



Polaroids

College to stage a play in which stories are revealed in vulnerable moments. See Arts + Leisure.



Panther sports

As fall teams wrap up NCAAs & NESCAC, some college winter sports seasons start. See Page 1B.



Holiday Guide

'Tis the season with loads of special events. Learn about them all in our seasonal pullout inside.

ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT

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Addison Breakfast Club

ON SUNDAY THE Addison Volunteer Fire Department held its sixth all-you-can-eat pancake breakfast for 2023 in the fire station at Addison Four Corners. At the breakfasts this year the department raised approximately \$2,000 to help fund the services it provides. Shown here, from left, are Phil Stearns chopping some spuds for home fries, Fire Chief Brad Clark orchestrating work in the kitchen, and senior firefighter Buster Grant serving blueberry pancakes.

Independent photos/Steve James

City could ease rule further on housing

By ANDY KIRKALDY
VERGENNES — After hearing from a Main Street property owner and a former city planning commission member, the Vergennes City Council has altered a proposed amendment to the Vergennes city plan to make it less restrictive and allow more new housing than the amendment already intended.

To do so, councilors at their Nov. 14 meeting changed one number in the proposal.

At issue is a current provision in the city's Northern Gateway zoning district that prohibits residential units "at the ground level."

That clause is intended to encourage businesses and offices in what is a mixed-use district that runs east to the city line from the Vergennes Animal Hospital on one side of Main Street/Route 22A and from the Community Market on the other.

The amendment the planning (See Vergennes, Page 12A)

Farming and climate focus of UVM study

Team looks at conservation efforts

By MARIN HOWELL

BRIDPORT — From planting cover crops to transitioning toward no-till or reduced-till approaches, farmers throughout the state are implementing a variety of practices aimed at keeping phosphorus and other nutrients on their land and out of nearby waterways.

But how effective are those

practices at improving the water quality of Vermont's rivers and lakes? That's the question at the heart of a research project being conducted by a UVM Extension team at Blue Spruce Farm in Bridport.

Farmers and community members were invited to learn more (See Farmers, Page 13A)

Bristol facility will provide realistic firefighter training

By MARIN HOWELL

BRISTOL — On any given day, Addison County firefighters are asked to tap into a diverse set of skills when responding to fires and other emergencies.

But opportunities to exercise some those skills outside of

emergency situations can be hard to come by, often requiring trips to training facilities in other parts of the state or the use of acquired structures that aren't always readily available.

Thus, the Bristol Fire Department (See Bristol, Page 11A)

Middlebury eyes \$29M in infrastructure work

Plenty of outside funding expected

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — Middlebury voters next year will be asked to support three separate bond votes totaling \$28.7 million, with the biggest ask to come in the form of a \$26 million referendum for a major overhaul of the town's wastewater treatment plant at 243 Industrial Ave.

Local residents are likely to vote on that sewer plant request next November, while the other two bond questions — \$1.2 million to reconstruct and resolve drainage issues on Bakery Lane, and \$1.5 million to replace sewer/stormwater infrastructure on South Street — will be fielded on Town Meeting Day next March.

And Middlebury officials (See Middlebury, Page 10A)



MIDDLEBURY VOTERS NEXT year will field three bond votes, including a \$1.5 million proposal to, among other things, replace sewer/stormwater infrastructure on South Street. The project is to be Phase 5 of a multi-year refurbishment plan for South Street. Pictured is big equipment on South Street working on the current Phase 4 project.

Independent photo Steve James

Early morning fire destroys Monkton eatery

By MARIN HOWELL

MONKTON — The Queen Bee's Snack Bar team is looking to rebuild after a fire destroyed the popular Monkton eatery on Sunday morning. No injuries were reported, though the entire snack bar structure was lost to the blaze.

"It appears to be an electrical fire from the fridge that was in our snack bar," Queen Bee's employee Kristen Jewell told the Independent on Monday morning.

The fire began around 5:15 a.m., just as Queen Bee's Owner Kim Jewell was getting ready to open the restaurant for the day. The snack bar has been open Friday-Monday from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. each week.

"Kim had just gone out and started things up, did everything that she usually does," Kristen said.

After setting up, Kim briefly reentered her house, which is located (See Queen Bee's, Page 13A)



THE POPULAR QUEEN Bee's Snack Bar in Monkton was destroyed in a fire early Sunday morning. Restaurant staff say they believe the blaze originated with an electrical problem in a fridge in the snack shop.

Photo courtesy of Queen Bee's Snack Bar

Lincoln hires head of schools

Cole has served in Hawaii and Vt.

LINCOLN — The Lincoln School District board has hired its first superintendent.

Amy Cole will begin the job leading the independent school district on Jan. 1, taking the reins from Madelyn Crudo Burke, who has served as acting superintendent during the district's first year.

Lincoln separated from the Mount Abraham Unified School District on July 1, and now educates children who live in the mountain town. This past Thursday, Nov. 16, the Lincoln School Board hired Cole, who comes to the job from Hawaii, where she was an educator at a private school.

(See Lincoln, Page 13A)



By the way

The Vermont Agency of Transportation, in partnership with the Addison County Regional Planning Commission, invites you to attend a series of community workshops on the (See By the way, Page 11A)

Index

Obituaries..... 6A
Classifieds 8B-10B
Service Directory 6B-7B
Entertainment..... Arts + Leisure
Community Calendar 4B
Arts Calendar Arts + Leisure
Sports 1B-3B



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Dustin Hunt makes the move to MUMS

Former Rec Dept. super hired as new dean of climate and culture

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — Dustin Hunt always knew he wanted to work with children in the field of athletics. He got an opportunity to do just that during a 14-year stint with Middlebury Parks & Recreation Department (MPRD), five of those years as its superintendent.

Hunt thought he'd retire at Parks & Rec, but was recently wooed by a new job that allows him to do many of the same things just a stone's throw away from the Middlebury Recreation Facility on Creek Road — at Middlebury Union Middle School, where he's the new dean of climate & culture.

"This job offers me an opportunity to do the work I enjoy most, in my hometown, and at a school I went to," Hunt said. "That is a dream come true."

Hunt joined Middlebury Parks & Rec in 2009, as a part-time grounds and maintenance worker. His diligence and enthusiasm were rewarded in 2014, when he was promoted to program coordinator. Hunt's climb up the Parks & Rec ranks culminated in his promotion to department superintendent in 2018, succeeding Terri Arnold.

In a recent conversation, he thanked the late Yvon Pouliot for giving him his start with Middlebury Parks & Rec 14 years ago. Pouliot became a legendary Middlebury town employee for his decades of service, completing many municipal beautification projects.

"Yvon was the hardest worker I know, and he dedicated his life to making Middlebury a beautiful place to live, both literally and figuratively," Hunt said. "Sadly, he recently passed away (in late October) due to Alzheimer's, so I wanted to make sure to honor him and let his family know how much

he truly changed my life."

Being involved in Middlebury Parks & Rec programming was always interesting and fun, according to Hunt, who's always enjoyed sports and is a natural "people person."

"My biggest goal was always to revitalize the recreation park and make it a destination for families to come and spend the day, and I feel like I was able to accomplish that."

— Dustin Hunt

He specifically cited Middlebury Director of Operations Bill Kernan, who instilled in Hunt a lot of the leadership skills he possesses today. Leaving Middlebury Parks & Rec was a difficult decision for Hunt. But in the end, he knew he was leaving the department in good hands.

"The best decision I made as superintendent was to hire Scott Bourne as a program coordinator five years ago," Hunt said of his successor (see related story on this page). "Scott is someone I truly look up to and I can say in the five years we worked together, we never had one disagreement about anything. I am thrilled that Scott was promoted to superintendent upon my departure, and I have no doubt in my mind that he'll continue to do great things for the town."

While he's no longer employed with Parks & Rec, Hunt maintains a (future) family connection there. His fiancée, Amber Power, has succeeded Bourne as Parks & Rec program director.

"We met each other because of the recreation programs, and she has spent countless hours volunteering for the department, and I am excited to reverse roles with her, repay the favor, and stay involved behind the scenes," he said.

W h a t accomplishments do Hunt hold especially dear from his five years leading the department?

"Since the day I took over as superintendent, my biggest goal was always to revitalize the recreation park and make it a destination for families to come and spend the day, and I feel like I was able to accomplish that," he said. "I was able to foster relationships with community stakeholders that allowed us to build a handicap-accessible tot-lot (See Hunt, Page 3A)

"No two days were ever the same and because of that, the job never felt stagnant," he said. "There were new issues that arose each day that forced me to think and react quickly, and I think that really helped prepare me for this new role that requires working on several different tasks at one time."

Asked what he'd miss most about his Middlebury Parks & Rec job, Hunt without hesitation said "the wonderful staff I had the opportunity to work with. The town administration is very dedicated to the community it serves, and I had the opportunity to watch and learn from some truly remarkable people."

"Dustin has experience as a systems thinker, understands how organizations function and has great connections in our greater community."

— Principal Michaela Wisell



DUSTIN HUNT, WHO recently left the helm of the Middlebury Parks & Recreation Department, stands outside Middlebury Union Middle School, where he is the new dean of climate & culture.

Independent photo/Steve James



Turkeys aglow

LATE DAY SUNLIGHT gives the feathers on these two turkeys a coppery glow as they forage in a local cornfield recently.

Photo by Dottie Nelson

ACSD to pick superintendent

Three in contention for district's top administrative post

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — The Addison Central School District board on Monday, Nov. 27, is scheduled to consider the appointment of a new, permanent superintendent.

Barb Wilson, chair of the ACSD board, provided that update in response to an *Independent* query on the progress of the search, which drew three finalists for onsite interviews on Nov. 13-15. Those interviews — and the entire selection process — have been held behind closed doors.

Last week's interviews included participation from some ACSD stakeholders, who were told not to divulge the names of the finalists.

Wilson provided the following statement:

"At the conclusion of Thursday's special board meeting, the board authorized me to enter into negotiations with the board's preferred superintendent candidate. In anticipation of the negotiations being able to conclude this week (it's a very short work week), this morning, the executive committee set the agenda for Monday's board meeting and included an agenda item to take action on the approval of superintendent appointment."

Interim ACSD Superintendent Tim Williams was hired to lead

the district for this academic year after a search for a permanent superintendent failed to yield a successor for Peter Burrows, who left this past June.

In other recent ACSD news, the district's executive committee has also been meeting in executive session to allow ACSD board member Steve Orzech to respond to recent criticism about his alleged comportment at an Oct. 9 Finance Committee meeting.

As previously reported, the committee rebuked Orzech in a Nov. 6 letter, after having received and investigated an email from Weybridge resident Mary Slosar expressing concern about language used at the Oct. 9 meeting.

The executive committee reviewed a recording of the Oct. 9 meeting and found, among other things, that Orzech had said he wanted to "hoist Barb by her own petard" — referring to ACSD board Chair Barb Wilson.

The committee review further found that Orzech, during the meeting, "mockingly says that

board members Joanna Doria and Lindsey Hescoock would have no problem holding double standards."

The executive committee on Nov. 6 informed Orzech he was being "put on notice that disrespecting colleagues during board and committee meetings will not be tolerated and that further conduct of this nature may result in consequences including, but not limited to, board censure."

A review of the 75-minute-long recording yields evidence of other harsh, some might say inappropriate, language used at the meeting, including the word "crazy," but the audio quality and the absence of video — which went dark mere

"The school board authorized me to enter into negotiations with the board's preferred superintendent candidate."

— ACSD Board Chair Barb Wilson

seconds into the meeting — makes it difficult to definitively ascribe some comments to their sources. Others attending the Oct. 9 Finance Committee included members James "Chip" Malcolm, ACSD Finance and Operations Director Matt Corrente and Williams. Member Jason Chance (See ACSD, Page 3A)

Vergennes in need of a new city clerk

By ANDY KIRKALDY

VERGENNES — Vergennes is taking steps to find a new city clerk after Penny Austin recently informed City Manager Ron Redmond and the council she would step down after almost a year-and-a-half on the job.

Austin, who first took the position on an interim basis in June of 2022, also told Redmond she'd stay on until a replacement is found and then take time to help train a new clerk.

Austin helped prepare a new draft job description for the position, a document Redmond unveiled at the city council's Nov. 14 meeting.

Redmond spoke of Austin's plans at that meeting.

"I'm excited for Penny and appreciate that she's continuing to work through all this with us," Redmond said.

Austin told the *Independent* she preferred not to comment, but confirmed she was ready to stay on until a new clerk was hired and then help train her replacement.

Redmond asked the council on Nov. 14 for a member to volunteer to help fine-tune the draft job description, and afterward said Councilor Cheryl Brinkman agreed to work on it. He added the goal was to complete that task and begin advertising for the position by the end of November.

"We would really like to get this out there and have a robust

recruiting period," he said.

The council is responsible for making the final decision on a new city clerk, and Redmond told the *Independent* that councilors would be involved in the process, which will almost certainly include a hiring committee.

Austin is the third Vergennes City Clerk to serve since Joan Devine retired in February 2020 after decades in the post.

In other city hall personnel news, Treasurer Angela Bolduc informed the city council at the meeting the vacant administrative assistant position had been filled as of Nov. 15, when the new hire — local resident Sandra Rooney — was set to begin work.

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Bourne to lead Middlebury Parks & Rec.

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — Scott Bourne has landed his dream job, and he doesn't want to wake up.

He's the new superintendent of the Middlebury Parks & Recreation Department (MPRD), and he's still pinching himself.

"To be given an opportunity to do something that someone saw in me, and that I knew I could do, was an absolute gift," he said of his promotion to the post that was, until recently, held by Dustin Hunt.

Before joining MPRD as program coordinator five years ago, Bourne had worked for the Mary Johnson Children's Center for 15 years. Prior to that, he'd been employed as a special educator and classroom assistant at Mary Hogan Elementary School.

With so many years spent working with children, the MPRD seemed like an inevitable and well-suited landing spot for Bourne. He was co-directing Mary Johnson's summer programs out of Mary Hogan in 2018 when Hunt was moving up from Middlebury Parks & Rec program coordinator to become superintendent.

Hunt suggested that Bourne apply for the job he was vacating. Bourne immediately threw his hat into the ring and was hired as program coordinator.

"(Hunt) literally changed the course of my adult life," Bourne

said. "I absolutely have so much respect for him."

The pair would work closely — and become fast friends — during the ensuing five years, developing and overseeing a wide range of year-round recreation opportunities for Middlebury-area folks of all ages, while ensuring the town's public rec parks and Creek Road recreation center were well maintained.

Then Bourne was given another opportunity to follow in Hunt's footsteps when the latter was hired as the Dean of Climate & Culture at Middlebury Union Middle School. It was a bittersweet experience for Bourne.

"I told him, 'I couldn't be more thrilled for you, but I'm not going to say I'm not heartbroken,'" he recalled.

At the same time, Hunt promised to recommend Bourne for the MPRD superintendency. Bourne interviewed with Middlebury Director of Public Works Operations Bill Kernan, who offered the job, and gratefully accepted. He began his new role on Oct. 2 after some tutelage from both Hunt and Kernan.

"The actual transition was effortless," Bourne said, "except for at one point, I was pretty much the only employee of the department."

That's because the MPRD had to

fill the program coordinator job and a ground & maintenance worker. The latter recently went to Brian Kiel, while the former has been filled by Amber Power, longtime director of the department's Camp Kookamunga. He's thrilled to hire Kiel — whose work he's long admired — as well as Power, who he called "a dynamo."

"She basically came pre-trained," he said of Power. "She interviewed for the job and impressed everyone."

Bourne said he and Power will work together to "make sure we can offer the highest quality programming and the cleanest, most organized facility we can."

On the day of this interview, workers were doing a deep cleaning of the Middlebury Recreation Facility at 154 Creek Road to make it ready for diverse winter programming, including basketball, pickleball, gymnastics, Pilates, West Coast swing dance and a "February break camp." A complete list of activities can be found at online at middleburyvt.myrec.com.

Looking ahead, Bourne is compiling a to-do list for the department that includes cleaning out the municipal pool house and pool, resurrecting the outdoor skating rink near the Addison Central Teens center (if the weather will sustain ice), installing a sliding board for the pool, beautifying the town parks and maintaining recreation-related equipment.

"I've said for years now ... that our number one role is to be a service to the community in any way we can. Dustin and I took great pride in that."

Bourne said Kiel's hiring bodes well for what he said is a backlog of MPRD beautification and maintenance tasks. The department hasn't had a regular maintenance person for more than a year, according to Bourne. Then, in an instance of pure serendipity, Bourne recently pulled into the recreation facility parking lot to find Kiel sitting outside.

"He said, 'It's time,'" Bourne recalled. "I've been trying to recruit (Kiel) for years, but he was never at that time professionally where he was able to do it."

Yes, everything is coming together nicely during the first couple of months of a job Bourne hopes to hold for many years.

"I can't imagine myself happier," he said with a broad smile.

Reporter John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.

Hunt

(Continued from Page 2A)

playground, a picnic shelter, a bicycle pump track and mini-ramp. Continued improvements to the pool, including two climbing walls, made attendance numbers increase significantly, and I truly feel like I am leaving all of our parks in a better place than when I started."

Hunt is also proud of what he described as "inclusive programming we were able to create and offer where everyone felt welcome and had a sense of belonging." He specifically cited Middlebury Parks & Rec's day camp, Camp Kookamunga, which Hunt called "a melting pot of kids from all different backgrounds, from various parts of the world coming together despite their differences to build meaningful friendships that will last them a lifetime."

"We never turned a family away from participating due to an inability to pay or any other socioeconomic factors," he added. "We always worked with families to make sure every kid who wanted to participate in any program was able to do so, and because of that I think we played a small part in creating positive outcomes for at-risk youth."

MOVE TO MUMS

Youth will continue to play a major role in Hunt's professional life, albeit in a different venue: MUMS. As dean of climate & culture, his tasks include student discipline, being a student case manager, facilitating afterschool extracurriculars (ranging from sports to club meetings) and generally supporting students and teachers.

He sees some similarities between his past and present jobs.

"Both positions require building relationships with families and

using effective communication with community partners to deliver positive experiences for the children in our community," he said. "A lot of my current focus is revamping the activities and athletic programming at the school, and that is an area where I have extensive experience. There are a lot of similarities with administrative tasks in terms of scheduling games, referees, buses etc., and I am finding that I am routinely working with a lot of the same people I had relationships with at my previous job."

Working with kids has always been his goal, and he'd always imagined himself eventually working in a school setting as an athletics

director. One of his favorite duties right now is being on recess/lunch duty and having one-on-one time with each MUMS student, leaving work with a sense that he's making a real difference in their lives.

"I feel like my old role gave me an advantage starting here because I already knew a majority of the students, and we share mutual respect," he said.

He said he is excited to work with MUMS students and staff to "create fun new events and initiatives that help build our school community and promote a sense of belonging and acceptance."

"I also think it is important to continue to build goodwill within our greater community," he continued, "and I will be working with various student groups on community service projects."

Hunt realizes his MUMS predecessor, Esther Charlestin, left the job following complaints about racially charged incidents. He

referred specific questions on this topic to Principal Michaela Wisell and/or Addison Central School District interim Superintendent Tim Williams. He noted that MUMS and ACSD are engaged in new and ongoing efforts to battle racism and intolerance.

It should be noted that the MUMS dean of climate & culture position was created with federal pandemic-relief dollars, and that funding sunsets at the end of this academic year. But Hunt doesn't believe he'll need to look for another job next spring.

"Based on the conversations I had during the interview process, the administration seemed committed to creating a permanent role moving forward that would best meet the needs of all of our MUMS students," he said. "It is ultimately up to the administrators and school board what shape those roles take. Right now, I am focused on working my hardest each day to prove the value of my position to the staff and families of the school."

Principal Wisell said Hunt has been a great addition to the MUMS staff.

"When he arrived, he hit the ground running," she said. "Within his first month, Dustin wrapped up our fall athletics season, began planning for our winter athletics season, got a few new clubs off the ground and spearheaded the MUMS Color Fun Run. Dustin has experience as a systems thinker, understands how organizations function and has great connections in our greater community. Dustin brings a strong willingness to learn and a lighthearted energy to our leadership team, but most importantly, Dustin has endless positive connections with our students which allows him to support them and their families in a multitude of ways. We feel grateful he joined us this fall and look forward to the work ahead."

Reporter John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.



SCOTT BOURNE RECENTLY began his job as Middlebury's new Parks & Recreation Department superintendent, succeeding Dustin Hunt.

Independent photo/John Flowers

Bristol, Monkton libraries seeking leaders

By MARIN HOWELL

BRISTOL/MONKTON — Two libraries in the 5-town area are looking to fill leadership positions in the coming months.

Monkton's Russell Memorial Library is seeking a part-time lead librarian, and in Bristol, the Lawrence Memorial Library is looking to find a new fulltime director.

Russell Memorial Library recently launched its search for a lead librarian, as Deb Chamberlin will retire next month after leading the library for 37 years. According to the posted job description, responsibilities of the part-time position include supervising the library's two assistant librarians,

overseeing day-to-day operations, helping prepare the library's annual budget and taking primary responsibility for collections development and management.

The library's board of trustees is interviewing candidates for the position, which is planned to start no later than Jan. 2. As of Nov. 6, the trustees had completed their first round of interviews and were planning to narrow down their choices and reconvene in the coming week.

The Lawrence Memorial Library has begun a similar search in Bristol. The library is seeking a fulltime director, following the departure of former director Coco Moseley, who last month was hired as executive

director of Middlebury's Henry Sheldon Museum of Vermont History.

The library's board of trustees is looking for an "an experienced, community focused and forward-thinking director" to fill the position, whose responsibilities will include managing day-to-day operations of the library, working collaboratively with staff and community members to lead the library into the future, and making decisions regarding programming and technology.

According to the posted job description, the director position will begin on Jan. 2 and preference will be given to candidates who submit their applications before Dec. 1.

ACSD

(Continued from Page 2A)

was absent.

Wilson told the *Independent* that no one other than Orzech had received a letter of rebuke. She said she couldn't say more due to executive session confidentiality.

Orzech has declined to discuss

particulars of the complaint and his defense, which is still playing out before the committee behind closed doors. But he did say, "We are moving forward," and that he believes conversation should return to budgeting and what he believes have been funding

inequities in district budgeting — particularly as it relates to Mary Hogan Elementary, which he argues is being underfunded for its needs, as compared to the district's six rural elementary schools.

Reporter John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.

Addison County Teens get \$4K grant

MIDDLEBURY — Addison Central Teens in Middlebury has received \$4,000 for general operating funds to support LGBTQ+ teens in Addison County. This work includes their flagship program, After School Drop In, among others.

The grant comes from The Samara Fund at the Vermont Community Foundation. This year's grants, totaling \$86,710, went to 23 organizations across the state. These grants include funding for LGBTQ+ centered events, projects, and organizational operating support. The Fund also made 19 scholarships totaling \$18,320 to graduating seniors from across the state.

Grantmaking this year reflects the newly released values and priorities of the Samara Fund. The core values include:

- Being anti-racist and anti-oppressive by practicing intersectionality, power-shifting, and transformative justice both internally and externally. This includes being proudly trans-inclusive in every level of Samara's work.
- Being transparent with the community and funders about how Samara works.
- Queering fundraising and redistributing wealth for a bigger impact on the Vermont LGBTQ+ community.
- Prioritizing accessibility,

gratitude, and accountability while queering Samara's work to make it fun, connective, and sustainable.

Samara funding priorities are:

- Queer and trans-led projects and organizations.
- Projects that center, are led by, and/or prioritize BIPOC and/or trans Vermonters.
- Elders and youth.
- Queers with disabilities.
- Work that is harm reduction (including HIV/AIDS prevention and advocacy).
- Projects meaningfully working beyond Chittenden County
- Smaller budget projects
- Long-term projects

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Help us support HOPE Gift Shop.
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Editorials

Being thankful requires a deep faith in our future

Back in 1621, history tells us that 50 Pilgrims shared a three-day harvest feast with 90 Wampanoag Indians. Venison, duck, goose, oysters, lobster, eel, and fish were likely served, alongside pumpkins and cranberries, but not turkey, pumpkin pie or cranberry sauce. Such are trivial facts among what has become a culturally significant occasion. The original feast was also shrouded by years of death, through conflict and disease, suffered by Native Americans after the English began to settle the East Coast.

Two hundred and forty years later, President Abraham Lincoln, on Oct. 3, 1863, would declare Thanksgiving a national holiday. Lincoln's decision to proclaim the national holiday, according to some historians, was an attempt to bridge animosities between the north and south, as well as Native American communities further west, during the Civil War.

Today, 402 years after that iconic feast with the Wampanoag Indians, we more aptly use the occasion to give thanks for what we have than to "celebrate" any specific myth-laden story.

It's poignant to think, nonetheless, of the two significant events surrounding this holiday and today's conflicted times. The Pilgrims arrival was a harbinger of untold grief among East Coast Native Americans, and the Civil War continues to be the deadliest of all conflicts in the United States history with an estimated death toll of 620,000 between 1861-1865.

Today, as death and tragedies mount in the Israeli invasion of Gaza in response to the murderous attack by Hamas on Israel, and as Ukraine continues to repel Russia's invasion of its sovereignty with high death tolls on each side, we take this moment to shine a light on the bright side and, as Maya Angelou encouraged, "be present in all things and grateful for all things." That's not meant to be grateful for the anguish caused by conflict and tragedy — which seems to be a condition of mankind's history — but to recognize and live for all the things we have.

For avid news followers, the bad news so often outweighs the good that it's not always easy to come up with a list, but it helps to take the time to write it down. For this newspaper, we're grateful for:

- Communities throughout Addison County who govern with an honest and sincere effort to serve the greater good of each town and school district. That's easier said than done, and much thanks is owed to each citizen who serves.
- Nonprofits, churches, schools and businesses who go beyond their routine practices to make the towns in which we live that much safer, stronger, vivacious and joyous.
- To those remarkable individuals who stand out as community leaders, large and small, from community-wide and statewide recognition to leaders of clubs, organizations, first responders, fire departments, and select committees. Each person who takes on that extra task plays an important role in making the village stronger.
- To our readers for caring enough to stay informed and become diligent and active citizens within their towns and school districts, and for contributing their views through letters-to-the-editor, community forums and other submissions.
- To an active arts community that presents hundreds of events and entertainment venues every week of the year, and to an athletic community that provides foundational programs for student growth and development, and thousands of hours of conversation for parents, family and friends — part of the glue that helps hold communities together through thick and thin.

From this writer's perspective, and for most of us, family and friends top the list, but to dive a bit deeper, we're grateful too for those we work most closely with each day, and in clubs and associations, and for those friends who have our deepest confidence.

We're grateful, too, for the democratic structure that allows for unrestricted thinking and the ability to put thoughts into constructive action. Going deeper, we're grateful for the tradition of civil disobedience as first outlined by Henry David Thoreau, and for Martin Luther King's devoted allegiance to nonviolent protests as a way to affect lasting change.

Particularly in these times, the six principles of King's notion of nonviolence are worth reviewing, three of which are: one can resist evil without resorting to violence; nonviolence seeks to win the friendship and understanding of the opponent, not to humiliate him; and that the nonviolent resister must have "deep faith in the future," stemming from the conviction that, according to King, "the universe is on the side of justice."

One could take a cynical view of those principals and ask, where did that get Mr. King? Or we can be positive and work hard to protect two essential values, currently threatened, that have been the foundation of this country: trust in our fellow Americans and belief in a better tomorrow. To be truly thankful this Thanksgiving, having a deep faith in that future is key.

Angelo Lynn



Waiting game

A FLOCK OF turkeys ambles around the grounds of Misty Knoll Farms in New Haven on Sunday. Birds at the family-owned poultry farm are raised using sustainable farming practices, processed onsite and sold for community members to enjoy on Thanksgiving or as part of other feasts.

Independent photo/Steve James

Amid world chaos, a small victory

Sitting at Quaker Meeting one recent Sunday morning, I heard messages about the horror in Israel and Gaza and how we as peacemakers might help. I could not focus on this big topic, though. I was thinking about wood. Yes, wood. Lumber. Boards.

My partner Lee is clearing out his possessions to move here. He is a home designer and builder and is consolidating his possessions from a condo and some storage units to fit into my furnished home. He is trying to be ruthless so we can fit everything into the house. While sitting in Quaker Meeting I envision the wood he piled into his trailer yesterday, ready to take it to the transfer station.

Before leaving for Meeting in the morning, I had looked at the load and seen the maple, pine, and mahogany boards. Any one board could be made into something beautiful.

"If you take these to the transfer station, what will happen to them?" I asked. I was hoping for a different answer from what happened when we had recently taken some of my furniture and papers there after water from the August rains in Middlebury sluiced into the basement, flooding and ruining everything.

In August, I had to let go of three file cabinets and their contents. When we delivered them to the transfer station, we threw them onto a wet, grimy, concrete floor. The files were a repository of my life's work — of meetings with teen groups at the Addison County Parent/Child Center, of my role as a health educator for the United Nations in Mongolia, and as a facilitator

of groups for the State of Vermont. When the manilla folders made little piles on the wet floor, I swallowed hard. Gary, transfer station worker, pointed to them and said, "This is your whole life," as a backhoe pushed everything into a gaping concrete hole. It was horrible to imagine the boards there, but Lee didn't have a place for them, nor had he been able to give them away.

In the hour of silence at Quaker Meeting, I got to thinking of where wood comes from — its journey from being a seed in soil, the ensuing sprout feeling the rain and sun in its long process to become a tree. Growing for many years. Then cut down, sawed, and planed. My heart asked is there a connection between destruction in war and destruction of wood? Resources and lives unspent. Unfinished. I tried to avoid seeing the wood being bulldozed into the concrete pit, but it was clear in my mind's eye. It was painful, but I couldn't say anything out loud. What would I say about wood in the face of a terrible war? But, also, how could I not say anything? Quaker Meeting ended and I had said nothing.

Many of the Friends in our Meeting circle stayed an extra half hour to meditate on the Middle East. Only a few were leaving now, as I was. As we few got to the door, I couldn't hold back. I said, "I know we are thinking about the Middle East, but I am concerned about some boards that will end up in the transfer station."

Denny asked, "What kind of boards do you have?" (See *Ways of Seeing*, Page 5A)

Ways of Seeing

By Sas Carey



Markers remind us of human race

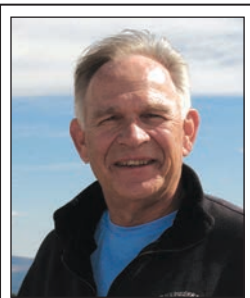
What happens to us when we die? There are two ways to look at this. One is philosophical, religious, the other is earthlier. The religious and philosophical questions are not the subject of this piece and cannot be answered for certain while we are alive. The earthly questions are answered. What do I mean? Through many millennia the wealthy have constructed pyramids, mausoleums, tombs, large crypts and monuments to honor and remember their lives. Cemeteries (from the Greeks meaning "sleeping place") have existed for over 14,000 years, the oldest found in a cave in Morocco, source Wikipedia. I believe a defined resting place for one's remains is important. They can bring people to a place to remember, honor, tell stories and keep a connection to those they loved, knew or deserve a place in our hearts and minds.

Today, there seems to be less thought given to remembering. I am the cemetery manager at St Joseph's Cemetery in Bristol. The purchase of new cemetery plots and Columbarium niches is way down from the numbers of a few decades ago. I attribute this to the reduced role religion and spirituality play in people's lives today. Then there is an expense to graves, headstones, columbaria etc. Also, people are more mobile than in the past and our lives

are less "traditional." Societally I believe there is a cost in moving away from planned ways of dealing with our loved ones remains.

Cremation, embalming and "natural" placements have been the traditional ways of handling the deceased body for thousands of years. Up until recent years, these techniques were commonly followed up by a memorial site being established for the deceased. Beautiful urns were crafted and placed in special indoor locations. Columbaria were built as a place of rest for people's ashes. Many people chose to bury urns in a cemetery plot (this is still done today) just like natural burials and the embalmed. The concept of creating a physical final resting place for the deceased allows for visitation and a remembering by loved ones and for future generations.

The importance of remembering hit home during a recent vacation. On the Greek island of Crete, we took a tour to places our guide felt we'd marvel at, enjoy and remember. The first site we visited was a cemetery. In the hundreds of neatly arranged and landscaped graves were the bodies of Brits, Canadians, Aussies and New Zealanders who lost their lives defending Crete against the invading Germans during World War II. The guide told us there



Community Forum

This week's writer is Fred Baser, a longtime Bristol resident, businessman and former state legislator.

Letters to the Editor

State needs new voting option

Last year, the Vermont Senate advanced a bill to bring Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) to presidential primaries, beginning in 2028. This bill had support from the three parties and the Vermont Secretary of State. But the Vermont House needs to act.

Our current "choose one" voting system leaves many voters with no meaningful options and advances candidates who lack broad support. RCV is a better way forward. It's currently used by more than 13 million Americans in cities from NYC to Burlington, Vt., and Maine and Alaska, where it is used in federal and presidential elections.

RCV cuts down on wasted votes for candidates who drop out. In Vermont, a high percentage of voters vote absentee weeks ahead of the election. This is also true for overseas and military voters.

RCV offers more choices, allowing voters to rank candidates in order of preference. This eliminates spoilers who can split the majority vote between two similar candidates.

Please consider contacting your Vermont House Representative and urge them to support RCV in the 2028 presidential primary.

For more information on how Ranked Choice Voting works, go to betterballotvermont.org (a local option) and fairvote.org (a nationwide resource).

Carol Claus
Bristol

Trial as adult was poor choice

I would like to thank the Rev. Abigail Diehl-Noble and Anya Schwartz for the insight, empathy and eloquence of their letters regarding the tragic shooting of Madden Gouveia that took place in Bristol several weeks ago. I share their sadness at the loss of a young life and their concern that the accused student was identified by name and charged as an adult.

I am glad to see that in the end, the accused teen was placed in his parents' custody while awaiting trial. So much damage, however, has already been done by the initial decision to charge this child as an adult. His court hearing should not have been on the evening news. This child will forever be identified and blamed for this tragedy while the facts of what happened are unclear.

Eva Vekos, Addison County State's Attorney, stated that "being charged as an adult doesn't mean he necessarily is going to be convicted as an adult, but it is a starting point." As a result of using this strategy as a "starting point," a young teenage boy has had his rights as a minor disregarded. I wonder if this child were a white teen who grew up in Addison County if he would have been treated differently.

I would agree with the accused boy's attorney that this is an "allegation of essentially tragic carelessness." For Vermont to be safe, a place where we can all thrive, we need to double our already strong efforts to support children and families, to look closely at issues of race and equity, and to approach our criminal justice system with a lens toward rehabilitation. These tragedies do not happen in a vacuum, we can all participate in addressing these issues.

Kathleen Ready
New Haven

Challenge of ACSD explained






John Flowers' article in the November 16th edition of the *Independent* mentioned that I had hired a lawyer to challenge the Addison Central School District's decision to make its superintendent search confidential. I wanted to take a moment to provide a bit more detail about the grounds for that challenge, and also for my decision to pursue this route, in light of some concerns I have heard from community members about the downsides of

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Letters to the Editor

Radical changes needed to restore public education

I recently had the privilege of a briefing by a very senior official re: the challenges facing Vermont's public school system. They form a dark cloud. Three forces are at work: (1) the accumulation of tasks assigned to schools but historically performed by parents, families, churches, scout troops, etc.; (2) soaring costs dependent upon an impenetrable tax/financing system and (3) a steadily declining student population.

How did this happen? Over the past 40-50 years, Vermonters — by and large — with noble intentions — by and large — have laden perhaps our most critical public service with the following undoable tasks: common-sense-

defying policies and rules; the aforementioned financing structure and, last but not least, an authority structure virtually guaranteeing precious little transparency and next-to-no accountability.

Looking down from 30,000 feet, the picture is clear. Simply put, Vermont has champagne tastes with a beer income.

The elected officials and administrators nominally responsible attempt to function. They continue to either (a) seek yet more “kick-the-can-down-road” mitigation devices or (b) ominously warn of “radical” changes (e.g. school closings/consolidation) having to be made.

The truth: radical changes are inescapable, folks. Upsetting? You

bet. Hard choices? Certainly. But unless you really like this current mess, necessary. Now it's time for courageous leadership. (Note to elected officials. This is the kind of leadership that really counts and may even cost you your office.) But it better get done.

Let's step back and identify in plain language just what radical changes would make a lasting difference and what the consequences would be. Let the howling winds of indignation blow but hunker down and weather that storm. Then make the choices and restore public education to the pedestal it deserves.

**Bruce Hiland
Middlebury**

Kramer letter

(Continued from Page 4A)
contentious approaches to conflict resolution in a small community.

First, the grounds for the challenge. It is true that it is the board's job, as a group of elected representatives, to choose and hire our next superintendent. There is no dispute about that fact. The question is how open the process is required to be under Vermont law. The default under Vermont statutes is to grant the public access to information, unless there is a specific exemption that allows the information to be withheld. The exemption in question in this instance is one that earmarks “Personal documents relating to an individual, including information in any files maintained to hire, evaluate, promote, or discipline any employee of a public agency.”

On its face, that exemption would seem to apply here pretty squarely. But over time, Vermont courts have looked specifically at the phrase “personal” documents and interpreted it to mean only those documents that “would not normally be shared with strangers.” In other words, not every document in a personnel file is necessarily exempted. The question is whether names and résumés submitted during a hiring search would

qualify as personal.

On the one hand, they might. The argument is that people applying for jobs do not necessarily want their employers to know that they are looking for other opportunities. On the other hand, superintendent searches are very often public, so there may be less of an expectation of privacy in that context. That is why it potentially matters that 32 out of the 42 current superintendents who responded to the survey that was the subject of the Nov. 16 article reported being hired through an open public process.

This nuanced question is the reason for seeking judicial interpretation of the law.

That brings me to the question of the impact on our small community of pursuing litigation involving our local institutions. The reality is that it does have a negative impact on the feeling of community cohesiveness. I love community, especially small communities, and it is one of the main reasons I wanted to move to Vermont. I work very hard in Cornwall, through my role with Friends of Cornwall School, to provide opportunities for our youth and their families.

The issue that I personally see at our district level, and others may

disagree, is one of transparency. In my view, it is not possible to build a genuine feeling of community without a basis of transparency to build on. Although litigation and public records requests may disrupt cohesiveness in the short run, I am motivated to pursue them in the long run toward the goal of creating a community that first and foremost is open, honest, and welcoming of public engagement.

Once we achieve that goal, my hope is that the need for direct action will subside. In the meantime, it is often the only means available. Records requests are one of the only options the public has to shed light on issues that raise public questions. Denials of those requests can unfortunately only be reviewed through a judicial process, because that is how the process works.

These actions feel confrontational, and in all honesty, they are. But they also drive home the seriousness of transparency as an essential aspect of our public discourse. Hammering home the gravity of that requirement, hopefully, will help shape the culture of our public administration going forward.

**Chris Kramer
Cornwall**

New program addresses unclaimed property issue

MONTEPELIER — The office of State Treasurer Mike Pieciak has launched a pilot program that will proactively reunite Vermonters with their unclaimed property. Though the Treasurer's Office processes an average of over 17,000 unclaimed property claims per year, the amount of unclaimed property held by the state grows each year. The state currently holds nearly \$120 million in unclaimed property.

The pilot program aims to return more money to Vermonters by proactively verifying their identities and mailing them checks. The Treasurer's Office collaborated with the Vermont Department of Taxes, using address data the Department is allowed to share with the Treasurer, to verify the identities of 350 Vermonters with unclaimed property in amounts ranging from \$200 to \$225. As a result of the program, over \$75,000 will be directly returned to Vermonters.

“The Treasurer's Office does

a great job reuniting millions of dollars to thousands of Vermonters every year, and this pilot program will build on that success,” said Treasurer Pieciak. “Vermonters have felt the pain of rising prices over the last 18 months, so I am pleased we are able to proactively return over \$75,000 of unclaimed property, especially before the holiday season. More money in Vermonters' pockets means more money to support our state's economy. I hope we are able to continue and expand this pilot program in the future.”

The Treasurer's Office generally raises awareness of unclaimed property through media campaigns and outreach events. Individuals are encouraged to search missingmoney.com to locate their money and then file a claim to retrieve their funds.

Individuals who fit the criteria of the pilot program will receive a certified letter in the next 10 days alerting them that they have been identified as someone

with unclaimed property held by the Treasurer's Office. Those individuals will then receive a check in the mail for their unclaimed property within three weeks following the receipt of the letter.

The Treasurer's Office will closely monitor the success of the pilot program by determining how many letters are accurately delivered and the number of checks that are ultimately cashed. If successful, the Treasurer's Office hopes to expand the pilot program to include more claims for Vermonters and work with Secretary of State Sarah Copeland Hanzas to include claims for businesses and nonprofits.

All Vermonters are encouraged to visit missingmoney.com to check if they have unclaimed property. For any questions about a claim or completing the claims process, please contact the Unclaimed Property Division at (802) 828-2407 or by email at unclaimed.property@vermont.gov.

It's time for 'Optimization 3.0'

Finally responding to years of mounting debt within the Vermont State Colleges System, the Vermont Legislature in 2020 convened the Select Committee on the Future of Public Higher Education in Vermont, charging it to deliver a set of recommendations to create a sustainable future for its public institutions of higher learning.

From those findings came Vermont State University, the merger of Northern Vermont University — formerly Johnson and Lyndon State Colleges — Castleton University, and Vermont Tech, along with an approximate 50% increase in base funding from the Legislature. That increase, however, came after decades of underfunding and with heavy strings attached: most notably a requirement for the newly minted university to cut \$5 million annually in operating expenses for the next five years.

And so, we have now seen Optimization 1.0 and most recently Optimization 2.0, leading to the elimination of 11 academic programs, consolidation of 16 others, the elimination of 27 full-time VTSU faculty positions, and 33 VTSU administrative staff positions, most of which are those interacting directly with students.

According to the VTSU administration, projected savings are \$2.1-3.35 million over the next two years for faculty and program cuts and \$3.5 million annually for administrative/staff cuts.

While those savings will no doubt please the chancellor, most Vermont State Colleges Board of Trustee members and many in the Legislature, they come with consequences of which students are becoming aware: On Nov. 2, Student Government Associations on all VTSU campuses weighed in with a vote of no confidence in 2.0, in the VTSU interim president

(now departed), the vice-president of business affairs, and in the VSCS Board of Trustees (excepting the student trustee).

In an email to the VTSU community, student leaders noted, “We understand that cuts need to be made throughout the system in order to return to financial stability. However, the cuts that have been made through Optimization 2.0 are not in the best interest of the students, as they include crucial student-facing personnel on each campus.”

Fiscal considerations aside, according to the administration, optimization is also designed to “enhance the student experience.” Strange logic that, like introducing water boarding to “enhance the interrogation experience.” Students are not buying it.

Despite these cuts, the chancellor's office, an expensive and increasingly redundant administrative structure, remains firmly in place at the top, its continued existence unquestioned by the same legislative body that created the Vermont State Colleges System by statute in 1961. It subsequently violated that statute by failing to fund it adequately for decades, placing Vermont at the bottom of the 50 states in terms of state support for public higher education.

Within the VSC System, a “five strong colleges, five strong presidents” model prevailed until then-chancellor Jeb Spaulding's office imposed the merger of Johnson and Lyndon State Colleges in 2018 with the full backing of the board of trustees. Five years later, by legislative fiat, came further consolidation of all residential campuses to form VTSU.

This leaves Vermont with only two remaining public institutions of higher education: Community College of Vermont, a two-year college, and Vermont State

University.

However, despite these financially fraught times and radical consolidation, the chancellor's office has continued to grow, now with a staff of more than 40 including shared services and finance divisions according to its website (<https://www.vsc.edu/chancellors-office/contact/#StaffDirectory>) and an operating budget of at least \$8 million annually. That is a lot of money to oversee a system that now exists in name only. Two institutions hardly constitute a system, and a radical restructuring at the top is needed.

It is now time for Optimization 3.0: the elimination of the chancellor's office.

To accomplish this, the Legislature will have to step in once again and sort out what has clearly become another hot mess. The chancellor and board of trustees have installed yet another interim president for VTSU, guaranteeing an additional 18-24 months of instability. At the same time, the chancellor leaves her position at year's end with another search for her replacement in progress.

Over the years, I have worked with many in the chancellor's office, and like the departing 60 VTSU faculty and administrative staff, they are good, decent people. Nevertheless, as the great philosopher/bard Bob Dylan noted, “The times they are a-changin'.”

If the chancellor's office were eliminated, CCV and VTSU would each have an independent president answerable to their own boards of trustees without the considerable cost of a redundant administrative layer at the top. Whatever services the two institutions choose to share could be negotiated between themselves.

The legislative mandate for fledgling VTSU to slash \$25 million in operating expenses will exact a painful toll. Much of that pain could be avoided through Optimization 3.0, the savings from which could be invested where most needed: in truly enhancing the student experience.

Ways of Seeing

(Continued from Page 4A)
“Beautiful ones.”

“I could use some boards,” he

said. “Maybe I could come over this afternoon?”

While loading the boards into his truck, he told us that he has a new interest in woodworking. His wife gave him a present for his last birthday to spend three months with a professional as a mentor. His project was to make stools for his workshop. At the end, he had two cherry stools.

“The stools were too beautiful for a wood shop,” he said, laughing, as he transferred more boards.

Our shoulders relaxed as Lee

and I investigated the trailer. We didn't change the course of the war, but with nothing left to be bulldozed into the pit, something precious was saved. Maybe this was one tiny way for a peacemaker to help.

Sas Carey, energy healer, author, and filmmaker, will discuss how early experiences described in her memoir “Marrying Mongolia” prepared her for her life's work in Mongolia. She will screen her 2006 film, “Gobi Women's Song” at the Residence at Otter Creek on November 28 from 3-4:30.

Baser

(Continued from Page 4A)

was a site for the German soldiers as well. The Greeks remembered and honored those soldiers. Our nation erected the Tomb of the Unknown Soldiers in Arlington Cemetery for all of us to pay our respects to the unidentified that gave their lives in battle.

My wife and I visit our parents and son's place of rest from time to time. It is peaceful at their graves, a good feeling. As is the feeling I get seeing headstones of people who died one hundred, two hundred, years ago. They built our community, and country.

How one deals with death and treating the remains of a loved one, a special person, is personal. There isn't a right or wrong way. My hope though, is that we all provide a place that encourages, and makes it easy, for people today and those who come after us to have a way of touching, remembering those that have passed. These are an important markers for the human race.



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Obituaries

Rhonda Ballou, 78, of Delmar, N.Y.

DELMAR — Rhonda B. Ballou, a longtime resident of Delmar, N.Y., died on Nov. 18, 2023, at the age of 78, following a series of illnesses. She was born on May 5, 1945, in Pittsburgh, Pa., the daughter of Albert A. Bartsch and Virginia (McKelvey) Bartsch. She attended the University of Michigan, where she received a bachelor's and a master's degree in Piano Performance.

As befits her training, a significant part of her life was devoted to using her musical skills. For nearly 30 years, she served her Lord as the organist at her church, Bethlehem Lutheran Church, and before that she was the organist/choir director at the Slingerlands Methodist Church. For several years, she was the pianist for the Albany Symphony and at various times throughout her life performed publicly both piano recitals and as the soloist for piano concertos. One such performance was with the Pittsburgh Symphony.

Starting in college and ending in her 70's with the Jubilate Singers, she served as the rehearsal and performance pianist for various musical groups. She founded and was the first director of the Friendship Singers, a women's choral group that continues to perform in the Albany area. For much of her adult life, she taught piano privately with as many as 35 students.

Another significant aspect of her life was volunteering. She was a trained hospice volunteer and



RHONDA BALLOU

assisted with patient care at the Hospice Inn at St. Peter's Hospital for several years. For over two decades, she also volunteered in a variety of capacities at Good Samaritan Nursing Home. For several years, she organized and coordinated the packing of clothes for overseas shipment for the New York chapter of Orphan Grain Train, an organization dedicated to sending supplies to people around the world who are in need.

In Middlebury, Vt., where the family has a second home, she served Elderly Services Inc., an organization dedicated to helping senior citizens in a variety of capacities. She served on the Elderly Services Board and frequently led sing-alongs with the participants in the program. Most recently, she served as the librarian

for her church library.

With her husband of 54 years, she engaged in a variety of activities. She traveled widely, both domestically and internationally. She visited the state capitols of all 50 states and also visited over 40 National Parks, from Maine's Acadia to Alaska's Denali. Her favorite international trip was a tour of Australia and New Zealand. She completed the Adirondack Quest, a program that requires at least one activity such as hiking or cross-country skiing in each of the Adirondack Park's 30 regions. She enjoyed being involved with the maintenance of the Delmar property and especially the Middlebury property.

She was married on May 10, 1969, to her devoted husband Donald Ballou. She is survived by him; by her son, Jeffrey P. Ballou of Cambridge, Mass., (Lana Lee), grandson Jaedon L. Ballou; and by her daughter, Lisa S. Coetzee of Somerville, Mass., (Nicholas Coetzee), and grandson Cornelius P. Coetzee. She is also survived by her sister, Cynthia Kniebes (Randy Kniebes), niece Emily Gafford (Scott Gafford) and two grand nephews.

A private burial service will be held prior to a calling hour at Bethlehem Lutheran Church from 10 to 11 a.m. on Saturday, Nov. 25. A memorial service at Bethlehem Lutheran Church will follow. Contributions in Rhonda's memory may be made to Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 85 Elm Avenue, Delmar, N.Y., 12054. ☐

James E. McNulla III, 90, Vergennes native

DELAND, Fla. — James E. McNulla III died Nov. 7, 2023. He was Born March 5, 1933, in Vergennes, Vt., to Kathleen Norton McNulla and James E. McNulla II. He was the oldest of nine children: two brothers, Patric and John; and six sisters, Mary, Barbara, Kathleen, June, Susan and Nancy. The three McNulla brothers spent over 75 years in the Military during the period of the Korean, the Vietnam, and the Cold Wars.

James married Sally Bristol in Vergennes on June 14, 1958. They had a military wedding with eight of his classmates from U.S. Naval Academy as the sword bearers. They had four children: James IV, Jeffery, Deborah, and Suzanne. He has five grandchildren, Ryan McNulla, Jaguar Khatchi, Amy McNulla, Allison McNulla, and James E. McNulla V. He was predeceased by his son James (2004), sister Barbara (2011), brother Patric (2016), brother John (2022), and sister Kathleen (2023).

JAMES E. MCNULLA III
FIRST COMPANY
CLASS OF 1958

He graduated from Vergennes High School in 1951. He attended one year at the University of Vermont. He enlisted in the United States Navy Reserves in 1951, and in 1954 he was nominated to attend the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md., from the Naval Reserves and graduated in June 1958. He went to Naval Flight Training in Pensacola, Fla., after graduation and received his Naval Aviator Wings in December 1959.

During his career he attended the Naval Post-Graduate School, the Naval War College and the Industrial College of the Armed Forces, and taught at the United States Naval Academy. He received the Legion of Merit for his contributions to the Airborne Anti-Submarine hunting capability

of the Navy, Naval Expeditionary Service Medal, National Defense Service Medal (2), Armed Service Expeditionary Medal (2), Vietnam Service Medal (4), Rep of Vietnam Campaign Medal, and the Sea Service Medal.

During his career he flew out of Spain, Italy, France, Germany, Japan, Singapore, the Azores, Malta, Greece, Libya, the Philippines, Cuba and throughout the Caribbean and Mediterranean. He was attached to three Patrol Squadrons (Commanded VP-56), two ships, U.S.S. Yorktown, U.S.S. Kearsarge, and NAVMAT, BUPERS, ASWSYS, and OPNAV-98 in the Pentagon. He flew surveillance flights out of Gitmo during the Cuban missile crisis and was on the U.S.S. Kearsarge in the Sea of Japan during the U.S.S. Pueblo crisis.

He retired from the Navy as a Captain in September 1985. He was a ASW consultant for two years in the Washington area and worked at Sparton Electronics (DeLand, Fla.) for 12 years, from which he retired as the Vice-President for Government Programs.

During his life the family lived in Pensacola, Fla.; Norfolk, Va.; Brunswick, Maine; Monterrey, Calif; Annapolis, Md; Long Beach, Calif; Portsmouth, R.I.; Alexandria, Va. (2); Jacksonville, Fla. (2); and DeLand, Fla., where in 1999 he and Sally retired to play golf at Hilton Head Island, each year for many years. A memorial service will be held 11 a.m. on Saturday, December 2nd at Brown-McClay funeral Home in Vergennes. He will be buried in Prospect Cemetery, Vergennes, Vt., where his grandfather, grandmother, father, mother, and his son James E. IV are buried. ☐

Mary Jane Washburn, 92, of Middlebury

MIDDLEBURY — Mary Jane (Reimer) Washburn, 92, died November 18, 2023, in Helen Porter Rehabilitation and Nursing Center in Middlebury. She was born on Dec. 25, 1930, as the youngest child to Charles and Helen Kinney Reimer. Her childhood and youth were spent in Fort Collins, Colo.

Following in her mother's footsteps, Mary Jane went on to graduate from The College of Wooster in 1953 with a degree in Education. She went on to teach for two years in Central New York. After, Mary Jane went on to achieve her Master's in Christian Education from N.Y. Theological Seminary. It was during her studies, she met her future husband Knight Washburn, an ordained Presbyterian minister. They were married on Sept. 7, 1957, in Fort Collins.

They went on to move to Western New York, where they adopted three children. She was a wife and



MARY JANE WASHBURN

homemaker and actively assisted Knight in his ministries in churches in Garden City, N.Y., Franklinville N.Y., Chesterland, Ohio, and Niagara Falls, N.Y. Mary Jane and Knight went on to Vermont in 1992.

During her lifetime Mary Jane was active in and passionate about several charities, including P.E.O., Sweet Charity, and in later years Hospice Volunteer Services and The Wellspring Singers. She is preceded in death by her beloved brother Niles Reimer; her husband, Knight Washburn; and daughter Meredith Washburn. She is survived by sons Andrew Niles Washburn and Jonathan Reimer Washburn, three grandchildren, and a great-grandson.

A memorial service will be held at The Congregational Church of Middlebury, UCC at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Nov. 25, 2023. In lieu of flowers, Mary Jane requested memorial donations be sent to: Berea College, Church World Service, Endowment Fund of Shelburne Farms, Assistance Program Board of Pensions of the Presbyterian Church, or other charity of your choice. ☐

Robert George Dubois, 68, of Middlebury

MIDDLEBURY — Robert George Dubois, age 68, passed peacefully on Friday, Nov. 17, 2023, at his home in Middlebury, with his wife Gail by his side.

Robert was born in Middlebury on Jan. 25, 1955. He was the son of George and Madeleine (Audet) Dubois. He grew up in Addison, Middlebury and Orwell. He received his early education at St. Mary's School and later in Orwell. He graduated from Fair Haven Union High School, class of 1973. Robert began his working career as a farmer in Orwell. He later drove a truck for Paul Hallock and Bradford Trucking. He was also a bus driver for Bet-Cha Transit. He was a member of the Orwell Fire Department and was past vice president and president of the Addison County Firefighters Association. He was a selectman for the Town of Orwell. He was an avid deer hunter and enjoyed fishing.



ROBERT GEORGE DUBOIS

He is survived by his wife, Gail (Blair) Dubois, whom he married April 3, 1976; his siblings, Suzanne Palmer (Neal), Diane Norris (Terry) and Albert Dubois; nephews and nieces Brian Palmer (Kate), Karen Robinson (Amos),

Rachael McGinnis (Casey), Hilary Adkins (Dillon) and Wyatt Norris; his mother-in-law, Barbara Blair; and sister-in-law, Lori Noble. He was predeceased by two sons, James Dubois in 2006 and Daniel Dubois in 2014; his parents, George and Madeleine Dubois; and father-in-law, Charles Blair.

A Mass of Christian burial will be celebrated on Dec. 1, at 10 a.m., at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Middlebury. The Rev. Luke Austin will be the celebrant.

A private graveside committal service and burial will take place at a later date, in the family lot, at Mountain View Cemetery in Orwell.

Memorial gifts in lieu of flowers may be made, in his memory to: Middlebury Regional EMS, 55 Collins Drive, Middlebury, Vt., 05753.

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

Arthur Farnsworth, 79, of New Haven

NEW HAVEN — Arthur Farnsworth, age 79, passed away unexpectedly at his home in New Haven, Vermont. Art was born on February 25, 1944, to Harold and Flora (White) Farnsworth.

Art is survived by his children Randy (Amy) Farnsworth and Delsie Farnsworth; his grandchildren Mikayla Farnsworth (Garrison) and Kolby Farnsworth.

Pre-deceased by his parents Harold and Flora Farnsworth and siblings Ralph (Yvonne) Farnsworth and Inez (Howard) French.

Art, a true Vermonter through and through, was known for his witty humor and playful banter. After spending a majority of his

years working on tractors, he continued to pick up the occasional repair throughout retirement to keep himself out of trouble. He was no stranger to the dance floor, spending much of his free time square dancing. The close-knit dancing community was like a second family to him.

Art was an avid dog lover and raised several dogs for the Guiding Eyes for the Blind after having several of his own dogs. He took great pride in each dog he helped train.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to Guiding Eyes for the Blind or Masonic Libanus Lodge No 47 in Art's name. A graveside service will be held at a later date. ☐



ARTHUR FARNSWORTH

Frances Helen White, 86, of of Bridport

BRIDPORT — Born April 24, 1937, in Peoria, Ill., to John and Mary Jennings (deceased), Frances Helen White, left us on Nov. 13, 2023, after a long battle with dementia. Fran was married to Mike White (deceased) in 1957.

She is survived by daughter Rene Saenger of Shoreham, Vt.; son Patrick White and wife, Lydia, of Fredericksburg, Texas; daughter Wendy Vorsterveld White of Vergennes, Vt.; son John White and wife, Lori, of Pittsford, Vt.; thirteen grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

After living in several states throughout her life, Fran spent the last 30-plus years in Vermont.

Fran was a housewife and focused on raising her four children. Fran then started her first health food store in Texas (mid 1980s) that transitioned into The Vites and Herbs Shoppe in Vermont. Mike, Wendy and John helped Fran with this business. Fran earned a Certified Nutritionist license and counseled hundreds of people in natural alternatives to health problems, in an era when little was known or excepted by the mainstream in Vermont.

Fran was an alternative natural health pioneer in Vermont who helped lay the groundwork for the vast health and nutrition culture we see today. Fran was also employed by Vermont State Housing for many years.

Many thanks to the staff of Gazebo Senior Living of South Burlington for the compassionate care provided for Fran.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation in Fran's name to Project Independence of Middlebury, Vt and the UVM Hospice and Palliative Care Program. ☐

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Sister Nancy, and
Granddaughter Grace.

All his friends & family
miss him very much.

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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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Mental health alerts, patrols on rise

MIDDLEBURY — Middlebury police were kept busy last week with a wide range of service calls, including several patrols of the Bakery Lane area to check on houseless folks camping under the Cross Street Bridge, and numerous requests to attend to persons experiencing mental crises in neighborhoods throughout the town.

Middlebury Police Log

experiencing a mental health crisis in downtown on Nov. 16.

- Investigated a report of a person allegedly violating court conditions in the Court Street area on Nov. 16.
- Responded, with Middlebury Regional EMS, to a medical call at a South Village Green residence on Nov. 16.
- Responded to a report of a barking dog on the North Pleasant Street area during the afternoon of Nov. 16.
- Received a report that someone had dumped three bags of trash at the side of Schoolhouse Hill Road on Nov. 16.
- Responded to a report of a person experiencing a mental health crisis on Academy Street on Nov. 16.
- Responded to a report of a man allegedly "throwing items" in a Maple Street store on Nov. 16.
- Checked on a report of a man seen slumped over the railroad tracks off Elm Street on Nov. 16. Police said the man turned out to be fine.
- Spoke with a local man who was experiencing a mental health crisis on Nov. 16.
- Conducted speed checks on Munger Street in light of recent complaints in that neighborhood.
- Responded to a possible domestic altercation at a College Street location on Nov. 16.
- Tried to contact a driver who had reportedly been driving "aggressively" on Route 7 North during the early morning of Nov. 16.
- Helped a person who was experiencing a mental health crisis in the Abbey Pond Road area on Nov. 17.
- Responded to a report of a man acting "suspiciously" at a Court Street gas station on Nov. 17.
- Helped clear a disabled vehicle off Court Street during the evening of Nov. 17.
- Responded to a reported theft at the AT&T Store in The Centre shopping plaza on Nov. 17.
- Heard from a Meadow Way resident on Nov. 18 who said she was "almost scammed" out of \$28,000 by someone who alleged she had a virus in her computer.
- Helped a person who was experiencing a mental health crisis in the Abbey Pond Road area on Nov. 17.
- Responded to a report of a possible break-in at a South Pleasant Street apartment on Nov. 14. Police determined the local fire department had entered the apartment earlier in order to clear it during a fire-related investigation.
- Checked on the welfare of a Cedar Court resident on Nov. 14.
- Did a "meet and greet" with around 20 children at the Mary Johnson Children's Center on Nov. 15.
- Helped a person who had been experiencing a mental health crisis in the Jayne Court area on Nov. 15.
- Helped a person who was

• Found a bike on Main Street that had been reported stolen from an Academy Street location on Nov. 17.

• Helped a local person who had been experiencing a mental health crisis on Nov. 17.

• Assisted Porter Hospital with a dementia patient on Nov. 17.

• Received a report about a driver allegedly passing other vehicles unsafely on Nov. 17.

• Found a juvenile to be in possession of a vaping device at Middlebury Union High School on Nov. 17.

• Reunited a set of lost keys with their owner on Nov. 17.

• Assisted Porter Hospital staff with an out-of-control patient on Nov. 17.

• Received a lost wallet that a person had found on Court Street Extension on Nov. 18. Police left a message with the owner to collect the wallet.

• Responded to a two-vehicle, head-on collision on Case Street (Route 116) during the morning of Nov. 18. Police said both drivers were taken to Porter Hospital for treatment of what they called "severe injuries." Police said the driver operator responsible for the collision admitted to smoking crack-cocaine prior to the accident. Police said they're still investigating the incident.

• On Nov. 18, arrested 22-year-old Devon R. Dempsey on a warrant for failing to appear in court.

• Cited Megan L. Swinton, 23, of Middlebury for driving under the influence, following a stop on Three Mile Bridge Road on Nov. 18. Police said Swinton provided a sample for a roadside Alco Sensor test that yielded a result of 0.229% blood-alcohol content. The legal limit for driving in Vermont is 0.08%.

• Assisted Vermont State Police with an assault-related call in the Capen Hill Road area in Goshen on Nov. 18.

• Received unfounded complaints on Nov. 19 of an alleged assault at the South Village Green apartments and a purported party at a North Pleasant Street barn.

• Checked the welfare check of a South Pleasant Street resident on Nov. 19.

• Responded to a report of a car that was on fire off Schoolhouse Hill Road on Nov. 19.

• Helped find shelter for an unsheltered person on Nov. 19.

Vergennes Police Log

VERGENNES — Vergennes police say they are working to identify persons of interest in a series of thefts from vehicles parked on city streets committed late on the evening of Saturday, Nov. 18, and during the early-morning hours of Sunday, Nov. 19. Items taken included credit cards and a number of personal possessions, such as hats and gloves, police said. Cars were entered on South Water and Main streets, Hillside Acres and Scovel Lane, according to police, during nighttime hours spanning the two days. Police said a man and a woman tried to use one of the missing

credit cards to buy about \$1,000 of goods at the Williston Walmart, but the purchase was flagged there as potentially fraudulent because the owner does not shop at Walmarts. Police said the couple left a cart full of items at the checkout counter. However, they have video of the couple from that store, and earlier this week were sharing that evidence with other law enforcement agencies in hopes of identifying the pair. Police said they would release photos to media outlets if that tactic failed to produce IDs. Someone also unsuccessfully tried to use a credit card missing from one of the vehicles to access

an ATM, and city police plan to approach the bank to obtain video from that act.

In other incidents between Nov. 13 and 19, Vergennes police also conducted six patrols by cruiser and six traffic stops, fingerprinted seven job applicants, and also:

• On Nov. 14 were told by Auto Creek that a number of cars on its West Street facility had been entered, but nothing apparently stolen. Video showed an individual with a bike wearing a hoodie at the scene, but the person cannot be identified, police said.

• On Nov. 15 took a call from a patient at Rutland Regional Medical Center reporting a possible



Full on
A MALE TURKEY goes on full display just in time for Thanksgiving, though with this bravado we doubt this one will get eaten.
Photo by Dottie Nelson

Shooting nets attempted murder charge

ADDISON COUNTY — Vermont State Police early this week issued an arrest warrant charging 23-year-old Trent J. Beayon with attempted murder, reckless endangerment and aggravated assault in connection with a shooting in Orwell on Friday, Nov. 17.

According to court papers filed in support of the warrant, Beayon, who is known to stay in Burlington and Orwell, was visiting a home at 195 Fisher Road in Orwell on the 17th when a dispute occurred involving several individuals at the residence. Police allege that during the dispute, Beayon fired at least one round from a semiautomatic 9mm handgun at Paxton Taube, 25, who lived at the Orwell home. Taube was not injured, and Beayon subsequently left the scene.

At about 4:40 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 20, members of the Vermont State Police Tactical Services Unit, acting on a tip, found Beayon at a home on Quarry Hill Road in South Burlington. Beayon surrendered to police without incident and was arrested on the above charges. He was taken to the Williston state police barracks for processing and was expected to be arraigned Tuesday in the Criminal Division of Vermont Superior Court in Middlebury after the deadline for this early holiday edition of the

sexual assault that might have happened in Vergennes. Police are seeking more information from hospital staff and an interview with the patient upon release. On Nov. 16 at about 9 p.m.

Vt. State Police Log

Independent.
In other recent activity, state police:

- On Nov. 15 at around 8:30 a.m. responded to a two-vehicle crash on Old Hollow Road near the intersection with Mt. Philo Road in North Ferrisburgh. Police report that both vehicles were westbound on Old Hollow Road at reasonable speeds, but that a 2007 Toyota Corolla driven by Cody Martin, 24, of Monkton followed too closely behind a 2012 Jeep Patriot driven by Elysia Johnson, 36, of North Ferrisburgh. When the Jeep slowed down to turn into a driveway, the Toyota rear-ended it. No one was injured, but the Toyota was totaled and the Jeep sustained minor damage.
- Police issued Martin a ticket for following too closely, which has a fine of \$220 and 3 points on his insurance. The Vergennes Area Rescue Squad and Ferrisburgh Fire Department helped state police at the scene.
- On Nov. 16 at a quarter after 11 a.m. responded to a disturbance on LaFountain Lane in Weybridge. After investigating, police said they

determined that Eva Trudeau, 36, of Weybridge had violated an order against stalking by contacting a 70-year-old person. Police cited Trudeau for that offense.

• On Nov. 17 at about 10 minutes before 7 p.m. received a report of a burglary on Way Lane in Bridport. Troopers report that stolen from the home were a 60-inch TV, liquor, a PlayStation 5, a Hummingbird Fish Finder, multiple pieces of clothing, bedding, purses, a Nikon digital camera, and various pieces of jewelry between Nov. 11 and 17. Anyone with information about these thefts is asked to contact Trooper Demick of the New Haven state police barracks at 802-388-4919 or submit an anonymous tip online at vsp.vermont.gov/tipssubmit.

• On Nov. 19 received a report that Christopher Stearns, 44, of Shoreham had violated his court ordered conditions of release and had also violated the conditions set by a relief from abuse order. Police found Stearns and said they found he had violated those court orders and was also in possession of a firearm, although he was prohibited from doing so.

Police took to the New Haven barracks, cited him for the above offenses, and lodged him at the Marble Valley Correctional Facility with bail set at \$5,000.

report of an assault on Main Street sidewalk. Police calmed and separated two combatants, but neither agreed to provide a statement about the incident.

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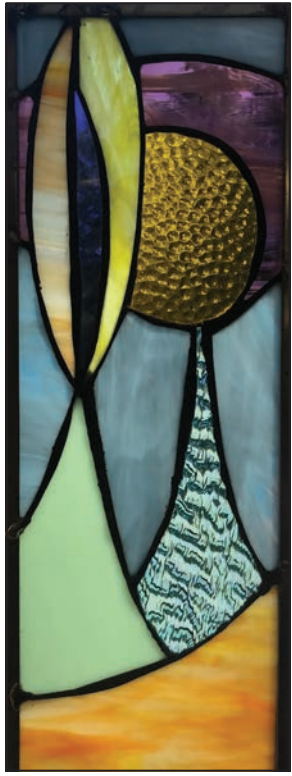
Non-traditional gallery to open in Ripton

RIPTON — Well off the beaten path, a small, non-traditional art gallery is opening in Ripton. Mountain Hounds Studio, at 114 Whitman Rd., will present a selection of works from local and national artists, staged in a contemporary studio apartment. The inaugural show will be open Dec. 1-2, from 6-9 p.m., and the public is welcome.

“The idea is to bring people together, in a warm, bright space,” said co-founder and artist Tal Birdsey. “Just like your home, but filled with art you won’t ordinarily find in most Vermont galleries.”

Mountain Hounds plans two shows per year, with a rotating stable of artists from near and far. A large portion of any sales goes directly back to the artists, while the remaining percentage will be donated to Vermont nonprofits—WomenSafe (Atria Collective), 350.org, and NAMI Vermont.

“Art does good on many levels,”



STAINED GLASS PANEL by Rose McVay

said co-founder Rose McVay, who will show two series of stained-glass panels.

The first show will feature abstract painting by Ben Junta, an established Los Angeles-based artist. Junta employs a variety of media in his work — oils and acrylics, spray paint, stencils, collage, found objects, tree bark, beach sand, clothing, street detritus, photographs, digital media, and written words. His latest work deals with toxic patriarchy, and the need to rethink notions of what it means to be a “man” in contemporary culture.

Lizzy Chemel will show experimental ceramic works. Chemel is a Chinese-American artist, currently living and working in New York City. Adopted in the 90s as a result of the one child policy, her work, largely ceramic in combination with repurposed objects, threads together ideas of transplantation, unknown origins, and early childhood memories.

Henry Birdsey, a metal fabricator and musician working in New Haven, Conn., will present hand-drawn scores from his experimental music works. “Sound is innately terrifying and haunting,” he explained. “And it holds this magnetism over us because of that. We’re talking about physical pressure waves that are invisible and inescapable.”

Birdsey’s scores are aural maps or organizational schema — visual codes in non-traditional time signatures, which undergird his improvisational, transformative soundscapes.

“A broad geographical range creates a broader variety of media and styles, and therefore a richer and more expansive aesthetic experience,” said co-founder Birdsey. “We are excited to display work that originates from other landscapes — mental or material — into this Vermont November landscape.”

Due to the late fall timing, the first Mountain Hounds show coincides with “stick-season,” explained Birdsey.

“This is the time when we all kind of hunker down indoors,” added McVay. “Things outside are so gray and stark. We thought a gathering would be good to bring light and connection to the dark days.”

A second yearly show is scheduled for late summer. As the

project evolves, Mountain Hounds hopes to add new artists doing new and original work.

Another impetus for the show was COVID. “As we emerged from social distancing, it was clear that occasions to gather and be in human presence is essential,” said Birdsey. “We thought we could spice that up with art you won’t get to normally see.”

Other work to be shown in the first show includes ceramic figures by Ginger Birdsey, and abstract painting by Tal Birdsey.

Two Vermont artists round out the initial Mountain Hounds roster. Viscaya Wagner, a graphic artist working out of Burlington, will show small abstract paintings. And Ripton’s own Win Colwell will be showing a selection of his paper-photo constructions, kite forms, and paper lamps.

The gallery space has 14-foot ceilings and high white walls. “It shows art well,” said McVay.

“It’s a pretty cool variety of work,” said Birdsey. “Seeing our Vermont neighbors, maybe raising a little money for local causes, showcasing diverse art of this moment, that’s the goal.”

In the event that those interested cannot make the opening nights, the gallery will be open by appointment through the week and the following weekend.

For more information, check out www.mountainhoundsart.com.



More than potatoes

FIREFIGHTER KYLE CLARK looks to be pretty fired up to serve home fries to some latecomers at the all-you-can-eat breakfast at the Addison fire station this past Sunday morning.

Independent photo/Steve James

Historic Ripton tavern site commemorated

By CHARLES BILLINGS

RIPTON — Ripton Historical Society and the Green Mountain District of the U.S. Forest Service met at the historic Calvin Pier Tavern site on Halloween, Tuesday, Oct. 31, to celebrate more than two years of cooperative work.

Commemoration of the site included talks by District Forest Ranger Chris Matrick and Ripton Historical Society president Charles Billings. Mr. Matrick described recent Forest Service upgrades and expansion of trails within Robert Frost Recreation

Area. Mr. Billings spoke about the work of individuals to recognize and clear the Pier Tavern site and the Tavern’s historic significance. Senator Ruth Hardy spoke about the importance of historic sites in small towns in Vermont and the wonderful way in which a small town like Ripton was able to engage cooperatively with the U.S. Forest Service.

Mark Lapin, Associate Laboratory Professor and College Lands Conservationist, spoke about the conservation easement work that Middlebury College is

carrying forward collaboratively with the U.S. Forest Service to establish stringent protocols for human activities on lands predominantly left in 1915 by Joseph Battell in trust as “wild lands” to “the citizens of the State of Vermont and the visitors within her borders.”

Nathan Billings (RHS), Donna Marks (USFS), and Susan Johnson (Executive Director of Moosalamoo National Recreation Area), also spoke. Town Clerk, Alison Dickinson, was present representing the Town of Ripton.

Also present were members of Ripton, East Middlebury, and Salisbury Historical Societies, and Gary and Donna Whitman who created the Pier Tavern sign.

The sign, commissioned by Ripton Historical Society, marks the site of Pier Tavern’s cellar hole. It is found on the north side of Route 125, on the connector trail, approximately halfway between Robert Frost Interpretive Trail parking area and Robert Frost Wayside. Addison County residents are invited to join the many people who daily enjoy the trails within the Robert Frost Recreation area. While there, one should take a few moments to read the Pier Tavern sign and contemplate the life that Calvin Pier, his wife Esther Pier, and their seven children shared from 1819 to 1835 as pioneers of their 600-acre Ripton wilderness farm.

The Pier’s Ripton home was built close by the old Center Turnpike, now Route 125. The Turnpike was constructed by the Center Turnpike Company, whose original owners and officers were Elias Keyes of Stockbridge, Gamaliel Painter, president, and Daniel Chipman, clerk. Turnpike construction started at the Court House in Middlebury in 1801 and reached Hancock between 1803 and 1805, eventually making east-west travel possible all the way to Woodstock. The strategic location of the Pier’s home and barn alongside the Turnpike offered weary travelers and their horses a refuge along this rugged mountain road and by offering hospitality the Piers were able to earn hard cash year-round.

The Pier’s home was the first

Missing Middlebury man is found in cold

Police dog aids in finding senior

MIDDLEBURY — Middlebury police and a Vermont State Police K9 unit early Tuesday morning, Nov. 21, located an 81-year-old man with Alzheimer’s disease who had wandered away from his Washington Street home during the evening of Monday, Nov. 20.

Police said it was at around 11:28 p.m. on Monday that they received word that the man, who lived alone, was missing from his home.

Responding Middlebury police officers immediately began searching the area but were unable to locate the man. They sought assistance from Search and Rescue and a state police K9 unit — Cpl. Justin

Busby and his police dog, Drax. The outside temperature at the time was 17 degrees Fahrenheit, according to police, which made the search even more pressing.

At about 3:14 a.m. on Tuesday, the Drax and Busby located the missing man lying on the ground near a storage building at another Washington Street residence, less than 400 feet from the man’s home. The man wasn’t wearing any shoes and was suffering from the effects of the cold, according to police.

The man was transported to Porter Hospital by Middlebury Regional EMS and his condition on Tuesday afternoon was not available.



RIPTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY and the Green Mountain District of the U.S. Forest Service celebrated more than two years of cooperative work at the installation of the Calvin Pier Tavern historic Marker in Ripton. Joining in the festivities were Senator Ruth Hardy, left; District Forest Ranger Chris Matrick; Mark Lapin, Middlebury College Lands Conservationist; Donna Marks of the U.S. Forest Service; and Charles Billings and Norm Tjossem of Ripton Historical Society.

Photo courtesy of Charles Billings

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County businesses earn state support

Grants to boost firms in seven towns

MIDDLEBURY — Gov. Phil Scott and Jennifer M.V. Fitch, commissioner of the Vermont Department of Buildings and General Services (BGS), recently notified the Addison County Economic Development Corporation (ACEDC) that it was awarded \$59,322 for seven Addison County businesses through the Building Communities Grant Program for projects in Bristol, Goshen, Middlebury, Ripton and Vergennes.

Thanks to annual appropriations by the Vermont General Assembly, the Building Communities program annually awards \$900,000 in matching grants statewide to municipalities and nonprofit organizations for capital costs associated with investments in the following categories: human services, health care and education, recreation, and economic development. Organizations in Addison County were awarded a total of \$99,213 in all four categories for the fiscal year 2024.

ACEDC applied for, was awarded, and will administer the grants in the economic development category in Addison County. The grant program requires that the funds be essential to the project's success and that projects be "shovel ready," demonstrate job creation or retention potential. Businesses must also provide a dollar-for-dollar match.

For the Fiscal Year 2024 economic development funding round, ACEDC was awarded \$59,322 that will leverage \$523,000 by businesses through the following projects:

- \$10,000 for the **Blueberry Hill Inn, Goshen**, for repair of the inn's roof.
- \$10,000 for **Danforth Pewterers Inc., Middlebury**, for building renovations and acquisition and installation of pottery equipment for the integration of the Pizzazz Pottery line.
- \$10,000 for Friendspitality Holdings LLC dba **The Chipman Inn, Ripton**, for a new kitchen ventilation system and refrigeration.
- \$4,222 for **Lost Lantern**

Spirits LLC, Vergennes, to purchase an automated labeling machine for its whiskey bottling operation.

- \$2,100 for **Magnolia's Nail Boutique, Bristol**, to purchase equipment for a one-chair setup for a new nail salon.

- \$13,000 for **Shacksbury Holdings Inc., Vergennes**, to purchase a second canning line.

- \$10,000 for **The Tillerman, Bristol**, to improve the current outdoor food prep area and expand their parking lot.

"The money that we were awarded was vital in the successful opening of my new nail salon in Bristol," said Isabella Bluteau of Magnolia's Nail Boutique in Bristol. "Now I'll be able to provide more services to the community and continue to employ a second nail technician, and perhaps a third in the future. My dream of becoming a small business owner has come true largely due to this grant."

Shari Brown of the Blueberry Hill Inn said, "Thanks to the grant, and support and guidance from ACEDC, we've secured the essential funding for the new roof at the inn. This investment preserves our historic building and empowers us to allocate resources towards sustaining our business, while supporting employees with livable wages and maintaining our relationships with local vendors."

"Without ACEDC we would never have known to apply for the BGS grant!" said Nora Ganley-Roper of Lost Lantern Spirits LLC. "With the awarded funds, we will be able to make additional whiskeys and accelerate our growth through the next year. It's a huge boost for our business."

Elizabeth Gilbeau, new owner of the Chipman Inn, said, "We deeply appreciate the Building Communities Grant for enabling us to modernize our inn's commercial kitchen, paving the way for our upcoming coffee bar and showcasing our commitment to serving our patrons and the Ripton community with a cozy, up-to-date gathering space."

City awarded grant to fund police force hire

By **ANDY KIRKALDY**
VERGENNES — The U.S. Department of Justice has awarded Vergennes a \$125,000 Community Oriented Policing Services grant, known as COPS, City Manager Ron Redmond told the city council at its Nov. 14 meeting.

The award is good for five years, Redmond said, allowing time for the department to recruit, and if necessary train, the officer it hires to join the agency.

The grant will then subsidize a

new officer's salary for three years, after which Vergennes is expected to pay full freight to keep the officer aboard. The subsidy is front-loaded, Redmond said, with more funding coming in the first year of the payout, and then the amount declining during the ensuing two years.

Redmond told the *Independent* the grant will essentially be used to fill a long-vacant position on the department roster.

(See *Police Grants, Page 12A*)



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Feast for the feline

A BOBCAT CARRIES a mallard it caught at Dead Creek Wildlife Management Area this past weekend, ready for its own Thanksgiving feast.

Photo by Tom Raymond

A Well-Deserved Thank You to Town Employees

As we busy ourselves with preparations for the holidays and the colder weather ahead, it's hard to recall that less than four months ago an unprecedented summer rainstorm caused major damage in Middlebury, East Middlebury, and our surrounding towns.

It was on the evening of Thursday, August 3, that six inches of unrelenting rain fell on our community, flooding roadways and basements, washing out culverts and driveways, causing mud slides, and overwhelming the town's stormwater drainage system.

By Friday morning, the widespread damage was evident.

A section of Route 116 had collapsed from an overflow of Dow Pond. A collapsed water main meant that many residents in that neighborhood had to boil their drinking water.

High water had flooded the Middlebury Police Station and sections of Rogers Road and Court Street. A culvert on Painter Road had collapsed, closing this major east-west roadway. And High Street had to be closed after its embankment collapsed into the northbound lane of Route 7.

In short, we were faced with several emergency situations all at once.

Looking back now, I want to let you, the community, know what a professional, get-it-done group of people you have working for you on the Middlebury town staff.

Town employees went to work immediately, putting in long hours and working collaboratively with local contractors and coordinating with FEMA officials to set priorities. As a result, repairs that normally would have taken several months to complete got done in a much shorter span of time.

The Middlebury Department of Public Works team under Emmalee Cherington and Bill Kernan, the Middlebury Fire Department led by Chief David Shaw and the Middlebury Police Department under former Chief and Town Emergency Management Officer Tom Hanley, and Town Manager Kathleen Ramsay—these individuals and their staffs put their boots on and got to work.

As the Chair of the Middlebury Selectboard, I know that managing the business of our town is a complicated affair. We don't all agree on courses of action, nor should we. That's democracy. But when emergencies arise, we pull together and get the work done.

And so, as we approach Thanksgiving, on behalf of the Middlebury Selectboard and our community, I want to thank our town staff for a job well done!

— Brian R. Carpenter
Middlebury Selectboard Chair



Middlebury

(Continued from Page 1A)

want to address potential taxpayer concerns up front. Emmalee Cherington, the town's director of public works planning, stressed:

• State and/or federal aid is expected to cover the lion's share of each of the three bond issues. That financial assistance is already in the bank for the Bakery Lane and South Street projects, while Middlebury's capital fund is expected to cover the balance of those two projects.

• Overhaul of the wastewater treatment plant isn't expected to occur until 2025, at the earliest. But Middlebury is being advised to get a vote on the project next year to (a) get into the state's lengthy bonding queue, and (b) to demonstrate public support for the work to maximize financial aid opportunities.

"Our goal is to provide the town with a project that is affordable by applying for as much additional funding as is available," Cherington said. "By holding a bond vote in either March or November 2024, we will be in the best position to secure funding to better support the project. Our ultimate goal is to move forward with a project that is affordable to the community."

WASTEWATER TREATMENT

Cherington explained wastewater treatment plants, or WWTPs, typically require upgrades in 20-year cycles. Middlebury's Industrial Avenue facility opened in 2000; it replaced the previous treatment plant off Lucius Shaw Lane, where the town's police headquarters is now.

"The proposed project will include design, engineering, permitting and construction related to upgrading the treatment facility and the main pump station," Cherington said.

The *Independent* in 2021 offered a preview of some of the needed fixes at Middlebury's WWTP. Cherington noted treatment plants process both liquids and solids. And she said the Middlebury plant's biggest issue right now is

with processing solids.

"Right now, our solids are being treated and then land-applied," she said. "This (process) might go by the wayside in the state of Vermont. There's a lot of concern with Per- and Polyfluorinated Substances (PFAS) and what we're adding to the soils. Depending on where that conversation goes, the treatment of solids could greatly change in Vermont, and if we end up paralleling what Maine did — they eliminated land application of sludge — we might end up having to haul the solids to a landfill, which gets extremely expensive."

That said, Middlebury officials, with help from Wright-Pierce Engineering, are trying to improve the sludge disposal process through upgrades to the plant.

"We're trying to be creative at the front-end to reduce our solids as much as possible," Cherington said. "And one of the opportunities is to use a sludge dryer."

She and her colleagues recently got a preview of what a sludge dryer can do. A company brought a portable sludge dryer to the treatment plant earlier this fall. The machine subjected sludge to intense heat, which greatly reduced its volume through evaporation.

"If we did something like that, we could potentially become a regional center where other communities bring their sludge to us and we put it through that cycle for them," Cherington said. "And there would be a lot of funding opportunities if we did that, and state support."

Meanwhile, Middlebury's current WWTP is doing a good job processing effluent, a.k.a. liquid waste.

"We have a system that's really dialed in, has great phosphorous removal," she said. "I don't think we need to move away from that system, though it definitely needs upgrades and could be more energy efficient."

Construction won't be cheap, and Middlebury isn't the only Vermont community planning major sewer

"I think the dollar value ... could be shocking to residents, but it really just leverages other grants and funding opportunities we wouldn't be able to use if there wasn't that community support."

— Emmalee Cherington



Hanging out

THIS FLOCK OF seasonal poultry was spared a trip to the Thanksgiving table, but as they milled around in front of a barn at Misty Knoll Farms in New Haven on Sunday the look in their eyes shows that they know they are just biding time.

Independent photo Steve James

plant upgrades. Other include Shelburne, South Burlington and Vergennes. Folks in the Little City in March of 2022 endorsed a \$25.5 million overhaul of their wastewater treatment plant. The federal government ended up bankrolling \$17.5 million of that outlay.

Cherington is hoping to see similar support for Middlebury's looming project, though she acknowledged other communities are competing for limited funds. And several sewer plants now queuing up on the state's bonding list are in particularly bad shape due to damage from last summer's flooding. Middlebury's treatment

plant weathered the flooding in decent shape, though its main pump station took a big hit from August storms, according to Cherington.

"The (storm-damaged WWTPs) get priority funding," she noted.

But communities can score points in their favor by declaring an intent to bond (which the Middlebury selectboard did on Nov. 14), and then by approving a bond referendum, according to Cherington.

She reiterated that residents won't have to pay the full \$26 million bond figure they see on next year's ballot.

"I think the dollar value ...

could be shocking to residents, but it really just leverages other grants and funding opportunities we wouldn't be able to use if there wasn't that community support," she said.

Potential funding sources Middlebury could tap include Vermont's Clean Water State Revolving Fund, the USDA Rural Development program, the Northern Border Regional Commission, and "congressionally directed spending" (formerly known as federal earmarks).

Middlebury could also use some of the excess revenues from its local option tax to help pay off the bond,

officials said. Those local option tax revenues are directed toward paying debt and maintenance on the Cross Street Bridge, but the 1% local tax on sales, rooms, meals and alcohol is generating a big surplus.

"The sooner we can start securing funding, the better position we can be in," Cherington said.

Tentative plans call for the Middlebury WWTP overhaul to last from August 2025 to August 2027.

Descriptions of the two other projects Middlebury residents will be asked to support on Town Meeting Day are on this page and the next.

Infrastructure upgrades on tap for Bakery Lane

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — While Middlebury residents are likely to vote on a sewer plant upgrade a year from now, there will be two other infrastructure upgrade bonds that will be voted upon on March's Town Meeting Day. One of those is \$1.2 million to reconstruct and resolve drainage issues on Bakery Lane.

The primary goal of the Bakery Lane project includes complete

reconstruction of the roadway to accommodate vehicular and pedestrian traffic while and address ongoing drainage issues, according to Emmalee Cherington, the town's director of public works planning. The existing water main, gravity sewer system, and pressure force main from the town's wastewater pump station will be replaced. The force main will be connected to the Mill Street main, providing a better alignment for

infrastructure on the two roads, she said.

Additionally, the existing wet well of the nearby pump station will be abandoned to accommodate a valve vault and a submersible pump to improve solids handling.

"Paving improvements are a large component of the project, as the town recognizes the drainage concerns for the businesses and properties on the street," Cherington said. "Flow will be directed away from the buildings, into a stormwater collection system. Additional paving measures are proposed for the

gravel parking lot that serves the businesses, to provide line striping and increased vehicle capacity."

Tentative plans call for this project to be put out to bid next fall or the spring of 2025. Town officials are meeting with Bakery Lane business owners who could be dramatically affected during construction.

This project has been awarded \$944,871 from the Clean Water State Revolving Fund. A positive bond vote is required to secure this funding.

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Work on Phase 4 of a sewer and stormwater infrastructure refurbishment project on South Street in Middlebury is underway now. On Town Meeting Day Middlebury voters will decide whether to fund Phase 5 of the project.

Independent photo Steve James

South Street still needs \$1.5 million

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — Before Middlebury voters are asked next November to support a \$26 million referendum for a major overhaul of the town's wastewater treatment plant, they will weigh in on two other infrastructure upgrade bonds on Town Meeting Day next March. One of those is \$1.5 million to replace sewer/stormwater infrastructure on South Street.

South Street "Phase V" is the final effort in a project that has spanned more than 10 years, according to Emmalee Cherington, the town's director of public works planning.

"The primary goal of this project is to separate the sewer and stormwater lines from the antiquated combined sewer system, constructed years ago," she said. "This phase of the project includes the installation of new sewer mains, sewer service lines, sewer manholes, stormwater mains, stormwater catch basin structures, yard drains, new concrete curb, stormwater treatment systems (as possible), traffic calming bump-outs and final paving of the South Street roadway surface. The environment and the town wastewater system will benefit from these efforts."

This project has been awarded \$498,200 from the Clean Water State Revolving Fund, in addition to \$664,000 from the American Rescue Plan Act Combined Sewer Overflow Fund. A positive bond vote is required to secure these funds.

Cherington said if all proceeds according to plan, the Phase V project could be put out to bid next fall, with construction starting during the spring of 2025. One lane will be kept open at all times during the project, recognizing the presence on South Street of Middlebury Regional EMS and Porter Medical Center.

Rokeby Museum fund drive continues

FERRISBURGH — Rokeby Museum in Ferrisburgh is in the

midst of its annual fund drive, with a goal of \$40,000.

Museum officials described it as a "crucial yearly fundraising campaign that supports our mission to share the human experience of the Underground Railroad and the lives of four generations of the Robinson family."

Rokeby Museum has a staff of two fulltime employees and one seasonal employee. Staff and volunteers impart to visitors a unique and enlightening perspective on the rich tapestry of this past.

The Rokeby is making plans for 2024 that include a much-anticipated update to its exhibit titled "Free & Safe: The Underground Railroad in Vermont," a new seasonal exhibition focusing on the museum's volunteers, and ongoing preservation work on the site's historic structures. The museum's education program will continue its anti-bias education efforts with preschoolers and develop new activities to engage young people in our site's history.

For more information, go to rokeby.org.



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By the way

(Continued from Page 1A)
future uses of the land around potential new and improved routes in northern Addison County. These potential routes seek to reduce the impact of truck traffic on downtown Vergennes and include portions of Addison, Ferrisburgh, New Haven, Panton, Vergennes, Waltham and Weybridge. Workshops are being held between Dec. 4 and Jan. 9. Visit the study website for more details: vergennesspel.com.

The Middlebury Police Department is coordinating a toy drive this holiday season. You'll see donation boxes at all three Middlebury public schools, as well as at various businesses in the community. You can also bring the unwrapped gifts to Middlebury PD at 1 Lucius Shaw Lane. Gift cards are also welcome. Middlebury police officers will deliver these presents in person to recipients. If you have any questions, please reach out to Officer Connor Sousa at 802-388-3191, or email Officer Darrin Hinternereder at

Dhintereder@middleburypolice.org.

Speaking of holiday gifts, the town of Lincoln will hold a "community toy swap" on Saturday, Dec. 9, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at Burnham Hall. Bring along pre-loved toys in good condition that your children have grown out of and swap them for new-to-you gifts they'll appreciate. Items accepted for the swap will include clean, working, safe, and complete toys; like-new children's books; outdoor ride-on vehicles or playthings; complete games and puzzles; brand-new stuffed animals; and re-giftable items, such as something you may have received as a gift but that you haven't used that someone else might be happy to receive. Please don't bring pre-worn clothes, shoes, or outerwear; books in poor condition or not intended for children; DVDs, CDs and VHS tapes; pre-loved stuffed animals; baby gear (such as cribs, mattresses, seats, bottles, strollers, carriers);

helmets (such as bike or ski); car seats; and anything that is a "fixer-upper" — broken, dirty, missing important pieces, or unsafe. Please note there'll also be a toy swap at the Ferrisburgh Town Hall on Saturday, Dec. 9, from noon to 5 p.m. learn more at tinyurl.com/mrppxphn.

Addison County's unemployment rate was 1.6% in October, a decline of 0.3% compared to the September rate of 1.9%, according to the Vermont Department of Labor (DOL). Our local October rate was lower than the 2% statewide rate, which increased by one-tenth of a percent from the prior month. According to the DOL, the county in October had a civilian labor force of 19,241, of which 308 were looking for work. For comparison, the county's unemployment rate was 2.3% in October 2022. The October unemployment rates for Vermont's 17 labor market areas ranged from 1.5% in Woodstock and White River Junction to 2.3% in Derby.

Bristol

(Continued from Page 1A)
is planning to build a training structure behind the town's fire station that would allow local firefighters to more easily, and affordably, practice a variety of core skills.

The facility will provide a space for the department and others in the county to conduct several different types of training, such as ventilation, handling chimney fires and removing victims from hazardous buildings.

"Those are all of the things that we in the fire service, when a call comes in for a working fire at a structure, all things we're going to potentially have to be able to do," Bristol Fire Chief Brett LaRose told the *Independent*. "We're expected to know how to do a thousand different things, but the frequency at which we do them is limited. I call them perishable skills; we have all of these great skills, but they are perishable unless you get an opportunity to use them frequently."

The training structure will be built south of the fire station and will be made of four 40-foot-long Conex cargo containers, with three containers making up the bottom of the facility and the fourth stacked on top. The facility will have a chimney and roof prop, as well as a wood boiler that would be used for smoke and heat trainings.

Doors will be installed in the containers to allow firefighters to move around inside the structure, and an indoor staircase will provide access to the second floor of the facility. The structure will sit on top of a gravel pad, and a gravel driveway will connect the site to the fire station's parking lot.

The structure will also be constructed in accordance with National Fire Protection Association standards.

LaRose said the facility will be used for a various kinds of training,



BRISTOL FIRE CHIEF BRETT LAROSE

including for forcible entry, search and rescue, radio communications and using fire department connections. That's an inlet and pipe system often found on the exterior of commercial buildings that allows fire departments to pump additional water into a building's existing sprinkler system or other water supplies.

The fire chief noted that the department has in the past used acquired structures, commercial buildings or residential homes set to be demolished, to conduct some of the training the new facility will be used for. However, such structures are not always available.

"We used to get those opportunities at most once a year, and those don't come around often anymore. It's really challenging to find realistic training opportunities to deploy ladders, to discharge water inside a structure, to practice search and rescue in an environment where you're using a charged hose line," he said. "We have a beautiful fire station, but it's not set up to do that kind of intense training indoors without damaging the facility."

LaRose said the department

holds classroom trainings and can request to practice skills at the Vermont Fire Academy in Pittsford, though that trip relies on the availability of funding and of one of the academy's training facilities.

FIRST IN COUNTY

The new training structure will provide an opportunity for the department to practice a variety of skills onsite. LaRose said the facility would be the first of its kind in Addison County and is a resource that other departments in the region could use as well.

"As part of the Addison County Firefighters Association mutual aid, we train together, we share resources, and here's an opportunity to share something with our neighboring and beyond fire departments," he said. "That's what we do in Addison County; we help each other out."

LaRose added that the facility might also help with recruitment and retention in the department by creating new opportunities for prospective and veteran firefighters to practice their skills.

"I have heard some of my own firefighters say, and I've heard it from my officers, that they get bored because it's hard if you can't provide realistic training opportunities and those just don't exist once you finish that initial training down at the fire academy," he said.

The Bristol Development Review Board at a Nov. 15 hearing approved the department's proposed site plan for the training facility. Members of the department are currently preparing the Conex boxes offsite and will likely begin constructing the facility this upcoming spring.

The project is expected to cost around \$20,000. The department's nonprofit, the N.H. Munsill Hose, Hook & Ladder Company, will provide \$15,000 for the project, and remaining costs will be covered by the department's capital fund.

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Police grant

(Continued from Page 9A)

Redmond told the council at last week's meeting the city had previously unsuccessfully applied for the grant, and the award came as somewhat of a surprise.

"(The application) was a bit of a longshot," he said. "We didn't expect to receive it."

Redmond said he believed the application was successful in part because of the quality of the department and the professional work by Chief Jason Ouellette in preparing the grant documents.

"The reputation of the police department helped," Redmond said, adding, "We did a really good job articulating 21st-century policing, and so a lot of that was due to our chief, who has a really good grip on that."



REDMOND

Redmond told the *Independent* he and the department continue to work toward bringing the force up to full strength as defined in the recommendations made by the recent International Association of Chiefs of Police study of the department's operations and mission.

That report suggested the city force should consist of six law enforcement officers, including the chief, and a fulltime employee to handle administrative tasks, thus freeing up officers to focus on police work.

Currently, the department has a part-time administrative assistant, and Redmond said he's now working to convert that into a fulltime post.

Also on Nov. 14, the council:

- Heard from Councilor Cheryl Brinkman, also a Vergennes Energy Committee member, that the long out-of-service electric vehicle charger on the city green will soon be repaired. She added One Credit Union plans to install four EV chargers at its Green Street site.

- Heard from City Clerk Pennie Austin that work on a citywide reassessment of real estate values will start soon.

- Were told by Treasurer Angie Bolduc that the Fiscal Year 2022 audit is complete and a report will soon be available.

- Authorized City Manager Ron Redmond to hire D.J.'s Tree Service for \$61,750 to clean debris, mostly tree branches, that washed up against the bridge over Otter Creek during flooding this past summer. Redmond said a bidding process was used that followed FEMA guidelines to ensure the city could be reimbursed for the cost.



PORTIA BUTRYM, ONE of the boat launch stewards for summer 2023, waits for visitors at Bristol Pond on an overcast July morning.

Photo courtesy of Kate Kelly

Boat launch stewards play crucial role

By PORTIA BUTRYM AND KATE KELLY

MONKTON/BRISTOL — September 24th marked the end of Lewis Creek Association's (LCA) boat launch steward program at Bristol and Monkton Ponds. The two ponds see many visitors throughout the summer months, from anglers to recreational boaters to wildlife enthusiasts, making them ideal locations to educate the public about aquatic invasive species (AIS).

As of 2023, there are three known aquatic invasive species (AIS) in Bristol Pond: European Frogbit (*Hydrocharis morsus-ranae*), Eurasian Watermilfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*), and Brittle Naiad (*Najas minor*) (discovered by the boat launch stewards in 2021 at Bristol Pond) and there are two known AIS in Monkton Pond: Eurasian Watermilfoil and Curlyleaf Pondweed (*Potamogeton crispus*).

Presence of these AIS in these popular ponds means that they could function as points of introduction for the spread of AIS in the Lewis Creek watershed and throughout the state. The goal of LCA's boat launch steward program is to prevent the spread of AIS by inspecting watercraft for

AIS and other biological materials, identifying and removing suspicious specimens, collecting data, and educating the public about AIS spread prevention.

Though the exceptional amount of rain during the summer of 2023 may have prevented a few people from visiting Bristol and Monkton Ponds, many were still undeterred. LCA's boat launch stewards interacted with a total of 230 watercraft at Bristol Pond and 79 watercraft at Monkton Pond. The vast majority of visitors were already familiar with AIS, likely due to the longevity of the LCA boat steward program and repeated instances of boat stewards across the state educating the public about AIS concerns.

However, boat stewards intercepted 35 watercraft with AIS on them before and after entering Bristol and Monkton Ponds. If the AIS were not removed by the boat stewards, these watercraft could have introduced AIS to new waterbodies throughout the state and possibly further. The boat stewards also helped remove brittle naiad near the dock at Bristol Pond during the free time between greeting visitors. Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation sent a small team to

help the stewards remove brittle naiad on July 8, though further work will be required to eradicate the plant from Bristol Pond.

For the third summer, LCA's boat launch steward program was successful in intercepting AIS and educating the public on the issues surrounding AIS. The vast majority of visitors to Bristol Pond and Monkton Pond seemed genuinely excited to have the program at the ponds and many people from the community went to the ponds to see LCA's boat launch stewards in action. Research has shown that visual inspection and hand removal of aquatic vegetation is extremely effective at preventing AIS from spreading to other bodies of water, making LCA's boat launch steward program integral to maintaining the health of waterbodies within the Lewis Creek watershed. The program could potentially prevent, both directly and indirectly, AIS from spreading to other uninfested waterbodies.

This project has been funded wholly or in part by the United States Environmental Protection Agency under assistance agreement (LC 00A00981-0) to NEIWPCC in partnership with the Lake Champlain Basin Program (LCBP).

Vergennes

(Continued from Page 1A)

commission first proposed would add to that clause the language, "in buildings within 300 feet of the edge of the public right-of-way of Main Street/Route 22A."

That change, if added to city zoning after a plan change, would affect just one property: It would allow a vacant 14.4-acre parcel behind the Vergennes Police Station to be developed into housing.

And a development corporation is already eyeing the parcel, River's Edge Associates LLC. River's Edge principal Peter Kahn told the *Independent* in October the company intends to build 130 units, mostly of "workforce housing," on the land once it is rezoned. But the land cannot be rezoned until the city plan is altered to support a zoning change.

Last Tuesday, the council voted to take the amendment a step further, changing the proposed 300-foot limit in the plan amendment to 150 feet.

Robert Feuerstein, co-owner of the Kennedy Brothers complex,

lobbied for that change. He also owns the property on the opposite side of the road from Kennedy Brothers that once housed the Denecker Chevrolet dealership.

Feuerstein said during the council's Nov. 14 public hearing on the proposed amendment that he felt a change limited to one property was "a little bit unfair," especially when he could develop needed housing on the former Denecker property.

"That's potentially beneficial, because we all want more housing," he said.

Former Vergennes planner Tim Cook, now a member of the Addison County Regional Planning Commission's Housing Committee, also spoke for a 150-foot setback. Cook said that during his tenure on the city planning commission one hope was to transform the Northern Gateway area.

"I think it's a great addition to the municipal plan," he said. "It's long been a goal for the Northern Gateway District to be like the

downtown area, and the downtown area is densely populated with residential units. The 150-foot limit will help this part of the city develop into something like the pattern of the Main Street area."

Planning Commission Chair Shannon Haggett said he had "no problem with either 150 or 300 feet," and in response to a Zoom chat question from the *Independent* said a quick look at the district map suggested not too many other properties would be affected by the more lenient setback — "maybe two."

The council unanimously backed the change.

"It makes sense to consider the 150 for all the reasons that came up," said Councilor Cheryl Brinkman.

The council will hold a second and probably final hearing on the proposed amendment during its Dec. 12 meeting at 5:45 p.m. Assuming the amendment is then adopted, the planning commission could then begin work to adapt the change into the zoning regulations.

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Lincoln

(Continued from Page 1A)

"I am truly excited for the opportunity to serve as the next superintendent for the newly formed Lincoln School District," Cole said in a press release. "I had the great pleasure of being able to spend time with the faculty, staff, students, parents, community members and the board and I am honored to be invited to be a part of this amazing community."

LSD Board Chair Jen Oldham said that Cole, with more than 30 years of experience as an educator and in educational leadership roles, is well positioned to serve the Lincoln community.

"As a small district, the superintendent will wear many hats requiring a breadth of skills and experience, not to mention an abundance of energy and creativity," Oldham said in the

press release. "Amy demonstrated all of these qualities while being wholeheartedly aligned with Lincoln's goal of demonstrating the viability of small, rural schools to provide excellent, equitable education. We are confident the Lincoln School District will thrive under her leadership."

Cole is returning to Vermont after living in Hawaii for the last five years, where she has been the assistant head of school at the Hawai'i Preparatory Academy in Waimea. Previously, she served in leadership roles in Vermont, including executive director of curriculum, instruction, and assessment for the Essex Westford Unified School District for eight years and the Champlain Valley School District for five years.

Prior to her Vermont experience, she taught Social Studies and

English in several New Hampshire districts. She has served as Vermont liaison to the New England Secondary School Consortium, been the executive director of the Vermont Data Consortium, and has academic appointments at Southern New Hampshire University, St. Michael's College and McGill University.

Cole has a Bachelor of Arts in International Relations from Boston University, a Master's in Education from the University of New Hampshire, a Ph.D. in Integrated Studies in Education from McGill, and a graduate certificate in School Law from the University of Connecticut.

The Lincoln school board unanimously approved hiring Cole. They did not initially say what she would be paid.

The hiring of Amy Cole followed

a search by the district that included input from the community, parents, faculty and staff, through a community-wide survey and during a day-long visit to the Lincoln Community School. The 12-member search committee was unanimous in its recommendation to the board.

"From the outset, it became evident that Amy possesses a profound understanding of what distinguishes Lincoln Community School and a keen awareness of the challenges our small district will confront in the years to come. Her wealth of experience, empathy, and strategic approach uniquely positions her to guide the district into a successful future," said Andy Soares-White, a member of the search committee.

Weybridge, Middlebury mull library partnership

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY / WEYBRIDGE — Weybridge residents at their annual town meeting next March will be asked if they'd like to become patrons of Middlebury's Ilsley Public Library, at a cost of around \$25,000 per year.

The offer — many years in the making — recognizes the proximity of Ilsley's comprehensive services while resurrecting Weybridge's own Cotton Free Library, according to Weybridge selectboard Chair Megan Sutton. Built in 1913 off Quaker Village Road, the Cotton Free Library is a beloved local structure but hasn't been used for its intended purpose since the 1980s, Sutton noted.

Absent a municipal library, some Weybridge residents have been purchasing out-of-town memberships to the Ilsley, located right next door in Middlebury, the county's shire town. Around 100 Weybridge adults are currently members of the Ilsley, Sutton learned during a recent meeting with library Director Dana Hart and Middlebury Town Manager Kathleen Ramsay.

"(100 memberships) is even more than I thought," Sutton said of the Ilsley's popularity among Weybridge residents. "At least those 100 people would be thrilled to not have to pay (privately) for their annual membership."

Having patronage covered through municipal taxes will make the library service seem more accessible and approachable, Sutton believes.

"I think that when something is membership-based ... it makes people who aren't members feel like it's not for them," she said of the current buy-in option.

Ilsley and Middlebury officials are suggesting an assessment of \$75 per Weybridge household to arrive at a total town cost of \$25,000 per year. Sutton stressed the intent is for this annual assessment to be built into the municipal budget going forward, as opposed to being a yearly request.

Having a formal affiliation with the Ilsley wouldn't place Weybridge on the hook for payback on a planned renovation

and expansion project for the library, officials said.

Sutton acknowledged \$25,000 as a "considerable sum of money" that the Weybridge selectboard didn't want to "surprise people with." With that in mind, town officials are working hard to publicize the potential Ilsley partnership well in advance of the March town meeting.

One of the selling points, according to Hart: "Buying into a robust existing library system means Weybridge's funds will go much further than they would if the funds were used to purchase resources directly."

Some of Ilsley's services are already free to all visitors. They include various onsite programs, the internet and use of the library space. It should also be noted that students in all seven Addison

Central School District towns (Bridport, Cornwall, Middlebury, Ripton, Salisbury, Shoreham and Weybridge) already receive free library cards.

Hart explained that by joining the Ilsley, Weybridge residents would gain access to all Ilsley amenities, including:

- A physical collection of 44,000 print titles, 6,500 DVDs, and 2,500 audio books.
- A digital collection of 24,000 e-books, 15,500 audio books and 4,000 digital magazine subscriptions.
- More than 30,000 on-demand films to stream via Kanopy.
- A "Library of Things," including non-traditional library items such as e-bikes and snowshoes.
- Passes to state parks, museums and other local venues, such as the Middlebury Snow Bowl.
- The ability to request materials through the Vermont statewide Interlibrary Loan system.
- Access to the Vermont Online Library, which offers a wide array of electronic databases including full-text articles on a variety of topics geared to a variety of age levels, for both generalists and specialists
- Access to LearningExpress, which offers a comprehensive selection of academic and career-related resources.
- Access to the library's Digital Media Lab, a sound baffled room featuring an iMac workstation with full Adobe Creative Cloud suite, studio grade audio recording capability, and turntable, cassette player, VCR/DVD deck and scanner.

And there are also benefits to Middlebury by having Weybridge folks share in the Ilsley Library experience, according to Hart.

"First and foremost, there is the opportunity to distribute the financial burden of the library's operating budget," she said. "More people using the library means more people visiting downtown Middlebury, contributing to a vibrant Main Street. And of course, being a regional resource better positions the library when applying for grants and government funds."

While joining Ilsley would further cement "former library" status for the Cotton Free Library, Weybridge residents haven't given up on making that quaint, historical building a bigger part of the town's fabric. The Weybridge selectboard has allowed it to be used sporadically. In recent years, it was occasionally used as a local artist's studio and as a local author's writing den.

"It's almost like a time capsule," Sutton said of the library, at which she worked part-time as a youth.

"There's renewed affection for this building," she added. "The goal is for it to become available to everyone in town."

The proposed Ilsley partnership will be voted from the floor at Weybridge's March meeting.

Might other area towns seek to join the Ilsley fold in the future? Time will tell.

"I do see Ilsley as having the potential to become a regional library, of sorts," Hart said. "Of course, many communities in Addison County have their own thriving libraries, but Ilsley is well positioned to serve towns that don't have their own library."

Reporter John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.

Farmers

(Continued from Page 1A)

about the long-term study during a field day hosted by the UVM Extension Champlain Valley Crop, Soil & Pasture team at the Bridport farm this past Thursday. The ongoing project is part of a larger, nation-wide research network known as the Conservation Effects Assessment Project, which aims

to quantify the environmental effects of different conservation practices and programs. The research network was established by the United States Department of Agriculture.

The UVM Extension team is specifically focused on how various agricultural conservation practices affect water quality in the

Lake Champlain Basin.

"For that, we're really looking at what's the effect of all these soil health conservation practices that we're doing at the watershed scale," project leader Joshua Faulkner of UVM Extension told those at Thursday's event. "You think, of all the investment that's happening, that we would know

the answer to that question, but we really don't quite yet, especially in the local context of the climate of Vermont, the soil of Vermont and how farmers farm in Vermont."

The project team is two years into its 10-year study, which is focused largely within the Dead Creek watershed in Bridport. Over (See Dead Creek, Page 14A)

Queen Bee's

(Continued from Page 1A)

right next to the family-owned snack bar on Hardscrabble Road, and moments later came back outside to find the snack bar "covered in an orange glow," according to Kristen.

Monkton Fire Chief Curtis Layn said around 25 firefighters from three local departments helped put out the blaze. Crews from the Monkton, Bristol and

New Haven fire departments were on the scene, as well as members of the Bristol Rescue Squad and Addison County Fire investigation team.

Queen Bee's officially opened in 2015 and has become a well-loved Addison County eatery over the years. The restaurant has started a GoFundMe page to help cover costs associated with the clean-up and eventual

efforts to rebuild the snack shop. As of noon on Monday, the fund drive had raised \$4,630 from 72 donors, with a goal of \$20,000.

"We'll look to rebuild here once things settle and insurance is figured out," Kristen said. "We've had a lot of outpouring support from our community so far and we're hoping to have everything back up and running next year at some point, but it's

weather permitting right now; just looking to rebuild our hive as soon as possible."

Kristen said insurance should help cover a portion of the costs, though the restaurant team is still figuring out what that coverage will look like.

In the meantime, the Queen Bee's team will host breakfast with Santa as planned this upcoming Saturday from 8 a.m. to noon at St. Peter's Parish Hall in Vergennes.

Kristen said it will be the restaurant's last catering event of the year, though the snack bar will look to continue offering catering services in the coming year.

The restaurant had purchased a second trailer to provide those services, and the snack bar team is working to have the trailer ready for business.

"We will be offering catering events; it's just we aren't able to do anything until we have that trailer inspected and permitted," Kristen said.



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Dead Creek

(Continued from Page 13A)
 the next several years, the group will measure the effectiveness of different conservation practices at the watershed scale and at the field level.

They'll monitor water quality in the watershed as well as collect farm management data to evaluate the relationship between conservation practices and water quality. The team is largely focused on monitoring for phosphorus in the watershed, but will also measure different forms of nitrogen and runoff volumes.

The group has set up an outdoor laboratory on fields covering around 28 acres at Blue Spruce to study a combination of water quality and soil health practices at the farm, such as the use of cover crops and manure injection, a process where cow droppings are shot deep into the ground rather than spread across the surface.

"There's been a lot of work looking at individual conservation practices, things like a study evaluating cover crops, a study evaluating no-till," Faulkner said.

"It's kind of rare and innovative to look at all of those practices stacked on top of one another because we think there are some synergies that occur when you start to add cover crops to no-till and start to get your organic matter underground."

Farmers and others on Thursday gathered in Bridport on one of the fields being monitored by UVM Extension. The field has been divided into two sides to allow the group to compare the use of different field management

practices. On the "treatment side," the farm is using a no-till approach, cover crops and manure injection. The "control side," is being managed with conventional tillage, broadcast manure and no cover crops.

Each side of the field has its own tile drainage system and ditch to collect surface runoff, and the team is using edge-of-field monitoring stations to separately track the water coming off of each side.

"A lot of the work that we're



UVM EXTENSION TEAM members demonstrate how they use a machine to measure fluxes of greenhouse gasses in the soil at Bridport's Blue Spruce Farm last week. Conducting these measurements is part of the group's work with a national project exploring how soil health management can help dairy farms reduce their greenhouse gas emissions and improve soil health and water quality.

Independent photo/Marin Howell



JOSHUA FAULKNER OF the UVM Extension discusses the use of a phosphorus removal system during this past Thursday's field day event at Blue Spruce Farm in Bridport. The system is one of several conservation practices Faulkner and his team are evaluating in a 10-year project exploring the effectiveness of such practices on water quality in the Lake Champlain Basin.

Independent photo/Marin Howell

doing is to look at how does (different placement of manure) affect water quality and how does that affect greenhouse gas emission," Faulkner told the group.

GREENHOUSE GASSES

The Bridport field is also part of another study conducted by UVM Extension. The Dairy Soil and Water Regeneration project is a national study that's exploring how soil health management practices can help dairy farms

reduce their greenhouse gas emissions and improve soil health and water quality.

"We're trying to understand if dairy feed production can become net-zero from a climate change perspective; can we really sequester as much carbon in our soils in the course of producing feed for dairy cows as we emit from that process," Faulkner said. "On farms a lot of (the greenhouse gas emissions) really comes from soils, so there's a lot

of opportunity there as well to curb those emissions."

As part of the project, the UVM Extension team uses a machine to measure "fluxes" of greenhouse gasses like carbon dioxide, nitrous oxide and methane in the soil.

"Inside the pores of the soil you have space for gasses," explained Marie English, a member of the UVM Extension team. "A flux is the amount of gas coming from a certain area over an amount of time, from that pore space."

The team measures those fluxes at different sites throughout the field weekly during the summer and then every other day after manure application. The measurements could help shed light on the greenhouse gas emission impacts of manure injection compared to traditional spreading methods.

A 2019 study conducted by researchers at the University of Vermont found that during winter thaws, nitrous oxide (N₂O) emissions from manure-injected soils were upwards of 20 times greater than emissions from soils with surface broadcast. Those increases could be due to manure injections increasing the availability of carbon and nitrate in the soil, which are needed by the microbes that produce CO₂ and N₂O.

"It's interesting, you reduce your ammonia emissions, but then you're increasing your nitrous oxide by creating those saturated conditions under the ground," English said. "That's definitely a research gap people are interested in; there's all of these water quality benefits but what is the greenhouse gas tradeoff there?"

PHOSPHORUS FILTERS

Another practice being studied at the Bridport farm is the use of edge-of-field phosphorus removal systems, which help filter out dissolved phosphorus from the water coming off fields. These systems can be installed in either tile drainage systems or ditches, and the UVM Extension team has installed two of each kind of filter on both the control and treatment sides of the field they're monitoring.

The systems are installed underground and made of pea gravel and steel shavings. Those shavings bind onto soluble phosphorus in the water as it moves through the system, removing that phosphorus from the flow.

Faulkner noted that an estimated one pound of phosphorus per acre leaves the monitored fields each year, or 10 and 18 pounds total from the control and treatment fields, respectively. In the tile filter installed on the control side of the field, the team saw 99% removal of soluble reactive phosphorus and 91% removal of total phosphorus from summer of 2022 through the spring of 2023.

"Our data is really promising thus far," he told the group on Thursday.

The systems are designed to last around 15 years, after which the system's performance is expected to reduce by around 50%. Each filter costs around \$5,000, not including labor required to install the system.

The use of these removal systems is currently an interim conservation practice, but next year is expected to become an official practice that farmers can apply to cost-share through the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service.

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THE MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE field hockey team won its sixth straight NCAA Division III championship on Sunday with a 2-0 victory over Johns Hopkins in the final. The Panthers did not allow a goal in the tournament.

Photo courtesy of Middlebury College Sports Information

Six straight for Panther field hockey

By ANDY KIRKALDY
NEWPORT NEWS, Va. — Imagine this: A visitor to one of Coach Katharine DeLorenzo's Middlebury College field hockey practices in 2017 tells the athletes they'll win the next three NESCAC and NCAA Division III titles. The visitor further predicts that a few of the younger players at the practice, after the pandemic cancelled the 2020 season, would later be teammates with athletes who would go on to win the next three consecutive NESCAC and NCAA titles after that. In other words, Panther field hockey would win post-season titles in all six of the years in which they were played. Would the 2017 athletes laugh? Shake their heads in disbelief? Point out that no college field hockey team in any division had ever won six straight national titles? Or would the Panthers just go back to work and create history? The latter is the correct answer: Nothing appears to take Panther field hockey's eyes off the prize, and more importantly, what it takes on a daily basis to earn it. They took care of the sixth league crown in October. On Sunday, they

completed a four-game, unscored-upon run through the NCAA tournament with a 2-0 victory over Johns Hopkins for that sixth straight title, tying a bow on a 22-0 season in the process. After the Panthers breezed through the NESCAC tournament, senior tri-captain Katie George said a daily focus on getting better and strong team chemistry were key elements of the program's success over the years. After Sunday's victory over Johns Hopkins (22-2), her fellow senior tri-captain Audrey Lazar — who netted both goals in the final — echoed George. "This team is really incredible, and they make it really easy to be great leaders, because you have 29 other people doing the right thing all the time," Lazar said. "It's a special group of people, and we're so fortunate to have the outcomes we

have each and every day." Junior midfielder Katherine Lantzy sounded the same theme when asked about the contributions of the team's six seniors, five of whom start: forwards George and Lazar, center back and tri-captain Charlotte Marks, goalie KK Newton, and midfielder Sadie LeStage. The sixth senior, Meg Shelburne, also contributed this season. "This team is full of women of great character, and strong women and seniors who are our strength and stability and heart," Lantzy said. DeLorenzo added "ability" to the list when asked in Sunday's postgame press conference about coaching the group. "It is a privilege and a joy to be bolstered by the talent, the intellect, the heart and the relationships these guys all have," DeLorenzo said. "I'm astounded by it every day."

TITLE GAME
Those seniors also score and set up goals, and in Sunday's final Lazar converted a George feed in the second minute of the game. The play started with defender Kelly Cooper lofting a ball out of the back from the left side. George read a high bounce, and batted the ball out of the air past a lone defender and went in on Blue Jay goalie Alexis Loder, with Lazar to her right. George slipped the ball to Lazar, who flicked it back high into the left side of the net with 1:24 gone. Both teams had chances on penalty corners mid-period, but Loder denied Panther junior midfielder Lilly Branka, and Blue Jay Liz Falterer missed wide. In the period's final minute, Hopkins earned four straight corners, but the Panthers defended them all. The Panthers controlled the second period, holding Hopkins without a shot. George, Caroline Segal and Branka had chances, but Loder stopped the only shot on her cage. Middlebury also ruled the third period, but only outshot the Blue (See Field Hockey, Page 3B)

"It is a privilege and a joy to be bolstered by the talent, the intellect, the heart and the relationships these guys all have. I'm astounded by it every day."

— Coach Katharine DeLorenzo

Midd wins NESCAC football title

WATERVILLE, Maine — The Middlebury College football team earned a share of the NESCAC championship on Saturday by defeating host Colby College, 35-28, in the Panthers' season finale. Middlebury and Trinity, each 8-1, are the league's co-champions. NESCAC does not use tiebreakers to decide football titles, and the teams share the crown despite the fact Middlebury won at Trinity on Oct. 14, 20-15. The program won this co-championship in Head Coach Doug Mandigo's first season in charge. Middlebury claimed a share of the NESCAC title for the fifth time in program history. The Panthers won it outright in 2007 (7-1) and in 2019 (9-0). They and Trinity are the only teams to complete 9-0 campaigns. The Panthers took charge vs. Colby with a three-touchdown third quarter after the teams entered the halftime break tied at 14-14. The Mules struck first with 6:21 remaining in the opening quarter. Colby's Payton Reid recovered a fumbled punt at the Middlebury 30-yard line to put the squad in scoring position. Mule quarterback Thomas Keeling completed a 30-yard strike to Jack Sawyer for the score, and Chris Tzoumakas' extra point was good for the lead. The Panthers answered with a touchdown less than two minutes into the second quarter with a five-play, 57-yard drive capped by a 25-yard pass from Cole Kennon to Donovan Wood. Zach Levy's extra point tied the score. The Mules responded on their next drive. On third-and-four from



THE MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE football players and coaches celebrate winning a share of the NESCAC title on Saturday after they defeated Colby, 35-28, in Maine. The Panthers and Trinity both had 8-1 league records this year.

Photo courtesy of Middlebury College Sports Information

the Colby 31, Keeling launched a 69-yard pass to Keon Smart for the touchdown, and it was 14-7. The Panther defense evened the score with 3:25 left in the half. The Mules began a drive at their own 1-yard line, and Keeling fumbled as he was group-sacked in the endzone, and Dave Filias recovered for the touchdown. The Middlebury offense came alive in the third quarter. Starting on their own 25-yard line to begin the period, the Panthers marched to set up a Kennon one-yard rushing touchdown and a 21-14 lead. Middlebury's next possession began on the the Mules' 36-yard line after Colby lost yards on its possession due to a penalty and then punted for just 20 yards. Shortly afterward, Panther Cody Weitzman rushed two yards into the endzone, and it was 28-14. A Brendan Easter interception

next set up the Panthers at the Colby 33, and with 6:10 remaining in the quarter, Caleb Smith bolted 28 yards for another touchdown to make it 35-14. Early in the fourth quarter, Keeling found Sawyer for a 39-yard scoring strike, and it was 35-21. A fumble on the next Panther possession set up Colby on the Middlebury 33, but after one complete pass to the 17, the Panthers forced four straight incompletions and took over on downs. Middlebury then chewed up about six minutes with a drive that ended with a missed field goal at 5:57. Colby drove 80 yards to make it 35-28 on a 9-yard pass from Keeling to Keon Smart with just over two minutes to go, but the Panthers recovered the onside kick to essentially clinch the victory. Keeling completed 34 of 54 attempts for 361 yards, as Colby

finished with 391 yards of offense. Kennon completed 19 of 34 passes for 215 yards and finished his career with 4,148 passing yards, good for sixth in program history. Wood led the receivers with seven catches for 92 yards. Wood capped his career as the program's second all-time receiver with 2,246 yards. Weitzman rushed 13 times for 82 yards, and Middlebury gained 149 yards on the ground to finish with 364 yards of total offense. The Panthers' one sack on the day allowed them to set a school record for most sacks in a season with 27, erasing the previous mark of 26.5 in 2016. Middlebury finished the season with 56 pass breakups, ranking second all-time for a season. Rocco Stola finished the fall with 10 pass breakups, second on the individual single-season list.

Men's soccer bows out of NCAA D-III tournament

By ANDY KIRKALDY
AMHERST, Mass. — The Middlebury College men's soccer team bowed out of the NCAA Division III tournament on Sunday, when host Amherst edged the Panthers, 1-0, in a quarterfinal matchup. The 15-2-3 Panthers had reached that sectional final by defeating Cortland the day before, 4-2, in a game also played at Amherst. By defeating Middlebury, Amherst improved to 17-2-3 and advanced to the tournament's final four in Salem, Va., with semifinals on Dec. 1 and the final on Dec. 3. The Mammoths won their third straight NCAA game by 1-0 after opening the tournament with a 2-1 victory. On Sunday they earned advantages of 17-9 in shots on goal and 9-4 in corner kicks over the

Panthers, and only one Middlebury shot landed on target, and that in the final minute. Meanwhile, Panther goalie Ryan Grady made six saves, including on a penalty kick. Grady made his first big stop in the 18th minute on Mohammed Nuhu. Ada Okorogheye passed into the left side of the box to Nuhu, who fired toward the bottom left corner. But Grady got a finger on the bid to tip it wide. Mammoth Ben Clark-Eden scored five minutes later. Simon Kalinauskas headed a corner kick off a post. The ball bounced to Clark-Eden, who fired a shot home from the left edge of the six-yard box. Amherst earned its penalty kick late in the half, but Grady dove to his left to push Clark-Eden's bid (See Soccer, Page 2B)



PANTHER JUNIOR AUGUSTA Dixon hauls down a rebound in the Middlebury women's basketball team's Saturday's afternoon home game vs. Springfield.

Panther wrap: Coach wins 500th, hockey teams debut

MIDDLEBURY — A milestone victory for the Middlebury College volleyball coach came in the NCAA Division III tournament this past weekend, while elsewhere the Panther women's ice hockey team won twice, the men's hockey team tied one game and lost another, and early struggles continued for the women's and men's hoop squads. **VOLLEYBALL** The Panther women's volleyball team bowed out of the NCAA tournament after splitting two games at a regional hosted by Johns Hopkins University late last week, but not before delivering coach Sarah Raunecker her 500th victory. Middlebury finished at 16-9. Raunecker now has a 29-year career record of 500-263. The landmark triumph came when the Panthers swept Manhattanville, 3-0 (25-11, 25-19, 25-20) in the NCAA opening round on Thursday. Gabbie O'Toole sparked the Panthers in the match with 26 assists, 10 digs, three service aces and three blocks. Kelly Ferrero contributed 18 digs and three aces. Lauren Baxter led with eight kills, and Katie Krackzowsky (eight kills, eight digs), Ava Tuccio (six kills, seven digs), and Molly Harrison (six kills) also made impacts. On Friday host Johns Hopkins ended the Panthers' season with a 3-1 win (26-24, 21-25, 25-19, 25-21). O'Toole (42 assists, seven digs), Tuccio (13 kills), Harrison (10 kills, 17 digs), Lexi Linafelter (seven kills), Krackzowsky (11 kills, nine digs), and Baxter (eight kills) were all major contributors for Middlebury. **WOMEN'S HOCKEY** This past weekend the Middlebury women's hockey team opened its by sweeping two games at Trinity. On Friday the Panthers scored two goals in the opening 8:27 in a

3-0 win. Middlebury outshot the Bantams, 44-15, and goalie Sophia Will stopped those 15 Trinity shots. Kate Flynn gave the Panthers the lead with 7:19 gone. Liv Fernandez chipped the puck up to Flynn, who skated down the right side and beat Bantam goalie Hannah Leclair. Just over a minute later, Middlebury struck again on Raia Schluter's transition strike. Middlebury made it 3-0 halfway through the second period, when Cat Appleyard netted the rebound of an Olivia McManus shot. In Saturday's game the Panthers prevailed, 2-1. The Bantams struck first on a power play with 1:51 gone in the second period, when Jenny Guider redirected a shot. Middlebury responded at 4:57 with a own power-play goal. After Trinity goalie Annabel Merkel stopped two Appleyard shots, Appleyard netted the second rebound from close range. The Panthers took advantage of another second-period power play to take the lead, with Appleyard converting a one-timer from the slot on a Fernandez feed. Will finished with 25 saves for Middlebury, including nine in the third period, one on a point-blank bid from Paige Kehoe. Merkel stopped 20 shots for Trinity. The Panthers were scheduled to play at Castleton on Tuesday after the early deadline for this edition of the *Independent*. They will host the annual Panther/Cardinal Classic this weekend. **MEN'S HOCKEY** The men's hockey team earned its tie and took a loss in two overtime contests this past weekend in Maine. On Friday the Panthers skated to a 0-0 tie with Colby in the opener for both teams. The Panthers outshot the (See Wrap, Page 3B)

Thankfulness about being in the outdoors

I've been spending a fair bit of time in the woods lately in my annual attempt to harvest local free-range, antibiotic-free venison. By the time you read this, it'll be near the end of the 16-day November rifle season, which followed a late October four-day early muzzleloader season. I've spent at least some time in the woods on 12 days so far. And I expect I'll be out again later this week and in the nine-day December muzzleloader season.

What I don't expect in 2023 is that I'll actually succeed in harvesting anything — despite the large number of days in which to legally do so, the number of hours I've spent and will spend in the attempt, and the decent success of the whitetail harvest around Addison County this year. Unlike some other areas, our woods have

been unusually empty of large wildlife this year. I suspect it's a lack of food. After last year's defoliation by spongy moth caterpillars, and this year's late frost followed by summer-long flooding



MATTHEW DICKERSON

leaving our soil overly saturated and our trails in standing (or running) water, our woods just don't have much in the way of forage. None of our apple trees bore even a single

apple this year. The handful of oaks on our hill have also failed to produce much in the way of acorns. And the few remaining beech trees that haven't yet been killed off by blight haven't produced either. So it's not surprising that the trio of does that decimated my new cherry tree in May and had a nice meal of leaves and buds in my black raspberry patch have gone away. We haven't seen them in weeks. The only whitetail we've regularly seen around our woods this fall has been a very small doe, no more than 90 pounds. (When I came back in from hunting mid-morning early this week, it was napping in the brush just past my fruit trees.) The black bear that ravaged my bee hives and ransacked our garbage can back in the spring has also made itself scarce. Even the flock of turkeys that often spend a couple weeks around our house every fall eating wild grapes have been only sporadic visitors this autumn.

Yet when I come back into the house half an hour after sunset after spending the last hour and a half in the woods, I always feel refreshed, hopeful and thankful — despite the lack of deer passing by my stand. To be clear, I'm not feeling thankful or hopeful about a successful harvest in 2023. It's more of a general mood or mindset when I'm spending considerable time outdoors.

I don't doubt that part of that mindset of thankfulness has to do with what I'm not doing while outdoors. When I'm in the woods, I'm not looking at social media or reading news. Although I will sometimes pull out a cell phone and text to my brother or wife a photo of a squirrel, or a tree, or a passing flock of turkeys, or the beautiful late afternoon light filtering through the stick-season branches or illuminating a distant hillside, I make a conscious effort to eschew electronics when I'm outdoors. So there are no fear-mongering political parties trying to fill me with terror about how awful the world is — and why they are the solution and the other party is to blame. The woods are also not prone to conspiracy theories. (Squirrels seem rather immune to them. Deer are too busy mating or avoiding hunters.) Nobody is trying to sell me anything by pointing out (explicitly or implicitly) how fulfilling and beautiful their lives look in comparison with mine, and trying to make me feel dissatisfied and unthankful with what I own (or don't own).

Even more, though, I am aware

of the lavish beauty, abundance and diversity of the world around me, seen in the skittering of chipmunks among the leaves, the grooves and coloration in the different barks of myriad species of trees and even in the various specimens within a species. I admire the shapes of brittle oak leaves that cling to branches, and the remnant of green still visible in the wild blackberry bushes growing along the trail. I listen to and watch the interactions among the community of crows, playing and telling each other jokes as they silhouette the sky. Or I marvel in the tremendous diversity of our woodland birds: their sizes, shapes, colorings and calls.

I've read numerous studies about how spending time outdoors leads to improved mental and physical health. I've read studies about how consumption of social media and sensational news media can do the opposite. I've also been told that making an effort to practice thankfulness also leads to positive health outcomes. I suspect that all three of these phenomena are related. And so, although feelings of thankfulness and joy often come spontaneously when I am outdoors, more and more I've made a conscious effort to practice thankfulness. Not just when I am bodily outdoors, but even when I'm just sitting in my living room looking at the birds picking berries out of our cedars outside the window. Far from making me complacent about making a difference in the world, that practice of thankfulness does just the opposite.

Soccer

(Continued from Page 1B)

wide.

The Mammoths controlled most of the second half, but the Panthers came up with a flurry in the final two minutes. Jay Hoke and Kyle Nilsson each whipped in crosses, but the Amherst defense did not allow the Panthers to convert those serves into shots.

At 88:24, Hoke passed to Jordan Saint-Louis in the left side of the box. Saint-Louis tried to line up a shot, but an Amherst defender closed down the bid and cleared the ball.

With seconds remaining, Grady came forward and put a long ball on frame, but Mammoth goalie Max Landa corralled the bid.

Saint-Louis concluded his career with 24 goals and 21 assists. Those 21 helpers are third in program history. This season, the forward contributed 32 points and 12 assists, numbers that are tied for fifth and second, respectively.

Grady finished his time at Middlebury as the school record holder in shutouts (40) and saves (278).

The program, which won an NCAA title in 2007, was making its fifth appearance in an NCAA quarterfinal.

The team set a program record for most goals in a season at 52, erasing the previous mark of 46 from 2015.

PANTHERS, 4-2

On Saturday the Panthers went down, 2-0, in the first 32:13, but roared back to defeated Cortland, 4-2, in the first round of the sectional. Cortland wrapped up a 13-3-3.

Middlebury had a chances early, including one in the 10th minute, when Gavin Randolph hit the side netting on a feed from Saint-Louis. In the 26th minute Red Dragon goalie Jordan Ott (three saves) also snared a Nilsson header set up by Will Sawin.

Cortland began to find its footing, and with less than 20 minutes to go until halftime the ball fell to Jack Coleman after a cross, but Grady smothered his

close-range bid toward the right side.

Cortland took the lead seconds later. Cade Denlinger found a loose ball just outside the box and blasted a 22-yard right-footed volley into the top right corner.

The Red Dragons found a fluky second goal at 32:13. Denlinger send in a free kick from the right side that bounced through traffic and into the far side.

Middlebury got a goal back with less than 10 minutes to go before halftime. Cortland blocked a Harper Nicholl shot from the top of the box, but Nilsson, from just inside the penalty stripe, left-footed the rebound into left side of the net.

Then in the 40th minute on a corner kick, Grady, who made eight saves, denied both Denlinger and Coleman.

The Panthers leveled the score with less than a minute to go in the half, with Nilsson again doing the damage. Saint-Louis fired a 30-yard free kick on goal. Ott made the save, but in a scramble for the rebound Nilsson one-timed the ball home from close range.

Early in the second half Nicholl hit the left post with a left-footed shot, and soon afterward Red Dragon Matt Schultz hit the crossbar with a long bid from the right side.

Middlebury took the lead with just over 20 minutes left on a Randolph goal. After a corner kick, the ball popped out to center mid Eujan Chae on the right side Chae served back to Randolph just inside the penalty stripe, and he nodded the ball into the left side of the net to make it 3-2.

Cortland threatened throughout the final 10 minutes, but the Panther defense fended off multiple shots and crosses before the Panthers countered in the final seconds. Colin Dugan broke up a Cortland advance with textbook sliding tackle, knocking the ball to Saint-Louis in the process. Saint-Louis carried down the left side until feeding Sawin out front for an empty-net finish.

Score BOARD

COLLEGE SPORTS

Field Hockey	
NCAA D3 Final Four In Newport News, Va.	
11/17 Midd vs Babson	3-0
11/17 Johns Hopkins vs Kean	2-0
11/19 Midd vs Johns Hopkins	2-0
Men's Soccer	
NCAA D3 Sectional at Amherst	
11/18 Amherst vs Occidental	1-0 (OT)
11/18 Midd vs Cortland	4-2

11/19 Amherst vs Midd	1-0
-----------------------	-----

Football	
11/18 Midd vs Colby	35-28

Men's Basketball	
11/17 Redlands vs Midd	83-58
11/18 Wittenberg vs Midd	76-73

Women's Basketball	
11/17 Framingham St. vs Midd	56-53
11/18 Springfield vs Midd	56-43
11/21 Midd at Castleton	Late

Women's Hockey	
11/17 Midd vs Trinity	3-0
11/18 Midd vs Trinity	2-1
11/21 Midd at Castleton	Late

Men's Hockey

11/17 Midd vs Colby	0-0
11/18 Bowdoin vs Midd	4-3 (OT)

Volleyball	
NCAA D3 Regional At Johns Hopkins	
11/16 Midd vs Manhattanville	3-0
11/18 Johns Hopkins vs Midd	3-1



Schedule

COLLEGE SPORTS

Men's Basketball	
11/26 Endicott at Midd	1 PM
11/28 Midd at NEC	5 PM
12/2 Rochester at Midd	3:30 PM
12/3 Chicago at Midd	5 PM

Women's Basketball	
11/27 Midd at Union	5:30 PM
12/1 Midd vs Babson at Williams	3 PM
12/2 Midd vs Wheaton at Williams	1 PM

Women's Hockey Panther/Cardinal Classic In Kenyon Arena

11/25 Endicott at Midd	3 PM
11/25 Platts vs Wisc. Eau Claire	6 PM
11/26 Consolation/Final	2/5 PM
12/1 Midd at Amherst	7 PM
12/2 Midd at Amherst	3 PM

Men's Hockey Tourney at Plattsburgh

11/24 Midd vs Norwich	3:30 PM
11/25 Midd vs St. Olaf/Plattsburgh	TBD
12/1 Conn at Midd	7 PM
12/2 Tufts at Midd	4 PM

Upcoming Events

Friday, November 24:
9:00 - 11:00 AM Public Skating

Saturday, November 25:
2:45 - 4:15 PM Public Skating

Sunday, November 26:
2:30 - 4:00 PM Public Skating

Tuesday, November 28:
9:00 - 11:00 AM Public Skating

Thursday, November 30:
9:00 - 11:00 AM Public Skating

Skate Sharpening available during all events.

Memorial Sports Center
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802-388-1238
info@memorialsportscenter.org
MemorialSportsCenter.org



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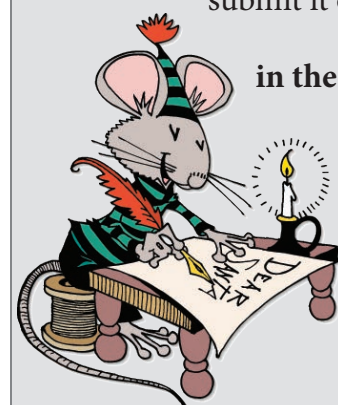
Letters to Santa

Kids! Send us your letter to Santa and we'll print it in our paper so Santa himself can see!

Be sure to include a return address, or email and send your letter to:

Santa, c/o Addison Independent
58 Maple St., Middlebury, VT 05753

You can also email your letter to news@addisonindependent.com, submit it on our website, or deliver it to our office in the Marble Works, Middlebury



Letters received by Monday, December 18th may be published with names in our December 21st edition.

ADDISON COUNTY
INDEPENDENT

Wrap

(Continued from Page 1B)

Mules, 27-24. Middlebury goalie Jake Horoho made 24 saves, and Colby's Andy Beran stopped 27 shots, including a Dante Palumbo breakaway in overtime.

On Saturday host Bowdoin won in overtime, 4-3. The Panthers went down, 2-0, but rallied to take the lead before ultimately falling short.

Bowdoin's Bryce Bollman made it 1-0 2:22 after the initial puck drop. At 11:58 of the period Richard Davis made it 2-0.

Middlebury got on the board at 8:05 of the second period. Andrej Hromic finished off a Wyatt Pastor feed. With 25 seconds remaining in the period, Hromic struck again. Jin Lee centered to Hromic for a one-timer.

The Panthers took the lead at 2:42 of the third period, when Kevin Golden's pass from the left corner banked in off a defender's skate.

Bowdoin tied the game just over two minutes later, when Callahan redirected a Nate Clark shot.

Twelve seconds into overtime, Polar Bear Luke Wheeler scored on a solo rush for the win.

Andrew Heinze made 29 saves for the Panthers, and Bowdoin goalie Alex Koziac made 22.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

The Middlebury men's hoop team this past weekend dropped to 0-4 with two setbacks at the Great Lakes Invitational in Springfield, Ohio.

Redlands (3-0) led by 37-25 at the half and pulled away afterward.

Middlebury shot 30.4% from the floor. Evan Flaks led with 13 points, and Kuba Cwalini and Tristan Joseph added nine apiece. David Brennan scored seven and hauled in 10 boards.

Kendrick Currey led four Bulldogs in double figures with 21 points.

On Saturday host Wittenberg edged the Panthers, 76-73. Middlebury led at the break, 34-33.

Two Sam Stevens free throws put Middlebury up, 53-46, with 12:58 remaining. After after two more

lead changes the Panthers led, 64-62, at 4:41. The teams traded leads over the next few minutes until a Brennan free throw at 2:42 made it 67-67.

Wittenberg's Trey Killens then scored a couple hoops down the stretch as his team closed the game with a 9-6 run.

Stevens scored 21 points and added 10 rebounds.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

The Panther women's hoop team lost twice last week at its own tip-off tournament and stood at 1-3 heading into a Tuesday game at Castleton played after our early deadline.

In Friday's first-round tournament game, visiting Framingham State closed a tight game on a 7-4 run to edge the Panthers, 56-53.

The game was tied at 41-41 after three periods. Framingham used three-pointers by Katherine Haselton and Chloe Rayko in an 8-2 run to take a 49-43 lead with 7:34 remaining, but Middlebury fought back to tie the game at 49-49 at 4:08 on two buckets inside by Augusta Dixon and one by Kate Tomwini.

Gwendolyn Carpenter's three-point play at 3:40 gave Framingham the lead for good. Dixon hit in transition at 1:08 to make it a one-point game at 52-51, but Framingham sank a layup and three free throws in the final 40 seconds. Mustafaj led the Panthers with 26 points, and Dixon scored eight.

Carpenter (14) led a balanced Framingham attack.

On Saturday visiting Springfield (4-1) pulled away late for a 56-46 victory over the Panthers. A three from Gabby Stuart helped the Panthers cut an eight-point Pride lead down to 39-36 with 7:01 remaining in the game, but Springfield outscored Middlebury by 17-10 down the stretch. Angela Czeremcha helped Springfield erase a third-quarter deficit and finished with 17 points and 13 rebounds.

Mustafaj had 24 points, five rebounds and three steals, and Dixon scored five points and grabbed 13 rebounds.



PANTHER SOPHOMORE GUARD Gabby Stuart drives into the paint during Saturday's home game vs. Springfield, one of two close losses for Middlebury over the weekend. Independent photo/Steve James

INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE ADDISON COUNTY PRELIMINARY PROPOSED BUDGET MEETING

The Assistant Judges of Addison County invite the public to a meeting to discuss the proposed county budget for FY 2024-2025 (July 1, 2024-June 30, 2025).

The meeting will be held on Monday, December 11, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. in the County Clerk's office at the Frank Mahady Courthouse in Middlebury.

Any questions, please contact the county clerk at addisoncountyclerk@gmail.com or 802-388-1966.

Patricia Ross, Assistant Judge
Nicole Wilkerson, Assistant Judge

LAWRENCE MEMORIAL LIBRARY LAWRENCE MEMORIAL LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES RULES

On November 17, 2023, modifications of the Lawrence Memorial Library Board of Trustees Rules were adopted by the Lawrence Memorial Board of Trustees.

Full text available on Lawrence Memorial Library website (regularly updated). <https://www.lawrencelibraryvt.org/>

Questions and comments may be directed to:
Rebekah Cameron, Interim Director
Lawrence Memorial Library
40 North St.
Bristol, VT 05443
802-453-2366
director@lawrencelibraryvt.org

Citizens have the right to petition for a vote on the rule change at an annual or special meeting as provided in § 1973 of Title 24: Municipal and County Government, Chapter 59: Adoption and Enforcement of Ordinances and Rules <https://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/fullchapter/24/059>

Field Hockey

(Continued from Page 1B)

Jays, 2-1. But one of those two shots found the mark with about six minutes left in the quarter.

Segal picked off a Hopkins clear on the left side, carried into the circle and fired on the cage. Loder came out and sprawled to deny the bid, but Lazar bolted in from the right and tipped the ball past Loder as she hurdled over the goalie.

In the second minute of the fourth quarter, George stickhandled past a defender and around Loder, but her shot from a sharp angle rolled across the goal mouth and just wide of the left post.

Soon afterward, the Blue Jays had two good chances. Newton kicked the side Megan Chang's reverse-sweep bid from near the top of the circle, and Emily Amsden was there to one-time the rebound on goal, but Marks blocked the attempt.

Newton, who finished with five saves, also stopped Courtney Piper on one Blue Jay corner.

The Panther back line of Marks, Cooper and Ellie Hughes, with help from the Panthers' team-wide dedication to defense, locked down the Blue Jays the rest of the way, while Loder, who made six saves, had to block away Lazar's late bid for a hat trick.

Middlebury's commitment to full-field defense made an impact.

"Our stability, throughout our first and second lines from back to front, was amazing right behind all this pressure that our forwards and our center mid put on their three backs," DeLorenzo said. "We were on them before they were able to get their heads up so many times and really dictate even when Hopkins had the ball. Not all the time, but enough of the time to really make a difference."

Lazar was named the tournament's Most Outstanding Player after scoring five goals in four games. George (three goals, one assist), Lantzy and Marks were also named to the all-tournament team. George finished with 156 career points, fifth on the all-time list.

Middlebury's 107 goals and 22 wins this season tied records set in 2022. The Panthers set a program mark for most shutouts in a season with 14, breaking the record of 13 set a year ago.

"I couldn't be happier for this group of workers and committed players and athletes," summed up

DeLorenzo SEMIFINAL

On Friday, the Panthers topped No. 2 Babson, 3-0. Middlebury also defeated the 22-2 Beavers in September, 3-2.

After an even first quarter, the Panthers seized control in the second quarter, outshooting the Beavers, 8-2, and getting the go-ahead goal from junior Amy Griffin.

In the first quarter, Beaver Camille Marsh launched two shots from near the left post, but the Panther defense blocked the first bid, and Newton denied Marsh's reverse-stick bid on the rebound.

Babson also threatened on an early penalty corner, but the Panther defense knocked away Brianne McGrath's shot from just inside the arc.

Lantzy set the tone early in the second period by stickhandling past several defenders and firing on net, but Babson goalie Bayla Furmanek (five saves) kicked away the shot. George also just missed wide right on a corner when she batted a loose ball out of the air.

George soon forced another corner, and Griffin cashed in. Segal to the left inserted to LeStage, who slipped a pass to her right to Griffin. Griffin touched toward goal and fired inside the right post at 11:08.

The Beavers forced three corners in the next two minutes and created one good chance, but Newton kicked away a doorstep bid from Sinead Walsh for the most critical of her three saves.

That was arguably Babson's last good chance. The Panthers dominated the rest of the way, not allowing another shot on goal. In the second period, they earned three corners, and on one Branka forced Furmanek to make a diving save at the left post.

Segal made it 2-0 seven minutes into the third period on a corner. Segal, again on the left, inserted to George, who passed right to Griffin, who fired from near the penalty dot. Furmanek kicked the ball to her right with her left foot, and it went to Segal at the left post for the tap-in at 8:12.

Midway through fourth quarter, Segal found space on a feed from LeStage, but Furnamek stoned her with her right pad. But with 1:21 left, Branka, off the left post, found the cage through traffic on a feed from Segal.

Public Notices

can be found on

Pages 3B, 5B & 10B.

TRI-TOWN WATER DISTRICT NO. 1 P.O. BOX 85 BRIDPORT, VERMONT 05734-0085 802-758-2202 | tritownwater@gmavt.net

The Legal Voters of Tri-Town Water District No. 1, a municipal corporation, are hereby warned and notified to meet at the business office of Tri-Town Water District No. 1 at 14 Crown Point Road in Bridport, VT on December 5, 2023 at 6:00 PM to transact the following business:

Article 1. To elect the officers for the ensuing year

- a.) Moderator
- b.) Clerk
- c.) Treasurer

Article 2. To hear and act upon reports of the District.

Article 3. To see if the District will authorize the Board of Water Commissioners to borrow money to pay debts and expenses in anticipation of revenue receipts, if necessary, for the ensuing year, said money to be paid to its Treasurer.

Article 4. To approve projected budget for the 2023-2024 fiscal year.

Article 5. To transact any other business thought proper to be done at this time.

Tri-Town Water District No. 1
Mark Pumligia, Clerk-Treasurer

WARNING ANNUAL MEETING OF THE VERGENNES-PANTON WATER DISTRICT, INC. DECEMBER 11, 2023

The legal voters of VERGENNES-PANTON WATER DISTRICT, INC. are hereby notified and warned to meet at the V.P.W.D. business office building on 63 School Street in the City of Vergennes in said District, on the 11th day of December, 2023 at 7:00 P.M. in person to transact the following business to wit:

ARTICLE I: To elect by ballot the following officers:

- (a) a moderator
- (b) a clerk
- (c) a treasurer

ARTICLE II: To hear and act upon the reports from the officers of the VERGENNES-PANTON WATER DISTRICT, INC.

ARTICLE III: To have presented by the Board of Commissioners of the VERGENNES-PANTON WATER DISTRICT, INC. their estimate of expenses for the ensuing year and to appropriate such sum as it, the VERGENNES-PANTON WATER DISTRICT, INC. deems necessary for said expenses together with the amount required to pay the balance, if any, left unpaid expressing said sum in dollars in its vote.

ARTICLE IV: To establish salaries for the Commissioners and other elected officers of the Water District.

ARTICLE V: To see whether the voters of said Water District will authorize its Board to borrow money pending receipt of water rents, by issuance of its notes or orders payable not later than one(1) year to date.

ARTICLE VI: To transact any other business proper to come before said meeting.

Dated at Vergennes, Vermont, this 9th day of November, 2023
Maria L. Brown, Clerk
VERGENNES-PANTON WATER DISTRICT

TOWN OF MIDDLEBURY SELECTBOARD MEETING

ROOM 116 – LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM
TOWN OFFICES – 77 MAIN STREET
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2023 - 7:00 P.M.

Also available via Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88009551427>
By Phone: +1 646-558-8656 (not toll-free)
Webinar ID: 880 0955 1427

For those wishing to watch but not participate:
Selectboard meetings are livestreamed to MCTV's YouTube Channel:
<https://www.youtube.com/user/MCTVvermont>
and also broadcast live on Comcast Channel 1071

AGENDA

- | | |
|------|---|
| 7:00 | 1. **Call to Order
2. *Approval of Agenda
3. *Approval of Consent Agenda
3a. Approval of Minutes of the November 14, Regular Selectboard Meeting
3b. Acceptance of Selectboard Subcommittee Meeting Minutes (if any)
3c. Letter of Support for Municipal Mitigation Stormwater Grant Application
3d. Consent Agenda Placeholder
3e. Consent Agenda Placeholder
3f. Town Manager's Report |
| 7:10 | 4. **Citizen Comments (Opportunity to raise or address issues not otherwise included on this agenda)
5. **Agenda Placeholder |
| 7:20 | 6. *Consideration of Applications for Appointment to the Selectboard's Policy Review Subcommittee |
| 7:30 | 7. *Liam Hickey, Trails & Volunteer Coordinator, Middlebury Area Land Trust (MALT) request for a letter of support for 2023 Vermont Outdoor Recreation Economic Collaborative (VOREC) Grant Application for improvements to Wright Park |
| 7:40 | 8. *Jason Covey, Chief of Police, Report on Dispatch Pilot Project with Addison County Sheriff's Department and Extension of the Memorandum of Understanding with the Sheriff for 2025
9. *Emmalee Cherington, Director of Public Works-Planning, request for award of contract for the installation of guardrail in locations that experienced impacts during the August flooding event and purchase of pavement line strip and driver |
| 7:45 | 10. * Dana Hart, Library Director
10a. Approval for submission of Application for the Libraries Transforming Communities: Accessible Small and Rural Communities grant from the American Libraries Association
10b. Approval of Contract with Christine Graham (CPG Enterprises) for consultation work during the quiet phase of the library's capital campaign
10c. Approval of Draft Letter of Intent with Weybridge Regarding Membership at the Ilsley Public Library for Weybridge Residents |
| 7:55 | 11. *Approval of Third Amendment to License Agreement with Verizon for Communications Tower on Chipman Hill |
| 8:05 | 12. *Agenda Placeholder
13. *Agenda Placeholder
14. *Approval of Check Warrants
15. **Board Member Concerns
16. **Executive Session – Anticipated - Legal Matters
17. **Action on Matters Discussed in Executive Session |
| 8:20 | 18. *Adjourn |

* Decision Item ** Possible Decision

'Pagtinabangay' author Dana Jones to address quilters meeting

MIDDLEBURY — The next meeting of Milk & Honey Quilters, Tuesday, Nov. 28, at the Middlebury American Legion, will include a Zoom hybrid lecture with Dana Jones, entitled "The Quiltmakers of Coahagen Island."

Jones will be speaking from her studio in the Rocky Mountains, telling of her experiences of working with 100 men and women quilters from the tiny Coahagen Island in the Philippines. As a journalist and author of "Pagtinabangay" she has written about the interesting and untold stories of their quilts and she will be showing the stunning

art quilts they have made to support their families.

Doors open at the American Legion Hall at 6 p.m. for a social time. A brief meeting at 6:30 p.m. will be followed by Jones' lecture.

The Zoom hybrid format allows for in-person attendees to view the lecture on a large-screen TV, but also allows those interested to remaining home to view it. Non-members who wish to attend, either in person or via Zoom, should contact Milk & Honey via email at milkandhoneyquilt@yahoo.com to arrange payment of \$5 and receipt of the Zoom link.

Monkton

Have a news tip?
Call Liz Pecor
at 453-2180

NEWS

MONKTON — The Russell Memorial Library will be closed Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 23. They will be open Friday and Saturday at regular hours. Story Hour continues on Saturday Nov. 25, from 10 to 11 a.m., along with another crafting workshop for the whole family, plus songs, stories, and a simple craft for the children. Families will be able to do crafts from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. for the upcoming MCS Bazaar. Call 802-453-4471 for more information.

The Homeschooling Group will meet on Friday, Nov. 24, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. If you

homeschool it's a great chance to share ideas and socialize with other families. You can get more info at russellmemlibrary@gmail.com.

Craft Your Closet continues with Chrissy Bedard on Nov. 28 for Open Workshop. Bring in your craft to get some help with it or just to visit while you work.

Thanks to the Vermont Department of Libraries, Every Vermonter can Access thousands of eBooks and audiobooks with the Palace Project app. These eBooks and audiobooks are brought to your library free of charge. Download the app, find your library and read!

ADDISON COUNTY School Briefs

William Carpenter of Salisbury has made the dean's list at

Wentworth Institute of Technology for the summer 2023 semester.



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nov 24 FRIDAY

Holiday Craft Fair in Bridport. Friday, Nov. 24, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Masonic Hall, Middle Rd. Over 50 crafters with handcrafted, quality merchandise at country prices.

nov 25 SATURDAY

"Small Business Saturday" in Brandon. Saturday, Nov. 25, downtown Brandon. Shop local and kick off the holiday season in Brandon.

Post-Thanksgiving Day breakfast in Shoreham. Saturday, Nov. 25, 8-10 a.m., Shoreham Congregational Church, 28 School St. Feast on plain or blueberry pancakes or French toast with Vermont maple syrup, sausages, home fries, quiche and beverages. \$10 Adults/\$5 Children/\$30 families. Take a chance on a basket of goodies to benefit the Holiday Mitten Project at the Shoreham Elementary School. Raffle tickets \$1 each or 10 for \$5. The winning ticket will be drawn at the end of the breakfast.

Holiday Shoppe & Craft Fair in New Haven. Saturday, Nov. 25, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., New Haven Town Hall, 78 North St. Join Brendon P Cousino Med47foundation and support your local artists and the foundation on Small Business Saturday. More than 20 crafters/vendors. Food, jewelry, woodcraft, quilts, baked goods, local author, Pampered Chef, Cutco and more. More info at www.Facebook.com/med47foundation.

Holiday Craft Fair in Bridport. Saturday, Nov. 25, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Masonic Hall, Middle Rd. See Nov. 24 listing.

Holly Jolly holiday market in Bristol. Saturday, Nov. 25, noon-4 p.m., Holley Hall, 1 South St. Holley Hall will be bursting with makers and artisans from Addison County and beyond. This inaugural Holly Jolly will feature potters, artists, jewelers, and food and skincare producers as well as other gifted artisans.

King Pede card party in Ferrisburgh. Saturday, Nov. 25, 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.

nov 26 SUNDAY

Public Bingo in Vergennes. Sunday, Nov. 26, 1:30-4 p.m., downstairs American Legion, 100 Armory Ln. Bingo starts 2 p.m. Packets, \$15 each, include one sheet of 3 cards for each regular game. No limit to the number of packets you buy.

Memory Tree lighting in Brandon. Sunday, Nov. 26, 3:30 p.m. Brandon Town Hall, 1 Conant Sq. Start the holiday season off with this meaningful and enduring tradition of remembrance. Twin balsam trees will adorn the steps in front of the Brandon Town Hall. Carol singing and the Brandon Festival Singers.

nov 28 TUESDAY

Milk & Honey Quilters meeting and Zoom hybrid lecture in Middlebury. Tuesday, Nov. 28, 6 p.m., American Legion, 40 Wilson Rd. Doors open at 6 p.m. for social time. At 6:30 p.m. Dana Jones will be speaking from her studio in the Rocky Mountains telling of her experiences of working with 100 men and women quilters from the tiny Coahagen Island in the Philippines. Non-members who wish to attend, either in person or via Zoom, should contact Milk & Honey via email at milkandhoneyquilt@yahoo.com to arrange payment of \$5 and receipt of the Zoom link.

Dec 1 FRIDAY

North Pole Christmas Bazaar in Bristol. Friday, Dec. 1, 1-4 p.m., St. Ambrose Parish Hall, 11 School St. Craft shop, bake shop, dolls & jewelry, wonder jars, attic treasures, face painting, online silent auction (Nov. 26-Dec. 1) and raffle mania, including hand-made quilts, theme baskets, 50/50. Silver Tea at 2:30 p.m. on Friday.

Chocolate Walk in Bristol. Friday, Dec. 1, 5-8 p.m., downtown. Stores open until 8 p.m. Stroll around Bristol and get your chocolate fix while doing some holiday shopping.

Memory Tree lighting in Bristol. Friday, Dec. 1, 5:30-6:15 p.m., town green. Join the Bristol Recreation Department and the Bristol Elementary Chorus on the green. Names of all honorees will be displayed next to the Memory Tree. Registration for the Memory Tree can also be done at the Recreation Office or in the Town Office.

"Polaroid Stories" on stage in Middlebury. Friday, Dec. 1, 7:30 p.m., Seeler Studio Theater, Mahaney Art Center, 72 Porter Field Rd. See Nov. 30 listing. Post-show talkback and discussion following the performance.

dec 2 SATURDAY

St. Paul's Christmas Bazaar in Orwell. Saturday, Dec. 2, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Orwell Town Hall, Main St. Beautiful handmade gifts and crafts, Christmas decorations, quilt raffle with many wonderful prizes, basket raffle, flea market treasures, baked goods, wreaths. Have lunch — soup, chili and sandwiches available. Benefit St. Paul's Church.

Santa comes to town in Middlebury/Very Merry Middlebury. Saturday, Dec. 2, 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 South Pleasant St. Very Merry Middlebury 2023 kicks off in its usual fashion with Santa's arrival, horse and wagon rides, the hot cocoa hut and other festive activities in downtown Middlebury.

Used book sale in Middlebury. Saturday, Dec. 2, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Community Room, Ilsley Public Library, 75 Main St. Lots of CDs for sale at 25 cents apiece, a large selection of holiday books, and for December only all children's books are free.

Rokeyby Holiday Shop in Ferrisburgh. Saturday, Dec. 2, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Rokeyby Museum, 4334 Route 7. Come to the annual holiday sale in Rokeyby Museum's shop. Door swags made by Rokeyby volunteers will be for sale, and the store will be open for shopping.



Chocolate anyone?

A SURE SIGN of the holiday season is Bristol's Chocolate Walk. This year's is on Friday, Dec. 1, from 5-8 p.m. Businesses will be open late, so stroll around Bristol and get your chocolate fix while doing some holiday shopping.

Twist o' Wool Guild meeting in Monkton. Saturday, Dec. 2, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Town Offices, 280 Monkton Ridge Rd. For anyone interested in fiber arts. All are welcome. Masks are strongly encouraged but not required.

Sheldon Museum open house in Middlebury. Saturday, Dec. 2, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Henry Sheldon Museum, 1 Park St. Admission to the museum is free and the model trains will be running from 10:30 am to 3:30 pm. The annual holiday trees and wreaths raffle will be on view as well as other festive activities throughout the day. For more information visit www.henrysheldonmuseum.org or call 802-388-2117.

Cookies and a Craft with Mr. Claus in Shoreham. Saturday, Dec. 2, 2-4 p.m., Platt Memorial Library, 279 Main St. A quieter, simpler visit to Mr. Claus. Stop by anytime from 2-4 and write a list for Santa and drop it in the official mailbox, make a holiday craft, eat a cookie or a candy cane, and get a free book. Free and open to anyone and everyone.

dec 3 SUNDAY

Holiday Auction in Brandon. Sunday, Dec. 3, 2 p.m., Brandon Town Hall, 1 Conant Sq. The Friends of the Brandon Free Public Library's annual Holiday Auction. Offerings are from renowned local artists and photographers, also a wide variety of items from artisans in glass, wood, fabric. Refreshments served. Doors open at 1:30 p.m.

dec 5 TUESDAY

François Clemmons talk and book signing in Middlebury. Tuesday, Dec. 5, 3 p.m., The Residence at Otter Creek, 350 Lodge Rd. Co-sponsored by The Vermont Book Shop, François Clemmons will discuss his book, "Officer Clemmons." Free and open to the public.

"Eat, Poop, Die: How Animals Make Our World" in Middlebury. Tuesday, Dec. 5, 6 p.m., Reference Room, Ilsley Public Library, 75 Main St. Ilsley and the Vermont Book Shop present the next installment of the Vermont Authors Series with fellow and writer in residence at the Gund Institute for Environment at the University of Vermont Joe Roman. "Eat, Poop, Die" takes readers on a global adventure, revealing the remarkable ways in which the most basic biological activities of animals make and remake the world — and how a deeper understanding of these cycles provides us with opportunities to undo the environmental damage humanity has wrought. Please enter through the library's front door.

dec 6 WEDNESDAY

Moonlight Madness in Brandon. Wednesday, Dec. 6, 4-8 p.m., Brandon Town Hall, 1 Conant Sq. Thirty vendors over two nights at the town Hall. Vendors will be selling gourmet treats, wreaths, jewelry, honey, Christmas decorations, original artwork & prints, lots of handmade items, a variety of homemade desserts and much more. Friends of Branon Town Hall will be selling soups, chili and hot chocolate at the upstairs concession area on both nights. If interested in participating or reserving a space for either night contact Dennis Marden at denniswarden@gmail.com or call and leave a message at 802-247-5420.

dec 7 THURSDAY

Midd Night Stroll in Middlebury. Thursday, Dec. 7, until 8 p.m., downtown. Middlebury's downtown stores will be open late with specials, pop-ups, tastings and more. The Cocoa Hut is back at Cannon Park, and be sure to check out the falls, which will be illuminated the entire month of December.

Pop-up artisan market in Middlebury. Thursday, Dec. 7, 5-8 p.m., National Bank of Middlebury, Main St. Middlebury Studio School is partnering with BMP to bring artisans to downtown Middlebury for the annual Midd Night Stroll. We are hosting a pop-up artisan market in the on Main Street. Come find a unique holiday gift.

Holiday trains in Middlebury. Thursday, Dec. 7, 5-8 p.m., Henry Sheldon Museum, 1 Park St. The Henry Sheldon Museum's model trains will be operating during the Midd Night Stroll from 5 to 8 p.m. with free admission to the museum and the store will be open for your holiday shopping. More info at www.henrysheldonmuseum.org or call 802-388-2117.

Make a citrus stamped tea towel in Middlebury. Thursday, Dec. 7, 6 p.m., Ilsley Public Library, 75 Main St. Stop in at the library on your Midd Night Stroll and join in on an evening of crafting.

These towels can be used like any kitchen towel. Everything you need to make a towel will be provided. Space is limited. Register at www.ilsleypubliclibrary.org/citrus-stamped-tea-towel or talk to Renee.

dec 8 FRIDAY

Moonlight Madness in Brandon. Friday, Dec. 8, 4-8 p.m., Brandon Town Hall, 1 Conant Sq. See Dec. 6 listing.

Holiday Market in Orwell. Friday, Dec. 8, 4-8 p.m., Farmer's Haven, 318 route 22A. Do some holiday shopping close to home.

Snowflake Stroll in Bristol. Friday, Dec. 8, 5-8 p.m., downtown. A scavenger hunt through the downtown, where snowflakes will be hidden in the main Street businesses. After finding five snowflakes folks can turn in their tally form to be entered into a drawing for Bristol bucks.

Candy cane hunt and S.D Ireland holiday cement truck in Bristol. Friday, Dec. 8, 5:30 p.m., downtown. Bundle up and head to Bristol to help Santa find his lost candy canes. Santa will be arriving at the Town Green with his friends from SD Ireland at 6 p.m. Prizes awarded to kids who find 10 candy canes, special prize to the person who finds the golden candy cane. Free and open to the public.

dec 9 SATURDAY

Wildlife walk in Middlebury. Saturday, Dec. 9, 8-10 a.m., meet at Otter View Park parking area, Weybridge St. and Pulp Mill Bridge Rd. Join OCAS-MALT and help survey birds and other wildlife at Otter View Park and Hurd Grassland. Beginning birders are welcome. Come for all or part of the walk. For information, including the latest COVID constraints, call 802-388-6019 or 802-388-1007.

Community toy swap in Lincoln. Saturday, Dec. 9, 10 a.m., Burnham Hall, 52 East River Rd. Save money and time, reduce your impact on the environment, decrease clutter in your home, and connect with members of the community this holiday season by joining us for a one-day toy swap in Lincoln. Open to everyone, regardless of need or ability to bring items to swap. Please read the details below about the kinds of items we can and cannot accept at <https://fb.me/e/4asUjZb2p> or call Elizabeth at 413-250-9334.

Christmas Cookie sale in Vergennes. Saturday, Dec. 9, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. (or until cookies run out), Champlain Valley Christian Reformed Church, 73 Church St. A large selection of Dutch specialties, fancy homemade cookies, and treats for sale. Choose and package your favorites. They do the baking for you so you won't have to. More info contact Alisa at 802-458-7615.

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

dec 10 SUNDAY

Breakfast Buffet in Vergennes. Sunday, Dec. 10, 8-10 a.m., St. Peter's Parish Hall, 85 S. Maple St. Omelets to order, scrambled eggs, French toast, bacon, sausage, fruit, plain and blueberry pancakes, maple syrup, sausage gravy on biscuits, corn bread, home fries, mini muffins, juice, milk and coffee. Adults \$12/children 8-12 \$7/immediate family \$32 (maximum). Offered by Vergennes Knights of Columbus to support their community service programs.

Free family holiday crafts in Middlebury. Sunday, Dec. 10, 9:30-11 a.m., Middlebury Studio School, 63 Maple St, Suite 8A. Join Middlebury Studio School instructors for a morning of holiday themed crafts. Follow your creativity without making a mess at home. Free and open to everyone. Hot chocolate and other light refreshments provided.

Ornament making in Orwell. Sunday, Dec. 10, 11 a.m., Orwell Free Library, 473 Main St. Come make ornaments. This free event will have loads of winter themed art supplies to create ornaments for all frigid occasions. Gather up your friends and family and come to the for some hot chocolate induced crafting.

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**TOWN OF STARKSBORO
DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD
NOTICE OF HEARING**

Peggy Zeno submitted an application (23-401) for subdivision review of a 3-lot minor subdivision located on 58.5+/- acre parcel (C131W1) on the southerly side of Varney Hill Road in the Town of Starksboro. The proposed subdivision is in the ASRR and FC districts. The Final Plat Hearing on this application will be held per Sec 426. of the Starksboro Land Use and Development Regulations (SLUDR).

The Starksboro DRB will conduct this hearing on Thursday, December 14, 2023, at 7 p.m. at the Starksboro Town Office with remote access (info below). The applications are available to review by request at the Starksboro zoning office.

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.
Access via Zoom: Meeting ID: 878 8416 6793 • Passcode: Stk@drb1
Phone: 1-929-436-2866 • Passcode: 44885153
Starksboro Zoning Administrator
11/15/2023

**TOWN OF BRISTOL
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

The Bristol Development Review Board will hold the following hearings on December 12, 2023, beginning at 7:00 P.M. The hearings will be held in person at the Town Office, located at 1 South Street. The hearings will also be available via Zoom and login information is below.

Permit 23-402: Francis & Diane Heffernan at Plank Road (Parcel #060124-1) for a Preliminary Plat approval for a 7-lot subdivision per Bristol Unified Development Regulations Article IX, Section 930.

Copies of the complete zoning applications are available for review at the Bristol Town Office during regular business hours.

**ACT 250 NOTICE
MINOR APPLICATION #9A0056-2
10 V.S.A. §§ 6001 - 6111**

The Blueberry Hill Inn and Outdoor Center has filed application #9A0056-2 for a project generally described as documentation of existing conditions and bringing into compliance improvements that have occurred upon an existing ±54.10-acre parcel, upon which the existing use began in 1971. No new construction is proposed or approved as part of this application. The project is located at 1245 Goshen-Ripton Road in Goshen, Vermont. This application can be viewed online by visiting the Act 250 Database: <https://anrweb.vt.gov/ANR/Act250/Details.aspx?Num=9A0056-2>.

No hearing will be held, and a permit will be issued unless, on or before Wednesday, December 13, 2023, a party notifies the District 9 Commission in writing of an issue requiring a hearing, or the Commission sets the matter for a hearing on its own motion. Any person as defined in 10 V.S.A. § 6085(c)(1) may request a hearing. Any hearing request must be in writing, must state the criteria or sub-criteria at issue, why a hearing is required, and what additional evidence will be presented at the hearing. Any hearing request by an adjoining property owner or other person eligible for party status under 10 V.S.A. § 6085(c)(1) (E) must include a petition for party status under the Act 250 Rules. To request party status and a hearing, fill out the Party Status Petition Form on the Board's website: <https://nrb.vermont.gov/documents/party-status-petition-form>, and email it to the District 9 Office at: NRB.Act250Barre@vermont.gov. Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law may not be prepared unless the Commission holds a public hearing.

For more information contact the District 9 Coordinator listed below.
Josh Donabedian
Joshua.Donabedian@vermont.gov
802-261-1945
Mail: 10 Baldwin Street, Montpelier VT 05633-3201
Physical: 111 West Street, Essex Junction, VT 05452

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
LINCOLN SELECTBOARD
LINCOLN ZONING REGULATIONS**

The Lincoln Selectboard will hold a public hearing on December 5, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. on the proposed amendments to the Lincoln Zoning Regulations. This hearing will be held at the Lincoln Town Offices, 62 Quaker Street, Lincoln, Vermont. This hearing is held pursuant to 24 V.S.A. 441. This notice is issued pursuant to 24 V.S.A. 4444(b).

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE AND AREAS OF TOWN AFFECTED

On October 5, 2023 the Planning Commission completed its work on the Bylaw Modernization Grant. The primary goal of this project was to increase housing opportunities for residents of all income levels by making it easier to develop affordable, smaller homes on smaller parcels in the four Village Districts.

The following list highlights the Articles amended in the proposed document. Other minor changes are proposed.

- (1) **Article III:** Dimensional Standards and Allowable uses
- (2) **Article VII:** The Review Process
- (3) **Article VIII:** Definitions
- (4) **Article VI:** Planned Unit Developments in the Village Districts

Copies of the draft Lincoln Zoning Regulations are at:
Lincoln Town website: lincolnvermont.org or the Lincoln Town Offices

**TOWN OF MONKTON
DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD**

The Monkton Development Review Board will hold the following hearing on December 11th, 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 #23-304 Irene Gospoderek for an accessory use structure located at 731 Mountain Road (06.206.058.000) in the CON-P zoning district.

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/MeetingID:82116839768> • Passcode: 679652
Phone In: 1-646-558-8656 • Meeting ID: 821 1683 9768 • Passcode: 679652

**TOWN OF BRIDPORT
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

The Bridport Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, December 12, 2023, in the Town Office at 82 Crown Point Road, on each and to consider each of the following application:

At 6:35 PM on Application (#23-45) by Mr. & Mrs. Bahnck for a 2-lot subdivision of parcel ID# 06-015 owned by Mr. & Mrs. Bahnck. The property is located at 237 Holstein Dr., Bridport, VT, 05734

At 6:45 PM on Application (#23-46) by Mr. John Cannon for a 2-lot subdivision of parcel ID# 04-026 owned by Mr. John Cannon. The property is located at 1526 Forrest Rd., Bridport, VT, 05734

Plans and additional information regarding any such application may be viewed at said Town Office or by calling (802) 758-2483, Ext. 2. Participation in the Planning Commission proceeding is a prerequisite to the right to take any subsequent appeal on any decision of it on an application.

Adam Broughton, Planning Commission Chair
Renée Brodeur, Planning Commission Secretary
Michael Wojciechowski, Zoning Administrator

**TOWN OF SALISBURY
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

The Salisbury Development Review Board (DRB) will hold a Public Hearing in the Town Office (25 Schoolhouse Road) at 6:00 PM on Wednesday, December 20, 2023, to consider the following:

Application 2023-14

An application from Ken Trombley (parcel ID #0753107) for a Conditional Use/Waiver Permit, property owners Keewaydin Foundation, in connection with a proposed permit to replace the existing Camp Office building and an addition of the current building, (6' x 27'3"), at the referenced location. The existing building is a nonconforming structure which does not meet the standard of §2.4.4E of the Salisbury Unified Development Regulations which requires a 40' setback from the center of the road, (Lake Dunmore Road). This property is located within the Lake Shore District 2, (LS2).

This application is pursuant to §2.4.4E, §3.4.2, §3.4.1-§3.4.8, (as stated in §4.0.5), of the Salisbury Unified Development Regulations.

Participation (either oral or written) is a prerequisite to an interested person's right to take any subsequent appeal from the DRB's decision. See 24 V.S.A. §4465(b) and 4471.

These hearings will be conducted with in-person and remote access. Those wishing to participate remotely must obtain the necessary remote access codes. Access codes (for on-line or phone) are available by contacting the Salisbury Town Clerk during regular business hours prior to 3:00 PM on December 19, 2023. The Salisbury Town Office is open on Tuesdays from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM and Thursdays from 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM.

Application materials are available for inspection in the Town Office during regular business hours.
Anna Scheck
DRB Clerk

**TOWN OF FERRISBURGH
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT
DECEMBER 6TH, 2023**

A public hearing before the Zoning Board of Adjustment of the Town of Ferrisburgh will be held at the Town Clerk's Office on Wednesday, December 6th, 2023, to consider the following:

7:00 PM Call to order and approval of minutes from the October 4th meeting

1. Application No. 23-113 (Mr. J. Kirsch) Single Family Home Shoreland; property ID#: 99/99/99.16; 204 Annex Road; Shoreland (SD-2) district; conditional use
2. Application No. 23-120 (Mr. R. Eastman) Single Family Home Shoreland; property ID#: 99/99/99.113; 238 North Road; Shoreland (SD-2) district; conditional use
3. Application No. 23-107 (Mr. M. Franceschetti) Additional Self-Storage Units; property ID#: 18/21/71; 6866 US-7; Highway Mixed Use (HMU-2) district; conditional use. Continuation of Public Hearing opened October 4th.

The above files are available for inspection at the Town Clerk's Office. Persons wishing to appear and be heard may do so in person or be represented by an agent or an attorney. Communications about the above hearings may also be filed in writing with the Board or the Zoning Administrator.

PLEASE NOTE: Participation in the local proceeding is a prerequisite to the right to take any subsequent appeal.

Time: December 6th, 2023 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85437975279?pwd=ZFRGQlI2WkhGRVZpajRmbXZOMzhRdz09>
Meeting ID: 854 3797 5279
Passcode: 734072

Find your local number: [Shttps://us02web.zoom.us/j/kMnMjv67](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kMnMjv67)

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK FROM AREA HIGH SCHOOLS

Middlebury Union High School

Shyanne Wedge

Middlebury Union High School's latest Student of the Week is Shyanne Wedge. She lives in Shoreham and is the daughter of Kristie Teer and Ken Wedge. Shyanne loves school and has been successful in her studies both at MUHS and the Hannaford Career Center.

Shyanne says her coursework at the Career Center has always been interesting and she credits teacher Kelley Mills for inspiring her. As a 9th-grader, on a whim, she enrolled in Plant and Animal Science, now known as Introduction to Agriculture Science, and that, she says, was all she needed to confirm her desire to pursue additional studies at the Career Center. She is currently in her second year in the Sustainable Agriculture program. She has enjoyed learning about greenhouse production, livestock, animal nutrition, dairy management and tractor safety. She is a proud member of Future Farmers of America as well as 4-H.

Her involvement in 4-H began when she was a young girl and she started as a "Clover Bud." Shyanne regularly participates in Addison County Fairy & Field Days each summer. She is involved in state and local 4-H competitions with both her horse and her cow. Shyanne has a vast knowledge of hippology, the scientific study of horses, and can easily rattle off equine facts and figures. She placed in the top four of all contestants in last year's competition and based on her skill, she was selected to represent Vermont in Louisville, Ky., at the national Quiz Bowl for 4-H members from across the country.

With a bright smile, Shyanne says it was "the thrill of my life" to go to Kentucky. Her trip included a visit to Churchill Downs, the site of the famed Kentucky Derby. Over the years she has collected numerous badges and pins for her participation in 4-H and she wears her jacket with pride. Shyanne thanks her many friends at MUHS, the Career Center and within her 4-H Club for their support. She's also especially grateful to several individuals "who have been helpful to me throughout my time at the high school," specifically, Ms. Preston, Laurie Hanfield, and Amy Masefield. Shyanne also enjoys participating in the MUHS Unified Basketball team as it involves so many fun people.

As Shyanne looks ahead to life after graduation, she is considering a career path in early childhood education and pre-school teaching. She hopes to tie her love of animals into a classroom setting in the future and to encourage young children to enjoy 4-H as much as she has. We wish Shyanne well in the future.



Shyanne Wedge
MUHS

Vergennes Union High School

Mackenzie Flint

Mackenzie Flint, the daughter of Melissa and Steve Flint of Waltham and sister to Abby and Lily, is Vergennes Union High School's Student of the Week. Mackenzie is in the early college program, completing both her senior year of high school and her freshman year of college concurrently. She is studying environmental science at the Community College of Vermont and says she absolutely loves it and the opportunities it provides. Her favorite classes are Intro to Environmental Science and Human Growth and Development. She appreciates her teachers at VUHS, who are always warm and welcoming to her. Mackenzie is a regular honor roll student and was just recently awarded the 2023 DAR Good Citizen Award.

Mackenzie calls the VUHS environmental club, The Green Team, her baby. She took over leadership during her sophomore year and ever since then has been organizing weekly meetings, fundraisers and school events. Through the club she has been able to bring her passion for the environment into school and share it with others. A Green Team highlight was last year's school-wide environmental day. About half of the students went off campus for field trips, community members came into the school to run activities, and Bill McKibben was the keynote speaker. Mackenzie also serves as secretary for the National Honors Society and participates in class meetings as much as possible.

Mackenzie has worked for the Ferrisburgh Fusion program, Kayhart Brothers Farm, and Daily Chocolate, but this year is focusing on her studies. Mackenzie worked hard to donate a playground, grill and mural to the John Graham Homeless Shelter. "My favorite part of my childhood was playing outside, and so my goal behind this project was to give children that same experience regardless of their situation," she says. Mackenzie is also a member of the Vergennes Lions Leo's Club.

Most of Mackenzie's free time is spent with friends and family. She loves the outdoors — hiking, kayaking and much more — and lately she has been into paint by numbers. She says it makes up for her lack of artistic talent while still being able to paint something. She says high school has taught her to be her own biggest advocate. "Nobody is going to do everything for you," she says. "Community members, family, friends and teachers are there to support you, but you have to advocate for yourself."

Mackenzie hopes to study Environmental Science at the University of New England, focusing on the ocean/aquatic side of Environmental Science. VUHS wishes her best of luck in what will be a very bright future.



Mackenzie Flint
VUHS

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If you are interested in advertising in Student of the Week contact advertising@addisonindependent.com

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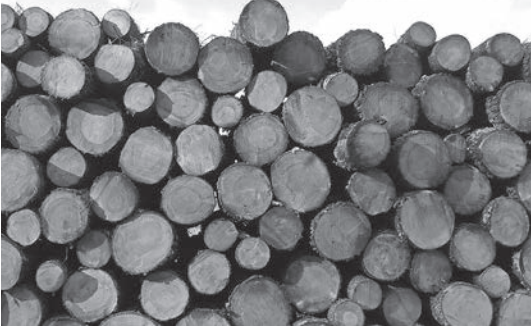
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CLASSIFIEDS

Public Meetings

AL-ANON OFFERS HELP and hope to anyone who has been affected by a loved one's drinking. Middlebury hosts an online meeting Sunday night 7:15pm and a face to face one Wednesday at 1:30pm at CVUUS (2 Duane Court Middlebury near the high school) that you can also access by Zoom. Visit vermontalananonlateen.org for links and list of other meetings in the region. If you'd like to speak to an Al-Anon member, call our answering service (866-972-5266) and an Al-Anon member will call you back.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS in person meetings are available. For a list of local virtual meetings visit <http://bit.ly/district9aa>. For more information visit <https://aaavt.org/> or call the 24 hour hotline at 802-802-AAVT (2288).

THE TURNING POINT CENTER of Addison County is open for in-person services, Monday through Friday, 10am-4pm, 54A Creek Road, Middlebury. We are available by phone 24/7 at 802-388-4249.

Public Meetings

VERGENNES FREE THINKERS Founded in 1935 on the principle of one alcoholic helping another to achieve sobriety, A.A. is an effective and enduring program of recovery that has changed countless lives. A.A. has always been committed to making its program of recovery available to anyone, anywhere, who reaches out for help with an alcohol problem. The Vergennes Free Thinkers meeting was created in January of this year to maintain a tradition of free expression, conduct a meeting where alcoholics may feel free to express any beliefs, doubts or disbelief they may have, to share their own personal form of spiritual experience, their search for it, and/or their rejection of it, without having to accept anyone else's beliefs or having to deny their own. Meetings are held with a high regard for compassion and inclusion without judgment or exception. If you think we can help, please join us on Thursdays at 6pm by contacting vergennesfreethinkers@gmail.com for Zoom and in-person meeting information.

Public Meetings

VERMONT SUPPORT LINE Are you struggling with a challenging situation? Do you have feelings of sadness, loneliness, isolation, anger, or depression? You don't have to face it alone. Talk with a caring person who understands what you're going through today by calling or texting the free and confidential Pathways Vermont Support Line available 24/7 at (833) VT - TALKS.

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Help Wanted

Free

DIGITAL ACCESS View obituaries, calendar listings and classifieds online at addisonindependent.com. Don't miss out on events, garage sales, or opportunities- check out our free digital listings. Looking to read more? Become a subscriber!

Help Wanted

Help Wanted



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Please no phone calls.

Middlebury Agway 338 Exchange St. - Middlebury, VT.

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

Help Wanted



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Opportunities

Opportunities

Opportunities

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Opportunities

Opportunities


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Addison Independent CLASSIFIEDS

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

Help Wanted



A BETTER PLACE TO LIVE, WORK & PLAY

Better Middlebury Partnership is hiring!

The Board of Directors of the Better Middlebury Partnership is hiring leaders of this valuable community organization.

If you are motivated to serve Middlebury by strengthening business relationships, planning and executing fun and engaging events and creatively imagining ways to improve life in Middlebury, then this is the perfect opportunity for you!

The Better Middlebury Partnership (BMP) is a non-profit organization run by a volunteer board with a mission to promote, enhance and support community in Middlebury through trustworthy communication, collective advocacy and a focus on engagement with a goal to make Middlebury a great place to live, work and play.

BMP leaders must fully embrace our mission and must thrive in a self-directed environment where they work independently to recognize needs, imagine solutions and build teams to execute the work of the organization. They will work collaboratively with board members, business leaders, Town of Middlebury staff as well as partners from other local and state organizations.

The BMP is responsible for managing community events including, but not limited to:

- Very Merry Middlebury
- Spooktacular
- Middlebury Car Show (in partnership with the Addison County Chamber of Commerce)
- Middlebury Markets/Sidewalk Sales/Block Parties

We could offer a part time or full time schedule with a range of responsibilities best suited to the strengths and experience of the individual applicant(s).

BMP employees will primarily work from home, with monthly board meetings and the expectation that s/he will engage directly with business owners and community partners at their places of business.

For more information about the Better Middlebury Partnership, please visit ExperienceMiddlebury.com.

To apply, please send a letter of interest, resume and at least two professional references by December 8 to:

Amy Carlin
Board President
bmp@bettermiddleburypartnership.com

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

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- Manage activities to maintain a clean and organized work environment and work with the store manager in the daily operation of all parts of our business.
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Help Wanted

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Help Wanted

MIDDLEBURY COOP IS HIRING Looking for a supportive, active workplace? The co-op is hiring full-time & part-time positions with a set weekly schedule. Benefits include a 20% staff discount, 3+ weeks paid time off, medical, dental, and vision insurance, profit-sharing bonus, 401k, life insurance and more. Pay starts at \$16.50 an hour, **\$1000 hiring bonus available after completing 90 days. To learn more and apply visit www.middleburycoop.com or pick up an application in store.

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This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertisement for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination, call HUD Toll-free at 1-800-424-8590. For the Washington, DC area please call HUD at 426-3500.

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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.

HOUSE IN CORNWALL Furnished, \$4000/mo. 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths. Single family home 8 miles from Middlebury with view of Green Mountains and surrounding orchards. Primary bedroom and bath on first floor. Open living area with brick fireplace, second living room with soapstone wood stove. 3 additional bedrooms on second floor plus study or entertainment room. Screen porch, patio, fenced in yard. Weatherized basement and fast, reliable fiber-optic. Includes water, propane, lawn and garden maintenance. Tenant responsible for heating, electricity, trash and snow removal. No smoking. Pets considered. Available January 15 or possibly sooner. Short-term or long-term lease. Deposit: one month's rent. Photos available upon request. Contact: bhodes@sunriseorchards.com

MIDDLEBURY SUGARWOOD APARTMENTS is currently taking waitlist applications for 2, 3, 4 bedroom apartments. Minimum occupancy requirements. No smoking/ No pets. Income limits apply- Rent based on income. Equal Housing Opportunity 802-247-0165 TTY: 800-253-0191 www.SummitPMG.com.

MIDDLEBURY, OFF CAMPUS HOUSING available. 802-388-4831, AJ Neri Property Rentals.

ORWELL: OUTGOING SENIOR gentleman who enjoys dice games, TV, and time with family, offering rent-free housing (just a small util. share) in exchange for meal prep 3-4 times/week, light snow removal, and sharing conversation. Must be cat-friendly! 802-863-5625 or HomeShareVermont.org for application. Interview, references, background checks required. EHO

Help Wanted



Our schools need substitute teachers. You can help!

Substitute Teachers

- Are essential to our schools!
- Help our schools operate at their full potential during staff vacancies and illness.
- Ensure consistency and support for all students.

This could be a great fit if you:

- Love supporting kids!
- Have and want a flexible schedule.
- Are energetic, curious, inclusive, and kind.
- Are considering a career as a teacher or paraprofessional.
- Want to get involved and support our community!

Payscale:

Your rate of pay increases if you commit to consecutive days in a week. Substitutes are paid on half/full day basis.

Licensed Substitute Teachers and ACSD retirees:

- \$160 per day for 5 days
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- \$140/day for 3 days
- \$130/day for 2 days
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- \$140/day for 4 days
- \$130/day for 3 days
- \$120/day for 2 days
- \$110/day for 1 day

School Nurse substitutes begin at \$150/day

To apply: acsdvt.org/Page/4418 or scan the QR Code: Questions: 802-382-1281



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LIBRARY DIRECTOR

The Board of Trustees of the Lawrence Memorial Library in Bristol, VT is seeking an experienced, community focused and forward-thinking Director.

ESSENTIAL JOB FUNCTIONS

- Work collaboratively with staff and community to lead LML into the future.
- Make informed decisions regarding programming and technology.
- Possess strong organizational, financial, technological, and supervisory skills.
- Communicate personally and effectively with library patrons, staff and Board of Trustees.
- Manage the day-to-day running of the library.

The Director acts as library spokesperson, promoting the use of the library by all members of the community and fostering positive working relationships with town government and organizations.

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.

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

MAPLEFIELDS
Looking for work in your hometown?
We offer medical, dental, paid vacation, personal time, sick time and 401K for full time positions.
ALL ADDISON COUNTY LOCATIONS CURRENTLY HIRING!
For openings and to apply, visit Maplefields.com

Adirondack Dental Health
Dean L. Cook, D.M.D.

DENTAL ASSISTANT
Adirondack Dental Health is looking to fill an immediate Dental Assistant position. We are looking for someone who is reliable, comfortable interacting with patients, and who shares the same goals of giving excellent customer service and dental care. No experience necessary. Will train the right applicant. \$22/hour with benefits.

Please send your resume to:
Adirondack Dental Health
3 Defiance Street, Ticonderoga, NY 12883
drop off at the office, Fax to 518-585-7753 or email adkdent@gmail.com

Addison County Parent/Child Center
VAN DRIVER JOB OPENING
Addison County Parent/Child Center
We are seeking a van driver who will transport children, youth, and parents to our center from around Addison County.
Strong candidates must have a clean driving record and experience with children and families.
Great working environment and benefits. This is a 20-hour position with hours split between mornings and afternoons.
Please contact **Donna Bailey** at dbailey@addisoncountypcc.org

Addison Independent CLASSIFIEDS

Help Wanted



FULL-TIME EDUCATION MANAGER

Passionate and skilled in environmental education?

Want to work for a thriving non-profit in Addison County?

A NEW full-time and benefited position at the Middlebury Area Land Trust (MALT) will lead our education and outreach programs.

Must love nature. Must love teaching. Must be passionate about connecting people with MALT's lands and trails.

Learn more and apply: maltvt.org/staff-and-careers.

Help Wanted

For Rent

VERGENNES VALLEY VIEW APARTMENTS is currently taking wait list applications. Occupants must be 62+ years of age. No smoking/ No pets. Income limits apply - Rent based on income. Equal Housing Opportunity. 802-247-0165 TTY: 800-253-0191 www.SummitPMG.com.

VERGENNES: 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. No additional pets. 802-863-5625 or HomeShareVermont.org for application. Interview, references, background checks required. EHO

Wood Heat

DRY OR GREEN firewood for sale. Delivery available. 802-758-2007.

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

PAYING TOP DOLLAR for any old noncommercial 16mm films and Kodak 3 1/4" tapes. 802-453-6975.

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Rifles, Hand guns, Shot guns

Top prices paid.

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C: 802-236-7213



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Auctions

MARKET REPORT ADDISON COUNTY COMMISSION SALES
RT. 125 • EAST MIDDLEBURY, VT
Sales for 11/16/23 & 11/20/23

		COST	
BEEF	LBS.	/LB	\$
Circle Saw Farm	1410	1.15	\$1621.50
UVM Cream Farm	1850	1.10	\$2035.00
Cornestone Dairy	1505	1.10	\$1655.50
T. Snide	1205	1.10	\$1325.50
R+N Thibault	1755	1.08	\$1895.40
Blue Spruce Farm	1895	1.00	\$1895.00
Wilcon Farm	1755	1.00	\$1755.00
Nea Tocht	1800	.98	\$1764.00

		COST	
CALVES	LBS.	/LB	\$
R. Scholten	103	7.60	\$782.80
L. Garvey	100	7.15	\$715.00
Barnes Bros.	117	7.10	\$830.70
J. Fifield	116	7.10	\$823.60
A. Brisson	93	7.00	\$651.00

Total Beef - 157 Total Calves - 263

We value our faithful customers.
Sales at 3 pm - Mon. & Thurs.
call 1-802-388-2661

Full Passport Service

Addison County Courthouse

The Addison County Clerk located in Frank Mahady Courthouse is available to accept passport applications and provide passport photos.

REGULAR HOURS
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday - 9am to 1pm
Wednesday - 8:45am to 4:00pm
Friday - Closed

APPOINTMENTS REQUIRED.

802-388-1966
addisoncountyclerk@gmail.com

STATE OF VERMONT SUPERIOR COURT ADDISON UNIT

CIVIL DIVISION DOCKET NO: 37-2-19 Ancv

THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON, FKA THE BANK OF NEW YORK, SUCCESSOR IN INTEREST TO JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, N.A. AS TRUSTEE FOR STRUCTURED ASSET MORTGAGE INVESTMENTS II INC., BEAR STEARNS ALT-A TRUST, MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2005-8 PLAINTIFF

VS.

AMY E. BRONS; ANDREW J. BRONS; MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC., AS NOMINEE FOR CTX MORTGAGE COMPANY, LLC AND OCCUPANTS RESIDING AT 555 PLANK ROAD, FERRISBURG, VT 05456

NOTICE OF SALE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Amy E Brons and Andrew J Brons, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as Mortgagee, as nominee for CTX Mortgage Company, LLC, dated May 13, 2005, and recorded in Book 114, at Page 118, of the Town of Ferrisburgh Land Records, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder by Assignment of Mortgage recorded in Book 153, Page 14, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction at December 15, 2023 at 03:00 PM at 555 Plank Road, Ferrisburgh, VT 05456 all and singular the premises described in said mortgage,

To Wit:

Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed to Andrew J. Brons and Amy E. Brons by Warranty Deed of Donald L. Sapir and Janet Sapir dated May 13, 2005 and recorded May 16, 2005 in Book 114, at Page 116 of the Town of Ferrisburgh Land Records and further described therein.

The description of the property contained in the mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.

The public sale may be adjourned one or more times for a total time not exceeding 30 days, without further court order, and without publication or service of a new notice of sale, by announcement of the new sale date to those present at each adjournment or by posting notice of the adjournment in a conspicuous place at the location of the sale. Terms of Sale: \$10,000.00 to be paid in cash or by certified check by the purchaser at the time of sale, with the balance due at closing. The sale is subject to all liens, encumbrances, unpaid taxes, tax titles, municipal liens, if any, which take precedence over the said mortgage above described.

The Mortgagor is entitled to redeem the premises at any time prior to the sale by paying the full amount due under the mortgage, including the costs and expenses of the sale.

Other terms to be announced at sale.

The Bank of New York Mellon, fka The Bank of New York, successor in interest to JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. as Trustee for Structured Asset Mortgage Investments II Inc., Bear Stearns ALT-A Trust, Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2005-8

/s/ Caryn L. Connolly

Caryn L. Connolly, Esq.
BROCK & SCOTT, PLLC
1080 Main Street, Suite 200
Pawtucket, RI 02860
VT_Noticesofhearing@brockandscott.com

Public Notices Index

Public Notices for the following can be found in this **ADDISON INDEPENDENT** on **Page 3B, 5B and 10B.**

- Act 250 (1)
- Addison County Courthouse (2)
- Bridport (1)
- Bristol (2)
- Ferrisburgh (1)
- Lawrence Memorial Library (1)
- Lincoln (1)
- Middlebury (2)
- Monkton (1)
- Salisbury (1)
- Starksboro (1)
- Tri-Town Water District (1)
- Vergennes (1)
- Vergennes Opera House (1)
- Weybridge (1)
- Vergennes Pantown Water District (1)

STATE OF VERMONT SUPERIOR COURT PROBATE DIVISION ADDISON UNIT DOCKET NO.: 23-PR-05325 IN RE ESTATE OF: CHRISTINA DEL PIERO

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

To the Creditors of: Christina Del Piero, late of Cornwall, VT. I have been appointed to administer this estate. All creditors having claims against the decedent or the estate must present their claims in writing within four (4) months of the first publication of this notice. The claim must be presented to me at the address listed below with a copy sent to the Court. The claim may be barred forever if not presented within the four (4) month period.

Dated: 11/13/23

Natalie Feilchenfeld
49 Kriste Lane
Jericho, VT 05465
802-238-3453
nfeilchen@gmail.com

Publication: Addison Independent
Publication Dates: 11/16/23 & 11/23/23
Address of Probate Court: 7 Mahady Court Middlebury, VT 05753

FRIENDS OF THE VERGENNES OPERA HOUSE REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Friends of the Vergennes Opera House (FVOH) seeks proposals from qualified construction management ("CM") firms to provide construction-period construction management services to accomplish accessibility improvements to Vergennes City Hall and Opera House located at 120 Main St. in Vergennes, Vermont.

Qualified firms will have experience complying with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Rehabilitation of Historic Buildings, accessibility modifications and bonding capacity in excess of \$1.3M. A copy of the Request for Proposals may be downloaded from <https://www.vergennesoperahouse.org/the-project.html>.

A mandatory site visit for respondents will be held November 30, 2023 at 3:30 p.m. Pre-registration for the site visit is required no later than November 27, 2023 at 4:00 p.m. at info@vergennesoperahouse.org.

Proposals are due December 8, 2023 at 4:00 p.m.

FVOH reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, or to accept any proposal deemed to be in its best interests. FVOH does not discriminate and proposals from minority and women-owned business enterprises are invited.

TOWN OF MIDDLEBURY PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Middlebury Development Review Board will hold a public hearing on Monday, December 11, 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 #2023-24:088.000-CU) by Otter Creek Childcare Center. The applicant is proposing to amend their existing permitted approval for the childcare facility use located at 150 Weybridge Street. The project called the Community Children Center Expansion Project requests a new 6900 sq. ft. addition, renovations to the existing building and related site plan improvements to allow for expanded childcare enrollment. The amended site plan includes development on parcels #024088.000 and #024089.000 both owned by Otter Creek Childcare Center.

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 applications 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
Assistant ZA

CITY OF VERGENNES NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Vergennes City Council will hold the second of two public hearings to hear comments from the public on the following proposed amendment to the Municipal Development Plan: Pursuant to 24 V.S.A. §4385, the City Council proposes to amend Section 7.2.8 Northern Gateway District (NG) of the Municipal Development Plan to modify the limitation on ground-floor residential uses in buildings which do not have direct access to Main Street by amending this section to read: "Residential uses are prohibited at the ground level in buildings within 150 feet of the edge of the public right of way on Main Street/22A."

The meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 12, 2023, at 5:45 P.M. This will be a hybrid meeting, in person at the Vergennes Fire Station, 50 Green Street, Vergennes or through Zoom by computer at <https://zoom.us/j/561577976> or by phone at 1 (312) 626-6799. Meeting ID: 561 577 976. Meeting Password: 1234

A copy of the Plan is available for public review in the City Clerk's Office, or by contacting Peter Garon, Zoning Administrator at pgaron@vergennes.org.

November 16, 2023
Ron Redmond, City Manager

TOWN OF WEYBRIDGE PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE (In Person and Online) PLANNING COMMISSION

A public hearing before the Weybridge Planning Commission will be held in person and via Zoom at the Weybridge Town Office on Monday, December 11, 2023, at 7:00 PM, to pursue the following business:

To consider the request of Aleta Sisson to adjust the boundary between two parcels she owns on Snake Mountain Road.

Persons wishing to be heard at this Public Meeting may do so in person or may be represented at the meeting by a licensed Vermont Attorney or an authorized agent; please note that in accordance with Chapter 117, Section 4464 of the Vermont statutes that participation in the Public Meeting is a prerequisite to the right to take subsequent appeal.

The full application and sketch plan can be viewed at the Town Clerk's Office - call 545-2270 for access instructions. Please call or email jwolson23@gmail.com or clerk@townofweybridge.org for instructions on participating in the hearing via Zoom.

Jeff Olson, Chair
Weybridge Planning Commission

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING BRISTOL SELECTBOARD PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT BYLAWS December 11 and December 18, 2023, 7:00pm

The Bristol Selectboard will hold hybrid public hearings on Monday, December 11 and Monday, December 18, 2023, 7:00pm, on the proposed amendments to the Bristol Unified Development Regulations (UDR) as proposed by the Bristol Planning Commission. This hearing is held pursuant to 24 V.S.A. 4442 and 24 V.S.A. 4444.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE AND AREAS OF TOWN AFFECTED

The principal purpose of the proposed development bylaw amendments is to make revisions that would enable the creation of more housing in the Village Planning Area, traditionally the village and some outlying areas, consistent with the Town Plan using aspects detailed in "Enabling Better Places: A Zoning Guide for Vermont Neighborhoods" published by the Vermont Agency of Commerce & Community Development. Additionally, the proposed amendments will implement reforms required by S.100 (Act 47) known as the "Housing Opportunities Made for Everyone."

The following list highlights the Articles and other topics substantially amended in the proposed document. Other minor changes are also proposed.

- Article II:** adjustments to the Dimensional Standards to provide greater flexibility for residential use/housing in Village Business (VB) and Village Mixed (VM); a portion of Village Residential (VR) was moved to High Density Residential (HDR).
- Article IV:** added parameters identifying "clearly subordinate" with regard to an Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU).
- Article X:** definitions, including but not limited to Business Yard, Hotel, and Inn/Guest Facility.

Copies of the proposed Bristol Unified Development Regulations are available on Bristol's Web site at www.bristolvt.org and can be viewed or obtained at the Bristol Town Office Monday–Thursday, 8:00am–4:30pm.

To join the Zoom meeting:
Meeting ID: 879 1281 0018
Passcode: 619003

Join meeting by phone: 1 (606) 558-8656

For more information, please contact Zoning Administrator Kris Perlee at zoning@bristolvt.org, Town Administrator Valerie Capels at townadmin@bristolvt.org, or either by leaving a message at the Town Office at (802) 453-2410.

ADDISON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

GROUND TECHNICIAN 2023-2024

Addison Central School District is seeking a full-time Grounds Technician at Middlebury Union High School. Requirements of the position are being able to work outside in all weather conditions, must be able to operate a variety of manual and power equipment/tools, climb ladders, and lift 80 lbs unassisted.

Addison Central School District offers competitive wages. Employee benefits include:

Health, Dental, Life AD&D, Long Term Disability Coverage

- Contribution up to a family health insurance plan
- Contribution to either 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
- Paid leave

Other Benefits

- Retirement annuity match of up to 4.5% of salary after two years of service
- Employee Assistance Program

Apply by sending a letter of interest, resume, and three current reference letters, through Schoolspring.

Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. E.O.E.

ARTS + LEISURE

The Addison Independent

November 23, 2023



The Middlebury College Department of Theater will present "Polaroid Stories" by Naomi Iizuka, Nov. 30-Dec. 2, at 7:30 p.m., in the Seeler Studio Theater. Student-actors Zeph Santiago (Narcissus) and Kristen Morgenstern (Echo) rehearse on stage for the upcoming shows.

INDEPENDENT PHOTOS / STEVE JAMES

'Polaroid Stories' reveals characters around us

Has it been a while since you've played with a Polaroid camera? Or maybe you've hopped back on the band wagon and bought one of the new Polaroid cameras that come in all shades of pastel, with cuter rounded bodies compared to their silvered cousins of the '90s. With a firm snap of the shutter, a subtle vibration and then a soft fiz-humm-click... and a glossy, insta-print is deposited into your hand.

BY **ELSIE**
LYNN PARINI

It's instantly satisfying. And then you wait.

The image is revealed slowly; a moment captured on this special film. What was it that



Elsa Marrian plays Philomel in "Polaroid Stories."

you saw through the viewfinder that made your finger hit the trigger? Can you see it now in the captured Polaroid? Can anyone else?

Like the Polaroid, award-winning playwright Naomi Iizuka has a play that captures moments and stories — for Iizuka's play, it's about individuals who live perilously close to the edge or beyond.

Iizuka's play "Polaroid Stories" will be presented by the Middlebury College Department of Theater, directed by Alex Draper, on Nov. 30-Dec. 2, at 7:30 p.m., in the Seeler Studio Theater. A lively post-show talkback and discussion will follow the Friday evening performance.

Described as "a visceral blend of classical

SEE STORIES ON PAGE 2

STORIES

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

mythology and real life stories told by street kids," "Polaroid Stories" features 10 actors playing characters ranging from Echo, Eurydice, Orpheus and Narcissus to Skinhead Girl, Kaos, Melody and Disappear. "Iizuka journeys into a dangerous world where myth-making fulfills a fierce need for transcendence, where storytelling has the power to transform a reality in which characters' lives are continually threatened, devalued and erased," the Theater Department's description states. "Like their mythic counterparts, these modern-day mortals are engulfed by needs that burn and consume."

The production features Middlebury College students Jack Barnhart, Beck Barsanti, Patrice Cahill, Jordan Henry, Elsa Marrian, Kristen Morgenstern, Jonathan Mount, Zeph Santiago and Katelyn Wenkoff. They are joined by Middlebury alum ('15.5) and international theater artist Miguel Castillo, who designed the movement and acts in the show. The cast collaborated with a film production class that helped with soundscapes for the show; professional composer Peter Hamlin provided original music, and Amit Prakash assisted as the music consultant.

"I've never been in such a heavy show," said Wenkoff, who is a theater and psychology double major planning to graduate in the spring



of 2024. "It's difficult to come to the work every night. But it's relevant to Middlebury and the world — there's a lot of chaos. It's therapeutic to explore it on the stage."

The show should come with "every content warning you can think of," said Wenkoff.

The cast has diligently researched drugs, poverty, addiction and more to be able to portray their characters accurately.

"The actors have put in a lot of work," said stage manager Alex Garcia, a sophomore working toward their theater major (design focus) and a double minor in Portuguese and linguistics. "They've asked questions, been mindful, and know how to represent these characters fairly."

This is Garcia's fourth time stage managing on campus. Work for this show began back in September, and it's been an intense five-days-a-week rehearsal schedule for the better part of 10 weeks. Garcia made a point to thank Steven Yang, assistant stage manager, who helped make it all possible.

"IN THIS PRODUCTION, YOU'RE STEPPING INTO A WORLD OF HALF-MYTHOLOGY AND HALF-REALITY — AND BOTH OF THEM ARE ROUGH."

— Alex Draper

"I've worked with a number of this cast before," Garcia said. "Everyone is bringing the best they can to every rehearsal... Every good production I've worked on has a scene that just clicks for me. In this production it's how most of these characters are usually so afraid to be vulnerable; we learn it's OK to be vulnerable and share space with other people. That's something beautiful I've taken away from this show."

"In this production, you're stepping into a world of half-mythology and half-reality — and both of them are rough," said director and theater professor Alex Draper. "Iizuka interviewed at-risk youths for this play; those who are living on the edge (or have possibly fallen off the edge) of society. She then mixes that with mythology that we all know... She asks, 'What are the myths we create about ourselves just to get by? What does it mean to be a god and what are the costs?'"

"Each of the characters has a persona, and that's the means that they use to interact with a world that has decided not to interact with them," Draper continued. "It is very poetic and beautiful,

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



Miguel Castillo will perform as "D" in the upcoming show, "Polaroid Stories," beginning Nov. 30. Castillo, a Middlebury alum also designed movement for the production.



but also has some very violent language... The play has a kind of refracted quality that allows lizuka to illuminate disparate things. She is stirring up very old myths about the relationship between gods (or those perceived as gods) and mortals, and inviting to dive into the chaos ignited by love."

The complexity of the narrative is supported by the collaboration of the sound, movement and acting.

"The most challenging part is trying to bring together several different designers into one physical production," Garcia explained. "We try to focus on what's in the realm of possibility and believability for this show; and then manage expectations."

The teams are working together to combine their interpretations of "words on a page" to create an immersive "moment on stage," Draper said proudly.

"Watching film students work with the theater students is incredible," he said. "They are collaborating with each other without a structure, and are really well organized."

"I genuinely enjoy coming to rehearsal and having the community of the cast and crew," Wenkoff said. "Yes, we're all busy, but these three hours I don't think about; I have rehearsal, and I'm doing what I love with everybody."

Director Draper hopes audiences will leave with an "increased awareness of our need to really look and see the people around us, not just family and friends, but the wider community, especially those who might be close to slipping through the cracks."

Can a Polaroid capture that?



Jordan Henry and Jonathan Mount rehearse a scene as Eurydice and Orpheus from "Polaroid Stories" by Naomi lizuka and directed by Alex Draper.

INDEPENDENT PHOTOS / STEVE JAMES

"I'VE NEVER BEEN IN SUCH A HEAVY SHOW... BUT IT'S RELEVANT TO MIDDLEBURY AND THE WORLD — THERE'S A LOT OF CHAOS. IT'S THERAPEUTIC TO EXPLORE IT ON THE STAGE."

— Katelyn Wenkoff

Middlebury Community Players calls for actors

The Middlebury Community Players will hold open auditions at Town Hall Theater on Dec. 4 and 5, for their winter 2024 production of "Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike," a comedy by Christopher Durang. The play involves late-middle-aged siblings Vanya and Sonia who bicker and complain about the circumstances of their lives in Bucks County, Penn., when suddenly their movie-star sister, Masha, swoops in with her new 20-something boy toy, Spike. Also on the scene are a sassy and cynical housekeeper, Cassandra and a young aspiring actress named Nina, whose prettiness somewhat worries the imperious Masha.

There are roles for men and women to portray characters in their 20s and 50s-60s. The Middlebury Community Players are committed to diverse, inclusive casting. For every role, it seeks to consider a wide range of talent, including actors of all ages, races and ethnicities. The play will be directed by MCP board member Peter Kristoph, who directed MCP's production of Oscar Wilde's "The Importance of Being Earnest" in February 2023.

AUDITION DETAILS

(Please come to only one audition session.)

Town Hall Theater
68 South Pleasant Street, Middlebury

Monday, Dec. 4, 7-9 p.m.
(check-in at 6:30 p.m.)

Tuesday, Dec. 5,
7-9 p.m.
(check-in at 6:30 p.m.)



Callbacks will be on Wednesday, Dec. 6, 7-9 p.m., if needed.

ADVANCE SCRIPT ACCESS

Actors auditioning may want to read the play beforehand. It is available from booksellers and libraries, as well as from Amazon.com: "Vanya and Masha and Sonia and Spike." A couple of copies of the acting edition will be available for perusal at the Town Hall Theater Box Office after Nov. 20 (and may be borrowed overnight).

Rehearsals will begin on Dec. 10 and will be held Sunday afternoons and two evenings

during the week, with a break between Christmas and New Year's.

Performances will be Feb. 29, March 1, 2 and 3, 2024 at Town Hall Theater.

For more information visit middleburycommunityplayers.org/vanya-sonia-masha-spike-winter-2024, including detailed character descriptions and contact information.

DEBORAH HOLMES WATERCOLORS



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Donate to the new Mike Lynch Fund

The Middlebury Community Players expressed deep sadness to hear of the recent passing of friend and lifetime member Mike Lynch.

MCP wants to honor his memory with more than just words — although as a librarian and archivist, words were what Lynch lived for. Through the generosity of his good friends Peg and Michael Purdue, MCP is establishing "The Mike Lynch Fund," which will support MCP's information and archival needs.

Every production you see on stage creates history. MCP files date back to the founding in 1959, and reflect the personalities, tastes, opinions, fashion and style of the community. MPC's



website is critical in both keeping the community up to date on our activities and providing a place to share memories and memorabilia from past productions.

And all of this work requires funding.

"We believe that Mike's career as an international information librarian and archivist—combined with his lifelong love of theater — means that he would have appreciated this fund in his honor," MCP wrote in an invitation to support this new fund. "We hope you will join us in recognizing the vital importance of this work and will help grow this fund by contributing generously."

To donate visit middleburycommunityplayers.org/mike-lynch.

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ART ON EXHIBIT

DAVIS FAMILY LIBRARY

110 Storrs Ave, Middlebury
Call 802-443-5494 for more info.

"Pop-Up Books." A new exhibit of pop-up books has been installed in the Davis Family Library atrium at Middlebury College. This exhibit was curated by Middlebury College student Anne Lofgren, class of 2023. On view through mid-November.

EDGEWATER AT THE FALLS

1 Mill Street, Middlebury
Visit edgewatergallery.com, call 802-458-0098 or email info@edgewatergallery-vt.com for more info.

"Nature's Inner Light," a two-person exhibition featuring new work by Penny Billings and Holly Friesen. Their approach to color, painting style, technique and composition differ but a passion for the New England and Quebec landscape, unite them in this collection. 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. 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 Repurposed Materials." "Tossed" brings together — both from Middlebury's collection and from other private and public collections — nearly 20 works that make use of discarded materials. On view through Dec. 10.

NORTHERN DAUGHTERS GALLERY

221 Main Street, Vergennes
Visit northerndaughters.com or call 802-877-2173

"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

SEE EXHIBITS ON PAGE 14

Cosmic Forecast

ARIES: March 21/April 20. You may have difficulty reaching people this week, Aries. Whether it's difficulty getting attention or tech issues affecting communication, use the situation as an opportunity to relax.

TAURUS: April 21/May 21. Taurus, a challenging project may lead you to throw yourself into work even more than usual over the course of the week. Remember to take time to exhale.

GEMINI: May 22/June 21. Visit someone in person if you are looking to catch up or have a meaningful conversation, Gemini. Skip impersonal text messages or social media posts and meet face-to-face.

CANCER: June 22/July 22. Unfortunate financial news may come your way, Cancer. Take the developments in stride and resolve to overcome them. Seek advice on how to do so, if necessary.

LEO: July 23/Aug. 23. Leo, there is a strong desire for romance surrounding you. Whether you want to spice up a current relationship or are seeking a new one, this is the week to put out feelers.

VIRGO: Aug. 24/Sept. 22. Virgo, enjoy a unique chance to spend quality time with someone you love. Enjoy the experience in the moment and resolve to spend more time together.

LIBRA: Sept. 23/Oct. 23. An unexpected meeting with a friend and subsequent conversation could leave you feeling a little shaken, Libra. You will learn things that give you a new perspective.

SCORPIO: Oct. 24/Nov. 22. You could experience a desire to make sudden changes to your home life, work situation or even a relationship, Scorpio. Stagnation has set in, but now is not the time for big moves.

SAGITTARIUS: Nov. 23/Dec. 21. Sagittarius, if a message arrives from someone who lives far away, you may want to hop in the car or on a plane and visit that person. An impromptu trip could be fun.

CAPRICORN: Dec. 22/Jan. 20. Look into all of the facts surrounding an offer to increase your income, Capricorn. It could be too good to be true, or it might be a legitimate deal. You need to sort things out

AQUARIUS: Jan. 21/Feb. 18. Aquarius, this week you may encounter someone who is very interested in you. The resulting attention can be quite flattering. You'll need to decide if it should go further.

PISCES: Feb. 19/March

20. Situations that arise this week could have you feeling stressed, Pisces. Find ways you can separate yourself from certain situations that rile you up, even if it means a five-minute break.

Reopening
Saturday Nov. 25

Tues-Thurs 11am-5pm
Fri 11-7pm, Sat 10am-5pm
Sun 12-4pm • Closed Mon



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FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

NOV. 24 — Scott Joplin, composer (d)
NOV. 25 — Percy Sledge, singer (d)
NOV. 26 — Tina Turner, singer (d)
NOV. 27 — Jimi Hendrix, guitarist (d)

NOV. 28 — Randy Newman, singer-songwriter, pianist (80)
NOV. 29 — John Mayall, guitarist, composer (90)
NOV. 30 — June Pointer, singer (d)

CALENDAR

NOV. 23 - DEC. 10
2023



SATURDAY, NOV. 25

PHOTOGRAPHY OPENING IN BRANDON. Saturday, Nov. 25, 1-5 p.m., 40 Old Farm Road. As friends and colleagues, photographers Don Ross and Caleb Kenna have had the good fortune to share the last decade exploring their mutual interest in photography, travel, food and ideas.

KING PEDE CARD PARTY IN FERRISBURGH. Saturday, Nov. 25, 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.

TUESDAY, NOV. 28

MILK & HONEY QUILTERS MEETING AND ZOOM HYBRID LECTURE IN MIDDLEBURY. Tuesday, Nov. 28, 6 p.m., American Legion, 40 Wilson Rd. Doors open at 6 p.m. for social time. At 6:30 p.m. Dana Jones will be speaking from her studio in the Rocky Mountains telling of her experiences of working with 100 men and women quilters from the tiny Coahagen Island in the Philippines. Non-Members who wish to attend, either in person or via Zoom, should contact Milk & Honey via email at milkandhoneyquilt@yahoo.com to arrange payment of \$5 and receipt of the Zoom link.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 29

GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB HIKE IN BRISTOL. Wednesday, Nov. 29, 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. To register contact Ruth Penfield at ruthpenfield@gmail.com or 802-388-5407. More info at gmcbreadloaf.org.

THE GLOBAL BODY IN CONFLICT: MOVEMENT MATTERS SERIES WITH TATIANA DESARDOUIN IN MIDDLEBURY. Wednesday, Nov. 29, 4:30-6 p.m., Dance Theater, Mahaney Arts Center, 72 Porter Field Rd. Artis Tatiana Desardouin's work explores race, Black culture, immigration and colonization through Hip-Hop dance. Get an introduction to hip-hop and house dance culture, drills, foundations, and incorporate some variations and freestyle exercises and journaling for introspective anti-racist work. Open to everyone.

ALFRED HITCHCOCK'S "NOTORIOUS" ON SCREEN IN MIDDLEBURY. Wednesday, Nov. 29, 6 p.m., Jessica Swift Community Room, Ilsley Public Library, 75 Main St. Middlebury. Middlebury Community Classic Film Club's Hitchcock

Series offers this romantic thriller starring Cary Grant and Ingrid Bergman.

THURSDAY, NOV. 30

GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB HIKE IN COLCHESTER. Friday, Nov. 30, 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.

"POLAROID STORIES" ON STAGE AT MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE. Thursday, Nov. 30, 7:30 p.m., Seeler Studio Theater, Mahaney Art Center, 72 Porter Field Rd. This play features 10 actors playing characters ranging from Echo, Eurydice, Orpheus and Narcissus to Skinhead Girl, Kaos, Melody and Disappear. They operate in a dangerous world where myth-making fulfills a fierce need for transcendence, where storytelling has the power to transform a reality in which character's lives are continually threatened, devalued and erased. Tickets at middlebury.edu/college/box-office.

FRIDAY, DEC. 1

PHOTOGRAPHY OPENING IN MIDDLEBURY. Friday, Dec. 1, 4-7 p.m.,

Photoplace Gallery, 3 Park Street. Opening reception for the show "Water."

"A CHRISTMAS CAROL" IN MIDDLEBURY. Friday, Dec. 1, 7 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. Join Middlebury Acting Company for a new holiday tradition in Middlebury as it brings to you its imaginative and theatrical version of this classic tale. Starring Jordan Gullikson again as Scrooge with a talented ensemble of newcomers and previous cast members and new updates. In the spirit of the transformed Scrooge, we offer this holiday show on a pay-as-you-can basis. Tickets \$30/\$20/\$15/\$10/\$5 in advance available at townhalltheater.org or make a donation of your choice at the door.

CHRISTMAS MUSIC NIGHT IN NEW HAVEN. Friday, Dec. 1, 7 p.m. New Haven United Reformed Church, Route 7. Join in for a time of Christmas songs, readings and refreshments to prepare for the holiday season. More info: contact Liesbeth at 802-989-4139.

BRANDEE YOUNGER TRIO IN MIDDLEBURY. Friday, Dec. 1, 7:30 p.m., Robison Hall, Mahaney Art Center, 72 Porter Field Rd. This sonically innovative harpist is revolutionizing her instrument for the digital era. Over the past 15

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.	
<p>MCTV Channel 1071 Friday, November 24 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 2:30 p.m. Health Care Today 3 p.m. Montpelier Happy Hour 4 p.m. Memorial Baptist Church 8 p.m. Gov. Scott 9 p.m. Dr. John Campbell</p> <p>Saturday, November 25 Through the Night: Public Affairs 7:30 a.m. Gov. Scott 8:30 a.m. Montpelier Happy Hour 9 a.m. Energy Week 10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 4 p.m. Memorial Baptist Service 5:30 p.m. Eckankar 6 p.m. Gov. Scott 7 p.m. Catholic Mass 7:30 p.m. Public Affairs 11 p.m. Dr. John Campbell</p> <p>Sunday, November 26 Through the Night: Public Affairs 4:30 a.m. Dr. John Campbell 5:30 a.m. Selectboard 8:23 a.m. Straight Talk Vermont 9 a.m. Catholic Mass 9:30 a.m. Public Affairs 11 a.m. Memorial Baptist Service 12:30 p.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs</p>	<p>4 p.m. Congregational Service 6:30 p.m. Eckankar 7 p.m. Catholic Mass 7:30 p.m. Public Affairs 9:30 p.m. Selectboard</p> <p>Monday, November 27 Through the Night: Public Affairs 5 a.m. Press Conf., Public Affairs 10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 2:30 p.m. Montpelier Happy Hour 3:30 p.m. Dr. John Campbell 4:30 p.m. Press Conf., Public Affairs 9:30 p.m. Eckankar 10 p.m. Yesterday Speaker Series</p> <p>Tuesday, November 28 Through the Night: Public Affairs 5:30 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 9:30 a.m. Eckankar 10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 3 p.m. Energy Week 4 p.m. Congregational Service 7 p.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs</p> <p>Wednesday, November 29 Through the Night: Public Affairs 6 a.m. The Juxtaposition 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 4 p.m. Gov. Scott 5:30 p.m. The Juxtaposition 6 p.m. Montpelier Happy Hour 7 p.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs</p>	<p>Thursday, November 30 Through the Night: Public Affairs 5 a.m. Selectboard 8 a.m. Congregational Service 12 p.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 9:30 p.m. Eckankar 10 p.m. The Juxtaposition 11 a.m. Dr. John Campbell</p> <p>Channel 1091 Friday, November 24 6 a.m. The Harvard Computers: Hidden Figures In Astronomy 6:57 a.m. FMP Night Owl Club 7:58 a.m. St Johnsbury Academy Fall Concert 9:02 a.m. School Board Meeting/s 3 p.m. Tip Top Couture Fall Fashion Show 4 p.m. Maiden Vermont 5:20 p.m. FMP Night Owl Club 7 p.m. SEPAC - How We Teach Reading 8:33 p.m. English Country Morris Dancing And Waltzing 10:30 p.m. Poets and Authors</p> <p>Saturday, November 25 5 a.m. School Board Meeting/s 10 a.m. SnapShot - South Korean Cinema 11:30 a.m. FMP Night Owl Club 12:31 p.m. St. Johnsbury Academy Concert</p>	<p>1:35 p.m. Lyndon Institute Fall Concert 3 p.m. The Parkinsons Pantomime Project 4:08 p.m. Carolan Festival 6:01 p.m. Hidden Figures In Astronomy 7 p.m. Tip Top Couture 8 p.m. First Tuesdays - The Lobby of The Dream Hotel 9 p.m. Maiden Vermont</p> <p>Sunday, November 26 6 a.m. Hitchcock & The Art Of Suspense 7:36 a.m. The Lobby of The Dream Hotel 8:31 a.m. How We Teach Literacy 10:04 a.m. School Board Meeting/s 3 p.m. Tip Top Couture 4 p.m. South Korean Cinema 5:30 p.m. Tip Top Couture 6:30 p.m. St. Johnsbury 1850 Band 8 p.m. Maiden Vermont 9:20 p.m. South Korean Cinema</p> <p>Monday, November 27 5 a.m. Music in the Morning 9 a.m. Food & Cooking Programs 1 p.m. School Board Meetings 5:50 p.m. Brattleboro Literary Festival - Madeline Kunin and Richard Michaelson 8:30 p.m. South Korean Cinema 10 p.m. FMP Night Owl Club 11:01 p.m. The Lobby of The Dream Hotel</p>	<p>Tuesday, November 28 5:30 a.m. Chair Yoga 7:30 a.m. Green Mountain Book Festival 1:24 p.m. Hitchcock & The Art Of Suspense 3 p.m. All Brains Belong Vermont 4 p.m. Yoga 5 p.m. School Board Meetings 9 p.m. Green Mountain Book Festival</p> <p>Wednesday, November 29 6 a.m. Chair Yoga 7 a.m. Green Mountain Book Festival 12 p.m. State Board of Education 6 p.m. School Board Meetings 10 p.m. Hitchcock & The Art Of Suspense</p> <p>Thursday, November 30 5 a.m. Music in the Morning 7 a.m. Green Mountain Book Festival 10 a.m. Yoga 11 a.m. Food & Cooking Programs 12 p.m. School Board Meetings 4 p.m. Green Mountain Book Festival 8 p.m. All Brains Belong VT 10 p.m. Poets and Authors</p>

TOP PICK

MIDDLEBURY COMMUNITY CHORUS WILL BE PERFORMING A FREE CONCERT AT THE MAHANEY ARTS CENTER ON SUNDAY, DEC. 3, AT 5 P.M. COME ONE, COME ALL!

years, she has worked relentlessly to stretch boundaries and limitations for harpists. Her trio's Vermont debut at Middlebury will include jazz standards and original works. Tickets at go.middlebury.edu/tickets or 802-443-MIDD (6433).

"POLAROID STORIES" ON STAGE IN MIDDLEBURY. Friday, Dec. 1, 7:30 p.m., Seeler Studio Theater, Mahaney Art Center, 72 Porter Field Rd. See Nov. 30 listing. Post-show talkback and discussion following the performance.

SATURDAY, DEC. 2

SANTA COMES TO TOWN IN MIDDLEBURY. Saturday, Dec. 2, 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 South Pleasant St. Very Merry Middlebury 2023 kicks off in its usual fashion with Santa's arrival, horse and wagon rides, the hot cocoa hut and other festive activities in downtown Middlebury.

ART ON THE TRAIL IN BRISTOL.

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

SHELDON MUSEUM OPEN HOUSE IN MIDDLEBURY. Saturday, Dec. 2, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Henry Sheldon Museum, 1 Park St. Admission to the museum is free and the model trains will be running from 10:30 am to 3:30 pm. The annual holiday trees and wreaths raffle will be on view as well as other festive activities throughout the day. For more information visit henrysheldonmuseum.org or call 802-388-2117.

THE VERMONT MANDOLIN TRIO IN LINCOLN. Saturday, Dec. 2, 7:30 p.m., Burnham Hall, 52 E. River Rd. The trio of Matt Flinner, Will Patton and Jamie Masefield brings together three of Vermont's finest mandolinists for a rare evening of bluegrass, jazz and roots music in the unique setting of three mandolins. Joined by one of the best bassists around, Pat Melvin, the group performs music of Bill Monroe, Django Reinhardt, J.S. Bach, and everything in between, all with the flair of virtuosity and originality. Doors open at 7 p.m. Refreshments available. Tickets a general to generous sliding scale fee \$15/\$20/\$25 or pay what you can, available at burnhampresents.org.

"POLAROID STORIES" ON STAGE IN MIDDLEBURY. Saturday, Dec. 2, 2 and 7:30 p.m., Seeler Studio Theater, Mahaney Art Center, 72 Porter Field Rd. See Nov. 30 listing.

"A CHRISTMAS CAROL" IN MIDDLEBURY. Saturday, Dec. 2, 2 and 7

p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. See Dec. 1 listing.

SUNDAY, DEC. 3

VERMONT TROMBONE CHOIR IN VERGENNES. Sunday, Dec. 3, 2 p.m., Vergennes Opera house, 120 Main St. Led by Robert Wigness, professor emeritus at UVM, this ensemble of amazing trombonists welcomes the holiday season with flair. Tickets \$15 adults/\$5 students, available at vergennessoperahouse.org.

"A CHRISTMAS CAROL" IN MIDDLEBURY., 2 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. See Dec. 1 listing.

DEAD CREEK REEDS IN MIDDLEBURY. Sunday, Dec. 3, 2 p.m., The Residence at Otter Creek, 350 Lodge Rd. Free and open to the public.

MIDDLEBURY COMMUNITY CHORUS CONCERT IN MIDDLEBURY. Sunday, Dec. 3, 5 p.m., Robison Hall, Mahaney Arts Center, 72 Porter Field Rd. Come hear the beloved Community Chorus sing many favorites and new pieces under the direction of Ronnie Romano '20. Featuring voices from the campus and community joined in song. Watch the livestream of the performance at youtube.com/@robisonhall. Free.

TUESDAY, DEC. 5

FRANÇOIS CLEMMONS TALK AND BOOK SIGNING IN MIDDLEBURY. Tuesday, Dec. 5, 3 p.m., The Residence at Otter Creek, 350 Lodge Rd. Co-sponsored by The Vermont Book Shop, François Clemmons will discuss his book, "Officer Clemmons." Free and open to the public.

"EAT, POOP, DIE: HOW ANIMALS MAKE OUR WORLD" IN MIDDLEBURY. Tuesday, Dec. 5, 6 p.m., Reference Room, Ilsley Public Library, 75 Main St. Ilsley and the Vermont Book Shop present the next installment of the Vermont Authors Series with fellow and writer in residence at the Gund Institute for Environment at the University of Vermont Joe Roman. "Eat, Poop, Die" takes readers on a global adventure, revealing the remarkable ways in which the most basic biological activities of animals make and remake the world — and how a deeper understanding of these cycles provides us with opportunities to undo the environmental damage humanity

has wrought. Please enter through the library's front door.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 6

WINTER LANDSCAPE PAINT & SIP IN MIDDLEBURY. Wednesday, Dec. 6, 6-8 p.m., Middlebury Studio School, 63 Maple St, Suite 8A. Bring a beverage of your choice to Middlebury Studio School Marble Works, and join us for a social evening in this fun single session class. Students will learn the basic elements of working with Acrylics and mixing primary colors as they paint the winter landscape. Beginner, 21+/BYOB. Cost \$45. Register at middleburystudioschool.org. Fee includes all materials needed.

MIDDLEBURY COMMUNITY WIND ENSEMBLE IN BRISTOL. Wednesday, Dec. 6, 7:30 p.m., Mt. Abraham Union High School, Airport Dr. The 40 musicians of the Middlebury Community Wind Ensemble celebrate many local connections in their winter concerts, including "Ilsley's March" to salute the centennial of Middlebury's Ilsley Library, "Madlyn's March" written by Vermont composer Ken Bagley, soprano Gwen Delgadillo singing two Gershwin favorites, and works by Debussy and Grofé that have been transcribed by two Midd Winders, Jack Clay and Jerome Shedd. Free.

THURSDAY, DEC. 7

ART OPENING IN MIDDLEBURY. Thursday, Dec. 7, 5-6:30 p.m., Edgewater Gallery on the Green, 6 Merchants Row. Opening for "Reflections," a juried show of work by emerging artists. Free and open to all.

HOLIDAY TRAINS IN MIDDLEBURY. Thursday, Dec. 7, 5-8 p.m., Henry Sheldon Museum, 1 Park St. The Henry Sheldon Museum's model trains will be operating during the Midd Night Stroll from 5 to 8 p.m. with free admission to the museum and the store will be open for your holiday shopping. More info at henrysheldonmuseum.org or call 802-388-2117.

MAKE A CITRUS STAMPED TEA TOWEL IN MIDDLEBURY. Thursday, Dec. 7, 6 p.m., Ilsley Public Library, 75 Main St. Stop in at the library on your Midd Night Stroll and join in on an evening of crafting. These towels can be used like any kitchen towel. Everything you need to make a towel will be provided. Space is limited. Register at ilsleypubliclibrary.org.

[org/citrus-stamped-tea-towel](http://citrus-stamped-tea-towel) or talk to Renee.

"A CHRISTMAS CAROL" IN MIDDLEBURY. Thursday, Dec. 7, 7 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. Join Middlebury Acting Company for a new holiday tradition in Middlebury as it brings to you its imaginative and theatrical version of this classic tale. Starring Jordan Gullikson again as Scrooge with a talented ensemble of newcomers and previous cast members and new updates. In the spirit of the transformed Scrooge, we offer this holiday show on a pay-as-you-can basis. Tickets \$30/\$20/\$15/\$10/\$5 in advance available at townhalltheater.org or make a donation of your choice at the door.

JAZZ SHOWCASE IN MIDDLEBURY. Thursday, Dec. 7, 7:30 p.m., Lower Lobby, Mahaney Arts Center, 72 Porter Field Rd. Some of Middlebury College's best jazz students present selections from their term's work in a cabaret-like setting. Free.

FRIDAY, DEC. 8

HOLIDAY GIFT WORKSHOP: HANDMADE SOAPS IN MIDDLEBURY. Friday, Dec. 8, 4-6 p.m., Middlebury Studio School, 63 Maple St., Suite 8A. Come to Middlebury Studio School in the Marble Works to make a special gift while you're guided through the melt and pour process of making glycerin soap. Add fragrance, dried flowers and color to customize your soap and explore the process of making a variety of shapes using molds. Register at middleburystudioschool.org All levels/ Ages 10+.

CANDY CANE HUNT AND S.D IRELAND HOLIDAY CEMENT TRUCK IN BRISTOL. Friday, Dec. 8, 5:30 p.m., downtown. Bundle up and head to Bristol to help Santa find his lost candy canes. Santa will be arriving at the Town Green with his friends from SD Ireland at 6 p.m. Prizes awarded to kids who find 10 candy canes, special prize to the person who finds the golden candy cane. Free and open to the public.

"A CHRISTMAS CAROL" IN MIDDLEBURY. Friday, Dec. 8, 7 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. See Dec. 7 listing.

MIDDLEBURY COMMUNITY WIND ENSEMBLE IN MIDDLEBURY. Friday, Dec. 8, 7:30 p.m., Robison Hall, Mahaney Arts Center, 72 Porter Field Rd. The 40 musicians of the Middlebury Community Wind Ensemble celebrate many local connections in their winter concerts, including "Ilsley's March" to salute the centennial of Middlebury's Ilsley Library, "Madlyn's March" written by Vermont composer Ken Bagley, soprano Gwen Delgadillo singing two Gershwin favorites, and works by Debussy and Grofé that have been

Grammy-nominated jazz harpist makes her Vermont debut

The Middlebury Performing Arts Series will warm up an early winter's night with a jazz concert by harpist Brandee Younger and her trio on Friday, Dec. 1. A true sonic innovator, Younger is revolutionizing her instrument for the digital era, and working relentlessly to stretch boundaries and limitations for harpists. In 2022, she made history by becoming the first Black woman to be nominated for a Grammy Award for Best Instrumental Composition. That same year, she was also nominated for an NAACP Image Award.

Younger and her trio partners, drummer Allan Mednard and bassist Rashaan Carter, will make their Vermont debut in Middlebury with a concert of jazz standards and original works. The concert will also be streamed for all to enjoy.

ABOUT BRANDEE YOUNGER

In her varied roles of performer, composer, educator, and concert curator, Younger is a leading voice of the harp, and in particular of the instrument's place in jazz and contemporary music. She received a Grammy nomination for Best Instrumental Composition for "Beautiful is Black," which appears on her *Somewhere Different* album.

Younger has performed and recorded with such luminary artists as Pharoah Sanders, Ravi Coltrane, Charlie Haden, Common, John Legend, The Roots, Stevie Wonder, and Lauryn Hill. In 2019, Younger's original composition "Hortense" was featured in "Beyoncé: Homecoming" on Netflix.

Younger's career has been influenced and inspired by harp greats Dorothy Ashby and Alice Coltrane. She was in the graduate program at New York University in 2007 when the saxophonist Ravi Coltrane asked her to play at a memorial service for his mother.

"No harpist thus far has been more capable of combining all of the modern harp traditions — from Salzedo, through Dorothy Ashby, through Alice Coltrane — with such strength, grace and commitment," said saxophonist Ravi Coltrane.

Younger's most recent album "Brand New Life" is a tribute to Ashby, the trailblazing harpist and composer. It features songs from Ashby's albums and some of her unrecorded compositions.

Younger earned her Bachelor of Music at



Jazz harpist Brandee Younger plays her Vermont debut on Friday, Dec. 1 at the Mahaney Arts Center.

PHOTO / ERIN O'BRIEN

"NO HARPIST THUS FAR HAS BEEN MORE CAPABLE OF COMBINING ALL OF THE MODERN HARP TRADITIONS — FROM SALZEDO, THROUGH DOROTHY ASHBY, THROUGH ALICE COLTRANE — WITH SUCH STRENGTH, GRACE AND COMMITMENT."

— Saxophonist Ravi Coltrane

the Hartt School of Music, and her Master of Music at NYU, where she serves on the harp faculty. She has held residencies and masterclasses at The Royal Conservatory of Music (Toronto), University of Birmingham (UK), Howard University, Princeton University, The Hartt School, and other prestigious universities across the United States. Younger holds leadership positions with the Apollo Theater Foundation's Young Patrons Steering Committee and the American Harp Society, Inc. where she serves as Director at Large.

Come hear the Brandee Younger Trio perform their first Vermont show at the Mahaney Arts Center's Olin C. Robison Concert Hall on Friday, Dec. 1, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$25 for the general public, \$20 for Middlebury faculty/staff and alumni, \$10 for youth, and \$5 for Middlebury College students. The concert will also be streamed, with a 48-hour window for playback; streaming tickets are \$15, or \$5 for students. For tickets or information, call 802-443-MIDD (6433) or visit middlebury.edu/arts.

PUZZLES

sponsored by **SPARROW ART SUPPLY**

ACROSS

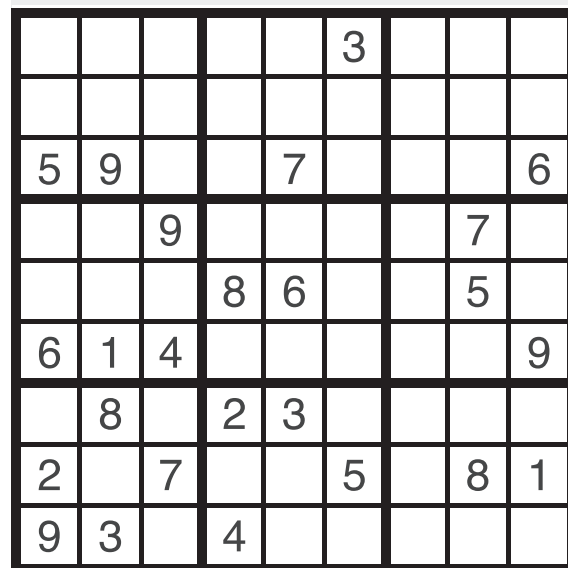
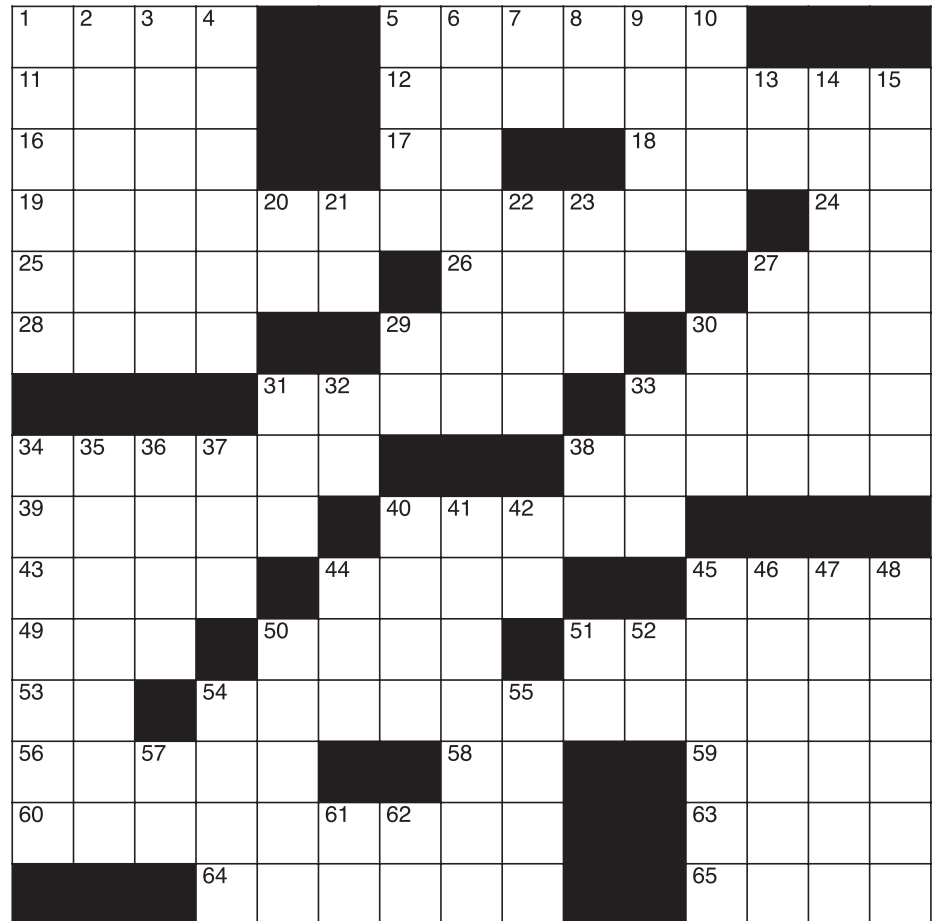
- 1. Nocturnal S. American rodent
- 5. Requesting
- 11. Give temporarily
- 12. Happiness
- 16. Military branch
- 17. ____, denotes past
- 18. Middle Eastern city
- 19. Air hostesses
- 24. Partner to Pa
- 25. Percussion instrument
- 26. Popular computers
- 27. Decrease light
- 28. Valley in the Osh Region
- 29. "To __ his own"
- 30. Absence of difficulty
- 31. Notice announcing intended marriage read out in church

- 33. Trims by cutting
- 34. Impact
- 38. Military member
- 39. A French river
- 40. Member of prehistoric people in Mexico
- 43. Messenger ribonucleic acid
- 44. Musician Clapton
- 45. Greek sophist
- 49. Largest English dictionary (abbr.)
- 50. Narrow valley
- 51. A way to disentangle
- 53. Indicates not an issue (abbr.)
- 54. Recommending
- 56. Genus of legumes
- 58. Friend to Larry and Curly
- 59. Off-Broadway theater

- award
- 60. Fencers
- 63. Small Eurasian deer
- 64. Denoting passerine birds
- 65. Separate by category

DOWN

- 1. Colorless fluid part of blood
- 2. Of a main artery
- 3. Photographic equipment
- 4. Confirms a point
- 5. Developed over time
- 6. Not the leader
- 7. __ Lang (country singer)
- 8. Adults need one
- 9. Nests of pheasants
- 10. Antelopes



Sudoku

Each Sudoku puzzle consists of a 9x9 grid that has been subdivided into nine smaller grids of 3x3 squares. To solve the puzzle each row, column and box must contain each of the numbers 1 to 9. Puzzles come in three grades: easy, medium and difficult.

Level: Medium

This week's puzzle solutions can be found on Page 13.

- 13. One quintillion bytes (abbr.)
- 14. Japanese three-stringed lute
- 15. Type of cat
- 20. Cools your home
- 21. The ancient Egyptian sun god
- 22. Pouches
- 23. Trigraph
- 27. Form of Persian spoken in Afghanistan
- 29. __ route
- 30. Body part
- 31. Bridge building
- degree
- 32. Indicates position
- 33. Political action committee
- 34. Tasty snack
- 35. Part of a quadruped
- 36. Locate
- 37. Pitching statistic
- 38. Of I
- 40. City in Utah
- 41. Football players in the trenches
- 42. Hammer is one
- 44. A "nightmarish" street
- 45. Performers
- 46. Slang for cut or scrape
- 47. More breathable
- 48. Most slick
- 50. Provokes
- 51. Home to college's Flyers
- 52. Sodium
- 54. Large fish of mackerel family
- 55. Zero
- 57. __ and behold
- 61. The Palmetto State
- 62. Popular Tom Cruise movie franchise (abbr.)

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12 Days of Deals!

Sparrow Art Supply is hosting a series of daily in-store promotions through **December 14**. Each day will bring a new discount to shop by. Visit sparrowartsupply.com to learn more and see the full list of deals!

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UPCOMING MUSIC

MORE TUNES

CHAMBER MUSIC CONCERT TO BE HELD ON DEC. 2



Traverse the Americas, and beyond, in this imaginative hour of chamber music with Heliand on Saturday, Dec. 2, from 7:30-8:30 p.m., at the Middlebury Community Music Center.

The concert, "When the Snows Fall," is a musical travelogue by William Grant Still; contrasted with dances, including a sultry milonga by Astor Piazzolla and lively music from the southeastern U.S. by Florence Price. The salon music of Clémence de Grandval, a renowned and highly regarded composer in her time, lends an elegant charm to the program. The program concludes with

SEE MUSIC ON PAGE 16

Sound Investment puts on free jazz concert, open to all Dec. 2

Middlebury College's Sound Investment Jazz Tentet will be presenting an evening of jazz standards at the Mahaney Arts Center's Robison Concert Hall on Saturday, Dec. 2, at 7:30 p.m. The public is invited. Admission is free.

The band has been busy. Earlier in the month, it performed selections from the

Great American Songbook at the EastView retirement community in Middlebury. A week later, the group travelled downtown for a lively, packed swing dance at Town Hall Theater. This weekend, included on the set list are selections from Duke Ellington, Miles Davis, Sonny Rollins and Dizzy Gillespie. The music is sure to have toes tapping and fingers snapping.



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Katy Foote



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Pet of the Week

Maverick, aka "Little Ricky," was recently adopted from Homeward Bound. He enjoys sticking his paw into fresh glasses of water, barrel rolling in between his people, watching squirrels, out talking a 6-year-old girl, and getting cuddles. He dislikes limited cat food.

**Niki George
Cornwall**



**Pets In Need
HOMeward BOUND**
Addison County's Humane Society

Bass

Bass is estimated to be 2.5 years old. When he first arrived at the shelter he was lethargic and had no interest in anything. With calm, patient attention from staff and volunteers, he is coming out of his shell and proving to be super sweet with a powerful purr. He needs a peaceful presence to help him gain confidence and reach his full potential as a new family member.



Girlie

Girlie is a sweetheart who we estimate to be 2 years old. She came to Homeward Bound as a stray so we are still getting to know her!

Leroy

Leroy is a happy-go-lucky kind of guy who enjoys playing when he thinks no one is looking. He head-butts everything and everyone with gusto! Leroy has lived with other



Velkhana

Velkhana is a 1.5-year-old who is friendly and playful. She has lived with other cats.

Iris

Iris is a 1-year-old 60-pound pit bull mix. She is very affectionate but can be shy at first when meeting new people. Iris is still a youngster and we are working with her on puppy manners. She likes other dogs and has lived with young children. Iris does not get along with cats. At the shelter, she likes to bask in the sun and roll in the grass. She loves treats and playtime.



Pet of the WEEK

What is Pet of the Week?

Here at the Addy Indy we LOVE our pets. We also love publishing here at the local newspaper. So... put them together and you get PET OF THE WEEK, where we publish the news of how fabulous your pets are for FREE!

All you have to do, dear reader with opposable thumb, is send a picture to our news team with a short description of your best buds.

Send us a picture of your pet!

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CALENDAR

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

transcribed by two Midd Winders, Jack Clay and Jerome Shedd. Free.

BROADWAY DIRECT IN VERGENNES. Friday, Dec. 8, 7:30 p.m., Vergennes Opera House, 120 Main St. A holiday favorite produced by creator and Broadway Professional Bill Carmichael (Walsh). He brings his performing friends together for another powerhouse show to the Little City, featuring singers/actors directly from the Broadway stage, and some local student talent as well. Tickets \$20 adults/\$10 students, available at vergennesoperahouse.org.

"KRAMPUSNACHT: STORIES OF LIGHT AND DARK FOR THE WINTER SOLSTICE" IN ROCHESTER. Friday, Dec. 8, 7:30 p.m., 185 Brandon Mountain Rd. Performed in an outdoor amphitheater, Krampusnacht is an eclectic mix of original material and seasonal traditions from around the world presided over by Krampus himself, the dark companion of St. Nicholas who punishes naughty children in European folklore. Bald Mountain's most popular event of the year, this show celebrates the dual nature of the season — reflecting on both the longest night of the year as well as the hope of brighter days to come. Rain or Shine. Tickets are \$15, available at baldmountaintickets.ludus.com. Streaming available through TheaterEngine.com. More info at baldmountaintheater.org.

SATURDAY, DEC. 9

WILDLIFE WALK IN MIDDLEBURY. Saturday, Dec. 9, 8-10 a.m., meet at Otter View Park parking area, Weybridge St. and Pulp Mill Bridge Rd. Join OCAS-MALT and help survey birds and other wildlife at Otter View Park and Hurd Grassland. Beginning birders are welcome. Come for all or part of the walk. For information, including the latest COVID constraints, call 802-388-6019 or 802-388-1007.

"A CHRISTMAS CAROL" IN MIDDLEBURY. Saturday, Dec. 9, 2 and 7 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. See Dec. 7 listing.

CLOSING PARTY IN VERGENNES. Saturday, Dec. 9, 5-8 p.m., Northern Daughters Gallery, 221 Main St. Come view "Last Call" NoDa's final exhibit and help them celebrate seven years of wonderful art and community. With the owners moving on to other endeavors, this final show 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.

DECEMBER VOCAL CONCERT IN MIDDLEBURY. Saturday, Dec. 9, 7:30 p.m., Robison Hall, Mahaney Arts Center, 72 Porter Field Rd. Middlebury College voice students of Carol Christensen and Susanne Peck cap off a semester of study with a lively evening of songs and arias. Watch the livestream of the performance at youtube.com/@robisonhall. Free.

"KRAMPUSNACHT: STORIES OF LIGHT AND DARK FOR THE WINTER SOLSTICE" IN ROCHESTER. Saturday, Dec. 9, 7:30 p.m., 185 Brandon Mountain Rd. See Dec. 8 listing.

SUNDAY, DEC. 10

FREE FAMILY HOLIDAY CRAFTS IN MIDDLEBURY. Sunday, Dec. 10, 9:30-11 a.m., Middlebury Studio School, 63 Maple St. Suite 8A. Join Middlebury Studio School instructors for a morning of holiday themed crafts. Follow your creativity without making a mess at home. Free and open to everyone. Hot chocolate and other light refreshments provided.

ORNAMENT MAKING IN ORWELL. Sunday, Dec. 10, 11 a.m., Orwell Free Library, 473 Main St. Come make ornaments. This free event will have loads of winter themed art supplies to create ornaments for all frigid occasions. Gather up your friends and family and come to the for some hot chocolate induced crafting.

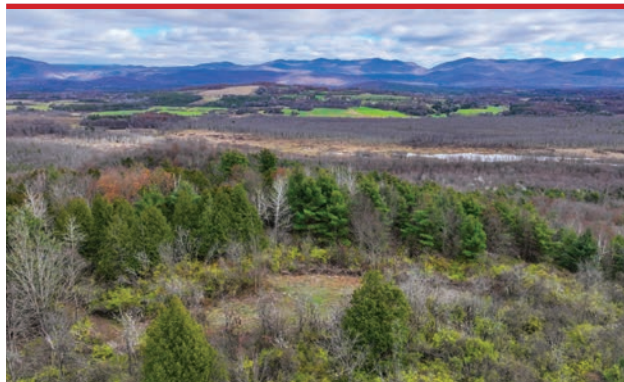
LESSONS AND CAROLS IN MIDDLEBURY. Sunday, Dec. 10, 4 and 7 p.m., Middlebury Chapel, Old Chapel Rd. The Middlebury College Department of Music and the Scott Center for Spiritual and Religious Life collaborate to present an annual Lessons and Carols for Advent and Christmas service at the Middlebury Chapel. A festive evening of songs and text for the campus and community. Free, but donations accepted for local charities.



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EXHIBITS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

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.

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.

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52 Main Street, Middlebury
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"Home Is Where the Art Is," an artisan market for holiday giving featuring creations by over 50 local artisans. On view from Nov. 17-Jan. 13, with a holiday party to celebrate the opening on Friday, Nov. 17, from 5-7 p.m., free and open to the public with complimentary light refreshments and treats by Thistle and Honey Baking.

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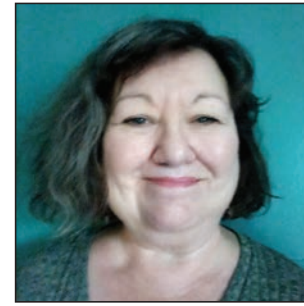
Happy Thanksgiving!

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ASK A MASTER GARDENER

7 ESSENTIALS FOR YOUR GARDEN JOURNAL



Deborah J. Benoit is a UVM Extension Master Gardener from North Adams, Mass., who is part of the Bennington County Chapter.

Whether you choose a ready-made book, a calendar with plenty of room for notes or a three-ring binder to keep it all together, there are some things you'll find incredibly helpful to keep track of in your garden

BY **DEBORAH J. BENOIT**

journal from year to year. The first bit of information to add is your U.S. Department of Agriculture Hardiness Zone. It's easy to find at planthardiness.ars.usda.gov using your zip code and will guide you when purchasing perennials such as flowers for your garden and fruit trees.

Hardiness Zones in Vermont range from Zone 3

in the northern part of the state to Zone 5 in the southern part. Generally, a higher zone number means a warmer climate, so you could grow a plant that's hardy to Zone 3 to Zone 5, but a plant hardy to Zone 5 may not survive the winter in Zone 3. That's important information when plant shopping.

The Average Last Frost Date is the date in the spring when generally you can safely put annual plants in the ground. While there are years where temperatures are higher before that date, early planting runs the risk of losing annuals to a sudden return to seasonal temperatures.

The Average First Frost Date is the date in the fall after which a frost is likely, signaling the anticipated end of the growing season. Using row covers or lightweight fabric (not plastic) such as an old sheet to cover plants can help protect

them from frost.

For information on average first and last frost dates for your area check garden.org/apps/frost-dates. By keeping annual records of when your gardens experience first and last frosts, over time you will be able to predict these dates for your unique location.

The Length of the Growing Season is the average number of days you can count on to grow plants in your garden. This is the number of days between the last frost date in spring and first frost date in the fall. This is important for annual crops such as tomatoes, corn, eggplant and others.

Seed packets will give an anticipated number of days to harvest. If a plant is expected to take 180 days to harvest, but your growing season is

SEE GARDEN ON PAGE 16

Here's to a happy and safe Thanksgiving holiday!



Lisa Sargent (802) 349-8880 and lisasargent@vtregroup.com



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MUSIC

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

hypnotic selections from Chick Corea's Children's Songs and the evocative music of Australian Padma Newsome.

Heliand is a Vermont based chamber music group featuring pianist Cynthia Huard (MCMC piano faculty), oboist Katie Oprea of Bakersfield, and bassoonist Rachael Elliott of Cambridge, Mass., (originally from Lyndon). The group performs inspiring and evocative music and songs that speak directly to the heart. Always in search of stories in their music, Heliand draws connections from the past to the present, inviting listeners into a magical space of listening in which stories and sounds are transformed into musical poetry. Tickets are by donation at the door. For more info visit heliand.org or mcmcv.org/events.

GARDEN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

only 150 days, consider selecting another variety. As an alternative, employing season-extending techniques such as row covers can add days or weeks at the beginning or end of the growing season.

If you've never had your soil tested, fall is a good time to do so. Soil Test Results will provide information on your soil's pH, available nutrients, organic matter and more. The report also will provide recommendations for amendments to the soil, all invaluable information to keep in your garden journal. For more information on obtaining a soil test, see go.uvm.edu/soiltest.

Recording Seed Starting, Cultivars Planted, Planting and Harvest Dates will come in handy year after year. While seed packets and plant tags give anticipated dates for germination and harvest, they can vary depending on your growing conditions.

Keeping a Diagram of Garden Beds can be helpful in many ways. Knowing the square feet the bed occupies makes ordering bulk mulch or other



A garden journal can be a ready-made book, a calendar with plenty of room for notes or a three-ring binder, as all three options are ideal for keeping notes on the current year's garden to plan for next year.

PHOTO / DEBORAH J. BENOIT

materials to be applied to the bed easy. In addition, if you make note on the diagram of perennial plantings, you'll know exactly what you're growing, even when the garden is under two feet of snow or all the plant tags have gone astray.

In addition to the above essentials, consider including information such as notes about weather conditions and soil amendments. If you've encountered pests, disease or other problems, write down the details, treatments and results. You won't remember all the specifics next year, but your garden journal will.

CHARLES DICKENS' A CHRISTMAS CAROL

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