of particular meaning and vibration that we can choose to plant and grow in any area of our life.

DO YOU HAVE ANY LOCAL EVENTS COMING UP?

I just had a book launch celebration in Glens Falls, N.Y., that went wonderfully. I wish I could repeat that in Middlebury... I do plan to have a reading and reception here either later this fall or late winter. I will be part of a group reading on Dec. 6 at the Abbott Library in Pomfret, Vt., at 6 p.m., with Laura Foley, April Ossmann and a couple other wonderful poets. I'm also open to invitations to read at various kinds of events, literary or not.

WHERE CAN FOLKS FIND "BREATHING LESSONS"?

Locally at The Vermont Book Shop and hopefully soon at The Northshire and at Phoenix Books, as well as in bookstores in upstate New York. Online it is currently available to order from my publisher, Shanti Arts, and from Bookshop.org, Goodreads and Amazon.

To learn more about Susan Jeffs visit SusanJeffs.com. Keep an eye out for her monthly columns in the Arts + Leisure section of the Addy Indy, where she introduces and analyzes a selected poem from various writers.



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Pets In Need HOMEWARD BOUND

Addison County's Humane Society

Ice-Tea

Ice-T is a 5-month-old Teddy Bear Guinea Pig who is an absolute darling! He can be timid at first, but once he warms up to his person he is quite the lap pig. He loves his paper towel tube puzzles filled with hay and his favorite veggies and fruit. Ice-T has lived with other guinea pigs and was housed with Intha (another pig here at HB) in his previous home. It is a big adjustment moving into shelter life, and they have had some quarrels due to high levels of stress. But we are slowly re-introducing them and giving supervised playtime with other guinea pigs. He has not lived with any other animals besides other guinea pigs, but with guinea pig-savvy pets he should do just fine. Ice-T would be a great pet for children who are calm, and know how to be gentle with a small animal. The perfect home for Ice-T is where he can be spoiled with all the attention he wants, snuggles, and lots of yummy healthy snacks to munch on.



Lily Bug

Lily Bug is a 7-year-old muted calico. She is a sweet cat with a shy streak, and will just need a little time to warm up. She is nervous in the shelter setting, but very affectionate.

Salamander

Salamander is estimated to be a year old. He is very affectionate and loves to give head nudges. He gets along with other cats.



Kato

Kato is a 2-year-old pit bull mix. He is an affectionate 62-pound fella who enjoys spending time with family and being a potato on the couch. He knows some basic commands and walks well on a leash. Kato seems to like the other dogs at the shelter, but we are unsure if he would enjoy the company of a canine friend in a home. Kato

has really bad separation anxiety and will need a dedicated and motivated owner to work with this in a home setting. We will help the new owner with post-adoption support and separation anxiety-specific protocols. Kato cannot live with cats as he will chase them. We feel he would be better suited to a home with older children.

Nachos

Nachos is a 66-pound Lab/Pit Bull mix who came to us as a stray. He is a goofy, sweet 2-year-old who enjoys cuddles with staff and going for walks. He is a strong dog but walks well on a leash. His favorite treats are hot dogs and cheese, and he will sit if asked to. Nachos is not fond of living with other dogs but is fine around them on neutral grounds. He does not do great with small children and we're not sure yet about cats.



Want to learn more?

Call or check our website. We may have a pet for you!
802-388-1100 | HomewardBoundAnimals.org
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THE HOME

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*This week's property is managed by IPJ Real Estate.
More info at middvermontrealestate.com.*






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3 BD | 1.5 BA | 1784 SF | 0.46AC

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EXHIBITS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

purposed Materials. "Tossed" brings together — both from Middlebury's collection and from other private and public collections — nearly 20 works that make use of discarded materials. On view through Dec. 10.

NORTHERN DAUGHTERS GALLERY

221 Main Street, Vergennes

Visit northerndaughters.com or call 802-877-2173

"Last Call." This is the final exhibition at Northern Daughters, and will feature the work of Anne Cady, Bonnie Baird, Maria Flores Galindo, Chelsea Granger, Julia Jensen, Rose Umerlik, Hannah Sessions, Pamela Smith, Carla Weeks, and Hannah Secord Wade. On view Nov. 4-Dec. 31. The gallery will close at the end of December 2023. A closing party will be held on Saturday, Dec. 9, from 5-8 p.m.

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

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"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.



COMMUNITY DANCE EVENTS

New multi-media dance work premieres at the Mahaney Arts Center, Nov. 9-11

Choreographer, educator, and activist Christal Brown and her company INSPIRIT will present the premiere of the new, evening-length dance and installation work "What We Ask of Flesh" Nov. 9-11 for the Middlebury Performing Arts Series. Inspired by the writings of award-winning poet Remica Bingham-Risher, Brown's caregiver journey with Alzheimer's and dementia, and her explorations of legacy, this profound performance is a physical examination of the capacity of human life and the intricacies of the mind.

Conjured through an eight-year research process and supported by The Flynn, The Kennedy Center, Jacob's Pillow, and Middlebury College, the event includes an interactive installation with rehearsal videos, video interviews with collaborators, hanging scrolls featuring writings by the cast; and other pathways to connect with past, present, and future selves. Audiences are invited to write and draw their memories and ancestors' names on a scroll that will travel to each venue on the tour, creating a tapestry of collected memory.

While Brown considers herself the conceptual architect of "What We Ask of Flesh," the work includes contributions from collaborators that mark Brown's 20+ year career in dance. The work weaves together personal narratives from the cast, a live soundscape by Farai Malianga and Deborah Felmeth, media design by Scotty Hardwig, costumes by Trebien Pollard, lighting by Jennifer Fok, and the world-building of dramaturg Arielle Brown.

"The body is the vehicle for how I understand the world," Brown commented. "I want to make sure dance is the primary mode of what people see in this work. But I also know that words are powerful and that music is a salve for the soul that can transport people to a frequency of understanding much quicker than watching someone else's body do what they think they cannot."



Christal Brown's INSPIRIT Dance Company premieres her new work "What We Ask of Flesh" at the Mahaney Arts Center Nov. 9-11, with a public "Movement Matters" master class on Wednesday, Nov. 8, at 4:30 p.m.

PHOTOS / JORDAN SAINT

The Middlebury College Dance Department will host two associated events with INSPIRIT during the performance week: a lunch on Monday, Nov. 6 exclusively for Middlebury students, faculty, and staff; and a public "Movement Matters" master class on Wednesday, Nov. 8 at 4:30 p.m. at the MAC, Dance Theatre. This class is free and open to all.

Come for INSPIRIT's "What We Ask of Flesh" debut performance at the Mahaney Arts Center's Dance Theatre Nov. 9-11, with performances Thursday and Friday at 7:30 p.m., and Saturday at 2 p.m. Seating is limited and this event is expected to sell out. Tickets are \$25 for the general public, \$20 for Middlebury faculty/staff and alumni, \$10 for youth, and \$5 for Middlebury College students. For tickets or information, call 802-443-MIDD (6433) or visit middlebury.edu/arts and inspiritdance.com.



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Don't forget-clocks "fall back" at 2 a.m. on November 5th, so you can enjoy an extra hour of sleep and brighter mornings! Also, this is the time to **change the batteries in your smoke detectors!** This is a great time of year to **consider your real estate and lifestyle goals.** If you have any questions at all, please don't hesitate to reach out.



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Women in Music Series Final Show Featuring

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Saturday, November 4th at 7:30pm

At Town Hall Theater

KeruBo is a Kenyan American with more than 20 years of experience performing all over the world. Her music is a blend of African Traditional with inflections of Brazilian Samba/Bassanova, Jazz, and Blues.

KeruBo's works reflect her mission for social justice which she brings to her community helping refugees settle and thrive in Vermont.

This performance marks the final installment of Town Hall Theater's Women in Music Series that took place over the summer at Lincoln Peak Vineyard.

This concert is FREE, but please register at www.townhalltheater.org as seating is limited.



Middlebury College and Town Hall Theater Present

The Sound Investment

Friday, November 10th at 7:30pm

At Town Hall Theater

Jazz has been part of the Middlebury experience since the early 1930s, when a group of students formed a band to play the music that's come to be called America's National Treasure.

The Sound Investment Jazz Ensemble is the Music Department's 17-piece big band that builds on the 80-year history of swingin' music at Middlebury. The band plays the best of contemporary jazz arrangements in addition to celebrating the great tunes of the swing- and jazz band repertoire. The ensemble uses the traditional mix of saxes, trombones, trumpets, piano, guitar, bass and drums, supplemented on occasion by other instruments and vocalists.

David Allan Rose, ballroom dancer will be on hand at 6:45 to provide swing dance lessons to anyone who wants to learn or just needs a refresher! Afterwards, put those moves to the test on the dance floor and dance the night away.

Upcoming Events:

Josh Simonds
Psychic Medium
November 9th at 7pm

Cutting Edge Reading
Straight White Men
November 5th at 4pm

MNFF Presents
The League
November 16th at 7pm

Warren Miller Presents
All Time
November 17th at 7:30pm

MET Opera HD Presents
X: The Life and Times of Malcolm X
November 18th at 1pm



Tickets: townhalltheater.org ▪ 802-382-9222 ▪ 68 S Pleasant St, Middlebury, VT 05753

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We would like to thank Middlebury College and Berkshire Hathaway Home Services for their sponsorship.

Weddings

A special section of the Addison Independent
Thursday, November 2, 2023



RYAN & ELYZABETH DONNELLY embrace on Main Street in Vergennes.
The couple got married on May 27, 2023, on the Vergennes City Green.

Photo by Ethereal Photography

Elyzabeth & Ryan

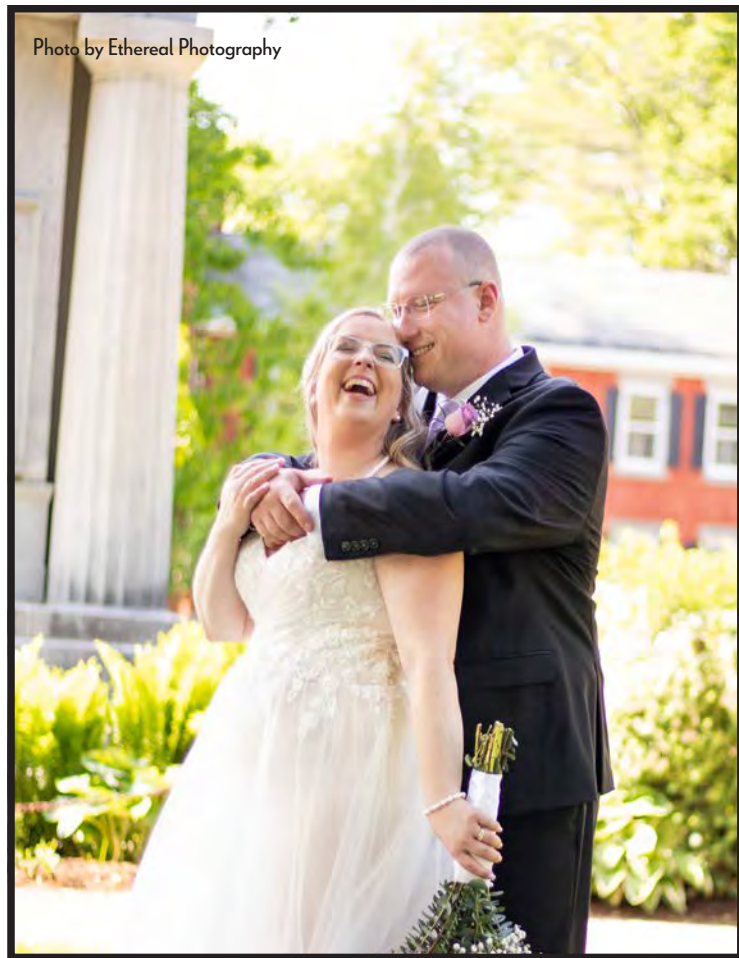


Photo by Ethereal Photography

Elyzabeth was working at Subway in Vergennes back in 2012 while Ryan was working on the Vergennes Area Rescue Squad. To this day, Ryan says that Subway sandwiches aren't his favorite, but he kept coming back just so he could see Elyzabeth.

Their engagement was very much a surprise — at least it was to Elyzabeth. They became pregnant with their beautiful daughter Carter in November of 2020 and the mother-to-be scheduled a maternity photoshoot for July 3, 2021. The weather called for nothing but rain, and Elyzabeth tried to reschedule. But Ryan had reached out to the photographer about having a surprise proposal during the photoshoot, and the shoot went as planned (fortunately, the rain held off). The couple had joked about doing a “compare the belly picture,” so when our lovely photographer put them back to back for this photo, Elyzabeth didn't think anything of it... until Elyzabeth no longer felt Ryan's back on hers. Taylor, the photographer, said, “Turn around, Elyzabeth,” and, when she did, there was Ryan down on one knee proposing!

The Donnellys said that when planning a wedding, the bride and groom naturally feel all different emotions depending on what stage of the process they're in. After being engaged for nine months, they decided that having an intimate ceremony and marrying each other in front of only immediate family was important. Life is too short and they both wanted their loved ones to witness them become husband and wife. Planning this intimate ceremony took two- to three weeks, which they described as exciting, but overwhelming and stressful. Elyzabeth and Ryan were married on the Vergennes city green on May 27, 2022. But then they still wanted a reception to fulfill their lifelong dreams of a big day, so they

had a reception on May 27, 2023 — exactly a year later.

The couple wrote vows to each other, then delivered them during the ceremony with the other not knowing what each would say. They both started their vows by referencing how they'd met over Elyzabeth making Ryan sandwiches.

What advice would they give to couples planning a wedding? “Don't worry about the small details; everything will come together the way it is meant to!”

After cleaning up following the reception, Elyzabeth and Ryan had time to spare before getting home to relieve their babysitter, and knowing City Limits Night Club was soon closing, they decided to go to the bar in tux and wedding dress! They didn't have to pay for a single drink that night; and thanks to the DJ, they got to dance to their wedding song for a second time in one day.

Being able to keep big components of the wedding local was something they'll always be thankful for; after all, they have the city of Vergennes to thank for bringing them together. They both graduated from VUHS, met in Vergennes and established roots in the Little City by buying their first home.

“Having the opportunity to become Mr. and Mrs. in the city park, having our reception a year later at the Opera House and using local establishments throughout the journey of becoming Mr. and Mrs. Donnelly are truly the best details of our marriage and wedding,” Elyzabeth said.

For instance, they catered their reception through 3 Squares Restaurant, where Ryan had worked as a cook during catering season for eight years.

“We are truly blessed and thankful to our little city of Vergennes,” the Donnellys said.

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Kelsey Kimball and Hunter Dyer are close friends, so when Hunter's brother Dustin came back from Colorado to visit his family for Thanksgiving a few years back, they all hung out most of the week — and Kelsey and Dustin got to know each other a little bit.

Time passed, Kelsey and Dustin dated, and in the winter of 2020 they went to the Green Mountain Inn in Stowe as a small getaway for Dustin's birthday — Jan. 26. Kelsey says Dustin LOVES his birthday, a day that's all about him. "So I never thought he would want to share his

special day with me, but boy was I wrong!" Kelsey says. Dustin proposed that day.

Like a lot of couples, the Dyers found that planning for a wedding was overwhelming.

They were supposed to get married on June 11, 2022, but due to health issues, had to postpone. The venue where they planned to wed only had a few dates left for 2023 and one happened to be Sept. 16, which was the birthday of Kelsey's best friend, Jeffrey Manshel, who had passed away. Normally that's a sad day for Kelsey, but she and Dustin figured getting married on that date would create a happy reason to mark Sept. 16.

When the wedding day finally arrived, it was very special. Kelsey's dad brought his old Chevy truck to transport his daughter and her bridesmaids so they could make a big entrance when they arrived — everyone *loved* it. The bride says that when the groom saw her pull up in the truck, get out and start walking down the aisle toward him, his face showed a range of emotions that were priceless.

"He cried more than I could have imagine, and the moment was perfect," Kelsey remembers.

Their wedding day was the same number of hours as any other day, but for the happy couple, time flew by.

"When I got home I felt like I had talked to so many people but so briefly that I felt like I hardly saw anyone," Kelsey recalls.

The Dyers have some advice for other brides and grooms to be. Try not to stress about things. Planning is stressful, but when the day comes, you'll never think about all the little things that went wrong or things you wish you had done. The day is about you and your partner and that's the only thing that matters.

Kelsey & Dustin



Photos by Andrea Warren Photography

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photo by Andrea Warren



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Lindsay and Dylan

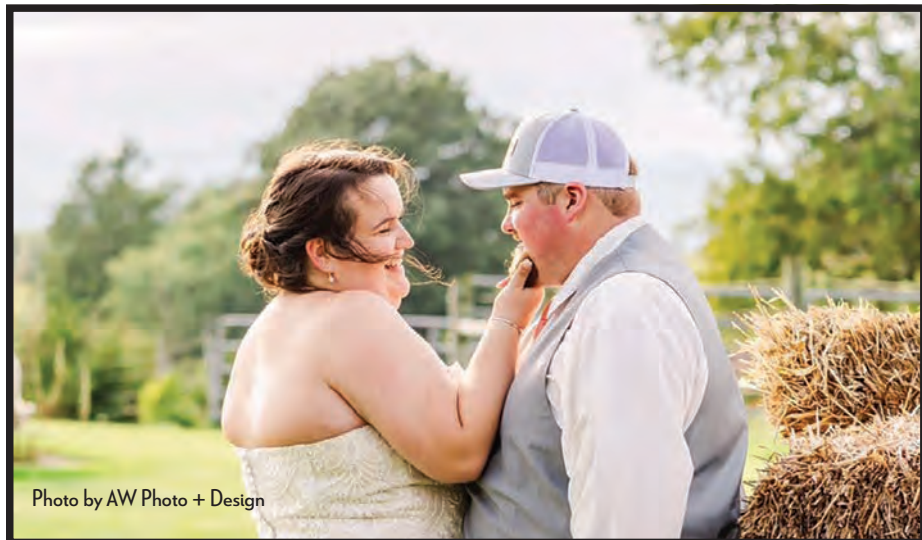


Photo by AW Photo + Design

Lindsay Christian and Dylan Bougor of Middlebury said theirs is a 21st Century Love Story — they met online.

After a while, Dylan proposed to Lindsay in the comfort of their kitchen, on May 4, 2021, after work. Lindsay was cooking dinner when he asked her to look in his lunch box. In it, she found a little black box, so she turned around to ask what it was for and he was already down on one knee!

The couple said that planning for their wedding was fun. One interesting feature they included in their big day was a photo display. In honor of their family, and closest friends they consider family, Lindsay and Dylan created a display of each couple's favorite wedding picture. They said their family and friendships mean the most to them, and being able to honor them and show the love that surrounds Lindsay and Dylan was very important to the couple.

The Vermont Wedding Barn offered enough space for all their friends and family, was the perfect blank canvas to decorate how they wanted. Plus, it included Alpacas!

The wedding day itself went by fast. "Everyone tells you how quick the day goes by, but until you are living the moment, you don't realize just how quick it goes by," Lindsay said.

Still, there was one memory that stands out: Their first look at each other after they'd been apart for 16 hours. They called it the best part of the day.

The Bougors suggest that other couples planning their wedding should have fun with the planning process. They acknowledge that it can be a lot, and sometimes crazy, but making it fun will make it a lot easier to handle.

Enjoy the day! It goes by just as fast as people tell you it does.

Tyler Hebert and Moriah Sullivan had a beautiful wedding this year — in fact they had two! But the backstory to how the two met is emotional.

Moriah was the girlfriend of Gregory Ouellette, who happened to be Tyler's brother. Tragically, Ouellette was killed in a Route 7 car crash during the summer of 2021. Naturally, Moriah and Tyler grieved together and healed together. A couple years later, they started dating. Eventually, the relationship started getting serious for both of them.

Moriah says she definitely knew Tyler was going to propose sometime this past January; nevertheless it was still a surprise. Her best friends did her hair and nails saying it was for practice ("I should have known better," Moriah laments) and she was completely shocked when he pulled out the ring.

Now that they were happily engaged, the couple chose to elope in Aruba. They chose the specific date of their ceremony based on the dates as their birthdays — Tyler's is June 2 and Moriah's is Jan. 26, so they ciphered out the best wedding date as 02-26-2023. Moriah called it "a big numbers game."

Moriah acknowledged they got married in Aruba first because that trip had already been booked. Once Tyler had proposed, the couple thought about it and knew that since they already were committing and knew they wanted to get married, why not honeymoon and get married at the same time.

"Saved us a little bit of money," Moriah notes.

When the wedding day arrived, it turned out to be the most relaxing day for a big event that the couple had ever experienced. Only family and a couple friends knew about their plans and both Tyler and Moriah spent the day relaxing on the beach, swimming in the pool and walking to breakfast.

But they still wanted to get their loved ones involved. So the Heberts also did a "renewing of vows" in June at the Addison County Fairgrounds so they could celebrate with friends and enjoy the full experience.

"Lord willing, we both never have to get married again so we wanted to get the full effect," Moriah noted. One detail she'll always remember about the celebration ceremony at the fair was the food — catered by Pratt's — was amazing.

Asked what advice they have for others

Moriah & Tyler



Photo by Adrianna Paige

planning a wedding, Moriah and Tyler urged couples not to think too hard.

"People will love the meaning behind it

more than the decorations, more than the food, more than the drinks," Moriah said. "They're there to celebrate you."

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Megan Vaughan and Bow Rinder-Godard have been together for a decade. They met during the summer of 2013 while swimming at the Gorge swimming hole in East Middlebury, and they've entangled their lives together since then. So when the two decided to get married, they said it wasn't the type of dramatic engagement that some people talk about — and they're OK with that. "To be honest ... we have five children together and it was time to unite our family," Megan says. "It was more of a mutual decision that the time was right. I wouldn't have changed it for a big surprise engagement at all."

The couple got down to business when it came to planning their nuptials.

They chose Button Bay State Park as the venue for the big event. They appreciated how beautiful a state park can be for a wedding, especially a Vermont State Park. Lake Champlain provided a natural backdrop for the drama of the ceremony, and they report that the pavilion at Button Bay is absolutely beautiful.

Everything at Megan and Bow's wedding was hand crafted. They used wooden dyed flowers that the family had hand-dyed themselves. These formed the basis for all of the bouquets and the men's

boutonnieres. Megan created a wedding board on Pinterest, and she proudly recounted she completed everything that she had put there. "We had used a Boho Theme, and everything came out exactly how I wanted it to!" she says.

The Rinder-Godards urge others planning weddings to have fun and stop stressing so much. They know from experience that you will put so much work into the wedding and in the blink of an eye it'll be over, so slow down and enjoy the moments because it goes by very quickly.

There was one important thing she couldn't account for on Pinterest — the heat. They got married on July 8, which was the right time for many reasons, but temperatures that day ended up being quite seasonal. "Man oh man, I wanted a summer wedding but underestimated how hot it was actually going to be in July in a wedding dress," Megan says.

But those high temps and beautiful setting seemed to melt away for Megan when she walked down the aisle with their sons. The moment she saw Bow is etched in her memory. "I could read his lips — 'Wow' — and the look in his eyes. I will never forget that moment," Megan says. "It made me feel like I was the only thing that mattered in the entire world in that moment."

Megan & Bow



Photo by Mae Memories Photography

Mary Beth & Gary

Mary Beth and Gary have known each other for a long time. Gary was friends with Mary Beth's oldest sister, Katie, when they were in high school. He also attended the same church. In college they were partners

in a Conversational French Class at Lyndon State College. They even shared the same birthday. At one point as young adults they lived in Burlington at the same time, but were dating other individuals whom they married. Mary Beth even cut the cake at Gary's wedding.

Both of those initial marriages ended in divorce, however. Mary Beth remembers, at the time of her divorce, saying, "I know there are good guys out there, look at Gary," but she still thought of him as Katie's friend. Her other sister, Louise, made her set up a Facebook account and Gary friended Mary Beth. For two years they were good friends, dating other people, until one night Mary Beth realized it was Gary who she loved. Gary later acknowledged that he'd liked Mary Beth for years. When they told their families they were dating the responses varied from "It's about time" to "This is much deserved happiness" to "I approve!"

It was not a simple relationship since they lived three hours apart in different states and had children to raise. Gary was worried about screwing things up with his best friend. Eventually a job

opportunity brought Gary to move from Massena, N.Y., to Ticonderoga, N.Y. And 18 months later they found the perfect house for the two of them on Forrest Road in Bridport. Eventually, Mary Beth got a surprise New Year's Day proposal at the top of Snake Mountain.

Fast forward to Aug. 11-13 — Mary Beth and Gary's wedding weekend. The family came together to set up table, chairs, etc. at Vermont Wedding Barn (Champlain Valley Alpaca) in Bridport on Thursday and Friday. Also on that Friday, floral arrangements were created using buckets of flowers purchased from Understory Farm, in Bridport. Mary Beth gushed, "My reasonably priced bouquet exceeded my expectations."

Friday night saw a barbeque at the couple's house (thankful for Pratt's Truckload Meat Sale). It was an opportunity for people to socialize, and for out-of-towners to see their house and to meet their dogs and chickens. The evening ended with a family tradition on Gary's side called a Yucca. The next morning Gary and others hiked up Snake Mountain while Mary Beth prepped for the wedding.

One of the most memorable moments was walking hand in hand down the road together to the ceremony site where 71 of their family and close friends had gathered. The couple said their vows under an arbor facing the Adirondack Mountains, his cousin

(See Mary Beth & Gary, Page 11)



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Carrie Mills & Sam Miller

Aug. 19, 2023
Congregational Church of Middlebury
Middlebury Inn



Photos by Lindsay Raymondjack

Sarah Snider & Carson Keys

Sept. 30, 2023
The Ponds at Bolton Valley



Photos by Oliver Parini

Elyzabeth & Ryan Donnelly

Saturday, May 27, 2023
Vergennes City Green/Vergennes Opera House



Photos by
Ethereal Photography
and Taylor Norris
Photography

Kelsey & Dustin Dyer

Sept. 16, 2023
Wallingford Lodge



Photos by Andrea Warren Photography

Lindsay and Dylan Bougor

Sept. 2, 2023
Vermont Wedding Barn



Photo by AW Photo + Design

Megan & Bow Rinder-Goddard

July 8, 2023
Button Bay State Park



Photos by Mae Memories Photography

Moriah Sullivan Hebert & Tyler Hebert

Feb. 26, 2023, Aruba
June 3, 2023
Addison County Fair and Field Days



Photos by Adrianna Paige

Mary Beth & Gary Novosel

Aug. 12, 2023
Vermont Wedding Barn



Photos by Erika Anne Photography

Rebecca Hanley & David Payne

Oct. 13, 2023
Kirk Alumni Center



Photos by Owl's Iris Photography

Rebecca & David

Rebecca Hanley and David Payne described planning their wedding as “Fun, yet stressful.” “Stressful” is no surprise when it comes to planning one of the most important and complex events of one’s life. When you hear what they did, the word “Fun” sounds like the perfect description.

After getting engaged in June 2022, the couple began the process of putting together their wedding. As reported in our Weddings Section this past March, Rebecca decided early on that for her wedding she would walk down the aisle in the same dress her mother and grandmother wore on their wedding days.

They also decided that the ceremony would take place outdoors, which meant that guests could be laidback when it came to deciding what to wear. Rebecca said they “didn’t want people to stress about what to wear, so (we decided) we’re just having it be a costume party ... We’ve told people, ‘Please just come in your best hot dog costume that you never got to wear, don’t worry about dressing fancy.’”

The wedding date, Oct. 13 — that’s Friday the 13th, a date with slightly spooky-but-fun undertones — also lent itself to the idea that guests could come in non-traditional attire. It worked. More than half of the guests showed up in costume. Towards the end of the reception, the DJ played “The Monster Mash” and the guests that were dressed up paraded in front of the newlyweds and they chose their top three favorite costumes. While Rebecca wore her antique family dress for the ceremony, David was outfitted in a wonderful purple suit. For the reception they changed into costumes portraying Hades and Persephone.

The Paynes had originally planned to have a backyard wedding, but invoices were adding up way over budget, and it was coming completely out of their pockets so they looked at their options and, with Rebecca working at Middlebury College, they asked about using the college’s Kirk Alumni Center. “The price was right and I knew the food would be excellent, so it was a no brainer,” she said.

A particularly memorable moment from the wedding for Rebecca was walking down the aisle with her father, Tom Hanley. She said he was muttering instructions under his breath as they were doing their walk, making sure his

daughter was in time with the music. “It was not the emotional walk you see with fathers and daughters, but very much on brand for him and I,” she said.

A friend, Ben Wells, had originally introduced the two, so Rebecca and David asked Wells to officiate their wedding. During the ceremony, Wells slipped a dirty joke into his speech, and David and Rebecca doubled over laughing. The bride said she couldn’t breathe, and the demon that was the stress from the last two months was exorcized from her body in those peals of laughter.

Their advice to others planning their nuptials: Set boundaries — it’s your day. Delegate tasks to those around you willing to help. The day before and the day of Rebecca and David’s wedding, the maid of honor, David’s mother and the bride’s older sister completely took charge. “It was hard for me to let the day take its course, but it felt really good to let go,” Rebecca remembers. “At some point, whatever happens is going to happen and all you can do is be willing to bend in whatever direction the day is going to go in. At the end of the day, you’ve married the love of your life and everything else is just part of the story.”

Rebecca, for one, was surprised at how quickly the wedding went. She said she spent a year and a half planning it, and the day itself “felt like a fever dream.”

They had guests come from all over the country — all over the world, really. Family and friends came from England, Ireland, New Hampshire, Texas, Ohio, Tennessee, North Carolina, Maryland — to name a few — and, of course, Vermont. The couple said it was literally a three-day party, from Thursday through Saturday. “Love, laughter, full cups and full bellies — is there any better way to start a life with someone?” Rebecca asked

The light atmosphere put everyone at ease. The couple saw people who typically don’t dance doing the chicken dance and the limbo during the reception.

After the ceremony and reception, while everyone headed to an after-party, David and Rebecca went off on their own and enjoyed a quiet night walk around the Marble Works, just the two of them, husband and wife.



Photo by
Amanda Carpenter



Seems like there is an app for everything. Thank goodness for the dating app called “Coffee Meets Bagel,” that’s how Middlebury native Sarah Snider and Carson Keys met in Atlanta in 2018. They each saw that the other was interested in trying new and international foods. At the time Sarah was working as a zookeeper and Carson was working for a chemical company that involved a lot of travel. After a trip to Turkey, he asked Sarah out to a Turkish restaurant to have some kebab and impress her with his knowledge of Raki, the national drink of Turkey. The date went so well that they met up for another date, and another ...

Things were going so well that they discussed a fall 2023 wedding and even started planning it before they were officially engaged because venues were booking up. Sarah knew that Carson would propose, but still wanted it to be a surprise. They had moved to Oklahoma, and Carson planned a trip with Sarah to Atlanta, with the excuse of visiting friends. He planned a Dec. 12 sunrise hike at Stone Mountain, where we had gone on our fourth date. Unfortunately, it was so foggy they couldn’t see past the other side of the mountain. While Sarah was distracted trying to take a photo of the two of them together (they call it an “us-y” these days), Carson got to one knee and proposed. Sarah was surprised and it was a special moment for both of them.

The venue they landed on was the Ponds at Bolton, because it is naturally beautiful, is an excellent spot for fall foliage, is close enough to Burlington for out-of-state visitors to fly in, it has lodging on-site, and it is near a lot

of unique Vermont places to visit. That was important so that the many first-time visitors to Vermont would experience the love for the Green Mountain State that Sarah has. And almost all of the businesses helping out were Vermonters, including photographer Oliver Parini of Weybridge and Waterfalls Day Spa of Middlebury for hair and make-up. They even had Monument Farms chocolate milk and Champlain Orchards cider and freshly picked apples in their hospitality room all weekend

It was important for the couple to have ferns and dahlias as focal points in our floral arrangements, because they have two dogs names “Fern” and “Dalia.” Karey Ann at Silver Spring Farm was able to grow all of flowers for their floral arrangements on her Hinesburg farm. She even made little flower arrangements that were attached to Fern and Dahlia’s collars for when they walked down the aisle!

Sarah and Carson suggested others getting ready for a wedding hire a wedding planner, if they have the means, or at least a day of coordinator. Their wedding planning team, Amaari Events, worked with them and helped their vision come to life while also making the process fun. In particular, they kept Sarah and Carson on track and made sure they didn’t forget any details. Another thing they recommend to other couples is to try to have a welcome gathering the night before the wedding, after the rehearsal dinner. It takes away a lot of the pressure of visiting with everyone during the reception and dance party, they said.

Sarah pointed out that it’s easy for the bride and groom to get separated from each other with all the guests wanting to spend time with you, especially during your wedding day and

Sarah & Carson



Photo by Oliver Parini

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Carrie & Sam



Carrie Mills and Sam Miller got married at the Congregational Church of Middlebury on Aug. 19. The couple actually resides in Richmond, Va., but it's always been a dream of Carrie's to get married in Vermont. Her mother, Cynthia Mace Stacey, is an 8th generation Addison County native but her parents moved the family to Florida as children.

Both Carrie and her mother grew up spending summers at the family camp on Lake Champlain. Carrie said she has done extensive genealogy research and she noticed it's really just your birth, marriage and death dates and locations that follow you, so she decided that she would make Vermont the site of her marriage!

Here's where it all started:

Carrie and Sam met on the dating app Hinge. After two nice, long dates at breweries in Richmond, Carrie told Sam she thought they should just be friends. Sam took that seriously and invited Carrie to many group activities and they dated other people. Six months later, a group of friends were going to meet at Sam's community pool, but turns out that it was just Carrie and Sam for the first three hours. One of those randomly wonderful deep conversations sparked the relationship they'd both been seeking for decades (they are both around 40 and never married).

At a Tom Petty cover band concert in Richmond, Sam leaned over and asked Carrie what kind of ring she'd want. Carrie didn't really know so he suggested they go shopping. They found a lovely, three stone ring at a local Virginia shop that had an antique look to it. Then the waiting started because Carrie insisted she didn't want to wear it home and wanted a traditional proposal.

About three weeks later, on Jan. 30 of this year, as Carrie finally started thinking less about the proposal, she went to Sam's house where he was cooking a six-month anniversary dinner of salmon and Brussels sprouts. Carrie didn't notice he'd set the table and had on a nice shirt and sweater despite working from home. After a conversation about making travel plans for the year, Sam ran upstairs, grabbed the ring, and dropped to one knee in the dining room. After agreeing, Carrie and Sam called their parents, siblings and grandparents to share the exciting news.

Still ahead of them was the wedding planning process, which they described as somewhere between fun and overwhelming.

In planning their big day, they knew that maple creemees would be a pretty significant theme because they are one of Carrie's favorite things and so quintessentially Vermont. The bridesmaids wore gold, maple leaf necklaces and the groomsmen wore socks with little creemees on them. On the way to the wedding, Carrie, Sam and the bridesmaids stopped for creemees at Goodie's in West Addison. The cake was a maple with maple buttercream from Otter Creek Bakery. And the guests all received maple syrup sourced by Carrie's cousin, Andrew Davis of The Field Farm.

The couple was surprised that Pastor Andy Nagy-Benson centered his homily around a Robert Frost poem that Carrie and Sam had just been talking about that week. When Rev. Andy started talking about the Mending Wall, the couple both immediately started laughing and looking at each other like, their gazes clearly asking the other, "Did you know he was going to

(See Carrie & Sam, Page 11)

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Mary Beth & Gary

(Continued from Page 5)

Greg Sikora serving as officiant. It was beautiful short, sweet, but very emotional ceremony — “We’d both waited a long time for this moment,” Mary Beth said. “I interrupted the ceremony, asked Gary if he had a handkerchief, because I had to wipe my tears in the midst of it.”

Afterwards a group picture was taken and the happy party proceeded to the barn, which was magnificently decorated.

Prior to the ceremony there were various beverages and hors d’oeuvres. Beverages were served in an aluminum canoe, and bottles of Gary’s own wine were on each table. Dinner was served buffet style, featuring Pratt’s for catering. Instead of the traditional wedding cake, they had a dessert buffet filled with

various pies. Gary and Mary Beth chose to cut into an apple pie, because, the bride said, he had won her over with an apple pie years earlier. The bride’s sister Louise and the groom made a majority of the pies, though they also purchased some berry pies from Pratt’s because they find them so delicious. A friend made incredible cupcakes with fresh raspberry filling, coconut macaroons and another made Baklava.

The reception was so much fun and the small number of people gave the newlyweds the chance to see everyone. Family friend Jamey McGowan DJ’d the party, which spread through indoor covered spaces and plenty of outdoor space. Guests even got to feed baby alpacas.

The next morning, the Novosels hosted a brunch back at the venue, which they catered themselves. Turned out it was great to have a chance for them to see people before they headed out. And cleanup was a breeze with help from family and friends.

At one point Mary Beth had asked Gary if he wanted to just elope, but his response was that he wanted to get family together for a happy occasion. “I’m so grateful that we did,” Mary Beth effused. “It was an amazing weekend. We were so pleased to have supported local in every way that we could; the venue, the food, and the flowers. We accomplished having an extraordinary wedding on a budget.”

Sarah & Carson

(Continued from Page 9)

reception. “We made sure to stick with each other, that way we could take in the experience together,” she said. “It is also a good idea to try to carve out some moments throughout the day to have time with just the two of you, to take a breather and enjoy the moment together.”

In the case of the Snider-Keys wedding, the couple wanted to do a first look and private vows. Sarah came up with the idea to do both of them on top of the mountain near the chairlift. They were lucky the leaves had mostly changed color on the mountains on their wedding day — Sept. 30 — and it looked beautiful as a backdrop.

“It was great to have that time between us, and the ride down the chairlift with each other is nice to look back on,” Sarah recalled.

Carrie & Sam

(Continued from Page 10)

bring this up?” Neither did know, it was an absolute surprise.

Then came the most memorable moment of the day. There was an overwhelming gush of emotion when the newly married couple turned from the alter to see all the friends and family who’d traveled so far to be with them on their most special day.

Carrie and Sam are so grateful to

everyone who made their wedding day possible, starting with their moms, and including photographer Lindsay Raymondjack, Rachael Stuart of the Middlebury Inn, Radio DJ Bruce Zeman, Anne Matthews at Flower Power, and Katherine at Otter Creek Bakery.

For others planning their wedding, Sam urges them to just stay relaxed during the process. Carrie, for her part, urges couples to make a week-of timeline

on a shared document so that everyone knows when and where to be so that on the day of, everyone is on the same page and committed to helping the bride and groom enjoy themselves.

“I’ll always remember how joyful, peaceful and fun the whole day was,” Carrie remembered. “We’d planned every minute, which meant we got to be present for the wedding day and soak it all in as it was happening.”



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The Alice Pit appears empty as a starting song, her long ladders gone, a sunken cake of Chalchopytic, above the wounded town, no tin hat to fit my dome or pick to hang upon my belt. Walking west on Waukesha I am what I perceive, dancing round the open grave. A whirl of Peacock feathers fell to mark the shaft that finally now flooded green.

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