



## Back for more

The Heath Quartet will play a free concert at the Middlebury Arts Center. See Arts + Leisure.



## MAV lacrosse

Both the MAV boys' and girls' teams opened their seasons with mixed results. See Page 1B.



## School sports

Rosters, schedules, expectations & photos—see them all for the local high school teams inside.

# ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT

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## Mount Abe budget rejected again

### Revised plan defeated by 57 votes

By MARIN HOWELL

BRISTOL — For the second time this spring, voters in the Mount Abraham Unified School District have defeated a proposed spending plan for the 2024-2025 academic year — this time by 57 votes.

Residents in the MAUSD

member towns of Bristol, Monkton, New Haven and Starksboro on Tuesday rejected, 964-907, a \$35,957,401 spending proposal for the upcoming fiscal year.

The revised spending plan was projected to lower the district-wide homestead tax rate — the

property tax that homeowners pay to support public education. But, because of the way the state applies the education tax in individual Vermont towns, education property taxes would have gone up in three of the four MAUSD towns.

For example, under the just-defeated budget, taxes on a \$300,000 home in Bristol would have risen by around \$553 for

residents paying based on the value of their home. That's less than the anticipated tax impact of the initial budget proposal defeated on Town Meeting Day. Under that spending plan, taxes on the same Bristol home would have risen an estimated \$880.

MAUSD Superintendent Patrick Reen said school officials got the (See Budget, Page 11A)

## Juvenile facility may be in the works for Vergennes

By ANDY KIRKALDY

VERGENNES — Vermont officials are considering putting a secure juvenile detention facility on state-owned land in Vergennes, but City Manager Ron Redmond said it is not a done deal.

It is fair to say a plan to place a 20,000-square-foot, 14-bed, locked facility on 8 acres on Comfort Hill's west side near an existing solar array is probably the lead option among state officials, Redmond said.

(See Facility, Page 10A)

## ACSD now must find three new principals

By JOHN FLOWERS

CORNWALL — Heather Raabe, principal of Cornwall's Bingham Memorial Elementary School, has confirmed she'll be stepping down at the end of this academic year.

Her departure, following a five-year stint, means the Addison Central School District is now in the market for principals at three of its seven elementary schools. Matthew Brankman, who's helmed both the Bridport and Shoreham elementary schools this year (with key support from Assistant Principal Jennifer Urban), announced last month he'd also be departing when students begin their summer break in June.

The Bridport/Shoreham shared principalship is coming to an end and the Cornwall School will continue to have its own principal, according to interim ACSD Superintendent Tim Williams.

"Our plan is to solicit applicants for a full-time principal for each of the three buildings," Williams told the *Independent*. "We came to this conclusion in collaboration with Dr. Baker, the (See Search, Page 10A)



### Point not taken

A FENCER CATCHES some air to avoid the blade of his competitor in the 29th Middlebury Open fencing tournament at Middlebury Union Middle School this past weekend. Competitors came from at least four states and Canada. See more photos on Page 8A.

Independent photo/John S. McCright

## Nonprofit helps pet owners in need

### Aims to promote animal welfare

By MARIN HOWELL

ADDISON COUNTY — A new county nonprofit is working to prevent instances of animal cruelty by ensuring more local pets and their owners have the resources they need to thrive.

Addison County Animal Advocates, or ACAA, is made up of volunteers with various animal and rescue experience, from behavior experts to animal control officers. The team is partnering with the Addison County Sheriff's Department to promote animal welfare by investigating nonemergency concerns and providing support when the situation demands it.

"We are sort of a filter," explained ACAA co-founder and Monkton resident Bev Soychak.

Community members with an animal welfare concern can reach out to the ACAA team, which will evaluate the tip. The group (See Advocates, Page 16A)



## By the way

The Addison County Solid Waste Management District will host a free "repair fair" at the American Legion Post 27 at 49 Wilson Road in Middlebury on this Saturday, April 20, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Enjoy refreshments, learn basic repair skills, and get your favorite items fixed by your neighbors. If you have repair skills related to electronics, appliances, sewing, mending, woodworking, bikes or other items, you can sign up to be a volunteer fixer by going to [AddisonCountyRecycles.org/repair-fair](http://AddisonCountyRecycles.org/repair-fair). Go to that same address to register to get an item fixed. Questions? Send an (See By the way, Page 10A)

## City council backs workforce housing with loan & letters

By ANDY KIRKALDY

VERGENNES — The Vergennes City Council recently took two actions intended to help developer Peter Kahn build workforce housing in the city.

Councilors on April 9 approved a \$100,000 loan from the city's Revolving Loan Fund to Kahn that could help him move forward with a 14-unit apartment building on Armory Lane. That building would be next to an existing 10-unit apartment complex now under construction.

They also agreed to support Kahn's effort through Sen. Peter Welch's office to obtain \$5 million of Congressionally Directed Spending to help fund a proposed 130-unit apartment building on 14 acres off North Main Street, behind the city's police station. City Manager Ron Redmond called that possibility "a longshot," but one worth pursuing.

Kahn, known for developing Commodore Drive off West Main Street (among other projects), told (See City council, Page 10A)

## Youth mountain biking club off to strong start

By MARIN HOWELL

BRISTOL — It's been about three seasons since the 5Town Riders youth mountain biking club got off to the races, and those involved in the program have had a lot to celebrate since then.

Since launching in 2021 the county-wide cycling group has welcomed over three dozen local riders and seen its racers attain personal achievements on trails around the state.

As the group continues to grow, organizers are working to ensure the program stays accessible and engaging to riders of all ages. Their efforts have so far been bolstered by successful fundraising

and a dedicated team of parent volunteers.

"That (team of parents) has been pretty important, to allow us with the growth of kids to do rides and do that safely," said Mike Steele, a parent coach for 5Town Riders. "Luckily, as the number of participants has grown, the number of parents helping out has also grown."

The 5Town Riders program is organized by the Bristol Recreation Department and open to Addison County kids in grades 5-12. Bristol Recreation Director Meredith McFarland, also a certified mountain bike coach, (See Riders, Page 15A)

## College students give county youngsters a global perspective

### Share lessons from time abroad on language, culture

By MARIN HOWELL

ADDISON COUNTY — Looking back on her time at Mount Abraham Union High School, there's a learning experience 2022 graduate Anna Doucet found to be particularly impactful: visits from presenters involved in the Language in Motion program at Middlebury College.

College students would come to Doucet's Spanish and French classes to share their firsthand knowledge on world languages, cultures and global issues.

"The presentations were so interesting and engaging and a nice change of pace from everyday classes," she recalled.

The student presenters inspired Doucet to pursue her own adventures abroad and spend a semester in France during her senior year at Mount Abe, as well as encouraged her to join the Language in Motion program when she began studying at Middlebury College in 2022.

(See Students, Page 10A)



A LANGUAGE IN Motion volunteer leads a calligraphy exercise for students at a Youth Citizenship Summit hosted at Middlebury College. The Language in Motion program teaches local K-12 students about world languages and cultures through classroom visits and special events like this one. Photo courtesy of Kristen Mullins

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# ANWSD students win big on History Day

BURLINGTON — Fifteen of the 24 Addison Northwest School District students who presented at the Vermont Historical Society's annual Vermont History Day Competition placed in the top three of their categories or earned special recognition for the projects they have spent months preparing under the guidance of humanities teachers Josh Brooks and Becca Coffey.

The competition for students in grades 5 to 11 was held at the University of Vermont's Davis Center on Saturday, April 6.

Eight of the 15 who were honored that day qualified to

compete in the 2024 National History Day contest, to be held June 9 and 13 at the University of Maryland-College Park.

Those eight are Ferrisburgh Central School 6th-graders CiCi Neffinger and Elianna Venables-Vogel, and six Vergennes Union Middle or High School students: 7th-grader Sagan Holm, 8th-graders Charlotte Coffey and Georgia Kunkel, sophomore Quincy Sabick, and juniors Jing Williams and Sophia Johnson.

Earning first-place results at the April 6 competition, which drew more than 300 students presenting historical research projects to a

panel of judges, were the teams of Coffey and Kunkel, and Neffinger and Venables-Vogel.

Judges also awarded special prizes to a number of students: those two first-place teams, Sabick, Johnson and the team of Vergennes Union Elementary School 6th-graders Eli Morrill & Keegan Lisko.

The two teachers who coached the 24 students praised their work through a joint press release.

"The entire ANWSD team did a fantastic job at this year's History Day competition," they wrote.

Students participated under the auspices of the ANWSD

Fusion Afterschool program. This program is funded by the federal 21st Century Community Learning Centers, which is in turn administered by the state of Vermont to support high quality afterschool and enrichment programming.

They began in October by choosing a topic inspired by this year's theme, "Turning Points in History." Then, according to the two teachers, the students "got to work reading and citing primary sources, taking notes, writing annotated bibliographies, and putting it all together in a final presentation chosen from among five categories: website, documentary, exhibit board, research paper and performance."

The following students earned special recognition for all that preparation:

- Alister Griffin (FCS 5th-grader), third place Junior Individual Exhibit for "Airpower: How the Use of Aircrafts in World War I Propelled Change."

- Atticus Kunkel, Gabe Hale, Luke Kidde and Wesley Morgan (VUES 6th-graders), second place Junior International Studies Award for their exhibit, "The Warsaw Ghetto Uprising."

- Charlotte Coffey and Georgia Kunkel (8th-graders): first place Junior Group Website for "The Woman Behind HeLa: A Turning Point in Medical History." They were also awarded an Arts and Medicine Prize.

- CiCi Neffinger and Elianna Venables-Vogel (FCS 6th-graders): first place Junior Group Exhibit for "The Champlain Canal: When Northern Boats Unlocked Their Full Boateral." They also earned an Architectural History Prize and a Vermont History Award.

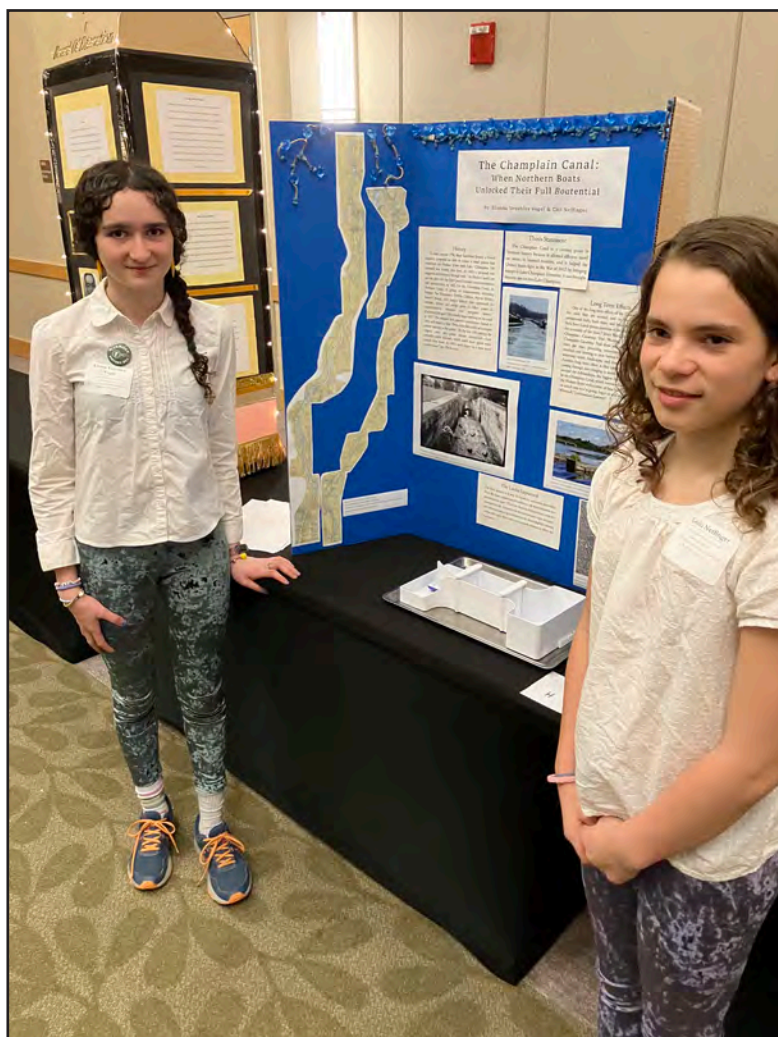
- Eli Morrill and Keegan Lisko (VUES 6th-graders): They were awarded a George F. Edmunds Memorial Prize for their exhibit, "The End of Slavery in Vermont."

- Jing Williams (VUHS junior): second place Senior Individual Paper for "Aeronautics for Everyone: How NASA's Formation as a Civil Agency Redefined Access to Scientific Knowledge."

- Quincy Sabick (VUHS sophomore): second place Senior Individual Website for "The Liquor Law of 1853: The Tipping Point for Temperance. She was also awarded a George F. Edmunds Memorial Prize.

- Sagan Holm (VUMS 7th-grader): second place Junior Individual Exhibit for "The St. Petersburg Airboat Line: A Turning Point in Commercial Air Travel."

- Sophia Johnson (VUHS junior): second place Senior Individual Documentary for "Up to Code: How Airport Security was Forever Changed by 9/11." She was also awarded a Freedom and Unity Civics Prize.



FERRISBURGH CENTRAL SCHOOL 6th-graders CiCi Neffinger, right, and Elianna Venables-Vogel took first place as a junior group at Vermont History Day for their exhibit, "The Champlain Canal: When Northern Boats Unlocked Their Full Boateral." The pair also picked up a pair of extra awards, an Architectural History Prize and a Vermont History Award.

Photo courtesy of Josh Brooks and Becca Coffey



VUES 6TH-GRADERS ATTICUS Kunkel, Gabe Hale, Luke Kidde and Wesley Morgan earned a junior second place and an International Studies Award at Vermont History Day for their exhibit, "The Warsaw Ghetto Uprising."

Photo courtesy of Josh Brooks and Becca Coffey



ANWSD 8TH-GRADERS CHARLOTTE Coffey, left, and Georgia Kunkel won first place in their age group and an Arts and Medicine Prize at Vermont History Day for their website, "The Woman Behind HeLa: A Turning Point in Medical History."

Photo courtesy of Josh Brooks and Becca Coffey



VUHS SOPHOMORE QUINCY Sabick, middle, and juniors Jing Williams (left) and Sophia Johnson all were awarded second place for their presentations at Vermont History Day at UVM on April 6, and all three also qualified to present a National History Day in Maryland in June.

Photo courtesy of Josh Brooks and Becca Coffey

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## Middlebury sets up new parking ticket appeal process

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — Jason Covey has been Middlebury's police chief for six months now, and he's still finding out new things about his job.

Case in point: He only recently learned he was responsible for hearing parking ticket appeals.

Yes, anyone who wanted to dispute the \$5 parking ticket

they'd found on their windshield was instructed to set up an appointment with the town's top law enforcement officer.

The appeals process, which dates back more than three decades, seemed a bit archaic and open to perceptions of conflict of interest.

"It does not, in any sense, feel right for the police department to hear its own appeals to investigate

itself," Covey told the selectboard at one of its recent gatherings.

Municipal officials agreed with Covey, and there's now a new process for anyone seeking to contest a parking ticket received in the county's shire town.

Folks now have 20 days in which to appeal in writing (up from the previous 10 days). That appeal can be made through the

town's website or at the police headquarters at 1 Lucius Shaw Lane. Once received, the ticket recipient's case will be scheduled for a hearing before a new, three-person panel that includes a police designee and two members of the town's Public Health & Safety Committee.

If dissatisfied with that panel's (See Tickets, Page 3A)

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# Sullivan is new city clerk

By **ANDY KIRKALDY**

**VERGENNES** — The newest Vergennes city clerk not only brings extensive office and accounting experience, she should also be a familiar and friendly face to many city residents.

The city council on April 9 approved hiring Betsy Paquin Sullivan, who'll begin her new job on Monday, April 22. Sullivan worked between 2016 and 2022 as the administrative assistant to the Vergennes Union High School

Company in Shelburne, her most recent position. Her résumé also includes a decade at Ledge Hill Plumbing & Heating in Vergennes as an office manager; and working from 1995

to 2003 as a systems manager, help desk coordinator and office manager for Vedior Professional Services in Boston.

Redmond told the *Independent* that Sullivan's professional experience, personal background, and character all made her a

good choice for the position. "She has a background as a strong and successful administrator," Redmond said.

He added that in interviews Sullivan impressed city hall staff as a team player.

"Because she has a deep understanding of the community, and she's good collaborator, it's a good fit," Redmond said. "It's going to be really helpful to the team."

He said residents can expect positive interactions when they come into city hall.

"She's very affable and warm, and that's helpful when people approach us with stressful situations," Redmond said.



**BETSY SULLIVAN**



## Honoring and feeding those who served

**THE SETH WARNER** – Rhoda Farrand Chapter of the DAR held its 10th annual lunch for area Vietnam Veterans on April 13. The chapter partners with the Vietnam War Commemoration Committee to thank and honor our Vietnam era veterans for their service. 21 Vietnam Veterans attended. Especially moving was the pinning ceremony officiated by Veterans Outreach Program Specialist, Bob Stock. A beautifully decorated cake was donated by Costco. Corinne and Jonathan Kehoe sang a medley of patriotic tunes prior to the lunch.

Anyone who served between November 1, 1955 through May 15, 1975 is eligible to receive a special lapel pin. There are also pins available to surviving spouses of veterans, for POWs or their surviving spouses, and the unaccounted for. For more information or if you'd like to be invited to our next lunch, email Joy at [swrfdar@gmail.com](mailto:swrfdar@gmail.com).

Photo courtesy of Joy Minnis

# Popular Middlebury UPS Store to close

By **JOHN FLOWERS**

**MIDDLEBURY** — The very popular UPS Store at 105 Court St. in Middlebury will close on May 31, and the building in which it's been located since 2014 has been sold.

Laura Flint, owner of the Middlebury UPS franchise, recently placed signs at the store announcing its impending closure. Reached by phone on Tuesday, Flint said her decision to close was based on damage to interior fixtures — such as cabinetry and computers — caused by major flooding in Middlebury last August. She determined replacement of the damaged fixtures to be cost-prohibitive and made the difficult decision to close the store and sell the 105 Court St. building.

The Middlebury UPS Store has long been a beehive of activity, providing a local place for people to send off packages. The store has

delivered a variety of other services, including packing, copying and selling shipping supplies.

Faithful customers recently took to social media to voice dismay about the upcoming loss of the store.

"The UPS Store and its services will be missed," Middlebury resident Nora Wright wrote in a recent edition of Front Porch Forum. "I certainly hope that the employees will find other good jobs. I always found them to be knowledgeable, helpful, courteous and patient."

"It's not just sending packages and shredding, it's copying," wrote FPF poster Chris Robbins. "First Main St. Stationery (in downtown Middlebury) closed & we had to go to the UPS store. Now is there any place to make large quantities, large format, or high-quality color copies?"

Some customers have been wondering if the Middlebury store's closure might require them to go to Burlington or Rutland for their shipping needs.

Maybe not. Middlebury's Aubuchon Hardware is considering becoming a drop-off point for UPS packages, an employee of that store confirmed on Tuesday. And Flint said she'd be happy to discuss the logistics of opening and running a UPS franchise with anyone considering such a move. She can be reached by email at [store2601@theupsstore.com](mailto:store2601@theupsstore.com).

While Flint was unable to share details at this point, she said the buyer of 105 Court St. plans to use it for a commercial venture.

Stay tuned. Reporter John Flowers is at [johnf@addisonindependent.com](mailto:johnf@addisonindependent.com).

# Despite revisions, Slate Valley school budget defeated

**ORWELL** — Following the second rejection of a spending plan for the school district that serves Orwell late last week, officials hope to float a third spending proposal next month.

Voters in the Slate Valley Unified School District (SVUSD) rejected a revised fiscal year 2025 spending plan of \$30,871,635 by a 947-544 margin on Thursday, April 11.

The spending plan reflected a \$150,000 reduction from the original FY'25 budget that residents of Orwell, Benson, Fair Haven, Castleton, Hubbardton and West Haven defeated by a 1,468

to 1,004 tally on Town Meeting Day. That original budget featured an increase of \$2,965,235 (10.5%) compared to the current year's budgeted spending.

The March 5 defeat prompted the SVUSD board and administration to revise the spending plan. On March 18, the board endorsed \$150,000 in reductions, which resulted in elimination of three instructional assistant positions (made possible by students moving out of the district), and a late bus run.

It's a budget that would have placed per-pupil spending at

\$11,320.94 — an increase of 0.2% from last year.

Pati Beaumont, SVUSD board chair, recently wrote in a message to the community that only 19% of the district's budget — roughly \$5.3 million — was financed by local district taxpayers, with the remainder borne by state and federal funds, and by non-resident taxpayers.

Brooke Olsen-Farrell, superintendent of the SVUSD, shared her thoughts on the latest budget vote setback — and the hard work to come — in an April 12 message that can be seen at [tinyurl.com/nfbz58hk](https://tinyurl.com/nfbz58hk).

"Our main focus remains on providing the best education for our students while being financially responsible," she wrote. "We're actively seeking alternative solutions following this second budget failure. The third budget vote is likely to happen in May. We encourage open dialogue and welcome any suggestions or concerns you may have. We'll soon hold meetings to discuss the failure, gather feedback, and explore options moving forward. Your participation and engagement are vital during this process."

## Tickets

(Continued from Page 2A)

ruling, the ticketed person can appeal to the full Public Health & Safety Committee, according to a new policy the selectboard unanimously endorsed on April 9.

"It shifts it from an in-person discussion to a review, and the review wouldn't be done by the police chief," Covey said.

Middlebury officials issued more than 900 parking tickets last year, and Covey reported only nine parking ticket appeals since he was promoted to chief last September. "Some people do contest \$5 parking tickets, and then there

are those who consider that cheap parking and pay it happily," he said.

Folks who work and shop in Middlebury should stay tuned, as more changes could be on the way.

"I envision this as the first phase of a revisions to the parking ordinance as a whole," Covey said, referring specifically to the town's overnight winter parking ban and the fee schedule.

"It's time, I believe," he said.

Reporter John Flowers is at [johnf@addisonindependent.com](mailto:johnf@addisonindependent.com).

*"Some people do contest \$5 parking tickets, and then there are those who consider that cheap parking and pay it happily."*

— Police Chief Jason Covey

# Olmstead to lead wildflower walk at Mt. Independence

**ORWELL** — It's time for the annual guided walk to look for spring wildflowers at the Mount Independence State Historic Site in Orwell on Sunday, April 28, from noon to 2 p.m. Amy Olmstead, a nursery professional for over 25 years, leads this informative walk. Olmstead is a horticulturist with Rocky Dale Gardens in Bristol.

Olmstead will point out early wildflowers, how to identify them, and discuss their habitat. Learn their common and Latin names. Wear sturdy shoes or boots, dress for the weather, be prepared for walking the trails — some of which may be wet — and bring water if you like.

This event brings participants to this historic site before the

official opening on Friday, May 24. Two other pre-season events are a guided off-the-trails history hike on Saturday, May 4, from noon to 4 p.m., and an early bird nature walk on Saturday, May 18, from 8 to 10 a.m.

The program, co-sponsored by the Mount Independence Coalition and Vermont Division for Historic Preservation, is open to the public. The walk fee is \$5 for adults, \$1 for children ages 6 to 14, free for children under 5, and free for members of the Mount Independence Coalition. Meet by noon outside the Museum. Restrooms will be available before the start of the walk. Call 802-759-2412 for more information.

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## Guest editorials

### Legislature's education reform plans nonsensical, they should be dropped

The impending 17 percent increase in property taxes has our elected leaders on the political edge, thinking they are about to be tarred by the taxpayers' brush and that doing something, anything, would be better than doing nothing.

They are wrong.

Last week the House's tax-writing committee continued its feverish push to figure out different ways to structure how our schools could be funded, and different policy approaches that might alter the cost trajectory of particular programs. The House is trying to figure out how to make school funding easier to understand and to make the process more transparent. House members are even dipping their toes into the Common Level of Appraisal (CLA), seeing whether it can be adjusted so that local tax rates are moderated. This is all being considered on the fly, in the last moments of the Legislature.

Here is what Vermont's Superintendents, Principals, School Boards, and School Business Officials think of the House effort: "The bill does nothing to address the cost shifts to local school districts of our failing mental health system. It does nothing to prevent the General Assembly from adding large-scale programmatic cost burdens — like universal school meals and the ill-conceived PCB program — onto the backs of property taxpayers. It does nothing to address the costs associated with operating a parallel education delivery system that relies on private schools and third-party providers of ancillary services when the public education system has existing space and capacity. The bill does nothing to support local school officials in contending with dramatic and crippling annual increases in the high cost of health insurance. It does nothing to assist, through well-reasoned policy approaches and the collaboration that we have been calling for, local school districts in optimizing school facilities, right-sizing school staff, and achieving strategic mergers. And, it does nothing to make the reasons behind the increasing costs of public education more transparent to the taxpayer."

In other words, the legislation being proposed is a disaster in the making.

Then, on Friday, the Scott Administration, through Craig Bolio, the state's tax commissioner, proposed spreading the 17 percent property tax increase out over multiple years, yet did not say how the "deferral" would be paid for. Mr. Bolio's idea included the potential of allowing "forgiveness" of the payment if schools showed "improving existing high-priority performance metrics."

This is the same government that deferred school construction needs in 2007, which left us with a \$6.3 billion hole.

This is the same government that deferred action on pensions, which has cost us billions of dollars.

This is the same government that signed into law H.127, which caused untold problems with this year's school funding efforts.

This is the same government that continues to add to our schools' responsibilities with no effort to follow up with the money necessary to fund them.

Legislators found Mr. Bolio's idea "intriguing." Of course, they did. Legislators are desperate to find a way to reduce the expected 17 percent property tax increase and to take credit for it. So is the governor. But kicking the property tax can down the road does nothing except to make things worse in future years. And what happens if, in a year or so, another funding crisis comes? The deferred tax just gets piled on top?

Mr. Bolio's proposal is fiscal nonsense and should be dropped.

The legislation being considered by the House should be dropped as well. It makes things worse and even less understandable than what we have. The reality is that our schools will need to work through this year's mess, which will be tough but survivable.

What the Legislature should do is establish a commission that addresses our educational system's core issues, like school governance, a statewide teachers' contract, mental health funding, state initiatives, etc., issues that truly have an enormous impact on our school budgets.

These issues will take time and political courage. But they are the only way to deal with the need to create sustainable budgets as well as a system that offers a better way to educate our students. Vermonters would also appreciate an approach that is less about approval politics than an approach that actually gets something done.

— Emerson Lynn



### Sun worshipers

IT WAS NOT hard to believe reports that 160,000 people came to Vermont for last week's total solar eclipse — all you had to do was look at the traffic. Beginning just after the 3:30 p.m. totality on April 8, downtown Middlebury saw a constant stream of cars heading south, many with out-of-state plates. It lasted for hours, but vehicles pretty much stayed in motion.

Independent photo/John S. McCright

## Let's connect the dots for peace

It has now been more than six months since the Hamas attack of October 7, and about six months since Israel began raining bombs onto the people of Gaza. Every night when I crawl into my warm, soft bed, with its clean sheets and fluffy pillows, I think about the families trapped in the nightmare of Rafah. I think about parents trying to comfort their hungry, crying, scared children, and my heart breaks, again and again.

I have joined Jewish Voice for Peace, the national organization and the Vermont/New Hampshire chapter, and I am working with a small group of local Jewish friends to create an Addison County sub-chapter, so we can work for peace right here in Middlebury. We have held Ceasefire Shabbat ceremonies, out on the street in Middlebury, and indoors too. We have baked challah, so much challah, and presented it to Balint and Welch's staff members, while demanding they consider the damage being done to Palestinian families and children with United States weapons and funding. Is anything we do helping?

We have been at tiny ceasefire vigils in Middlebury, big marches in Burlington, and demonstrations at the Montpelier Statehouse. We have called and emailed our representatives in Congress, shared posts on social media, organized benefits for Palestine Legal, and signed our businesses up to be part of Apartheid Free Communities. Is anything we do making a difference?

We have had painful conversations with friends and family members who support Israel's "right to defend itself." We have joined African Methodist Episcopal

clergy and Rabbis for Ceasefire on a Peace Pilgrimage, walking from Baltimore to Washington, D.C. I have written multiple columns for this paper. Is anything making a difference?

The truth of the matter is, our fate as Vermonters is totally linked to the fate of the Palestinian people. The F-35 is a stealth fighter jet that is the costliest single weapon system ever procured by the Pentagon. Each one of these weapons costs one hundred million

dollars. These are the planes that fly over Winooski and South Burlington, filling the sky with a deafening roar that makes living in these communities difficult and sometimes unbearable.

Meanwhile across the state multiple communities voted down their school budgets on town meeting day. People feel they can't afford their property taxes and don't understand why the cost of educating our students gets higher and higher each year. One reason, of course, is the rising cost of health insurance for teachers and staff. Because our nation, the richest in the history of the world, has money for F-35 fighter jets but not for healthcare, education, and housing.

The addiction crisis is 100% related to economic inequality and prioritizing military spending over life giving economics that help families and communities thrive. Vermonters are struggling with unaffordable housing, record levels of food insecurity, and lack of access to mental healthcare. These are all problems that could be solved with a massive shift in our national

(See *Ways of Seeing*, Page 5A)

### Ways of Seeing

By Joanna Colwell



## Aspiring house hen expands her range

I knew our hen Monique was different from other birds.

But if you had told me when we got her two years ago that she would one day start coming into the house every morning to lay an egg, I would have laughed and said, "Yeah, right. Don't be ridiculous."

Yet here we are.

Backyard chickens are, for the most part, indifferent to people. At best, they'll come to you if you have treats, and a select few will eat out of your hand. But if you want a hen with a distinct personality, you're going to have to interview a hundred before you find one.

A couple of hens I've had for more than a year still don't trust me. While they'll approach me if I have food for them, they behave as though, instead of tossing them seeds like I always have, this time I might switch it up and throw a live grenade.

Monique, however, is chill. She's a generic-looking red production hen who was around six months old when she joined our little free-range flock. From the beginning, she showed an interest in us as people, not just as food sources. Outdoors, she was quick to help out, whether that meant handing me clothespins when I hung out laundry or measuring the boards Mark was cutting for our deck.

When I work from home on the back porch during warmer weather, Monique insists on keeping me company, usually perching on the arm of my chair. Like most of us these days, however, she is fascinated with screens. So sometimes she'll hog my phone, whether it's to watch TikTok or to play games (Angry Birds, mostly).

She also likes my laptop and enjoys "improving" my writing with a series of well-placed pecks on the keyboard. I don't mind her occasional editorial suggestions, but more than once she's tried to delete entire files. Monique is a harsh critic.

Eventually, hanging out on the porch wasn't enough for her. She figured out that Mark and I have a separate life in the house. Any time we'd leave the sliding door open, such as to run in and grab a spatula while grilling, she'd slip inside to explore our natural habitat.

Looking back, I know we should have kicked her out right then. Instead, we took pictures. A chicken inside the house? Hilarious.

She learned that if she pecked on the glass door, we'd open it to throw out treats. And while her flock mates focused on snapping up bits of bread, she would shoulder her way past us into the kitchen.

(See *Jessie*, Page 5A)

### Around the bend

By Jessie Raymond



## Letters to the Editor

### Widow grateful to community

This is a thank you to everyone in the Middlebury community who helped pick up, support and wait patiently as my husband shuffled through the stores and parking lots, occasionally fell down or struggled to remain upright. Jeremy died on Sunday, April 7th. He was able to be up and about until four days before his death.

We were in the habit of taking daily walks in and around town. During the last part of his illness (severe dementia due to Alzheimer's) he experienced disinhibition of gait mobility and would rapidly and recklessly speed up his walking and then fall.

Many of you helped me pick him up, settle him down and eventually get him back to the car. Thanks especially to the Middlebury Natural Foods Coop, his safe place. He loved to wander around and "shop." The patience and kindness given by this community is priceless. Middlebury is indeed a very good place to live and die.

Pauline Singley  
Middlebury

### Church has space to offer

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church — on the green in Middlebury — would like the community to know that we offer a variety of spaces to nonprofits at no charge. There is a small charge for other entities. We offer our parish hall and kitchen, a conference room, and the church itself for larger gatherings. All information is on [ststephensmid.org](http://ststephensmid.org) under building rental.

Beth Stanway  
Middlebury

### Cable company comes up short

Many, many Vermonters struggled for days without power beginning the night of April 3 ... And the crews from Green Mountain Power Company (our provider here in Goshen) worked tirelessly and cheerfully until we all had our power back before the end of that weekend. GMP workers and contracted help removed the more than 75 trees down in Goshen from lines, roads and rights-of-way.

In stark contrast our landline phone and DSL lines are not yet repaired as of this writing (Saturday, April 13) a full 10 days after they were taken down by the storm. Consolidated (our provider of landline and DSL) have not repaired the line. One medical emergency happened that I know of — which required driving out to get help. One family has a traveling daughter with whom they cannot communicate from their home.

This seems like an unconscionable lack of service for those of us who pay for slow but adequate DSL, an essential landline connection as we live outside the coverage of cell towers. Consolidated should be reaching out to those like us — coming to our doors to inform us of the estimated repair time. We have called to inform them multiple times (when we drive out to find cell service) — and the line(s) are still out of service. We should not be billed for these 10 (and probably more) days without service.

Who holds them accountable?  
Corinna Stewart  
Goshen

### Trump failed on crime, economy

It is difficult for me to understand why anyone would vote for a man who was impeached twice, convicted of tax fraud and sexual abuse, disrespects veterans, and admires Adolf Hitler. So, I appreciated the recent letter to the editor from a Trump supporter explaining why he will vote for Trump in the upcoming presidential election. The letter provided two main reasons: 1) (See *Spritzer letter*, Page 5A)

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See Letters on Pages 4A, 5A & 7A

# Seeking an antidote for despair

Last I wrote in these pages, January 4, I said “the Humanities help us understand, appreciate, and navigate the complexities of the human experience.” At the start of Middlebury College’s spring 2024 semester, how might I do that following a fall term that words I seek to discern it fail?

I began the term by examining “responsibility” with students, a way to understand and appreciate, without judgement, the complexity of human experience.

Students come ready with the idea of responsibility as duty — to be in a position of authority over someone and to have an obligation to make certain that particular things are done. But I prefer another meaning, that responsibility is the opportunity or ability to act independently and make decisions without authorization. We investigate the word and find response and ability the foundation, the ability to create the time and space to respond. My classes are designed, I explain, to provide ample, safe space for students to respond to the complexity of human experience, and me to respond to them.

If we are to consider the place of love in our work and world, as I discussed in “The Humanities: An antidote for our time?” on January 4, we need to be able to respond to what is coming at us, what affects us, what vies for our very being.

Students, very early on and depending on their schooling, learn the student way — how to sit in a classroom, and where; when to answer, and how. But students not exposed to the mannerism of an elite education find themselves unable to understand the language and symbols of a certain pedigree, and they’re lost. Tension builds — Why don’t I know this? Resentment follows — Why wasn’t I taught this?



HECTOR VILA

Education divides while telling a story of hope and possibility, and organizes us accordingly into the vituperative, hierarchical socioeconomic society we’ve invented.

This is the confounding problem of an identity constrained by context, a systemic problem — the oppression of equal opportunity. My antidote has been to reach for a student’s heart; it’s the most effective way of bringing forth an imagination that will begin to describe influences, be these academic, familial, and socioeconomic, enabling a re-articulation of being and purpose straining against fears. And I always do this with writing, a way to respond.

In Light in the Dark (Luz en lo Oscuro), in the “Preface: Gestures of the Body,” Gloria Anzaldúa says, “For me, writing is a gesture of the body, a gesture of creativity, a working from the inside out. My feminism is grounded not in incorporeal abstraction but on corporeal realities. The material body is center, and central. The body is grounded in thought.”

Critique is critical; it’s the foundation of a healthy society. Education works against this. Education requires right answers, the right grades, even though we academics like to tell students, it’s not about the grade. Yet everywhere a student turns, to advance, good grades are required. Mistakes are penalized. It’s not about the grade, we say, but we, curricula show, practice the opposite.

Becky Thompson, a professor of sociology at Simmons College, in Teaching with Tenderness, Toward an Embodied Practice, argues that “Our attention to process has not caught up with our focus on content. The power of attention to embodiment is its ability to link form with content, link our bodies to the lyrics of a freedom song ...

the Western worldview emphasizes a mind that is succinct, linear, and quick while we are taught to get rid of a sense-aware body.”

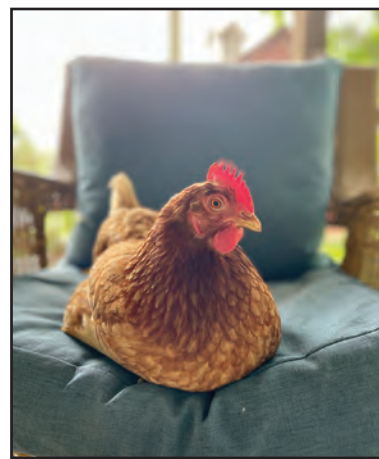
Students are in education traveling a noble path towards understanding themselves, to read the world, and to critique it; to understand and have a sense of the connections between us — forms of being — and the always changing world.

The result is that students, microcosms of the world at-large, suffer. “Look beneath the façade of affable confidence and seamless well-adjustment that today’s elite students have learned to project,” says William Deresiewicz in Excellent Sheep: The Miseducation of the American Elite, “and what you often find are toxic levels of fear, anxiety, and depression, of emptiness and aimlessness and isolation.” The deaths of Evelyn Mae Sorensen ’25 and Ivan Valerio ’26, fall 2023, tragically prove Deresiewicz right. I wish he was wrong. I wish it was different.

My responsibility is to identify and work against “fear, anxiety, and depression, of emptiness and aimlessness and isolation.” It’s the only way I know of valuing every student, a way of expanding beyond the boundaries of conventional education. “Teaching,” as Gloria Jean Watkins (a.k.a. bell hooks) says, “is a performative act. And it is that aspect of our work that offers the space for change, invention, spontaneous shifts, that can serve as a catalyst drawing out the unique moments in each classroom.”

As teachers, we engage an “audience”; we are compelled “to consider issues of reciprocity,” says Watkins. A classroom is a place of exchange, of mutual respect, caring, and a space for active participation in a multilayered recognition of just how difficult it is to be, a place of, and for, becoming. A classroom is an antidote to despair, a place of hope.

*Hector Vila is an Associate Professor of Writing & Rhetoric at Middlebury College.*



MONIQUE THE CHICKEN has no problem making herself at home. Like most of us these days, Monique is fascinated by screens. Sometimes she’ll hog Mark’s phone, as shown above, whether it’s to play games or watch TikTok. She’s also quick to help out, like above, where she helps Mark drill.



## Jessie

(Continued from Page 4A)

These drop-ins grew more regular, until by this past winter it became an almost daily occurrence for her to come inside and sit on Mark’s knee while he drank his morning coffee.

I was delighted. But also apprehensive. “Can I tell people about this?” I asked Mark.

On the one hand, I said, we find Monique’s indoor visits charming. But maybe, just maybe, normal people would not welcome a hen into their homes, no matter how entertaining she was. What we thought of as quirky, others might find appalling. Even gross.

Mark considered both sides of the issue and came to a thoughtful conclusion: “Who cares what those people think?”

That was good enough for me.

Last week, Monique took further advantage of our hospitality. After wandering around downstairs, clucking and peering into dark corners and behind furniture, she settled into the dog’s bed under my office desk. She sat there for 20 minutes, then squawked a bit before getting up and marching to the door. When repeatedly glancing at her watch and sighing audibly didn’t get my attention, she tapped the glass to be let out.

Several hours later, I discovered that she had laid an egg.

This was not, as we first thought, an accident; on seven of the last eight mornings, she has come into the house and, after making perfunctory small talk with us in the kitchen, headed for the office

and laid an egg under my desk.

It is now part of her daily routine. And, I suppose, ours.

One of my friends warned me that if we weren’t careful, Monique would end up as a house chicken. “The way it’s going,” she said, “in a few months, she’ll be roosting on your headboard at night.”

“Yeah, right,” I said, laughing. “Don’t be ridiculous.”

In other words, we’ll see what happens.

*I caught Monique’s morning routine on video: tinyurl.com/JessiesChicken.*

## Letters to the Editor

### Trump making country unsafe

There’s a plan coming into focus, the evidence of which is found in his words, blunt, as well as implied. Donald’s threat of violence, a natural precursor to the actual thing, will boost his re-election odds.

Unfortunately, those opposed may be at risk, regardless of which candidate claims to have won.

In the past, malcontents have been told they can always go elsewhere. Ironically, as a combat

vet familiar with violence, I might feel more comfortable deployed overseas.

Donald enjoys conflict because it is profitable and self-sustaining. He is content with pain inflicted on others, their mothers and pets.

Thanks to Don, the country will become neither free, nor safe. We were, however, dumb enough to let it happen.

Alec Lyall  
Middlebury

### Videos show horrors in Gaza

“If the American public saw pictures and videos of a one year old baby with ten pieces of shrapnel in their one year old forehead and face or if they saw a twelve year old with no limbs and burnt like an ignored hot dog on the grill, they would open their eyes and see the genocide we are financing.”

These are the words of two American surgeons, Dr. Mark Perlmutter and Dr. Feroze Sidhwa, who returned from Gaza on April 8 and published an article titled,

“We Have Never Seen Cruelty Like Israel’s Genocide in Gaza.”

On the April 10 edition of Democracy Now, these two internationally recognized surgeons graphically show their audience with words and pictures, the humanitarian disaster and genocide that is Gaza.

Their interviews can be seen on YouTube, and Democracy Now, April 10, 2024.

Linda Brown  
Bristol

## Spritzer letter

(Continued from Page 4A)

high inflation under Biden, and 2) rampant crime under Biden.

Regarding the economy, it cannot be denied that prices for most things have grown higher under Biden. However, most economists agree that Trump’s efforts to improve the economy actually had very little effect. His signature tax cuts for the wealthy mainly resulted in an increase in the deficit with no lasting improvement in the economy. Most estimates are that Trump’s tariffs cost the U.S. 100,000-200,000 jobs due to increased import costs for employers.

Though the economy has not been great under Biden, his policies have helped prevent a post-pandemic recession that many economists had predicted. American wages are now growing faster than inflation, thanks in part to stronger labor unions, which Biden has strongly supported, and Trump wants to destroy. Unemployment has returned to

pre-pandemic levels, and arguably, the pandemic would have had less of an impact on the economy if Trump had taken the threat of the pandemic more seriously from the beginning instead of hindering the best efforts of the CDC. The stock market has also hit all-time highs under Biden.

Regarding crime rates, the reality is that crime rates have gone down in many categories under the Biden administration, whereas they went up under Trump. According to FBI crime statistics and the Council on Criminal Justice, homicide rates went up by 20-30% in 2020 compared to 2019, likely partly due to a surge in firearm ownership in 2020. The same FBI reports indicate that crime went down in almost every category in 2023 compared to 2022. This included a 13% drop in the murder rate from 2022 to 2023, which is the largest one-year drop in the murder rate ever reported by the FBI, whose data date back

to 1960. Similarly, in 2023 rape declined by 12.5%, robberies by 4.7% and property crime by 4.3%. Trump has repeatedly claimed that crime is currently out of control in the U.S., but this is a lie. In fact, national rates of murder and overall violent crime were lower in 2023 than they were under Trump in 2020.

So, the economy and crime do not seem to be great reasons to vote for Trump. His lies about ballot insecurity and migrant crime seem to motivate some voters, but these arguments have also been disproved repeatedly. I’m voting for Biden for many reasons, but the strongest in my mind are his dedication to preserving democracy and human rights, his work toward protecting women’s healthcare (including the right to an abortion), his work in reducing gun violence, his work to mitigate the climate crisis, and his moral integrity.

Mark Spritzer  
Middlebury

## Ways of Seeing

(Continued from Page 4A)

priorities. Every bomb being dropped on Gaza today represents not only a failure to recognize the humanity of Palestinian people, but also a failure to recognize our own humanity. Let’s not look away, but instead link arms to build a world

where we all can thrive.

Joanna Colwell is a certified Iyengar Yoga teacher who founded and directs Otter Creek Yoga, in Middlebury’s Marble Works. Joanna lives in Ripton, where she enjoys taking walks, cooking for Abolition Kitchen, and working

with the Middlebury chapter of Showing Up for Racial Justice and the newly forming Addison County Jewish Voice for Peace. Feedback welcome at: joanna@ottercreekyoga.com

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**April 30:**  
“Keys Bags Names Words”  
Inspiring documentary film addressing dementia, how to reduce the risk of developing it, and how to meaningfully connect with loved ones living with it.  
Presented by Eileen Lawson  
Geriatric Social Worker, Elderly Services  
Tuesday, April 30, 4:30-6:00 PM  
at Ilsley Library Community Room

**May 14:**  
“Aging with Meaning and Enjoyment”  
A discussion of Positive Psychology ideas and our later years.  
Presented by Joanne Corbett  
Geriatric Social Worker, Elderly Services  
Tuesday, May 14, 3:30-5:00 PM  
at EastView at Middlebury

**May 23:**  
“You are Not Alone”  
Caring for an aging loved one with memory loss: signs, symptoms and strategies  
Presented by Eileen Lawson  
Geriatric Social Worker, Elderly Services  
Thursday, May 23, 4:30-6:00 PM  
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All Sessions are free and open to the public

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ADDISON COUNTY

# Obituaries

## Tamar (Danyow) Begley, 64, of Weybridge

WEYBRIDGE — Tamar (Danyow) Begley passed away peacefully at age 64 on March 13, 2024, surrounded by family and friends. A lifelong Vermonter, Tamar was born on July 24, 1959, grew up in Vergennes, and lived in New Haven before settling on a horse farm in Weybridge.



TAMAR (DANYOW) BEGLEY

Tamar loved animals and was an equestrian who cherished horses from the age of two. She competed in Dressage and was a trusted mentor to new riders. A woman of strong Christian faith, Tamar was a member of Victory Baptist Church who fostered lifelong friendships with classmates, the equestrian community, her church congregation, and her coworkers. She worked at Simmonds Precision for 33 years before working in online language learning until she retired.

In addition to spending time with family and friends in the barn caring for her horses, alpacas, and goats, she enjoyed collecting antiques, gardening,

and birdwatching on the porch of her farmhouse with her beloved husband and their adored Corgis.

Tamar is survived by her best friend and husband, Mark Begley, and was predeceased by her mother, Eleanor (LaFlam) Danyow, her father, Robert Danyow, and her brother, Tim Danyow. She is also survived by stepdaughters Julie (John) Wyckoff, and Michele (John) Ruppert; step grandchildren Grace, Charlie, Michael, Sarah and Jax; over 150 first and second cousins; and countless treasured friends and neighbors whom she loved dearly.

To celebrate Tamar's positivity and love of life, a memorial service followed by a gathering in the church hall will be held at 10:30 a.m. on June 8 at Victory Baptist Church in Vergennes. ◊

## Elizabeth H. Laframboise, 80, of Brandon

BRANDON — Elizabeth H. Laframboise, age 80, has gone to her heavenly home on Thursday, April 11, 2024. She was born in Randolph, Vt., on Sept. 9, 1943, the daughter of Jessie and Constance (Kimball) Hunt. She received her early education in Randolph and also attended Beauticians College.



ELIZABETH H. LAFRAMBOISE

On June 23, 1962, she married Rock W. Laframboise in Randolph. They lived in Connecticut for a time before moving back to the Addison County, Vt., area, where she helped her husband operate their family farm over the years in the Cornwall and New Haven areas. She would say she was a "Town Girl before becoming a Farm Girl."

Elizabeth was a devoted and active member of the Forest Dale Christian Fellowship Church; she taught Sunday School for many years and loved her church family. She also enjoyed being a foster grandparent for several years. She loved her flower gardens and watching the birds and other wildlife. Elizabeth

was enthusiastic in her faith and whomever she would meet she would always ask "Do you know Jesus? God Loves You."

The family would like to extend a special thank you to the Rutland Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice for the care they provided Elizabeth.

Elizabeth is survived by her

husband, Rock Laframboise; one daughter, Sandra Laframboise of New Haven; and one sister, Nancy Ellis of Randolph. She was predeceased by her infant son, Robert Conrad Laframboise, in 1972, and her brother, Raymond.

Funeral services will be held on Friday, April 19, at 10 a.m., at the Forest Dale Christian Fellowship Church. The Rev. Barry Tate, pastor, will officiate. A reception will follow the funeral at the Forest Dale Senior Center. Graveside committal services and burial will follow at the Shelburne Village Cemetery, Shelburne, Vt., at 3 p.m. Calling hours will be held on Thursday, April 18, from 4-6 p.m. at the Miller & Ketcham Funeral Home, 26 Franklin St., Brandon.

Memorial contributions may be made in her memory to Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice of the Southwest Region, 7 Albert Cree Dr., Rutland, VT 05701

Miller & Ketcham Funeral Home, Brandon is in charge of arrangements. ◊

## Maurice Fredrick Armell, 90, of Waltham

WALTHAM — Maurice F. Armell, 90, passed away Friday, April 12, 2024 at his daughter's home in Waltham, Vt.



MAURICE FREDRICK ARMELL

He was born Aug. 1, 1933, in Ferrisburgh, the son of Archie and Beatrice Mears Armell. Maurice, known to friends and family as Morris, or simply Moe, was an antique tractor enthusiast, and a life-long woodworker. His first love was always everything farming, but his life's career was as a carpenter. He loved to travel and took many memorable trips all over the U.S. and once to Europe with his kids.

Maurice was married to Arlene Armell in 1953 and together they raised seven children.

Maurice was predeceased by his wife in 2005. He is survived by his children: four sons, Dennis Armell (Nancy) of North Ferrisburgh, Gary Armell (Cindy) of Shoreham, Chris Armell (Kim) of Pittsford and Scott Armell (Tina) of Milton; and three daughters, Bonnie Ray

of Concord, N.C., Rhonda Martell of New Haven and Darcy Tarte (Zeke) of Waltham. The joy in his life was always his grandchildren, of which he had sixteen. He also leaves two brothers, Clyde (Chrystal) Armell and Roy Armell. He was predeceased by seven siblings.

There will be no services; interment will be at a later date.

Maurice had recently begun attending Elderly Services in Middlebury. What an absolute treasure in our community! If you wish to make a contribution, please consider this worthy organization.

To send online condolences to his family please visit [www.brownmcclyfuneralhomes.com](http://www.brownmcclyfuneralhomes.com). ◊

## Jeremy Singley, 73, of Middlebury

MIDDLEBURY — Jeremy Singley, 73, of Middlebury, Vt., passed away peacefully at home on April 7, 2024, after a long struggle against the destructive forces of Alzheimer's disease. He lived a good and happy life.



JEREMY SINGLEY

Upon his completion of a degree in Studio Art from Rutgers University, Jeremy and his family moved to Vermont. He built his own home and shop and began a long, accomplished career as a master woodworker. He designed and handcrafted fine furniture that was sold and shown across the country and abroad. He is best known for his Windbow Rocker and received a U.S. patent for its seat design. Most notable among his customers are Julia Roberts and Norman Lear. However, Addison County's own Mary Barr Kellington is the proud owner of the first two rockers Jeremy made, which she and her partner, Robert, still use every day.

Besides producing furniture, Jeremy frequently contributed articles to *Fine Woodworking* and *Fine Homebuilding* magazines.

Later in life he expanded his design talents to industrial design and became a Solidworks software guru, with an extraordinary ability

to design products and parts that needed curves. He worked on a wide range of products ranging from water and wind turbines to sports and medical equipment to streamlined tractor trailer trucks. He received two EPSCOR grants for his work on air flow enhancements for long-haul trucks. His model of the air flow truck was showcased at Solidworks World.

Jeremy was very proud of his involvement with the Middlebury Natural Foods Coop. He was one of the founders of the Coop's storefront

and served on the board. He liked to point out the humble origins of the storefront in the old train station and compare that with today's bustling store.

Jeremy was dedicated to his family. He cared for his parents, his sister and his younger brother during their final illnesses. He was a loving father to his two daughters. He taught them how to make firewood, wire an outlet, lay slate, spokeshave spindles, light a torch, fish from a canoe and build a treehouse, in addition to coordinating their home school programs. He mentored several apprentices in his woodshop and then went on to teach industrial design seminars across the country.

Jeremy is survived by his wife, Pauline; his daughters, Gwen and Emily; his son-in-law, Louis Toth; and his brother Donald. He was preceded in death by his parents Mark and Janet; his sister Fran, and his brother Paul.

Memorial services are private. Donations in his memory can be made to Addison County Home Health and Hospice, [www.achhh.org/memorial-gifts.html](http://www.achhh.org/memorial-gifts.html)

Be well, eat good food, slow down, smile until your eyes crinkle and live in peace. ◊

## William 'Bill' Garrett Rader, 79, of Shoreham

SHOREHAM — William "Bill" Garrett Rader, born April 25, 1944, died peacefully April 11, 2024, in the home that he built with his own hands on a beautiful spot overlooking Lake Champlain.

If you met Bill once, you knew him. He carried around a vibrant, ever-present smile and was quick with a loving, hearty handshake. A friend to all, Bill always saw and brought out the best in each and every person.

A Vermont-certified carpenter for nearly 50 years, Bill's projects stretched across Addison and Rutland Counties, impacting countless families. Bill's "can-do" attitude was contagious, and he got a lot of joy and satisfaction working shoulder-to-shoulder with others. He always believed in putting in a hard day's work and treating people fairly. He had a knack for creative problem solving and utilizing the resources at hand, whether it be in his capacity as a carpenter or his role on a team of Air Guard members in a "rapid runway repair" exercise.

Bill's endeavors also included developing and managing an apiary of over 400 hives, as well as managing the family-owned 100+ acre Hand's Cove Orchard and operating the Fort Ticonderoga and Three Minute Ferries.

Bill attended Michigan State University before enlisting in the Navy in 1965 during the Vietnam War, serving as flight deck director on the U.S.S. Coral Sea. From 1981



WILLIAM "BILL" GARRETT RADER

to 2004, he served in the Vermont Air National Guard in the 158th Civil Engineering department, where he rose to the rank of Senior Master Sergeant, E-8. During his time in the Air Guard, Bill traveled to over 15 different countries, including Jamaica, Mali, Israel, the Philippines, Saudi Arabia, and Macedonia, carrying out humanitarian missions. After mandatory retirement from the Air Guard, he continued to serve as a member of the American Legion Honor Guard. He was also an active member of the Shoreham Volunteer Fire Department for 27 years. In 2012 he was recognized as Shoreham Citizen of the Year, along with other fellow senior firefighters.

In 1969 he married Rhoda Caswell in Brandon, Vt. They had

three children: Lorelei, Peter, and Lisa. Bill put family first, whether that meant enthusiastically cheering them on in sports or sharing his love of the lake through teaching all of his close and extended family how to fish and waterski. Expressive of his core convictions, Bill unapologetically proclaimed the love of Jesus through his resonant singing voice and his willingness to help any person in need. He proudly lived for and served God and country. His testimony was not only in word, but in many deeds, big and small.

Bill leaves behind his loving wife of 55 years, Rhoda; children Lorelei Svoboda and spouse Brian (Hollis, N.H.), Peter and spouse Moira (Guilford, Conn.), and Lisa and spouse Jon Andrews (Middlebury, Vt.) He took great joy in each of his nine grandchildren: Anika, Paedar, Alena, Stella, Maeve, Benjamin, Mairead, Eva and Muiriel. He also leaves behind his sister, Marylou Smith (East Dover, Vt.) and brother Glenn Rader (Jupiter, Fla.)

Bill will be laid to rest with military honors on Tuesday, May 28, at 1 p.m., at the Vermont Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Randolph, Vt.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Bill's honor can be made to Habitat for Humanity of Addison County ([AddisonHabitat.org](http://AddisonHabitat.org)) or the Vermont Veterans Fund (email: [robert.burke@vermont.gov](mailto:robert.burke@vermont.gov)). ◊

## Nancy Myrick celebration of life

BRIDPORT — We invite family and friends to join us in our celebration of life service for Nancy Myrick, who died Sept. 26, 2023. This will be held on Saturday, April 20, at 1 p.m., at the Community/Masonic Hall in Bridport, with light refreshments to follow.

We welcome your thoughts and memories to share. ◊



NANCY MYRICK



GREG FORREST

## Greg Forrest celebration of life

BRISTOL — The family of Greg Forrest invites all friends and family to join them in celebrating Greg, who passed Away Feb. 4, 2024. The celebration will take place on April 27, at 1 p.m., at the American Legion in Bristol. ◊

## Obituary Guidelines

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

with either paid obituaries or free notices cost \$10 per photo. Obituaries may be emailed to [obits@addisonindependent.com](mailto:obits@addisonindependent.com).

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



## Planning

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## David Kinsley Ricklefs, 53, of Middlebury

MIDDLEBURY — David Kinsley Ricklefs died Friday, April 12, 2024, from injuries sustained from a car accident.

Athletic, artistic, passionate, entrepreneurial — these are all words that describe who David was.

As a youth, David was an elite junior ski and bike racer. David spent his formative years in York, Pa., ski racing at Round Top and competing in local, national, and international bike races. David attended high school at Burke Mountain Academy in East Burke, Vt., where he pursued his passion to become an elite ski racer, but more importantly grew into the creative, driven person he became.

He graduated from Bates College in Lewiston, Maine, in 1992. After



DAVID KINSLEY RICKLEFS

college, David pursued a career as a professional mountain bike racer



## Helen Mae Cloutier, 80, of West Ferrisburgh

FERRISBURGH — Helen Mae Cloutier, of West Ferrisburgh, Vt., passed away unexpectedly at the age of 80 on Saturday, April 6, 2024, at the UVM hospital in Burlington, Vermont surrounded by her loving family.

Helen was born in Salisbury, Vt., on July 7, 1943, the daughter of Lester and Helena (Dragon) Whittemore. Helen was one of six children.

Helen married Firmin Yvon Cloutier, the love of her life not once but twice. They were first married on Feb. 16, 1963, and raised their four children, Richard, Lisa, Micheleleann (Missy) and Michael at their family homestead on Basin Harbor Road in West Ferrisburgh. They were divorced briefly and then remarried on Sept. 29, 1978. Although there were many challenges throughout the years, their love and children kept them bonded until Firmin's untimely death in 2008.

Helen was very well known and thought of throughout the entire community as she had worked well over 60 years in the restaurant business, starting at Cole's Restaurant in New Haven and ending her career last year at the ripe age of 80 at the Bridge Restaurant in Addison. Helen has probably served up more coffee and attitude than anyone else in all of Addison County's history.

Helen's quick wit and sass entertained many locals and travelers for well over 60-plus years. Some would even say to know Helen was to love her, as no one really knew what Helen was going to say or serve-up at them once they stepped foot inside the restaurant. She loved to work, and she loved to be with people. Helen was very spry and full of hell even at the end of her life, giving her children grief for not bringing her



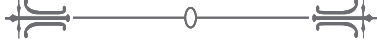
HELEN MAE CLOUTIER

shoes with her to the hospital on the day of her death. Helen was not an easy-going person, but she was very much loved by all that knew her.

Helen enjoyed many other things besides the restaurant business, her customers, and the friends that she has made throughout her 80 years of life. She loved to have her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren come to visit and call her even though she would say that she never saw or heard from anyone. And Helen loved to SHOP even if she didn't need anything! She loved to go to garage sales and consignment stores and she especially loved to visit the Amish Farm in Westport, N.Y., where she enjoyed watching and visiting with the little Amish children and purchased eggs, veggies, donuts, jellies and jams, and especially her favorite blackberry pie. Most of all, she enjoyed reading and her beloved and spoiled pets.

Helen will be missed deeply by her family, friends, and the entire local community for she was a unique sassy character that no one will not soon forget.

Helen leaves behind her children,



## Russell R. Preston Jr., 75, of Panton

PANTON — Russell R. Preston Jr., 75, passed away Sunday, April 14, 2024, at his home in Panton with his family by his side.

He was born March 11, 1949, in Randolph, Vt., the son of Russell and Roberta Tabor Preston Sr. He graduated in 1967 from CVU and was enlisted in the Navy for six years.

Russell is survived by his wife, Pamela, of 53 years; and two sons: Scott Preston, his wife, Mandy, and their children Eliza, Noah and Garrett; and Eric Preston, his wife, Angie, and their child Isaac. He is the oldest of eight children, including four brothers and three sisters.

Russell is predeceased by his

parents. He retired from Barrett Trucking and was named 2004 VT Truck and Bus Association driver of the year. His hobbies were restoring antique tractors, camping with friends and family, and deer hunting with his grandson.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to The Northeast Two-Cylinder Club Inc. 90 Sunset Knoll Panton, VT 05491.

A celebration of life will be celebrated from noon to 4:30 p.m. on Sunday, April 28, at the VFW, 530 Exchange Street, in Middlebury. To send online condolences to his family please visit [www.brownmccayfuneralhomes.com](http://www.brownmccayfuneralhomes.com).

before becoming a pioneer in the e-commerce world. David spent his recent years running ultra-marathon races, some with his brother, building a line of athletic clothing and working in the local healthcare system as a nurse aid, helping others, including raising awareness about mental illness. He was an avid reader, a connoisseur of music, and an accomplished skier and cyclist.

Of all of David's accomplishments, it was his children he loved and cherished the most. David is survived by his parents, his brother and his three children.

Donations in David's honor can be made to the Counseling Service of Addison County in Middlebury Vermont. ◊

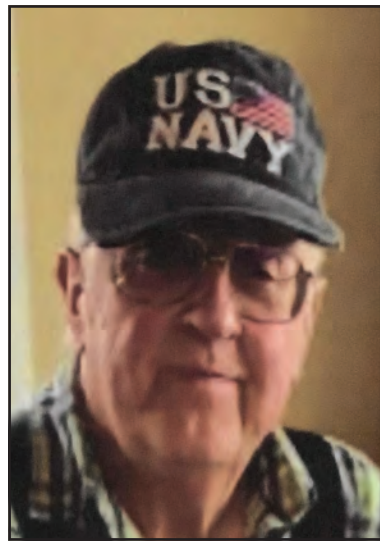
Richard (Maggie) Cloutier, Lisa (Jamie) Cloutier-Geh, Micheleleann/Missy (Merle) Bishop and Michael (Becky) Cloutier; her two precious granddaughters, Kelli-Jo (Kyle) Cloutier-Goodman, and Rikki (Jacob) Cloutier-Pitts; and her two wonderful great-grandsons, Easton Andre and Wesley Firmin. Helen leaves the following siblings: Lester (Marge) Whittemore of Salisbury, Peter Whittemore of Middlebury, and Debbie (Bob) Murphy of Mendon; as well as many nieces, nephews, and cousins. Helen also leaves behind a very special friend that she was reconnected with in 2017, Jean Seaver of Florida.

Finally, she leaves behind her loving pets Oscar and Precious, who are already rehomed with family members, as well as her favorite horse, Tank.

The family would like to extend a special thanks to Christina Brace and Penny, Lance, Linda, Jeff and Angie Stone for all their love and support during their time of need. The family is in awe by the countless number of outcries received expressing sympathy and grief of Helen's passing. This has provided an unmeasurable amount of comfort to the family during this very difficult time.

There will be a celebration of life held on Sunday, April 21, at the American Legion, located at 100 Armory Lane in Vergennes, from noon-5 p.m. Please come to share your favorite Helen memory or story. Let's send Helen, the spry and vibrant woman that she was, out with as much laughter, love, and joy as we can.

In lieu of flowers or food, the family is requesting that donations be made to Wag On Inn, located at 1111 US Route 7, Vergennes, VT 05491, where her all of pets were well taken care of and loved, especially by Matt and Sammy. ◊



RUSSELL R. PRESTON JR.

## Roger Leo Quesnel, 90, of Whiting

WHITING — Roger Leo Quesnel, age 90, passed peacefully on Sunday, April 14, 2024, with family by his side.

Roger was born in Whiting on May 3, 1933. He was the son of Dominique and Clara (Lamoureux) Quesnel. He grew up on the family farm in Whiting. He received his early education in local Whiting schools and graduated from Brandon High School, class of 1951. Roger was a dairy farmer all his life. He was a charter member of the Whiting Fire Department, as well as a fourth-degree member of the Knights of Columbus. He served the town of Whiting as a lister for 30 years. He was a member of F.H.A and the A.S.C.S. board for many years. He belonged to the Eagles Club in Vergennes. He enjoyed snowmobiling and camping. He was also a member of the Otter Valley Sam's camping club. He and his wife enjoyed snow birding to Florida for over 22 years. He was a communicant of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Middlebury.

Surviving is his wife, Blanche Quesnel of Whiting, whom he married in Middlebury on August



ROGER LEO QUESNEL

20, 1960; four sons, Charles R. Quesnel and wife Linda of Whiting, Daniel D. Quesnel of Sarasota, Fla., Michael F. Quesnel of Whiting, and Lawrence L. Quesnel of Shoreham; one brother, Victor Quesnel of Whiting; and two sisters, Denise Shepard of Middlebury and Claire Audet of Shoreham. Five grandchildren, Dillon Quesnel and wife Tiffany, Derek Quesnel and partner Shannon Brown, Austin Quesnel, Colton Quesnel and partner Kenzie, Trysten Quesnel;

five great-grandchildren, Samuel Scholar, Patrick Scholar, Brenna Quesnel, Hunter Quesnel and Elizabeth Quesnel; and several nieces, nephews and cousins also survive him. He was predeceased by a brother, Cloude Quesnel; and three sisters, Yvette Quesnel, Rejeanne Lalumiere and Rita Cousineau.

A Mass of Christian burial will be celebrated on Saturday, April 20, at 10 a.m., at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Middlebury. Rev. Luke Austin, pastor will be the celebrant. The graveside committal service and burial will follow the mass, at St. Genevieve Cemetery in Shoreham. Following the committal service the family will receive friends back in the church hall, for a time of remembrance.

Friends may call, at the Miller & Ketcham Funeral Home in Brandon on Friday, April 19, From 6-8 p.m..

Memorial gifts, in lieu of flowers may be made, in his memory to; The Whiting Fire Department or to St. Mary's Catholic Church, in Middlebury.

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

## Letters to the Editor

### With school budget stories, financial context matters

I disagree with April 11th's editorial suggesting that school budgets were voted down because they were presented to voters too late. Yes, it would be great if local boards moved their timetable up, and I hope they follow Angelo's suggestion to the extent possible. But I feel the most crucial item causing so many school budgets to be down-voted was the so-called "20%" tax hike across the state.

Yes, I realize school budgets increased often minimally, even in the 1% or so range, but this analysis was only emphasized in the press *after* the vote. In the weeks prior to March 5th, all anyone could talk about, in the paper, at the Legislative Breakfasts I attended, and around the water cooler, was that property owners were going to find their tax rates increasing by nearly a fifth. And then when people went to the polls and cast their ballots, the only significant money item they could vote on was school budgets. So what else do you expect people to do??

I'd suggest the problem could have been better addressed. 1) For municipalities: ballots which present money items should *always* indicate the percentage change in the given item. Being asked to vote yes or no on a large, context-free number is an exercise in voter confusion. I can keep in my head easily the difference between two political candidates. Far more difficult is remembering if \$35,603,118 is higher or lower and by what percentage than a similar number from a year ago, or even if it matches what I saw reported in last week's paper. 2) Even more helpful would be a useful universal benchmark always being provided by the press, such as how much a given item is likely to cause an average taxpayer's bill to change.

For example, say an average Addison County homeowner has a \$300,000 home with an annual tax bill of \$7,000. By how many dollars will the school budget itself affect that average tax bill? I see the *Addy Indy* sometimes

providing this sort of useful and clear context. But more often they provide myriad financial and percentage reference points, which I find almost universally confusing. There seems to be an emphasis on providing every possible reference point, rather than a consistent and easily understood one. Examples include "\$1,591.00 per \$100 of assessed property value. That figure is more than 2 cents lower than the \$1,612 officials originally projected," "save only a few pennies on tax rates," or "The MAUSD board last month adopted a \$37,014,566 spending plan for fiscal year 2025. With the 5% cap offered under Act 127, the district's homestead tax rate is expected to increase 7.5 cents, or 5%, from \$1,499.1 per \$100 of assessed property value to \$1,574.1. Superintendent Patrick Reen told the board at its Jan. 23 meeting that without the cap, the district-wide tax rate would likely rise by nearly 17 cents, or 11.3%."

Whatever is the point of referring to pennies or 2 cents or 7.5 cents, or even \$1,574.1? (For one thing, you can't save "pennies" on "rates." You can only save percentage points on rates.) These tiny numbers don't in any way reflect the real impact on taxpayers. They feel to me to be an archaic holdover to the way it's always been done, but sticking to such practices only adds to my confusion. I urge the paper to stick with a consistent reference point throughout an article, ideally the percentage change, or the real total tax bill value on the "average" \$300,000 home.

Heck, make up a cute little *Addy Indy* House graphic/icon that you can insert a couple numbers in and you've suddenly got a branding opportunity. You can use it in every article that

discusses a potential property tax change, and the notable graphic will be easily remembered by readers. And when forced to refer to pennies, please also provide the corresponding real total taxpayer impact. (And also please stop falling back on the reminder that many homeowners pay based on their income rather than property value. That fact doesn't change, and even obfuscates, the fact that tax rates still increase.)

Context matters. I might balk at an 11% school budget increase. But if I'm clearly informed that the 11% represents zero increase in services and is only due to inflation on existing costs, then I feel a lot better about it. And if that 11% is only a portion of my total tax bill, which will only go up a total of say 7%, then I feel even better still.

Finally, I'd love for the *Addy Indy* to do a real in-depth breakdown on the Common Level of Appraisal. Maybe it's even more of a *Vermont Digger* or *Seven Days* type project. It's constantly reported and commented on that it's the evil CLA which causes tax rates to skyrocket, even when school budget administrators achieve 1% budget increases. It would be incredibly helpful to see some graphs and flowcharts clearly explaining how this is the case. Because I've been reading everything I can on the matter and I still don't get it.

With an informed public, we can start voting and encouraging our legislative representatives to fix the real problem, rather than being faced with proposed "20%" tax increases, and the confounding opportunity to vote on only school budgets that won't appreciably change anything anyway.

Kris Diehl  
Middlebury



## Addison, VT Homeowner Recommends Bristol Electronics

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# En garde . . .



Independent photo/  
John S. McCright



MORE THAN A hundred fencers came from all over Vermont, New Hampshire, northern New York, Massachusetts and Quebec to Middlebury Union Middle School this past Saturday and Sunday, April 13 and 14, to wield their blades in the 29th Middlebury Open fencing tournament. The Green Mt. Division's flagship tournament is a two-day festival of fencing with something for everyone — open, unrated, youth and veteran events. There were competitions in all three disciplines: epee, saber and foil.

On Saturday, the MUMS gym hosted scads of kids, as well as some adult foil events, dueling on eight strips laid out on the hardwood floor. Sunday saw adults competing in saber and epee competitions. Electronic sensors in the blades recorded when a fencer successfully touched an opponent. Referees kept the action moving and ensured that fencers stayed within the boundaries of their strip. Bouts were won with strategy and cat-fast reflexes.

Viveka Fox of Addison is the head coach of the Vermont Fencing Alliance, the Champlain Valley club that organized the tournament. Fox is seen in the middle photo on the left giving instructions to competitors in the Men's Unrated Epee competition on Sunday. An excellent fiddler when she doesn't have a blade in her hand, Fox is also a standout fencer. She is rated No. 1 in the Veteran 50-59 Foil division by U.S.A. Fencing. Unsurprisingly, she won the Vet Combined Mixed Foil competition this weekend.

Want to see fencing in person? The Vermont Fencing Alliance has a "Spring Fling" tournament scheduled for May 4 at Vergennes Union High School. Also, the 26th Ticonderoga Challenge Outdoor Epee Tournament is slated for May 25 across Lake Champlain in New York.



. . . Fence!

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# Climate matters

## Perspectives on Change

2100 and before

### Thoughts on the birth of my first grandchild

Asa Caleb Crane was born a few weeks ago. He came into the world with a full head of hair, and on first impression an undeniable charisma, a full array of important moral virtues, and a calm but determined approach to the new world in which he found himself.

And I found myself both entirely agog at his general niftiness, and bowled over by the fact that I now know, very intimately, someone who, God willing, is going to exist in the 22nd century.

I can compass the passage of time; my grandmother, who I knew well, was born in the latter part of the 19th century, and I can imagine most of the changes of her life — feel in some visceral way the increase in mobility, in communication, in opportunity, in ease. My parents were born during the Depression and came of age during the great postwar boom; my daughter was born just as the internet was getting off the ground. It all makes more or less sense to me; but of course the future is harder, and the future now is harder than ever. In fact, there have been a spate of stories recently pointing out that even our greatest climate scientists are having a hard time explaining the rapid rise in global temperature during the last 12 months — and others explaining just how hot it has become. Here's a compelling Guardian account of the record heat across much of Africa in recent weeks ([tinyurl.com/WarmingFast](https://tinyurl.com/WarmingFast)).

Of course time, in the larger sense, rushes on — and right now the very real-time acceleration of warming scares me more than I want to admit. It also makes me think — as you might guess from the title of this Climate Matters column — that the next few years might be the crucial ones between now and 2100, maybe even between now and 5100. **Because if we don't break the momentum of the warming, then it will build unstopably on itself — and that will foreclose all kinds of options.**

It's keeping those options open that matters to me. I don't think we can reasonably plan all that far into the future — new technologies, new politics, new attitudes will inevitably shape how things happen 20 or 60 years from now. But I do think we can see the outline of our politics through the end of the decade, and I think it basically involves a single choice: Do we go all-in on the energy transition as the world pledged in December at the last global climate talks, or do we back off, following the advice of, say, the (wildly applauded) Saudi Aramco CEO who said last week at a Houston energy conference that “we should abandon the fantasy of phasing out oil and gas and instead invest in them.”

The first option — going all-in on the energy

transition — doesn't get us where we need to go, and certainly not by 2030. I don't see any chance that the temperature won't still be rising then. But done with vigor it keeps possibilities open: Politico recently reported, for instance, on the growing competition among blue-state governors to come up with more renewables and more efficiency, and the remarkable Kingsmill Bond at the Rocky Mountain Institute reported on the growing competition between the superpower blocs for green energy supremacy.

China, Europe and the United States make up 80%–90% of deployment of key clean technologies.

**China dominates the supply chain, but change is happening.** China has outspent the United States and Europe 10-fold during the past five years to achieve market share in manufacturing of over 90% in solar and 70% in batteries. But United States and European capital expenditure is set to increase 16-fold by 2025, and opportunities for leadership abound; only 20% of final energy demand has been electrified; and technologies to enhance flexibility are still in the early stages.

**Europe leads in solar and wind share of generation.** Europe has the largest share of electricity from solar and wind, and all three regions are moving rapidly up the S-curve towards solar and wind dominance.

What I'm trying to say is, we have the chance during the next five years to establish a counter-momentum to the rising temperature. If we do, by 2030 we'll be in a place to weigh the options going forward; if we don't, then nature will be making decisions for us, and we'll be reacting.

For those like me of a certain age we have no real business telling young people what kind of world to build — that will be their opportunity and their responsibility, and my sense is that they have the savvy to do a good job of it. **But our job — everyone's job these next five years — is to arrest the sudden and sickening lurch upwards in temperature, so there's somewhere at least a little stable for those young people to stand as they build that new world that must come.** The best proxy for that stability is the number of solar panels and wind turbines and batteries we install between now and the end of the decade.

I've always thought this to be true; it's why this column is called what it is, and it's why I do the work I do at places like Third Act. It's just that all of a sudden, I take it even more personally. Hi Asa!

*Bill McKibben is an internationally known climate activist and writer who lives in Ripton.*



BILL McKIBBEN



### Taking the safe route

LAURA ASERMILY LEADS a parade of Mary Hogan fifth-graders on bikes from their school, through Buttolph Acres, to Middlebury Union Middle School last week. Asermily is a member of Middlebury Safe Routes, a local bike and pedestrian safety group, which works with Local Motion to offer two weeks of bike safety instruction at the elementary school each year.

Independent photo/Megan James

## Safety pointers for spring turkey season

MONTPELIER — Hunting safely during Vermont's spring turkey hunting seasons is easy if you follow tips issued by the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department.

With the opening of spring turkey hunting for youths and novices on April 27 and 28 and the regular season May 1-31, Fish and Wildlife urges hunters to consider these safety tips:

- Never shoot unless you are absolutely sure of your target and what is beyond it. Look for a beard as only turkeys with beards are legal during the spring season.
- Never stalk a gobbling turkey. Your chances of getting close are poor, and you may be

sneaking up on another hunter.

- Avoid red, white, blue or black in clothing and equipment. A tom turkey's head has similar colors.
- Stick with hen calls. A gobble call might draw in other hunters.
- Avoid unnecessary movement. This alerts turkeys and attracts hunters.
- Don't hide so well that you impair your field of vision.
- Wrap your turkey in blaze orange for the hike back to your vehicle.
- Always sit with your back against a tree trunk, big log or a boulder that is wider than your body. This protects you from being accidentally struck by pellets

fired from behind you.

- Place decoys on the far side of a tree trunk or a rock. This prevents you from being directly in the line of fire should another hunter mistakenly shoot at your decoy.
- Wear hunter orange while moving from set-up to set-up. Take it off when you are in position.
- If you see another hunter, call out to them, but don't move until they respond. You may ruin the hunt, but you may have avoided injury.
- Make sure you know your effective range when shooting. For the most clean and ethical shot, make sure your shotgun is patterned and you are shooting within your effective range.

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## Ring found on the town green

BRISTOL — Bristol police on April 12 received a ring found at the town green on West Street. The owner can retrieve the ring at the Bristol Police Department.

Between March 24 and April 6 Bristol police completed 40 foot patrols and one car patrol, conducted 12 traffic stops, and checked security at Mount Abraham Union High School 13 times, at Bristol Elementary School 13 times and at local businesses nine times.

Police also processed 19 fingerprint requests and conducted one welfare check.

In other recent activity, Bristol police:

- On March 26 removed a vehicle from Main Street that was interfering with snow removal.
- On March 26 responded to a complaint of dogs being locked in a vehicle on Main Street for an extended period of time and barking. The vehicle was gone when police arrived.

## Bristol

Police Log

- On March 27 investigated a dispute on Main Street. Police determined it was a civil issue and provided the parties involved with options to resolve the situation.
- On March 28 helped sort out a citizen dispute on Pine Street.
- On March 30 investigated a report of animal abuse on Upper Meehan Road.
- On March 30 helped someone gain access to their residence.
- On March 30 responded to a juvenile issue on Mountain Street. Police helped the child and parent involved reach a resolution.
- On April 1 responded to a motor vehicle crash at the intersection of Spring and North streets.
- On April 1 received a report of

someone burning brush illegally on Morgan Horse Lane. Police determined the fire was within legal standards.

- On April 2 assisted a parent on Garfield Street with a truancy concern.
- On April 3 monitored traffic and helped with pedestrian crossing during a relocation drill from Mount Abraham Union High School.
- On April 3 helped someone on Main Street obtain transportation to mental health services.
- On April 3 assisted someone on Airport Drive in finding information about social services.
- On April 4 received a report of a potential violation of conditions of release on Firehouse Drive. An investigation is ongoing.
- On April 5 received a complaint of aggressive driving on East Street. Police determined the action described did not rise to the level of an offense.

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The Pigeon Comes to Burlington: A Mo Williams Exhibit is co-organized by the Children's Museum of Pittsburgh and The Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art. TM & © 2023 Hidden Pigeon, LLC

Mission Aerospace: created by Minotaur Mazas, a company specializing in interactive maze exhibits.

## Facility

(Continued from Page 1A)

But no application for the project has been filed, he noted. And if it is built, that wouldn't happen without a public process evaluating whether the facility is acceptable to the city, its officials and its residents.

Thus, a headline in *Seven Days* that stated such a facility "will be built" in Vergennes is not necessarily correct, Redmond said. He's basing that on discussions he and other city officials have had with representatives of the Department of Buildings and Grounds and General Services, and the Department For Children and Families.

"They have never said this is a fait accompli," Redmond said.

Rather, he said, informal talks about the possibility that Vergennes could be chosen rather than a South Burlington site now can become public informational meetings.

Mayor Chris Bearor and other city councilors, planning and zoning officials, and department heads, as well as Redmond,

are familiar with state officials' consideration of a new juvenile facility.

"What the state has done, is we've had some cursory meetings with them where they've said we have a project. We've done a (request for proposal) ... and we've gotten the responses back," he said. "And the meetings we've had with the state have really been more about there's going to be community engagement and a public process. And we want to talk to the community about this process."

In fact, Redmond added, "We have as much information about the project (status) as the media have reported."

Redmond said he could "understand some apprehension," but that city officials would cooperate with their state counterparts on community outreach that might answer some questions.

"We're good partners with the state. We've had good relations with them," he said. "But any

project requires review by the city, and we will look forward to having a public process so we can understand better what the goals are for it. And I think the state does, too. I think they've been very earnest with us, and they've always had very respectful conversations with us."

There are advantages for the state in siting the facility in Vergennes, primarily that there would be no land acquisition costs.

There could also be benefits to Vergennes, including what Redmond said are projected to be 30 jobs and at least initially property taxes paid by the private contractor who would lease and operate the facility.

He also hinted that, although "there have been no formal conversations" this early in the process, there could be quid pro quos for the city for hosting the facility, possibly such as potentially support for housing initiatives.

"During the public process the city will share its own goals," Redmond said.

## City council

(Continued from Page 1A)

the council last week the Revolving Loan Fund loan was critical to his plans to add a second workforce housing building on Armory Lane.

More than the direct funding, he said, approval would demonstrate city support for the additional 14 units and help him obtain a vital, larger loan from the Vermont Housing Finance Agency (VHFA).

"They want to see participation from the municipality," Kahn told the council.

The VHFA loan would be for about \$2 million, he said, and come with a below-market interest rate. Because workforce housing rental fees would be lower than full market value and construction costs have risen, Kahn said the project hinges on obtaining the lower-cost VHFA backing. If that funding is not forthcoming, he said he wouldn't accept the city loan and rethink the project.

He listed benefits to the city of supplying the loan: the units would house needed "potential

employees" for businesses, and provide up to \$40,000 in annual tax revenue, a roughly \$18,000 sewer hookup fee, and about \$12,000 in annual sewer/water fees.

"From a business standpoint, it makes sense for Vergennes," Kahn said.

After making sure the project was allowed under the Revolving Loan Fund's bylaws, councilors approved the \$100,000 loan with 4% interest, with the balance to be paid off after 10 years.

Kahn said if the VHFA loan came through, he'd approach the Vergennes Development Review Board right away, and work could begin as soon as this fall. The project would not require Act 250 review, he said, because it's sited in the city's new Neighborhood Development Area, thanks to the efforts of the Vergennes Planning Commission, and because of changes in Act 250 provisions.

Councilors also agreed to ask Welch's office for Congressionally Directed Spending (formerly

known as an earmark) to help support construction costs of the first 60 of a proposed 130-unit project off North Main Street. Kahn clarified to the council that this is a "totally different project" than the Armory Lane efforts.

Provisions of the request call for "funds to be administered by the city and applied solely to hard construction costs, covering approximately 30% of the overall funding needed." The project cost estimate mentioned at the April 9 meeting was \$17 million.

Redmond said the idea was first floated by Addison County Economic Development Corp. Director Fred Kenney. If awarded after what Redmond described as a highly competitive process, he said the earmark would help ensure the housing would be targeted at price that local workers could afford.

### ODDS & ENDS

In other business on March 9, the council also:

- Heard from Redmond that contrary to some local scuttlebutt, the bridge over Otter Creek remains safe to use, and the Vermont Agency of Transportation wouldn't allow its use "if it wasn't safe." Parent Construction will be doing work to shore it up to make sure it remains so, he added.

- Heard from Redmond that he'd received a request from Ferrisburgh officials to consider extending sewer service to Gaines Insurance on Monkton Road. Redmond said he'd politely decline it, and advised the question of sewer extension be tabled until ongoing upgrades were complete and system capacity could be evaluated.

- In other Ferrisburgh news, heard from Redmond the two communities were pooling planning grants to hire surveyor Tim Cowan to work on establishing their boundaries.

- Endorsed a \$150,000 application by the Friends of the Vergennes Opera House to Vermont Community Development Program for an Accessibility Grant to support the theater's All Access Project, which will also upgrade access to city hall.

## Students

(Continued from Page 1A)

"As soon as I got to Middlebury that was something I was really excited to get involved in," Doucet said.

Now a sophomore at the college, Doucet is one of several student leaders who help run Language in Motion, or LiM. Each semester. The program pairs college students and language department teaching assistants who've spent time abroad with host teachers at primary and secondary schools in and around Addison County.

LiM participants work with teachers to develop presentations that align with their classroom objectives and deepen students' understanding of other languages and cultures.

Kristen Mullins is the assistant director for global and intercultural programs at the college's Center for Community Engagement and has led Language in Motion since it was brought to the institution in 2014.

"The goal is really to support local school children in further developing their interest in the world, their understanding of the world, their curiosity and interest

in learning languages," Mullins said of the program. "Conversely, that will lead to understanding oneself better as well, putting yourself into a global context of what does it mean to be a young person living right now in this very diverse world."

In addition to organizing classroom visits, LiM has hosted several language and culture-related events for K-12 students. Past events include a full day of workshops at the Orwell Village School and a Youth Citizenship Summit for fifth- and sixth-graders in the Addison Central School District.

The program has grown quite a bit over the past decade, amassing a network of around 40 host teachers at area elementary and secondary schools. Several of those educators were key to bringing the program to the college in 2014.

### CLASSROOM VISITS

Every fall and spring semester, LiM recruits a new group of around 18 students and teaching assistants. Participants do a six-hour training before being paired with a local teacher based on their language knowledge and interests.

Participating educators teach a range of subjects, including world languages, social studies and music.

Student volunteers meet with LiM leaders and the teachers they're matched with to develop the presentations and activities they'll bring into the classroom.

"We try to have it be as interactive as possible, so students aren't just in their seats but are up and about," Mullins said.

The student-teacher pairings require one classroom visit, though Mullins said students and teachers sometimes coordinate additional sessions if time allows.

Mullins said the visits have proven to be fruitful.

"The benefit for all involved is very clear," she said. "That's central to community engagement, a reciprocal approach, where it's not just about benefiting college students or community members, but there's obvious benefit all around. That's obvious in this program, and it's also just a lot of fun."

Teachers agree. Tara Martin teaches "Individuals (See Classroom, Page 11A)

## Search

(Continued from Page 1A)

incoming superintendent. We carefully considered the existing and upcoming priorities and responsibilities for building-level leaders and came to a consensus conclusion to maintain our current level of administrative staffing in all buildings as budgeted. We believe this is the best way to address the goals outlined in the (ACSD's) Strategic Plan for Equity."

Raabe confirmed her departure last week through a brief emailed message to the school community.

"From my first day at Cornwall, I was welcomed into a positive, caring, and thoughtful community," she stated. "I appreciate the people I have worked with, from students to families to teachers and staff, and I will miss the waves and greetings each morning. I look forward to running into you while out and about."

It was in April of 2019 that Raabe was picked for the Cornwall job. She succeeded Principal Jen

Kravitz, who currently helms Middlebury's Mary Hogan Elementary.

Raabe joined the Cornwall school after spending four years as assistant principal at Global Village Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo., where she helped bring the community together in the redesign of its international school.

She took a brief sabbatical from her duties this past winter for what she described as "health reasons," in a Dec. 5 email to the school community. Salisbury School Principal Bjarki Sears and ACSD student response coordinator Michael Dudek filled the leadership breach during Raabe's convalescence.

The *Independent* invited Raabe provide more insights on her departure. She said she'd stick with her original statement to the community.

Williams thanked the departing principals and those who have pitched in while the schools were short-staffed. Urban is currently

serving as acting principal of Shoreham Elementary.

"We are grateful for everything principals Raabe, Urban and Brankman have done for our students," Williams said. "We will be looking for principals who will continue with student-centered approaches to learning."

As previously reported by the *Independent*, Brankman was hired in 2019 to succeed Jennefer Paquette as top administrator of Bridport Central School. He is the former principal of Bradford Elementary School. His role was eventually expanded to include oversight of Shoreham Elementary, after Principal Andy Johnson stepped down last June.

"The reality is that my responsibilities as a parent have taken too much of my attention this year, and that is where my focus needs to be going forward," Brankman said last month about his reason for stepping down.

Reporter John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.

## By the way

(Continued from Page 1A)  
email to [emily@acswwd.org](mailto:emily@acswwd.org), or call Emily at 802-388-2333.

Come watch the most exciting two minutes in sports — the Kentucky Derby — and support your local healthcare hub in the process. The Porter Auxiliary on May 4 will hold its annual "Derby Day," from 5-7:30 p.m. at Middlebury College's Kirk Center near the golf course off Route 30. There will be live music, dancing, specialty cocktails, ample hors d'oeuvres and prizes. Tickets are \$60 per person, which includes a drink ticket. Proceeds support Porter Medical Center. Make sure to dress to impress, with an award given to the most festive attire. There will be a raffle, also benefitting PMC. Raffle tickets are \$10 and could land you a Vermont handcrafted cherry wood desk, among other wonderful prizes. Dance floor and music by Jenni Johnson & the Junketeers. Buy tickets at [tinyurl.com/mushfyvj](http://tinyurl.com/mushfyvj).

Four Addison County towns will share in more than \$8.6 million in federal grants through the Vermont Agency of Transportation's Transportation Alternatives and Municipal Highways and Stormwater Mitigation programs. Recipients included Bridport, which received \$776,880 toward the construction of new culvert along Middle Road; Bristol, which netted \$240,000 toward construction of a new ADA-accessible sidewalk along Airport Road, which leads to the rec park and Mount Abraham Union High School; Ferrisburgh, \$500,000 toward construction of "multiple sidewalks" along Route 7;

and Middlebury, \$232,000, to help pay for stormwater treatment infrastructure in the Adams Acres neighborhood (near Boardman Street and Wilson Road). "These diverse projects will help continue to enhance and expand Vermont's transportation infrastructure," said Vermont Transportation Secretary Joe Flynn. "Improvements to sidewalks, bike paths, and shared-use paths provide Vermonters more transportation options and improve their quality of life."

Here's a reminder: With summer approaching quickly, farmers markets will open soon. And beginning in May, SNAP customers again will be able to multiply their benefits at farmers markets with Crop Cash. What is Crop Cash? For every dollar of 3SquaresVT and/or Vermont Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) you spend at a participating farmers market, you can receive a dollar of Crop Cash (up to \$10) to spend on fruits, vegetables, herbs and culinary seeds and plant starts. Anyone who receives 3SquaresVT/SNAP benefits, as well as folks who still have P-EBT benefits, is automatically eligible to get Crop Cash at a farmers market — there's no additional application for this program.

The Lake Champlain Maritime Museum in Ferrisburgh will kick off its 2024 season on Saturday, May 16. And just as was the case last year, admission is free through the Oct. 16 closing. The museum offers a wealth of information and exhibits detailing the lake's rich environmental and historical assets. Exhibits

include "Key to Liberty: The American Revolution in the Champlain Valley," "Steam to Gasoline," "A Noble Failure: Prohibition in the Champlain Valley," the Hazelett Small Watercraft building, and more. See all exhibits that will be open at [www.lcmm.org/exhibits](http://www.lcmm.org/exhibits). The museum will be open daily, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

The Lewis Creek Association will hold an event at Cota Field in Starksboro on May 5, from 2-4 p.m., in collaboration with the Starksboro Conservation Commission. The goals are to educate the community about how to identify Japanese knotweed, how to use iNaturalist to map its location in the Lewis Creek watershed, and to discuss upcoming demonstration projects in Ferrisburgh and Starksboro. Mike Bald (consultant from the business called Got Weeds?) will be there to discuss eradication strategies. Herbalist Sophie Cassel will also speak about how she uses knotweed to make medicine. The conservation commission will be recruiting volunteers for control of this plant in Starksboro. Light refreshments provided. Please fill out this form ([tinyurl.com/3axpnr2](http://tinyurl.com/3axpnr2)) to be added to LCA's knotweed mailing list, or feel free to just show up.

Average gasoline prices in Vermont rose 4.8 cents per gallon during the past week to \$3.42, according to GasBuddy. Prices are 14.8 cents higher than a month ago and 5.2 cents lower than a year ago. The cheapest station sold at \$3.21 this week, the most expensive at \$3.60. Meanwhile, the national average price of gasoline rose by 3.1 cents to \$3.60.

## Ready, Set, Repair!

The Addison County Solid Waste Management District is hosting a spring **REPAIR FAIR!**

**When:** Saturday, April 20th from 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM  
**Where:** American Legion Post 27  
49 Wilson Rd, Middlebury, VT 05753  
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[AddisonCountyRecycles.org/Repair-Fair](http://AddisonCountyRecycles.org/Repair-Fair)



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## Budget

(Continued from Page 1A)  
message that they need to reduce the tax burden more.

“With this second failed budget it seems our community is saying we have more work to do to reduce this burden,” he told the *Independent* on Wednesday. “Going forward, I will support the board as they work to set a new budget target and will work with the district leadership team to find ways to reduce spending to hit that target.”

The approved spending plan for the current year is \$33,868,900. MAUSD residents defeated a \$37 million spending plan, 1,341 to 1,113, on Town Meeting Day.

So the school board cut around \$1.36 million for the budget proposal voted on this week. District officials planned to achieve those savings by not filling 7.5 vacant positions, reducing teletherapy support due to filling related positions, eliminating \$250,100 in funds for construction services and removing \$160,000 earmarked for creating alternative programming at the elementary school level.

Additional savings would have been achieved by using \$305,000 from the district’s Education Reserve Fund, which has a current balance of \$1,024,563.

“Despite the constraints we were under, which were largely out of our control, we worked hard to reduce the tax burden from the initial budget in response to what we heard from taxpayers,” Reen said.

### TAX IMPACT DETAILS

The revised spending plan was expected to lower the district-wide homestead tax rate by 3.22 cents, or 2.15%, from \$1.4991 per \$100 of assessed property value to \$1.4669.

However, property taxes in three of the district’s member towns were still expected to rise due to low Common Level of Appraisals (CLAs). District officials estimated that after CLAs were applied, tax rate increases would range from

13.52 cents in New Haven, to 18.04 cents in Monkton, to 18.46 cents in Bristol.

School district officials have no control over the CLA, which is a ratio the state uses to make adjustments when assessing education property taxes to make the level of taxation equal among all Vermont towns. If a town’s grand list (the list of the value of all its properties) is less than 100, that indicates that fair market value for the properties is higher than the grand list values, so then the tax rate is increased.

The only town that would have seen a falling tax rate would have been Starksboro. That’s because Starksboro is expected to finish a town-wide property reappraisal before the beginning of the next fiscal year and as a result the CLA would not drive up the property tax rate. So even there, though, many education tax bills would have likely been higher because the slightly lower district tax rate would be applied to higher property tax values.

MAUSD officials have noted most taxpayers pay property taxes based on their income. District officials projected the proposed spending plan would have resulted in an increase of around \$295, or 14.89%, for the around two-thirds of residents who pay education taxes based on their income. That estimate is based on the Addison County 2021 median income of \$77,978.

Ahead of the April 16 vote, many MAUSD community members took to Front Porch Forum and attended school board meetings to share their spending priorities and budget concerns with district officials. Several residents expressed discontent over district spending decisions and with Reduction in Force (RIF) notices issued to 17 MAUSD teachers earlier this month.

The notices reflect a “worst-case scenario” in which the district is unable to pass a budget by July 1,

and then be forced to operate with a budget equal to 87% of its current spending in accordance with state statute. MAUSD community members expressed concern with how RIF notices were issued to staff in student-facing positions and the potential impact those reductions could have on various programs.

### WORK AHEAD

With the revised budget now defeated, district officials will go back to the drawing board and prepare a third budget to field to voters.

MAUSD Board Chair Erin Jipner on Wednesday acknowledged the challenges ahead.

“It is unfortunate that our second attempt at a budget failed. Outside of the disappointment, there is some grave concern for how we move forward effectively enough to take advantage of the time we have available to pass a budget for FY 24/25,” she said. “There are constraints on all sides of this budget cycle which makes the process of building and presenting a budget more difficult than previous years.”

Jipner noted the work ahead will require collaboration.

“Before this past vote, the board was optimistic that the dialogue, presentations, and communications around thematic budgetary topics from the community would help provide clarity enough so that the changes from the first failed budget proposal to now the second one would, at least, seem reasonable, justifiable, and acceptable to our towns,” she said. “It will take a great effort of the part of the board, administration, and community to come to an agreement about the end goal of what is best for our districts’ students and how we build a budget around that vision.”

Jipner added there are several things district officials will need to consider moving forward. “Overall, we are seeking a balance between what we can reasonably expect our taxpayers

## Classroom

(Continued from Page 10A)  
and Societies” at Middlebury Union High School. She’s participated in Language in Motion since 2014 and has welcomed several student presenters into her classroom.

“We have had a range of lessons and connections over the years,” Martin said. “They range from lessons about human migration and the refugee experience, the origins and impacts of India’s Caste System, to comparing education in China to that over the United States.

All of these programs bring a ‘real world’ lens to my units of study, and having someone closer in age with my students is extremely powerful.”

Jori Jacobeit has also taken part in Language in Motion as a host teacher since 2014. Jacobeit teaches French at Mount Abraham and said the program has given hundreds of her students a chance to learn more about francophone cultures and other topics.

“We’ve had dozens of LiM students present on topics including Italian food, Russian culture, Yiddish language, study abroad opportunities and gap year travel,” she said. “Language in Motion brings the world to our classrooms in a way that’s so accessible and engaging for our students.”

**LEARNING FOR ALL**  
Jacobeit pointed to several aspects of the program her students have enjoyed over the years.

“Students love hearing from college students about their experiences living around the world and studying languages. It

highlights the relevance of language learning and brings real people and real stories to our classrooms,” she said. “LiM visits often give our students a chance to practice their language skills with fellow speakers of the language they’re studying.”

She noted that this past December Language in Motion organized a French language day at the college for upper level French students from Mount Abe and Middlebury Union high schools, during which participants received a campus tour in French and met with Middlebury College students studying the language.

“Collaborating with LiM has been one of the most gratifying parts of my work as a language teacher, and I am so grateful for the impact LiM continues to have on our students’ experience,” Jacobeit said.

Doucet is among thousands of Vermont students who have been visited by LiM presenters since the program started. She said as a student, those presentations allowed her to learn more about life outside of the Green Mountain State.

“Vermont can be kind of a sheltered place to an extent,” Doucet said. “It depends on your background, your family, but I think living in a majority white place, a majority English-speaking place without easy access to other places, the program really gives insight to different ways of living and different places of the world.”

Providing local students with

a global perspective is a key part of the program, as well as helping Vermont students embrace their own culture, Mullins said.

“Having Vermont school children recognize that they have a fascinating, valuable culture as well, and that others are interested in learning about their lives and their experiences,” she said. “It’s not just about ‘the world out there,’ they’re also the world out there to other people. Engaging in that reciprocal exchange I think is very valuable.”

Mullins added that developing off-campus relationships has also proven to be a valuable part of the program for participating college students and teaching assistants.

“(Participants) talk about really appreciating establishing a relationship with someone off campus,” she said. “It’s very easy to just get contained on campus, but to get to know their broader community in this place that is home for most of them for at least four years, if not longer.”

In the coming years, Mullins said she’d like to explore other ways to make the program fruitful for its participants. Those efforts could include resuming LiM programming for educators that stalled during the COVID-19 pandemic and developing established curriculum for student presenters to work with.

“I would love to approach anti-racism work from an international perspective, and more of an anti-colorism work within Language in Motion,” Mullins said of areas she’d like to further develop. “Each student could come in and bring their own experience and take to it as they prepare for offering those in the classroom.”

to pay and how we properly fund our schools to provide the level of care our students need,” she said. “In order to accomplish this, we have to learn from our community for both short-term solutions

and future planning, dig into the constraints of this budget cycle and new impending constraints we will need to consider as part of our future planning, and we have to align our ENDS and our

education strategies. These may not all be accomplished for the FY 24/25 budget but will certainly be part of how I envision we engage in budget building going forward.”

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STEPHEN BOUCHER, LEFT, a worker at the Huntington restoration company Vermont Heavy Timber, gets ready on Monday with Douglas Orchard owner Bill Suhr to check on the progress of work updating a 200-year-old barn on Basin Harbor Road in Shoreham. Independent photo/Steve James

## Douglas orchard barn getting restored

SHOREHAM — Restoration of a two-century-old Shoreham barn has begun.

Built in the early 1800s, the iconic bank barn off Basin Harbor Road

at Douglas Orchards overlooking Lake Champlain has been part of the Shoreham landscape and local community for a long time. With a rich history, from housing



VERMONT HEAVY TIMBER has lifted the 40x80-foot bank barn facing Basin Harbor Road in Shoreham as the first stage of a \$200,000 restoration project. The renovated first floor will provide an open space where Douglas Orchards plans to seasonally offer community gatherings and storage during winter. Independent photo/Steve James

milking cows to storing vital farm equipment, this landmark has stood tall for two centuries.

Now, after years of active use, the barn requires a dramatic two-phase restoration to ensure it stands strong for another 200 years. Phase 1 has just started and will involve lifting the barn, excavating a new foundation, and reinforcing structural support timbers. Phase 2, planned for 2025, will restore the exterior siding, repair roofing and add period-appropriate windows.

Bill Suhr, who owns Douglas Orchards and Champlain Orchard, explains the motivation and planning behind this project, Phase 1 of which will require around \$200,000.

“As the current stewards of this conserved property, our goal is to gradually restore the Douglas Orchard bank barn so it can be available to future stewards,” Suhr said in a statement. “We are working with Miles Jenness of Vermont Heavy Timber to jack up the entire 30-foot-by-80-foot bank barn in the spring of 2024. This past winter, Miles harvested native trees in Huntington, Vt., and his sawmill cut the timbers necessary to replace all wood from the first



ORCHARD OWNER BILL Suhr on Monday is happy to see spring leaves poking out of an apple tree behind the 200-year-old barn that he is having lifted and restored. One day the Douglas Orchards barn will house farm equipment in the basement. Independent photo/Steve James

floor to the posts in the basement level of the barn.

“This week, the entire barn was jacked four feet in the air, which will allow us to remove the existing stone and concrete foundation and floor and replace with new

concrete,” Suhr explained on April 12. “Vermont Heavy Timber will then replace the sills, joists, and basement posts and lower the barn down on the new foundation. Finally, to make the barn more (See Douglas Orchard, Page 13A)

## Wet weather makes manure management a challenge

By ABIGAIL AUGARTEN  
UVM Ext. Agronomy Specialist

This season’s extreme precipitation and prolonged saturated soils in Addison County created challenging conditions for spreading manure. For farms with liquid manure storage, this meant that storage pits were unusually full this fall, both from collecting rain and from lack of opportunities to spread in-season.

To quantify the impacts of extreme precipitation on liquid dairy manure throughout the state, our team collaborated with UVM Extension’s Northwest Crops and Soils Team, custom manure applicators and farmers to sample liquid manure sources. We found that the extreme precipitation influenced not only the volume of manure but also nutrient content, as nutrient concentrations were lower than what we observe in a typical year.

In Addison County, we collected 32 manure samples, which were analyzed for nutrient content and total solids. Lower dry matter and nutrient concentrations indicate manure was substantially diluted from the rain this season. Data considered total nitrogen, phosphate (P2O5), and potash (K2O) concentrations for each manure source sampled this fall compared to UVM book values. On average, nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium concentrations were 36-63% lower than UVM book values for dairy slurry manure (5-10% DM). The impact of extreme precipitation was most dramatic on phosphorus concentrations, with the majority of Addison County manure samples having less than 2 pounds P2O5 per 1,000 gallons.

However, just like in any other season, we observed a large range in nutrient concentrations across manure sources. While we expect nutrient concentrations to vary due to factors like feed, *Nutrients, Page 13A*

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# New grazing specialist gives farmers tech advice

**ADDISON COUNTY** — The UVM Extension office in Middlebury is welcoming a new employee. Grazing Specialist Carly Bass will provide technical assistance, outreach and education to farmers in Addison County and Southwestern Vermont.

Bass brings a diverse background and wide-ranging agricultural experience to UVM Extension. She has worked on several commercial sheep and dairy farms across New England and in Ireland. On these farms, she was integral to developing and implementing rotational grazing plans, making hay, and selling products at the local farmer's markets.

Most recently, she worked for Champlain Valley Agronomics, where she provided nutrient management assistance to New York farmers.

Bass has a BS in Animal Science from the University of New Hampshire and recently completed an MPS in Animal Science at Cornell University. During her time at UNH, Carly organized a program called Ag in the Class, where she ran an afterschool program that taught grades 6-8 about agriculture.

During her master's program, Bass focused on production sustainability and collaborated with state partners from the Department of Environmental Conservation, the Department of Agriculture and Markets, and the NRCS to write a document outlining what goes into a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan and how to comply with New York's Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation.

The goal of this document was to convey the information



**CARLY BASS, WHO** has worked on sheep and dairy farms in New England and Ireland, recently started a job at UVM Extension providing technical assistance to local farmers.

in a way that is easily accessible and digestible for the average reader so that everybody can find information about what farmers do to protect water quality in the state of New York. The document also includes a fact sheet that breaks down common misconceptions about nutrient management on farms. Although the document is New

York specific, it is interesting to compare it with Vermont's Required Agricultural Practices.

Bass is excited to be back in Addison County and to become a part of UVM Extension. It has been a great first month connecting with farmers and collaborating with partners at UVM Extension to assist in nutrient management planning and doing one-to-one

technical assistance to prepare for the 2024 growing season. She is looking forward to forming relationships and learning more from the agricultural community in Vermont.

If you have grazing questions or would like to suggest ideas for trainings and/or demonstrations for the 2024 season, contact Carly at [cbass1@uvm.edu](mailto:cbass1@uvm.edu).



## Hard work pays off

**NEW HAVEN'S BRAILEY** Livingston was recently named "New England Jersey Princess" for 2024 by the New England Jersey Breeders association. This position is an ambassador to help promote the Dairy Ag industry through the positive influence of a New England Junior Member. Mother Dawn Livingston says Brailey's new title is the result of years of hard work.

Photo by of Dawn Livingston

## Douglas Orchard

(Continued from Page 12A)

usable for farm customers/visitors and the community, we also plan to bring water and power to the building."

The end result will be a barn that will not only allow for ample storage of farm equipment, but will also provide a uniform and level open space for community gatherings during winter months.

Future work on the barn will include repairing and replacing joinery that has failed above the first floor, adding new clapboards/siding to the exterior, repairing and adding authentic windows, and repairing/replacing slate

and metal roofing and gutters, according to the GoFundMe site raising money for this project.

The local community, orchard visitors and history enthusiasts are invited to be part of this modern-day barn-raising. For more details visit the project's GoFundMe page online at [tinyurl.com/DouglasBankBarn](http://tinyurl.com/DouglasBankBarn).

You can follow the Douglas Orchards Bank Barn's progression at [douglasorchards.com](http://douglasorchards.com) and [champlainorchards.com](http://champlainorchards.com), and on the Douglas Orchard and Champlain Orchard Facebook and Instagram pages.

## Nutrients

(Continued from Page 12A)

bedding and differences in manure storage, treatment and wastewater management, this year there were additional factors to consider: localized storms and geographic variation in rainfall, how much

the farmstead drains into the manure pit, and whether a farm spread during the summer months.

With tremendous manure nutrient variability, annual sampling and analysis for each manure source is the best approach to manage

your nutrients, particularly as we anticipate greater climate variability in the future.

As we plan for the 2024 season, it is important to account for these significant reductions in nitrogen, phosphorus and

potassium concentrations in 2023 when planning future manure and fertilizer applications. This will be crucial for effective nutrient management planning and beneficial economic and environmental outcomes.



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**Skills USA**

FOUR PATRICIA HANNAFORD Career Center seniors are taking part in the "Skills USA" national contest for trades. Participating students from throughout the state — who alternate between school and actual working jobs — were busy competing at the Career Center's Charles Avenue campus in Middlebury on April 9. Teams worked through various challenges in their trades. The fruits of their labors then went to judges. Clockwise, from bottom right, are Avery Carl of MUHS with drill in hand, Tim Whitney of MUHS trimming a board, Wyatt Stearns (MUHS) and Tim Whitney measuring studs, aspiring electrician Jordan McDowell of Mount Abe, Stearns setting an electrical box, and teacher Nick Cantrick in front of the entire Career Center team.

Independent photos/Steve James




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THE 5TOWN RIDERS, shown here ahead of the group's 2023 season, is a youth mountain biking club open to Addison County kids in grades 5-12. The group has seen substantial growth since forming in 2021, thanks in part to a dedicated team of parent volunteers and successful fundraising efforts.

Photo courtesy of Meridith McFarland

## Riders

(Continued from Page 1A)  
leads the club with the help of parent coaches and volunteers.

5-Town Riders offers skills training and trail rides for participants from June through October. Riders can also choose to register for Vermont Youth Cycling (VTYC) and take part in races around the state during the summer and fall. Both programs have a registration fee, with scholarships available.

"We do two programs: the club and the team," McFarland explained. "All of the kiddos can sign up for the club, and if they want to race, they can sign up for VTYC."

This year VTYC will host a spring scrimmage and five races from July through October.

### CLUB GROWTH

5Town Riders currently has around 27 kids on its racing team. In its inaugural year the team placed third out of 17 teams, and in years since, the club has seen several riders reach the podium and achieve personal bests.

The mountain biking club will officially kick off its season on

June 19, with weekly Wednesday practices continuing through the fall.

During the season, 5Town Riders learn various skills and take part in trail rides, often at nearby New Leaf Organics farm on the Monkton-Bristol town line. Riders and parent volunteers also travel to other trails in and around Addison County.

"One of the benefits is we have a lot of trails in close proximity, within 45 minutes, so you can ride a lot of different varieties," Steele said. "I think that's something we as a team take advantage of."

The team also dedicates time to helping maintain local trails to teach riders about trail stewardship and emphasize that they must "earn their turn."

"Earn your turn means putting in the shovel work, getting trails ready," McFarland explained. "Every season, all trail networks need pre-maintenance, or maintenance before we can actually start riding on trails safely."

5Town Riders has steadily grown its membership over the years. The club started out with around

a dozen participants, largely from the Bristol area.

"In 2021, we were really, truly the 5-town riders," 5Town Riders parent coach Mary Yates recalled.

Today, the mountain biking club is made up of around 40 riders from all over the county.

Fundraising efforts, led by Steele, have helped keep the program accessible to prospective riders.

Raised funds have gone toward purchasing new jerseys, helmets and additions to a "bike library" that local riders can borrow from.

Grant funding and additional support recently allowed the Bristol Rec Department and 5Town Riders to add six new bikes to the library.

"That's huge, to be able to offer that as a resource," Steele said. "Biking is not an inexpensive thing, so to be able to lower that barrier where they don't have to own a bike to participate, for us as a club is a really big deal."

Fundraising has also allowed 5Town Riders to offer scholarships and keep its registration fees down.

"(Fundraising) has helped lower the barrier to entry, which can be

significant," Steele said.

Parent volunteers have been another key part of the club's success over the years. Steele and Yates are part of a group of around 15 parents who help provide transportation to trails and coach the mountain biking team.

"I think a big part of what we have done is we have involved more parents, and that started last year," Yates said of the group's growth.

5Town Riders is open to both new and experienced mountain bikers. McFarland said the majority of participants have some prior experience, with many members having taken part in the mountain bike camps offered through the Bristol Rec Department.

Those camps have proven to be popular among local riders. This year's sessions opened for registration on Feb. 1 and sold out in less than 10 minutes, McFarland said.

"Hands down our growth

is because of the Bristol Rec Department and Meridith leading that as the director," Yates said. "There was not bike camps in the department before Meridith came."

### FUTURE SEASONS

With the program welcoming new participants and seeing previous riders gain experience, organizers are hoping to keep the program engaging for all members.

"There's a pretty significant range of ability," Steele said. "That's one of the challenges we're facing in our growth, figuring out how to be a program that can accommodate a 5th-grader who maybe doesn't have a lot of experience mountain biking all the way up to seniors in high school with a lot of experience."

Organizers are particularly hoping to retain older riders who might be drawn to other fall sports during the racing season.

"Especially at that teenage level, there starts to be a lot of

opportunities for other things," Steele said.

Looking ahead, other goals for future seasons include purchasing a trailer to help transport bikes to trail rides and building a beginner-friendly trail for newer riders.

Another shared priority — continuing to celebrate riders' achievements and make sure kids keep having fun.

"Watching them progress through the season or through the years, you start to see that joy for biking," Steele said. "Even kids that aren't participating in racing and are coming in new to biking, you get to the end of the season or over the course of a few years and it's turned into something they're interested in, something closer to a passion. That's pretty neat to see."

Registration for this year's 5Town Riders season is now open, and more information about the club can be found at [tinyurl.com/5TownRiders](http://tinyurl.com/5TownRiders).

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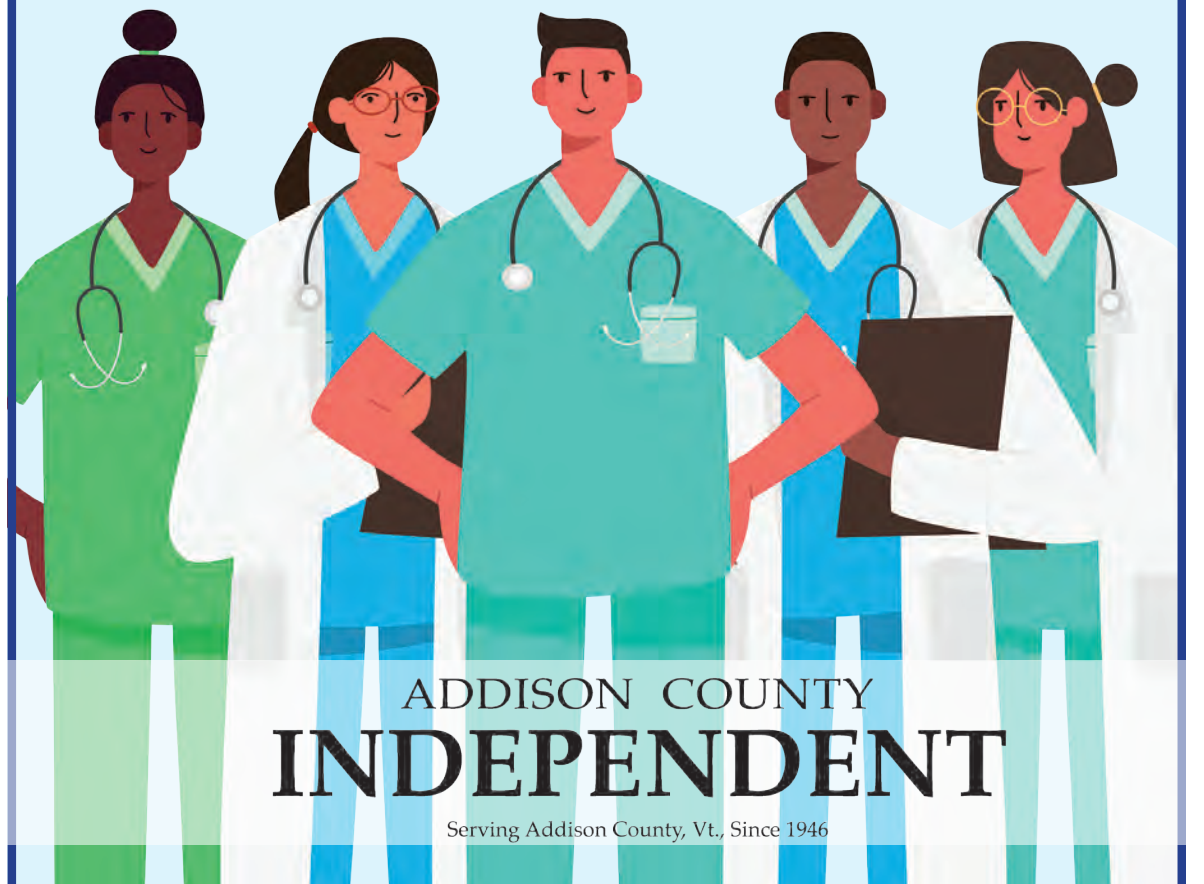
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# Advocates

(Continued from Page 1A)  
is not authorized to respond to criminal cases of animal cruelty, so concerns that rise to that level would be turned over to officers at the sheriff's department.

"If it doesn't escalate to a cruelty level, then our individual group will get involved in helping that person find the help they need, whether it be food, spay and neuter, low-cost vet care, whatever they need to stop that situation from escalating," Soychak said.

ACAA would work to identify needs and help connect community members with available resources to navigate their situation.

"A big part of what we're doing is bridging gaps," ACAA co-founder Carly Lehrer said. "Help exists in the individuals in our community who deeply care, and in groups like ours or in rescues."

However, ACAA members said community members often don't know who to go to for help with an animal welfare situation.

"You never know who to call," Soychak said. "It depends on what town you live in, whether you call state police, whether you call Vermont Fish and Wildlife, whether you call the sheriff's department."

## CREATING A NETWORK

ACAA team members underscored the fragmented nature of Vermont's current animal welfare system, which lacks a centralized, state-funded entity for investigating and enforcing welfare requirements.

The shortcomings of this patchwork system were highlighted in a January 2023 report released by the Vermont Department of Public Safety, which found that "functions and duties are fragmented, some statutory language is outdated or no longer applicable, and some

functions are not carried out at all. The buck really stops with no one person or agency."

A bill, H.626, seeking to develop a Division of Animal Welfare within the Department of Public Safety was introduced in the Vermont House in January and referred to the Committee on Appropriations last month.

Bob Galvin is a member of ACAA and the Vermont state director of the nonprofits Animal Wellness Action and the Center for a Humane Economy. He emphasized the role H.626 would play in improving the state's animal welfare system.

"The current system in Vermont for dealing with animal cruelty cases is fragmented, inefficient and ineffective in addressing the welfare needs of animals in the state," Galvin said. "(The bill) meaningfully addresses

*"If the burden of taking care of animal welfare is going to be left up to the towns themselves, then the people within those towns need to know that there is no funding that's going to help them. It's up to the communities to support their local rescues, their local sanctuaries, their local police departments."*

— Bev Soychak

has already responded to a handful of calls, some of which have involved rescuing animals left behind after evictions.

Soychak said in one case, the team helped remove a three-foot lizard from an abandoned home.

"The owners were evicted from their home and this animal was left

behind," she said. "Nobody helped this animal; it was left in a home with no heat."

ACAA is also hoping to support pet owners who find themselves in overwhelming situations.

"This (group) applies to anyone who feels like they could use help," Lehrer said. "Whether they're saying, 'I'm in over my head, I can't afford my animals,' or 'My house is crowded,' or 'I'm stressed.'"

Soychak said the group is committed to helping community members find the resources they need for their animals, whether it be pet food or affordable veterinary care.

"There are resources out there, but people don't know where to find them," Soychak said. "You can call us, and we'll get you where you need to go."

The nonprofit is looking to address other animal welfare-related concerns.

Emily Lewis is a certified dog behavior consultant working with ACAA. She told the *Independent* she and others in the field have seen an uptick in behavior concerns, including serious aggression, in Vermont's dog population over the



**MEMBERS OF THE nonprofit Addison County Animal Advocates are hoping to promote animal welfare in the area by providing animals and their owners with the resources they need. The team is partnering with the Addison County Sheriff's department on the effort. ACAA co-founder Bev Soychak is in the middle holding a poster; Sheriff Mike Elmore is immediately to her left.**

Independent photo/Marin Howell

past several years.

Lewis said she feels one of the main factors contributing to the increase is a lack of state oversight and legal protections for animals, which limits how welfare advocates and law enforcement can address neglect and cruelty situations.

"We are unable to intervene in a meaningful way," Lewis said. "Law enforcement and animal control don't have the tools they need to remove animals from dangerous situations. Welfare advocates are unable to prevent harm to our community due to medically and behaviorally compromised animals being released into the population."

She noted another contributing factor is the number of dogs brought into the state that end up exhibiting dangerous behaviors in their adoptive homes, as resources for behavioral help and rehoming may not be available to owners from the original rescue.

"The only way to address both of these challenges is to overhaul and improve the animal welfare systems in the state of Vermont," Lewis said. "In the meantime, we have to look to grassroots movements like Addison County Animal Advocates to help

where and when we are able."

As ACAA gets up and running, the team is looking to raise funds for a handful of initiatives.

The money raised would go toward veterinary care for injured and sick animals, compensating officers at the sheriff's department investigating animal welfare concerns, creating an emergency housing facility for crisis cases at the sheriff's department, and providing temporary housing for animals in limbo.

"One of the things our group is looking into is how to create safe spaces, whether it's temporary or a little longer than temporary," Lehrer explained.

Multiple ACAA team members noted that finding a space to temporarily house animals involved in cruelty cases is a challenge as doing so often requires finding a local nonprofit rescue, shelter or sanctuary with space available.

The local group is partnering with sanctuaries in and around Addison County to ensure such animals have a place to go. ACAA is also looking to work with local vets, animal rescuers and animal control officers

to bolster its network and provide as much support as possible.

Soychak added that another aspect of the group's work will include education and talking with community members about gaps in the state's animal welfare system.

"If the burden of taking care of animal welfare is going to be left up to the towns themselves, then the people within those towns need to know that there is no funding that's going to help them," Soychak said. "It's up to the communities to support their local rescues, their local sanctuaries, their local police departments."

Team members are optimistic about the potential to help local animals and their owners through ACAA, but acknowledge that systemic changes will require a push at the state level.

"We will do our best with the existing laws to support animals in any possible way," Lehrer said. "But if we are going to enact real change, across the state, we need H.626."

More information about ACAA can be found on the group's Facebook page at [tinyurl.com/ACAAPage](https://www.facebook.com/tinyurl.com/ACAAPage).

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# SPORTS

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## Eagle boys' lax opens with pair of losses vs. D-II opponents

By ANDY KIRKALDY  
BRISTOL — The Mount Abraham-Vergennes boys' lacrosse team opened its season with high hopes for a run at the Division III title — and with two home games against tough D-II competition, in both of which the Eagles came up short.

On this past Saturday Stowe edged MAV, 13-12, in overtime, and on Tuesday, Hartford, winner of two of the past three D-II titles and a finalist in 2022, pulled away in the second half for a 13-5 victory. The Eagles will look to break through for their first win on Friday, when they visit another D-II team, St. Johnsbury.

Coach Ed Cook found positives in the setbacks, including a rally from five goals down in the fourth quarter to force overtime vs. Stowe, and the ability to compete for long stretches on Tuesday with the defending D-II champs, undefeated a year ago and returning most of their key players.

"They're (Hartford) a great team. They're coached really well," Cook said. "And we hung with them for a half."

Still, Cook acknowledged, as might be expected early in a season, the Eagles have some work to do on moving the ball up the field cleanly, winning ground ball battles, and taking better care of the ball in

general. He also again credited Hartford.

"I'm happy with their effort, but there are a lot of little things. Early on there were three or four failed clears in a row that led to probably two goals," he said. "We played so well against Stowe in all of that stuff. We cleared the ball really well. We settled on offense. And today I think we just came in, and I think Hartford was in our heads from the beginning. When we did settle down we got good shots."

The good news is the Eagles should be strong in the back in front of returning senior goalie Walker Forand, who made nine saves on Tuesday. Seniors Jordan Schroeder, Connor Kelly and Olin Kidder and sophomore Cooper Cook all had good moments on low defense, as did senior Spencer Gebo and freshman Levi Smith at long-stick middle and seniors Jamison Couture and Samuel Mangini and junior Jacob Prouty with short sticks defensively.

Especially given the constant pressure the Eagle back line faced vs. Hartford, the defenders held their own.

"I think our defense is going to carry us through a lot of games this year," Cook said.

Cook added the tough early schedule should help MAV in

(See Boys' lax, Page 2B)



EAGLE SENIOR ANDREW Nolan gets off a shot despite tight defense during Tuesday's boys' lacrosse game at Mount Abraham. Independent photo/Steve James



SENIOR ANNIE DUFAULT powers through a Raider's check during the MAV lacrosse team's season-opening win over Stowe this past Thursday. Independent photo/Steve James

## MAV girls' lax splits two

By ANDY KIRKALDY  
BRISTOL — The Mount Abraham-Vergennes cooperative girls' lacrosse team opened its season by splitting two home games late last week. The Commodores claimed their opener on Thursday, April 11, against fellow Division II school Stowe, and on Saturday fell to a potential D-I title contender, Essex, 10-4.

The Commodores followed up those two home games with a close road loss to another typically strong D-II team, Hartford, by a 15-12 final.

Both home games were played at Mount Abe due to wet field conditions in Vergennes.

On April 11, the Commodores opened with a 9-3 victory over visiting Stowe. Annie Dufault (four goals) and Anna Stillwell (three goals and an assist) led the MAV attack against the Raiders. Meredith Dufault added a goal and an assist, Ruby Hellier scored once, and Kennedy Denecker chipped in an assist. Goalie Carley Cook made 10 saves.

"Overall, (it was) not a bad start, particularly recognizing that

we have mostly been practicing inside," Coach Marikate Kelley said in an email. "We did a great job re-defending, making it difficult for Stowe to get into their attacking end. When they did get shots off, Carley was strong in goal. Our ride

(See Girls' lax, Page 3B)



JUNIOR ESME VISCO-LYONS looks to make a play during the MAV lacrosse team's season-opening win over Stowe this past Thursday. Independent photo/Steve James

## Tiger girls' lax debuts with home victory

By ANDY KIRKALDY  
MIDDLEBURY — After two weather postponements last week, the Middlebury Union High School girls' lacrosse team opened its season on Monday with an 8-1 victory over visiting Stowe. The game was moved to Middlebury College's Peter Kohn Field due to still-wet conditions on the Tigers' Fucile Field.

First-year Coach Jeff Weaber said that the team's eight returners and many newcomers all contributed to the victory over the 0-2 Raiders.

Returning sophomore Kenyon Connors led a balanced attack with two goals and an assist, and junior veterans Ada Weaber (assist), Pelagia Slater and Sara Kent also found the net.

First-year varsity players supplied the rest of the offense with their initial varsity goals: Sophomore Lia Calzini opened the scoring for the Tigers, and freshmen Isla Weaber and Isabel Quinn also found the net, with Weaber adding an assist.

Junior Ava Schneider, a two-year starter in goal who has moved into the field, also picked up an assist for the Tigers. Her replacement in goal, freshman Ida Blackwell, debuted by stopping eight of the nine shots she faced.

Coach Weaber noted the Tigers won all 11 of the game's draws, with Ada Weaber (five draw controls), freshman Alice Livesay (three), Isla Weaber (two), and junior Juliette Hunsdorfer doing the honors.

The Tigers are next scheduled to host Champlain Valley on Thursday, a game moved from Wednesday; the Redhawks are likely pose a tougher challenge than the Raiders. The Tigers are then not scheduled to return to action until after spring break, when Rice is set to visit Fucile Field.

## Score BOARD

### HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

#### Girls' Lacrosse

4/10 Harwood at MUHS.....	Postponed
4/11 MAV vs Stowe.....	9-3
4/13 Essex vs MAV.....	10-4
4/13 St. Albans at MUHS.....	Postponed
4/15 MUHS vs Stowe.....	8-1
4/16 Hartford vs MAV.....	15-12
4/17 CVU at MUHS ..	Postponed to 4/18

#### Boys' Lacrosse

4/11 Harwood at MUHS.....	Postponed
4/12 Fairfax at OV .....	Postponed to 5/16
4/13 Stowe vs MAV.....	13-12 (OT)
4/13 MUHS at St. Albans.....	Postponed
4/16 Woodstock at MUHS.....	Postponed
4/16 Hartford vs MAV.....	13-5

#### Baseball

4/15 OV vs Leland & Gray.....	8-4
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### Softball

4/11 OV at Fair Haven.....	Postponed
4/16 Oxbow vs VUHS.....	24-1

### Boys' Tennis

4/12 MUHS vs CVU.....	6-1
4/15 MUHS vs Stowe.....	4-3
4/17 MUHS at Colchester.....	Late

### Girls' Tennis

4/10 U-32 at MUHS.....	Postponed
4/13 MUHS at Harwood.....	Postponed
4/17 Spaulding at MUHS.....	Late

### Ultimate

4/12 Burlington at MUHS.....	Postponed
4/17 Rice at MUHS.....	Late

### COLLEGE SPORTS

#### Women's Lacrosse

4/13 Midd vs Tufts.....	14-13
4/14 Midd vs Hamilton.....	18-10

#### Men's Lacrosse

4/13 Tufts vs Midd.....	23-11
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#### Baseball

4/10 Midd vs RPI.....	13-3
4/13 Midd vs Williams.....	3-2
4/13 Midd vs Williams.....	15-4
4/14 Williams vs Midd.....	6-4

4/16 Midd vs Plattsburgh.....	14-5
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### Softball

4/10 Bates vs Midd.....	9-4
4/10 Bates vs Midd.....	9-2
4/13 Colby vs Midd.....	2-1 (8)
4/13 Midd vs Colby.....	7-6
4/14 Tufts vs. Midd.....	3-1
4/14 Tufts vs. Midd.....	16-3

## Schedule

### HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

#### Softball

4/20 VUHS at Thetford.....	11 AM
4/23 OV at Springfield.....	4:30 PM
4/23 VUHS at Richford.....	4:30 PM
4/23 Mt. Mansfield at MUHS.....	Postponed
4/23 Mt Abe at CVU.....	4:30 PM
4/25 North Country at Mt Abe.....	4:30 PM
4/25 OV at Rutland.....	5 PM
4/27 Colchester at MUHS.....	11 AM
4/27 Mt Abe at Missisquoi.....	11 AM

#### Baseball

4/19 Blue Mt. at VUHS.....	4:30 PM
4/20 OV at Springfield.....	11 AM
4/20 VUHS at Rivendell.....	11 AM
4/23 OV at Fair Haven.....	4:30 PM
4/23 Mt. Mansfield at MUHS.....	4:30 PM
4/23 VUHS at Richford.....	4:30 PM
4/23 Mt Abe at CVU.....	4:30 PM
4/25 North Country at Mt Abe.....	4:30 PM
4/25 Burlington at VUHS.....	4:30 PM
4/25 OV at Rutland.....	5 PM
4/27 Colchester at MUHS.....	11 AM

#### Boys' Lacrosse

4/19 Randolph at OV.....	4:30 PM
4/19 St. J at MAV.....	4:30 PM
4/20 Rice at MUHS.....	11 AM
4/23 OV at Rutland.....	4 PM
4/27 Hartford at OV.....	10 AM
4/27 MUHS at Woodstock.....	11 AM

#### Girls' Lacrosse

4/18 CVU at MUHS.....	4:30 PM
4/20 MAV at St. J.....	11 AM
4/27 MAV at St. Albans.....	11 AM

#### Girls' Tennis

4/19 MUHS at St. Albans.....	3:30 PM
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#### Track & Field

4/24 Mt Abe at Essex.....	9:30 AM
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### COLLEGE SPORTS

#### Women's Lacrosse

4/20 Trinity at Midd.....	Noon
4/24 Midd at Williams.....	6 PM

#### Men's Lacrosse

4/20 Midd at Trinity.....	6:30 PM
4/24 Williams at Midd.....	5 PM

#### Baseball

4/19 Amherst at Midd.....	4 PM
4/20 Amherst at Midd (2).....	Noon
4/26 Midd at Wesleyan (2).....	4 PM
4/27 Midd at Wesleyan (2).....	Noon

#### Softball

4/20 Midd at Williams (2).....	1 PM
4/21 Trinity at Midd (2).....	Noon
4/23 Midd at Skidmore (2).....	3 PM
4/27 Midd at Amherst (2).....	11:30 AM
5/1 Union at Midd (2).....	3:30 PM
5/4 Hamilton at Midd (2).....	1 PM

Schedules, especially at the high school level, change often due to weather and transportation and officiating availability. Please consult school websites to confirm dates and times.

# Grassroots movement promotes nature's lifecycle through boosting native plants

A year and a half ago, my wife Deborah bought an Extractigator. What on earth is an Extractigator? The short answer is that it's a device for yanking plants (think shrubs or small trees) out of the ground, roots and all. It's basically a steel handle, three feet or more in length, with a sort of self-gripping jaw near the bottom. The jaw grabs the tree near the root, and the long handle then (hopefully) provides enough leverage to pull the tree from the earth.

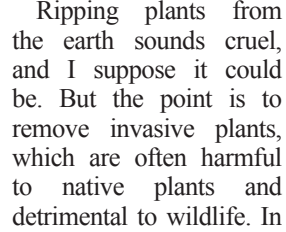
I was thinking about our Extractigator two weekends ago when I was speaking at a conference in South Carolina. The conference theme was "Beauty, Art, and Ecology." The keynote speaker was Doug Tallamy, the founder of Homegrown National Park, a grassroots movement (in multiple senses of that phrase) to get private landowners to replace non-native grasses and landscaping with native plants. Tallamy holds a PhD in entomology from the University of Maryland and teaches at the University

of Delaware. His interest in native plants relates directly to his interest in insects. Moths and butterflies, collectively known as Lepidoptera, are not only important pollinators, but their larval forms (caterpillars) are also important sources of nutrition for many species of birds, especially the chicks. A single moth caterpillar contains as much protein as many smaller insects, while being relatively soft and easy to feed to baby birds.

Many species of caterpillar, however, can only feed on a single species of native plant, or on some small number of species. Many plants have toxins in their leaves precisely to keep them from getting eaten, and the various species of moths have, over millennia, each evolved the very particular chemistry need to eat a specific type of leaf.

This is yet another example of how complex and interconnected the ecological webs of our forests and meadows are. Plants don't reproduce without pollinators (like butterflies and moths). Birds don't have food without the caterpillars. These pollinators don't reproduce unless their young, the caterpillars, have food. The young don't have food without the leaves of native plants. But many of our yards are nearly devoid of native plants; they are nutritional deserts for moths and caterpillars.

Even a small yard, if planted with at least 70% native species, can become a haven to numerous native species of Lepidoptera. (We can help many pollinators even more by practicing "No Mow May" and leaving a healthy number of leaves on the yard in the autumn.) And according to Tallamy's calculations, the combined yards of homeowners across the country has more land that could be planted in native plants than about 20 large national parks combined.



**MATTHEW DICKERSON**

Ripping plants from the earth sounds cruel, and I suppose it could be. But the point is to remove invasive plants, which are often harmful to native plants and detrimental to wildlife. In particular, Deborah has been waging a campaign against the invasive Asian honeysuckle, which displaces native plants and depletes the soil while offering little nutritional value to the foraging birds that are attracted to its berries. This plant has taken over forests and fields across Vermont. During the past year, Deborah has pulled many hundreds of them from our property. She sometimes does several dozen or more in a single day, if they are smaller ones. There are still thousands more to be pulled. She also goes after Japanese barberry, another invasive plant that has taken root in Vermont.

I more often use my chainsaw to go after invasive common buckthorn whose berries not only lack nutritional value but even have a laxative effect on animals, but I borrow Deborah's Extractigator now and then. Using the tool is addictively

satisfying. I take specious delight in going after the big honeysuckles with the most pernicious and extensive roots. It's my new outdoor sport, and the Extractigator is my sports equipment. There are piles of uprooted Asian honeysuckle all around our property.

My first order is due to arrive this week. And next time I'm out in the yard and find the Extractigator not in use, I'll add to the pile.



**MAV SENIOR CONNOR Kelly** defends Hartford attacker Ryan Spaulding during Tuesday's boys' lacrosse game at Mount Abraham.

Independent photo/Steve James

## Boys' lax

(Continued from Page 1B) the long run, something the team discussed on Tuesday.

"Everything we do early in the season is to be able to be better in the playoffs," he said. "I don't see anyone in D-III having the D guys we have. Once our O guys get settled, I think once we get into the playoffs and into later in the season, we're going to be a different team."

**TUESDAY GAME**  
Things started well enough during Tuesday's 13-5 setback. Junior Lorenzo Atocha won the faceoff, the Eagles bolted down the field, and senior attacker Noah Ladeau bounced home a shot 22 seconds into the game.

But the Eagles started to have trouble moving the ball up the field, and the Hurricanes scored the next four goals. At 9:44 Hartford attacker Ryan Spaulding scored directly after an Eagle turnover, and then Cavan Benjamin, Austin St. Peter and Brody Tyburski all found the net in the next eight minutes, and it was 5-1 with 3:11 left in the period.

The Eagles adjusted defensively and did not allow another score for 16 minutes, and they worked back into the game. Atocha won the faceoff after the fifth Hartford goal and bolted in to score himself, and with less than a minute to go in the period the Eagles scored a man-up goal. Junior Chase Atkins, stationed off the left post, deposited senior Andrew Nolan's slick feed from the right sided, and it was 5-3 after one period.

Defense dominated most of the second period. After the Eagles failed to take advantage of two Hartford penalties, Atocha struck again with a nice dodge to make it 5-4 at 5:42.

But critically MAV did not score during another two-minute

Hurricane penalty, and then Spaulding fired in two goals in the final 35.4 seconds, the second just beating the final horn to make it 7-4.

And in the second half the Eagle offense continued to struggle, producing only a strong solo effort from Nolan in the fourth quarter. But that goal only closed the gap to 12-5, as Hartford had spent most of the half wearing down the Eagle defense.

Ezra Mock tossed in all four of his goals after intermission to lead Hartford, adding an assist, and other major contributors for the visitors were Spaulding (three goals, assist), and Tyburski and Benjamin (two goals apiece). Goalie Graham Thompson finished with five saves for the Hurricanes.

**SATURDAY GAME**  
On Saturday Stowe prevailed in overtime when Raider Liam Newhouse buried a rebound for the game-winner after Eagle goalie Conor Nason, filling in for Forand, had blocked two consecutive Stowe

shots. That sequence came after Raider goalie Carter Getty denied two Eagle bids for the game-winner in the initial possession of overtime.

All that action came after MAV scored five straight goals in the fourth quarter to erase Stowe's 12-7 lead and force the extra session.

Ladeau and Nolan led Mount Abe with three goals each, Atocha scored twice, and Atkins, Lincoln Painter, Asa Pratt and Joe Sullivan chipped in a goal apiece for the Eagles. Couture added three assists for MAV, and Nason finished with 11 saves.

Wyatt Sigler sparked Stowe with five goals and two assists, Newhouse scored three goals, and Leander Pinkham added a pair. Getty finished with six saves.

Cook was pleased with the effort and comeback against a good opponent.

"It was a great first game out," he said. "We are picking up right where we left off last season."

## OV nine topples L&G with late rally

**BRANDON** — The Otter Valley Union High School baseball team snapped a 4-4 tie with a four-run sixth inning on Monday to defeat visiting Leland & Grey. OV evened its record at 1-1 with the victory, while the Rebels dropped what was their opener.

Doubles by Wyatt Cone and Jackson Howe, an error on a ball

hit by Jason Warrell, an Isaiah Wood single, and an outfield misplay on a ball hit by Brayden Chandler plated the decisive runs in the sixth.

L&G had tied the game with two runs in the top of the inning off Wood, who got the win in relief of Howe, the starting pitcher. Howe went five innings, allowing two

runs, one earned, on one hit and five walks, while striking out 10.

OV scored its earlier runs on a Howe RBI single in the first inning, and Howe and Chandler poked RBI hits in a three-run third inning.

OV is scheduled to visit Springfield on Saturday.

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**MAV SOPHOMORE DEFENDER Cooper Cook** moves up the field with two Hartford players in pursuit during Tuesday's boys' lacrosse game at Mount Abraham.

Independent photo/Steve James



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ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT

# Girls' lax

(Continued from Page 1B) and Carley's work in goal was the reason we came out on top."

Kelley said unsurprisingly for a young team playing its first game, there were details that needed addressing, such as playing "with our feet, and not our sticks," and therefore cutting back on fouls on defense, and making better decisions "on attack and in transition."

"We have many new young players on varsity and are learning to play together," she added. "I expect that will come together as we get outside more."

In fact, she said she saw some progress in those areas even in a setback on Saturday, when D-I Essex pulled away from a 5-4 halftime lead to prevail over MAV, 10-4. Addison Stratton scored three goals to lead the talented Hornets, and Eliza Martin, Brea Montague and Reese Holcomb added two goals apiece. Essex goalie Sierra Harris made six saves.

Stillwell led MAV with two goals

and an assist, Annie Dufault scored a goal and set up two, and June Yates-Rusch added a goal and an assist. In goal Cook made 16 saves, 12 in the first half.

Kelley said Montague dominated

*"We have many new young players on varsity and are learning to play together."*

— Coach Kelley

the draw, giving Essex a possession advantage, and the Hornets made it difficult for the Commodores to move the ball up the field.

"We struggled on the draw against a strong and much taller Essex (player) Brea Montague. We also had difficulty clearing the ball against a strong Essex ride," she said.

But she also saw areas of

improvement.

"We took better care of the ball and were more patient on offense," she said. "The defense put in a solid performance with good slides and crashes, causing several offensive fouls."

On Tuesday, host Hartford, the 2022 D-II champion and, like the Commodores, a semifinalist a year ago, outscored MAV by three despite three goals apiece from Stillwell (who added one assist), Meredith Dufault (also adding an assist), and Annie Dufault (who set up two goals).

Esme Lyons-Visco, Julia Sonneborn and Yates-Rusch contributed a goal apiece for MAV, and Cook made nine saves as the Commodores dropped to 1-2 in the early going.

MAV is scheduled to hit the road for St. Johnsbury on Saturday, and then is off until a visit to St. Albans on April 27.



JUNIOR RUBY HELLIER defends a Raider ballcarrier during the MAV lacrosse team's season-opening win over Stowe this past Thursday.

Independent photo/Steve James



MAV SENIOR ANNA Stilwell moves the ball up the field against pressure from Stowe in her team's opening victory this past Thursday.

Independent photo/Steve James



MAV SENIOR KENNEDY Denecker has inside position on a Stowe player for the ground ball win in the Commodores' opening victory on this past Thursday.

Independent photo/Steve James

# Boys' tennis claims first matches

MIDDLEBURY — The Middlebury Union High School boys' tennis team began its campaign with a pair of home victories — 6-1 over Champlain Valley on Friday, April 12, and 4-3 over 2023 Division I finalist Stowe on Monday.

The Tigers improved to 2-0 heading into a match slated for Wednesday at Colchester after the deadline for this issue. They are not scheduled to return to action until after next week's spring break.

## MUHS, 6-1

On April 12 vs. CVU, in a match played at Middlebury Indoor Tennis due to rainy weather, the individual match scores were:

At No. 1 singles, Jackson Murray, MUHS, defeated Ziggy Babbott, CVU, 6-0, 6-0.

At No. 2 singles, Kellan Bartlett, MUHS, defeated Jacob Graham,

CVU, 6-4, 6-2.

At No. 3 singles, Charles Young, MUHS, defeated Silas Cohen, CVU, 6-1, 7-6.

At No. 4 singles, Nolan Sandage, CVU, defeated Iver Anderson, MUHS, 6-7, 7-6, 1-0 (10-4).

At No. 5 singles, Nate Cook Yoder, MUHS, defeated Kyle Krieger, CVU, 6-1, 3-6, 1-0 (10-5).

At No. 1 doubles, Eddie Fallis/Milo Rees, MUHS, defeated Dash Tota/Charles Jennings, CVU, 6-2, 6-2.

At No. 2 doubles, Brian Newton/Eliot Heminway, MUHS, defeated Henry Cvoست/Nick Blasius, CVU, 7-6, 6-0.

## MUHS, 4-3

On April 15 vs. Stowe, the individual match scores at a competition held on the Middlebury Recreation Park courts were:

At No. 1 singles, Jackson, MUHS, defeated Ethan Pastella, Stowe, 6-0, 6-1.

At No. 2 singles, Parker Duffey, Stowe, defeated Bartlett, MUHS, 6-7, 6-3, 1-0 (10-8).

At No. 3 singles, Max Bierman, Stowe, defeated Young, MUHS, 6-0, 6-0.

At No. 4 singles, Leo Jercinovic, Stowe, defeated Anderson, MUHS, 7-6, 6-3.

At No. 5 singles, Cook Yoder, MUHS, defeated Carter MacDonald, Stowe, 7-5, 6-2.

At No. 1 doubles, Fallis/Rees, MUHS, defeated Hugo Jercinovic/Declan Coggins, Stowe, 6-2, 7-5.

At No. 2 doubles, Newton/Heminway, MUHS, defeated Brock Roick/Drew Zimmermann, Stowe, 6-4, 6-4.

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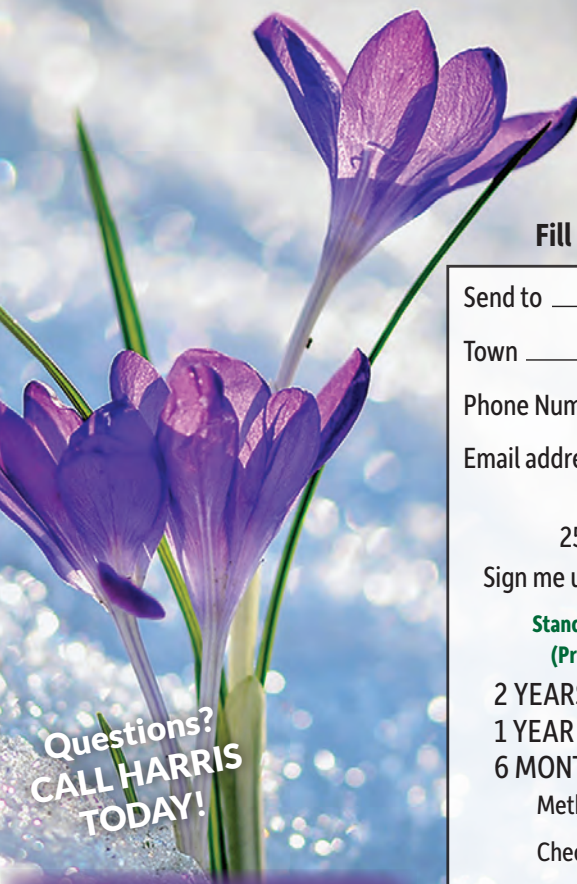
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# Lincoln

Have a news tip? Call Dawn Mikkelsen at 453-7029

## NEWS

LINCOLN — A community potluck is scheduled for Thursday, April 25, at 5 p.m., at Burnham Hall and will go until the food runs out. Bring something to share if you would like. This is an alcohol-free event. Takeout containers are available if you are not able to make it to the meal. If you have questions, please contact reedprescott@gmavt.net.

Join Lincoln author, Jonathan Mingle for a reading and discussion of his new book “Gaslight: The Atlantic Coast Pipeline and the Fight for America’s Energy Future” on Thursday, May 2, at 7 p.m. at the library. Vivid and suspenseful, gut-wrenching and insightful, Gaslight is more than the chronicle of a turning point in American history. It is essential reading for anyone who wants to understand the dark, overlooked story of America’s “favorite fossil fuel,” and the immense future stakes of the energy choices we face today.

With the last show of the

season, Burnham Presents welcomes Genticorum to the stage on Saturday, May 4, at 7:30 p.m. at Burnham Hall. With Juno and ADISQ nominations, and four Canadian Folk Music Awards, Genticorum is one of the leading groups in Quebec’s traditional music scene. They are best known for their energy and stage presence, but also for their refined and precisely executed arrangements. Weaving intricate fiddle, flute and accordion lines, vocal harmonies, guitar textures and foot percussion, the group has already performed nearly two thousand concerts in twenty countries.

Doors open at 7 p.m. and music starts at 7:30 p.m. Advance ticket purchase at burnhampresents.org is recommended for this show. General admission is \$15, generous admission is \$20-\$25. Homemade refreshments will be available.

Erika French is offering a (See Lincoln, Page 5B)

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**ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT**

# community calendar

## THURSDAY

**april 18 Alumni Takeover Panel Discussion in Middlebury.** Thursday, April 18, 5-6 p.m., Dance Theater, Mahaney Arts Center, 72 Porter Field Rd. Panel discussion with seven dance alumni regarding their careers in artmaking beyond Middlebury. Free.

**Middlebury Community Players auditions in Vergennes.** Thursday, April 18, 6:30 p.m., Vergennes Opera House, 120 Main St. Auditions for two plays, “Love/Sick” and “Steel Magnolias,” to be presented this summer at VOH. Auditions will consist of readings from the scripts. There’s no need to prepare anything, and you need only come one night. Callbacks, if necessary, will be scheduled after auditions. “Love/Sick” will play June 20-23, and “Steel Magnolias” will play Aug. 15-18.

**“Should we geoengineer the planet in response to climate change?” in Middlebury.** Thursday, April 18, 7 p.m., Community Room, Ilsley Public Library, 75 Main St. Join Professor Tim Juvshik to discuss ethical questions about the costs, risks and benefits of geoengineering fixes to the climate change problem. This event is part of Vermont Public Philosophy Week. Visit www.publicphilosophyweek.org for the full listing of events.

**Sam Kuhns in Lincoln.** Thursday, April 18, 7:30 p.m., Lincoln Library. Kuhns is a native Vermont singer songwriter who is a graduate of Mount Abe. His heartfelt original tunes are informed by the people and places of his life in rural Vermont. He is a fine guitarist and canjo player (a banjo with a can for the body) who is a warm and engaging performer. Free. Part of the 5-Town Musical Library Tour.

## FRIDAY

**april 19 Rutland/Addison Medical Reserve Corps emergency preparedness survey in Orwell.** Friday, April 19, 9-11 a.m., Orwell Free Library, 473 Main St. Stop by to participate in an emergency preparedness survey with the Rutland/Addison Medical Reserve Corps. Help shape community preparedness efforts by completing a brief survey.

## SATURDAY

**april 20 Red Cross blood donation in Bristol.** Saturday, April 20, 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Bristol Red Cross Department, 1 South St. Donors of all blood types — especially type O blood donors and those giving platelets — are needed now to keep the blood supply strong enough to support critical patient care this spring. Book a time to give by visiting RedCrossBlood.org, calling 1-800-RED CROSS or by using the Red Cross Blood Donor App. Those who come to give April 8-28 will receive a \$10 e-gift card to a merchant of choice, plus be automatically entered to win a \$7,000 gift card.

**Repair fair in Middlebury.** Saturday, April 20, 10 a.m., American Legion, 49 Wilson Rd. A family-friendly event with fabulous raffle prizes where one can enjoy refreshments, learn basic repair skills and get their favorite items fixed by their neighbors in Addison County. To volunteer or pre-register an item for repair, call 802-388-2333 or go to www.AddisonCountyRecycles.org/repair-fair. Free.

**Twist O’Wool auction in Monkton.** Saturday, April 20, 10 a.m., Monkton Central School, 1036 Monkton Rd. The Twist O’Wool guild is holding its annual auction of fiber art supplies and tools. Everyone is welcome. Come and get some new supplies or pick up a new craft.

**River Watch water quality monitoring training in Bristol and Middlebury.** Saturday, April 20, 10 a.m., gazebo, Bristol town green, and 1 p.m., Picnic pavilion, Middlebury Rec Park, Mary Hogan Drive. Interested in the health of our local streams and rivers? Assist Addison County River Watch in collecting water quality samples. This training session will review monitoring protocols and tips for successful field work. River Watch volunteers collect water samples on eight Tuesday mornings from April to September. Bring tick protection as we will be visiting the river. More info at acrcwvt@gmail.com, 802-434-3236, or www.acrcwvt.org/acrcw.

**Climate Future Film Festival in Middlebury.** Saturday, April 20, 1 p.m., Community Room, Ilsley Public Library, 75 Main St. Ten films from four continents in two hours give expression to what we are feeling — hope and cynicism; climate denial and climate grief; rage and heartbreak; resilience and resolve — and offers paths toward climate empowerment. Discussion to follow. More info at ilsleypubliclibrary.org.

**“Facing the Giants” on screen in Orwell.** Saturday, April 20, 3 p.m., First Congregational Church, Main St. Come see this family-friendly movie about a losing football coach and a team that face their “giants” — fear and failure — on the field and off. Free admission and popcorn.

**Bingo in Vergennes.** Saturday, April 20, 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.

**LC Jazz in Vergennes.** Saturday, April 20, 7:30 p.m., Vergennes Opera House, 120 Main St. Vergennes’s premier Big Band presents this encore appearance of the 18-piece ensemble featuring music by Glenn Miller, Benny Goodman, Count Basie, Duke Ellington and many others. Dance styles will include fast, medium and slow swing, ballad, Latin, waltz and rock. Bring your dancing shoes. Free. More info at vergennesoperahouse.org.

## SUNDAY

**april 21 All-you-can-eat Pancake Breakfast in Addison.** Sunday, April 21, 7-11 a.m., Addison Fire Station, Junction Routes 17 & 22A. Menu includes plain and blueberry pancakes, sausage, bacon, home fries, coffee, hot chocolate, apple juice and orange juice. Last Breakfast until the fall. Tickets are \$10 adults/\$7 kids under 12. Proceeds benefit the Addison Volunteer Fire Department. Funds will be used to purchase equipment. More info at 802-759-2237.



## Architecture for all

**SEVEN NOTED ARCHITECTS** will be at Middlebury College April 22 through 24. Presenters include, L to R, top, Billie Tsien, Joh McLeod and Marlon Blackwell, bottom, Megan Nedzinski & Andrea Murray, Susan Rodriguez and Turner Brooks. All will present as part of the college symposium “Architecture for All: Designing at the Intersection of Place, Purpose, History and Community Culture.” For more info and schedules see April 22 listing. Photos courtesy of Middlebury College

## MONDAY

**april 22 Red Cross blood donation in Brandon.** Monday, April 22, noon-5 p.m., American Legion, 550 Franklin St. See April 20 listing.

**Susan Rodriguez “Architecture for All: Designing at the Intersection of Place, Purpose, History and Community Culture” in Middlebury.** Monday, April 22, 4:30 p.m., Dana Auditorium, College St. As part of Middlebury College’s Architecture for All: A Symposium about Radical Engagement through Architecture, Rodriguez will discuss designing in the public realm and the creation of buildings and spaces that distill the essence of cultures and communities. She will share a series of projects that serve a diverse range of communities from off-the-grid rural locations to dense urban neighborhoods of New York City. Free and open to the public. More lectures on April 22, 23 and 24; get info at sites.middlebury.edu/architectureforall.

## TUESDAY

**april 23 Milk & Honey Quilters Guild meeting in Middlebury.** Tuesday, April 23, 6 p.m., American Legion, 49 Wilson Rd. Vintage is in — vintage sewing machines. Louise Prescott will show some of her machines and share her knowledge of vintage and antique machines that she has used and maintained for many years. She will also share advice on maintenance of these gems. Bring items for Show & Tell.

**“Invasive Jumping Worms: What We Know, What We Can Do” in Middlebury.** Tuesday, April 23, 7 p.m., Unity Hall, Congregational Church of Middlebury, 30 N. Pleasant St. Jumping worms are an invasive species that consume and degrade the soil in gardens, lawns and forests. Humans spread these worms without realizing it. This talk will provide essential information on the identification and biology of jumping worms, as well as actions to control their spread and negative impact on our ecology and economy. Free, all are welcome.

## WEDNESDAY

**april 24 Red Cross blood donation in Vergennes.** Wednesday, April 24, 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Victory Baptist Church, 862 Route 7. See April 20 listing.

**TVT Public Outreach meeting in Middlebury.** Wednesday, April 24, 1-2 p.m., Ilsley Public Library, 75 Main St., and 7-8 p.m. via Zoom. These meetings will provide information to the community about Tri Valley Transit’s new EZ Trip service, a door-to-door on-demand service. If transportation to the Ilsley meeting is needed, rides can be provided. Call TVT at 802-388-2287 at least 48 hours in advance to arrange. Zoom dial in at 305-224-1968 or join online. Meeting ID: 844 8941 0201 and Passcode: 350216.

## THURSDAY

**april 25 Writing Through Grief support group in Middlebury.** Begins Thursday, April 25, 4:30 p.m., Middlebury Regional EMS, 55 Collins Dr. This four-week grief support group led by Mika Barker-Hart and Leigh Harder is hosted by Palliative Support Services at Porter Medical Center. Register in advance. Must commit to all four sessions. Limit 8. Sessions continue on May 2, 9 and 16. More info contact Louella Richer at lricher@portermc.org.

**Johnson Gallery renovation tour in Middlebury.** Thursday, April 25, 4:30 p.m., Johnson Memorial Building, Chateau Rd. A guided visit through the renovated Johnson Building and a visit to the Architecture for All exhibition in the Johnson Gallery. Free and open to the public. More info at sites.middlebury.edu/architectureforall.

**Equity in Health Care with Deb Richter.** Thursday, April 25, 7 p.m., Zoom. Lawrence Memorial Library and the Bristol Social Justice Group host Dr. Deborah Richter, who practices primary care and addiction medicine in Vermont. She currently serves as president of Vermont Health Care for All, an organization that educates

the Vermont community about the structure and features of universal health care systems. Dr. Richter will discuss the issues many Vermonters face regarding access to healthcare. Q&A to follow. The presentation is for Bristol residents. Register at www.lawrencelibraryvt.org/events. Zoom link will be sent 24 hours before the event.

## FRIDAY

**april 26 Grand Friends Gala in Middlebury.** Friday, April 26, 4-7 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. **\*RESCHEDULED FROM MARCH 23.\*** Vermont Children’s Museum invites you to a magical evening of dancing, live music and kid-friendly appetizers. Dress your best and have fun supporting this fundraiser for Vermont Children’s Museum. Viva El Sabor will be providing food. Tickets \$50/\$30/\$22/\$15. Sliding scale pricing available. More info at townhalltheater.org or 802-382-9222.

**Surf and Turf dinner in Middlebury.** Friday, April 26, 5-7 p.m., VFW, 530 Exchange St. Delicious steak, shrimp, baked potato and green beans. Eat in or take out. Steak dinner \$18/shrimp dinner \$18/combo \$22. Open to the public. Proceeds benefit veterans’ programs.

**Introductory bullhead fishing clinic in Pantton.** Friday, April 26, 6:30 p.m., Stonebridge Dam. A seasonal opportunity to target one of Vermont’s most overlooked fish species. Explore different fishing styles used to target brown bullhead, found in many of the shallower, muddier lakes, ponds and rivers of Vermont. Open to people of all ages and levels of experience, including those who are completely new to fishing. Equipment provided, but participants are encouraged to bring their own rods as well. Dress for the weather and bring a flashlight or headlamp. Space is limited to the first 30 registrants. Pre-registration required at vtfishandwildlife.com.

## SATURDAY

**april 27 Va-et-ient in Vergennes.** Saturday, April 27, 12:30-2 p.m., Bixby Memorial Library, 253 Main St. These Addison County musiciennes will take you through the centuries from France to Québec and New Orleans with lively dance numbers, touching love songs, kickin’ Cajun and Créole tunes, and rollicking Québécois favorites. Free.

## SUNDAY

**april 28 Fire Department Pancake Breakfast in Salisbury.** Sunday, April 28, 7:30-11 a.m., Salisbury Community School, 286 Kelly Cross Rd. All-you-can-eat breakfast includes pancakes, French toast, eggs, sausage, bacon and potatoes. Tickets \$15, available at the door. Takeout available.

**Spring wildflower walk in Orwell.** Sunday, April 28, noon to 2 p.m., Mt. Independence State Historic Site, 497 Mount Independence Rd. Amy Olmsted, a nursery professional for over 25 years, leads this informative walk. Olmsted is a horticulturist with Rocky Dale Gardens in Bristol. She will show you early wildflowers, how to identify them, and discuss their habitat. Wear sturdy shoes or boots, dress for the weather, be prepared for walking the trails (some of which may be wet), and bring water if you like. Cost \$5 adults/\$1 children ages 6-14/free 5 and under and members.

**BE SURE TO CHECK OUT OUR CALENDAR ONLINE**  
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# Skatepark boosters pivot to new strategy

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — Leaders of an effort to build a 7,500-square-foot, concrete skatepark in Middlebury's recreation park are shifting their strategy in hopes of garnering more financial support for a project currently estimated at \$375,000-\$562,000.

Members of the Middlebury Skatepark Project (MSP) board have already secured permission to site the facility on a portion of the Rec Park just south of the town swimming pool. MSP officials want the new skatepark to be "a clean, safe, and fun environment for all wheeled sports," according to a vision statement at middleburyskatepark.com.

Right now, skateboarders must either travel to established parks in Bristol, Vergennes or Burlington, and/or can take advantage of a popular program offered by the Middlebury Parks & Recreation Department at Curtis Park in East Middlebury.

It was two years ago that organizers began to galvanize support for a Middlebury skatepark. Ethan Murphy, Jill Quackenbush and Phyllis Stinson have been on board since day one, and they recently gave the selectboard an update on their efforts.

"We've made great progress, especially with grassroots fundraising efforts," Murphy told the board. "But we still have a large funding gap," he added. "We're still looking for a minimum of \$375,000, based on the current trends for the size skatepark we're trying to build."

As of last week, MSP had raised \$43,626 toward the project — including around \$29,000 from donations, merchandise sales, small grants and a skateboard-art fundraising auction held last fall. The remaining \$15,000 came through the fiscal year 2025

Middlebury Parks & Recreation Department budget.

Boosters have diligently applied for grants, ranging from a successful \$2,500 request to the St. Stephen's Peasant Market, to an unsuccessful bid for \$562,500 in federal Congressionally Directed Spending.

The skatepark effort also sadly missed out on several competitive grants, including \$382,500 through the Vermont Outdoor Recreation Economic Collaborative (VOREC), \$50,000 through the Vermont Recreation al Trails Program, and \$50,000 through the Vermont Children's Trust.

"We were really shooting for the VOREC grant, which would've made the project," Murphy said. "We'll obviously apply again next year and hopefully be better positioned for that."

With fundraising at just 11.6% of the MSP's minimum \$375,000 goal, Murphy said the group is shifting to a new strategy. So MSP is pivoting from a "design-build" strategy to a "design-first" game plan.

Murphy explained the design-build process typically entails working with a single company to both design and build a project. This usually requires raising a large portion of the project budget before moving to the design phase.

As its name implies, design-first involves an upfront design of a project before the construction budget is finalized. It's an approach that would allow MSP to show a refined skatepark plan that might inspire more

ample buy-in from prospective donors and grantors, project advocates said.

"We're hoping it will provide a spark for our fundraising beyond what we've done already," Murphy said of the strategy shift.

To that end, MSP officials asked



## Parlez Francais

MOUNT ABRAHAM UNION High School French students on March 28 participated in the 2024 Vermont International Francophone event in Winooski. Pictured, from left, are Jori Jacobeit (Mount Abe French teacher), Kalin Tingiris-Shean, Annie Dufault, Joanna Toy, Siena Stanley, Piper Guilmette, Nell Harvey and Anna Stilwell in front. The month of March is officially *le Mois de la Francophonie*, a celebration of the French language and Francophone cultures around the world. Students learned about the French heritage of Vermont at Winooski's Mill Museum, and then each publicly shared what studying French means to them as featured speakers at the festival.

for — and received — permission to tap some of the aforementioned \$15,000 in Parks & Recreation Department funding to commission a site survey and geotechnical report for the proposed skatepark site.

As the *Independent* went to press, MSP was preparing a grant application to the Department of Housing and Community Development's Better Places program. Both the Town Hall Theater in Middlebury and the Cornwall Outdoor Recreation Area project had recent success landing 2:1 matching grants through the program, which includes a crowdfunding element. Each project secured a \$40,000 award after having secured \$20,000 locally.

"We're crossing our fingers that

we're able to launch a Better Places campaign before the program ends on June 30," Quackenbush said. "A crowdfunding campaign like Better Places would be a huge boost to our fundraising effort, and we have total faith that our community will respond with a lot of support."

In the meantime, she noted MSP has begun the application process for all the state and local permits the new skatepark will need.

Selectboard members encouraged MSP members to keep pushing the project across the finish line.

"It only takes one person in this town to write a check, and you should be looking for (such donors)," Selectman Dan Brown said. "This town is very generous. We're doing big things and we've

done big things, and this is a big thing that doesn't cost a whole lot of money."

"If I had won the Mega Millions (lottery), this project would definitely be funded today," Selectboard Vice Chair Andy Hooper said.

Stinson believes the skatepark will pay big dividends. Advocates have noted the facility would likely draw enthusiasts from other parts of the state, some of whom will shop and dine locally.

"It's a real investment in our children and an economic investment in the town; there's no denying it," she said.

For more information on the Middlebury skatepark project, go to middleburyskatepark.com.

John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.

## Lincoln

(Continued from Page 4B) free harvesting, drying and curing class at Burnham Hall on Saturday, May 11 from 2 to 4 p.m. Proper drying and curing takes thinking and setup before the time comes for action. You will leave her class prepared to have the best end of any season you've ever had regardless of your growing space or medium. Her mission is to ensure all Lincolnites know how to grow their own. All are welcome.

Until next time ... A Goal Should Scare You A Little But Excite You A Lot. May Every Sunrise Hold More Promise And Every Sunset Hold More Peace.

# STUDENTS OF THE WEEK FROM AREA HIGH SCHOOLS

## Mount Abraham Union High School

### Isabella Shae

Mt. Abraham Union High School has chosen Isabella Shae as our student of the week. Isabella lives in Bristol with her dad and in New Haven with her mom. She has five siblings and a cat named Daisy.

Isabella has received highest honors in academics and transferable skills throughout her high school career. Her favorite class is American Sign Language through Virtual High School. Isabella had some ASL experience prior to this course but has learned a lot and has become more confident in signing. Isabella is very involved in the Mt. Abe community and serves as the Executive Student representative on the MAUSD Board for Community Council. She has been a member of the cross country and track and field teams. This year she has led both teams as a captain. She has also held a key role managing the sound board for three theater productions, including sound lead for "The Addams Family" this spring.

In addition to Isabella's involvement in school activities, she is an active member of her community. Isabella and her mom own Vermont Cheeseless, a vegan, gluten-free cheesecake company. She also balances a variety of jobs, ranging from working as an aid to a disabled teenager to serving as a host at Two Brothers Tavern. Isabella has also been a part of the Camp Exclamation Point family her whole life. Last summer she worked as a lifeguard and swim instructor at the camp. When she is not working, Isabella enjoys spending time with her family and playing sports.

Isabella is a published author, having written, "Living in Pieces," a book of poetry that tells of her mental health journey throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. When asked what advice she would give to current students, Isabella said, "I believe that the most important lesson I have learned while at high school is to utilize all opportunities. High school is the time to try new sports, clubs, and even just new experiences. It's OK to not enjoy them all, but through trying you may find your new favorite pastime."

After graduation Isabella is going to attend Endicott College, where she will be majoring in Political Science with a minor in Autism and Applied Behavioral Analysis. The Mt. Abraham community wishes her all the best in her future endeavors!



Isabella Shae MAUHS

## Otter Valley Union High School

### Max Derby

Otter Valley Union Middle and High School's Student of the Week is Max Derby. Max lives in Brandon with his mother, stepfather, and younger siblings. He has two dogs, Elmo and Harley. Elmo is a nine-year-old Lab Rottweiler mix and Harley is a one-year-old pitbull mix.

Max has enjoyed a flexible schedule as a senior. It has allowed him to fine tune his time management skills and prepare for the years after graduation. His schedule has allowed him time for an internship at the Brandon Inn working on electrical and plumbing alongside Carson Leary.

Max was inducted into the National Honor Society as a junior, is a member of The Congress of Future Medical Leaders and the National Society of High School Scholars. Last spring he received scholarships to Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and the University of Rochester. As the valedictorian, Max received the Green and Gold Scholarship to the University of Vermont. In addition, he has received many awards in academic excellence from a variety of courses at OV.

Max was senior co-captain this year for varsity soccer and has loved playing defense for the team throughout high school.

Max has worked at the Brandon Inn for three years. He is involved in all aspects of innkeeping and has met many people from all over the world. Max spent his February vacation this year in Argentina visiting the nephew of the inn owner. Max related that it was an amazing experience just traveling to a different country, getting to know the culture, sampling the food and touring around.

Max enjoys spending time with his family, friends and dogs. Hiking and snowboarding are favorites of his as well. He plays basketball with his brother whenever they can find the time. He also loves all yard games, swimming, chess and other board games as well.

Going to school at OV has taught Max empathy for others and a broader sense of humankind.

After graduation Max plans to attend a university. He is still deciding where he will go but he has many options and opportunities. All of us at Otter Valley wish him well.



Max Derby OVUHS

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Best of luck to all Addison County students!

If you are interested in advertising in Student of the Week contact [advertising@addisonindependent.com](mailto:advertising@addisonindependent.com)

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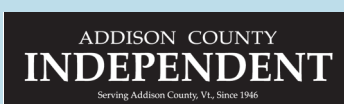


Way to go, Isabella and Max

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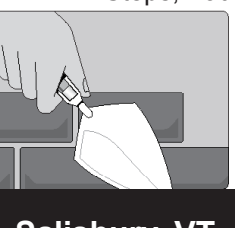


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**Brick - Block - Stone**  
Chimneys, Fireplaces, Outside Barbecues, Steps, Patios, Stone Walls

35 Years Experience  
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Free Estimates  
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Salisbury, VT **802-352-6050**



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A friendly, professional, and affordable family business.  
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Free Estimates  
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Serving the Champlain Valley  
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Go solar today with an AllEarth Solar Tracker, Vermont's most efficient solar solution, locally designed in Bristol.

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**Michael Doran**  
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- Standing seam
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SEPTIC TANK & CESSPOOL PUMPING  
NEW SYSTEMS INSTALLED OR REPAIRED  
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Land Surveying/Septic Design  
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larosesurveys@gmail.com



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Property Line Surveys • Topographical Surveys  
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**Philo. Surveying LLC**  
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ALTA Surveys • Full Boundary Surveys and Plat  
Commercial and Residential Subdivisions  
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Philosurveying.com • References available



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Reach thousands of local customers every week with a B&S Directory ad.  
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## TREE SERVICE

Serving Vermont for over 42 years!

**BROWN'S TREE & CRANE SERVICE**  
FREE ESTIMATES FOR TREE SERVICES

WE HAVE THE RIGHT EQUIPMENT FOR THE RIGHT JOB – TO GIVE YOU REASONABLE RATES

Dangerous Trees Cut & Removed  
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Reasonable Rates • Year-round Service • Fully Insured  
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**SARGENT'S TREE SERVICE**  
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- Tree Removal
- Tree Pruning
- Storm Damage Clean up
- Stump Grinding

Serving all of Addison County

Over 30 Years Experience  
Fully Licensed and Insured  
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sargentstreeservice.com



## VETERINARIANS

**Bringing Essential Veterinary Care To you and your pets.**  
Serving the dogs and cats of Addison County

Call for an appointment:  
**(802) 522-9718**  
MeganSwaseyDVM@gmail.com  
addisoncountyvet.com

**Addison County Mobile Veterinary Services**  
Megan Swasey, DVM  
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## WINDOW TREATMENTS

Your local source for window treatments from the nation's most popular brands.  
**Free in-home consultations!**

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M-F: 8am-5pm  
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CALL 802-388-4944  
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ADDISONINDEPENDENT.COM  
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Advertise your business on these pages for under \$10 per week.

Call 802-388-4944 or email advertising@addisonindependent.com for details.

# CLASSIFIEDS

**Cards of Thanks**

**THANK YOU ST. JUDE** for prayers answered. JER

**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 [vermontalanonlateen.org](http://vermontalanonlateen.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://aavt.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.

**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.

**More Help Wanted ads** can be found on Page 9B.

**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](mailto:Vergennesfreethinkers@gmail.com) for Zoom and in-person meeting information.

**Services**

**CONSTRUCTION: ADDITIONS, RENOVATIONS** new construction, drywall, carpentry, painting, flooring, roofing, pressure washing, driveway sealing. All aspects of construction, also property maintenance. Steven Fifield 802-989-0009.

**MELISSA'S QUALITY CLEANING Services.** Residential and commercial. Fully insured. Great rates. Reliable and thorough cleaning. 802-345-6257.

**ODD JOBS: WEED** flower beds, some landscaping, property clean up, brush cutting, lawn work. Call us today, we do other jobs too. 802-999-2194, John.

**WE BUY OLD STUFF** Estates, collections, antiques etc. Also hunting and fishing items. Call Erik 802-345-0653.

**Help Wanted**

**Free**

**DIGITAL ACCESS** View obituaries, calendar listings and classifieds online at [addisonindependent.com](http://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!

**TRAINS - WILL HELP** set up play layouts HO-027-0 standard gauge. Call Paul 802-388-2812.

**WORKING AIR-CONDITIONER.** Window unit with 5,000-7,000 BTU's. Call Paul at 802-388-2812.

**Help Wanted**

**PART-TIME PERSONAL CARE** assistant wanted to help 75 year old man in Addison for three hours a day. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. Help with light housekeeping, cooking and chores. \$25 an hour. Reply to [eresnik@rcn.com](mailto:eresnik@rcn.com).

**Help Wanted**

**Help Wanted**

**EARLY CHILDHOOD TEACHERS**

College Street Children's Center, 228 College Street in Middlebury is looking for enthusiastic, flexible, and energetic teachers to join our early childhood team.

This is a permanent full time position, Monday thru Friday. *Must enjoy spending time with young children and being a team player.*

Please email, cover letter and resume to [cscdirector228@gmail.com](mailto:cscdirector228@gmail.com)



**Help Wanted**

**TOWN OF PANTON Part-Time Assistant Clerk-Treasurer**

This position will be scheduled to work 12 to 18 hours per week, with some flexibility on daily work hours. Pay rate is \$25.00/hour with prorated paid time off and holiday pay.

**What you will bring to the job:**

- Proficiency in Outlook, Word, and Excel, internet research methods, and virtual meeting platforms.
- Experience with bookkeeping/accounting software, and budget preparation and monitoring.
- Flexibility and the ability to readily adjust to changing priorities.
- Attention to detail and curiosity that enables you to identify, track, and make connections between various sources of information.
- A record of identifying problems and finding solutions.

Experience administering state and federal grants is preferred.

Full job description at [www.pantonvt.us/departments/offices/employment.php](http://www.pantonvt.us/departments/offices/employment.php)

**To apply, please send resume and cover letter to [clerk-treasurer@pantonvt.us](mailto:clerk-treasurer@pantonvt.us) or mail to Town of Panton, 3176 Jersey St., Panton, VT 05491**

**Help Wanted**

**Help Wanted**

**Help Wanted**



**HELP WANTED Highway Maintenance Worker**  
The Town of Orwell is looking for a full-time Highway Maintenance worker. Requirements are a good attitude, basic computer skills, a team player, a class B CDL, experience in plowing snow, and heavy equipment operation is preferred. Must be able to pass a pre-employment DOT drug test. The ability to work long hours, especially in the winter months, experience in maintaining equipment and repairing it, and a willingness to learn.

Interested applicants can send their resumes to:

Orwell Town Office  
Attn: Select Board  
PO Box 32  
Orwell, VT 05760

[selectboard@townoforwellvt.org](mailto:selectboard@townoforwellvt.org)

**SLATE VALLEY UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT**

APPLY FOR ALL POSITIONS AT:  
<https://slatevalley.tedk12.com/hire/index.aspx>.  
Positions will remain open until filled. EOE

**PART-TIME PHYSICAL THERAPIST**

to serve the school district for the 2024-2025 school year. Service is estimated to be approximately 20 hours per month; work schedule is flexible and will take place during the school day.

**SPECIAL EDUCATION CLERK/MEDICAID CLERK.**

Anticipated opening beginning July 1, 2024. This is a year round, full-time office position. The successful applicant will provide secretarial and clerical support to the District Director of Special Services to support, complete the district's child count reports, and manage the school-based Medicaid billing program. The position requires the candidate to have excellent written and oral communication skills, ability to multitask, demonstrate keen attention to detail, ability to work with an extensive team of professional and support staff in a collaborative manner. Expertise with database/management systems for schools/special education is preferred.

For additional information contact **Kris Benway, Director of Special Education** at [kbenway@svvvt.org](mailto:kbenway@svvvt.org)

**ATHLETIC DIRECTOR, GRADES 5-12.**

Anticipated opening for the 2024-2025 school year (for a one-year leave of absence). The position will provide leadership and director for all athletic programs to provide each enrolled student the opportunity to participate in athletic/extracurricular activities that will foster enjoyment, physical skills, a sense of worth and competence, and knowledge and understanding of the pleasures of the sport and principles of fair play. A Bachelor's Degree in Physical Education, or a related field, and five years of relevant coaching experience, or a combination of education and experience from which comparable knowledge and skills are acquired is preferred. A valid Vermont Professional Educator's License is preferred (a Supervisory or Administrative endorsement is desirable, but not required).

For more information, please contact **Co-Principal Ben Worthing** at [bworthing@svvvt.org](mailto:bworthing@svvvt.org) or (802)265-4966.

**SCHOOL COUNSELOR, GRADES K-6.**

This position will create a safe space where students develop social-emotional skills, manage feelings, and build confidence. Work Collaboratively with teachers, staff, and families to ensure every child feels supported and empowered to succeed. We value strong communication, collaboration, and passion for children's growth. Bonus points: peer mediation, restorative practices, and conflict resolution. Join us! Competitive salary and benefits.

For more information, please contact **Patrick Walters, Principal, Orwell Village School** at [pwalters@svvvt.org](mailto:pwalters@svvvt.org) or (802) 265-4905.

**Positions offer generous, twice a year bonuses as well as an employee discount on all products!**

**Warehouse Worker**  
Loading and assisting with customer orders from the yard, warehouse and store; Stocking shelves and Filling propane tanks. Skills/Qualifications: Ability to lift 50 lbs repeatedly throughout the day. Ability to demonstrate strong organizational skills. Valid Driver's License. Weekends and dependability a MUST! Forklift & Skid steer experience a plus. Preferable age 18+.

**Cashier - Customer Service**  
Immediate Openings available. Must be able to work until 6pm. Weekdays and Weekends a MUST. Up to 40 hours per week. Wage commensurate with experience.

Please send resumes to [info@middleburyagway.com](mailto:info@middleburyagway.com) or fill out an application at **Middlebury Agway, 338 Exchange Street, Middlebury VT.**  
**Please no phone calls.**

**Middlebury Agway 338 Exchange St. - Middlebury, VT.**

**Opportunities**

**Opportunities**

**Opportunities**

**Opportunities**

**Opportunities**

**Opportunities**

**Volunteer with Middlebury Area Land Trust!**

We are always in need of volunteers who can help with things like seasonal trail work, assisting at MALT's summer camps as counselors in training, or even helping around the office on special projects and mailings.

To learn more, call us at (802) 388-1007 or visit our website at [www.maltvt.org/volunteer](http://www.maltvt.org/volunteer).

United Way of Addison County

Addison Independent **CLASSIFIED ORDER FORM**

ADDISON INDEPENDENT  
58 Maple Street, Middlebury, VT 05753  
802-388-4944  
[addisonindependent.com](http://addisonindependent.com) • email: [classifieds@addisonindependent.com](mailto:classifieds@addisonindependent.com)

Cash in on our 4-for-3 rates! Pay for 3 issues, get 4th issue free! An ad placed for consecutive issues runs the 4th time for free!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Or, submit your classified ad on our website: [addisonindependent.com](http://addisonindependent.com)

**DEADLINE: Monday at 5 p.m.**

**RATES**

- 25¢ per word • minimum \$2.50 per ad
- \$2 internet listing for up to 4 issues • minimum 2 insertions

• Special 4 for 3 rates not valid for the following categories: Services, Opportunities, Real Estate, Wood heat, Attn. Farmers, For Rent & Help Wanted

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Notices         | <input type="checkbox"/> Work Wanted       | <input type="checkbox"/> Att. Farmers       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Card of Thanks  | <input type="checkbox"/> Help Wanted       | <input type="checkbox"/> Motorcycles        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Personals       | <input type="checkbox"/> For Sale          | <input type="checkbox"/> Cars               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Services        | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Meetings** | <input type="checkbox"/> Trucks             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Free**          | <input type="checkbox"/> For Rent          | <input type="checkbox"/> SUVs               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lost 'N Found** | <input type="checkbox"/> Want to Rent      | <input type="checkbox"/> Snowmobiles        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Garage Sales    | <input type="checkbox"/> Wood Heat         | <input type="checkbox"/> Boats              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lawn & Garden   | <input type="checkbox"/> Real Estate       | <input type="checkbox"/> Wanted             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Opportunities   | <input type="checkbox"/> Animals           | <input type="checkbox"/> Real Estate Wanted |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Adoption        |  | <input type="checkbox"/> Vacation Rentals   |

\*\* no charge for these ads Spotlight with large ✓ \$2

**PLEASE PRINT YOUR AD...**

Number of words: \_\_\_\_\_  
Cost: \_\_\_\_\_  
# of runs: \_\_\_\_\_  
Spotlight Charge: \_\_\_\_\_  
Internet Listing: **\$2.00**  
TOTAL: \_\_\_\_\_

The Independent assumes no financial responsibility for errors in ads, but will rerun classified ad in which the error occurred. No refunds will be possible. Advertiser will please notify us of any errors which may occur after first publication.

# Addison Independent CLASSIFIEDS

## Help Wanted

**SHARED LIVING PROVIDER** sought for a man with Asperger's Syndrome. Looking for a non-smoking home in Middlebury, Bristol or Vergennes. Friendly dogs and cats OK, either no children or older respectful children. Would like to be part of the family and have some privacy. Good high speed internet is a must as he is a gamer and likes to watch TV. Can spend limited amounts of time home alone in the day. Tax-free annual stipend of \$30,000, monthly R&B payment of \$814, and annual respite budget of \$9,000. Please

## Help Wanted

contact Jennifer Murdoch at Community Associates/ Counseling Service of Addison County. (802)388-4021

## For Sale

**2014 CHEVY IMPALA** LT Sedan 4D, V6, 61,000 miles, Blue Topaz Metallic, moonroof, spoiler, automatic, weather tech, remote start, keyless entry, black interior and many extras. Excellent condition. \$15,000. 802-758-2453.

## Help Wanted

## Help Wanted

## HEAVY EQUIPMENT MECHANIC

Full-time position with benefits. Gas and diesel engine experience required.

## HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATORS

Year-round positions with benefits. Experience required. Mechanical ability a plus.

Call (802) 482-2335 for more information or send resume to:

**Hinesburg Sand & Gravel, Co., Inc.**  
14818 Route 116  
Hinesburg, VT 05461



**Full-Time Positions Available** including snowplowing, light shop work, equipment operation, & landscaping

**Seasonal Positions Available** including lawn care & landscaping

Immediate positions available working Monday – Friday and some Saturdays. Paid Holidays, partial uniforms, new bonuses available, & competitive pay.

To apply, call 802-352-9088  
Salisbury, VT



## Part-Time Office Assistant

WowToyz, a successful and established manufacturer of high-quality, educational toys for over 30 years, is looking for a motivated individual to be part of our growing company! The successful candidate must be dependable, eager to learn new processes, and willing to jump in when a need is observed. This is a position for a detail-oriented team player with confidence, energy, and great organizational and communication skills.

**Retirees are welcome and encouraged to apply!** We offer flexible work schedules and competitive wages.

### RESPONSIBILITIES

Enter purchase orders into our proprietary computer software system  
Answer phone, transfer calls, and assist with customer service  
Friendly, professional, and service-focused positive attitude

### SKILLS & REQUIREMENTS

Ability to organize and prioritize tasks with minimal supervision  
Ability to communicate and collaborate effectively with all levels of the organization  
Analytical abilities and aptitude in problem-solving  
Experience in Microsoft Office Suite or data entry software is beneficial but not a requirement

## Part-Time Warehouse

WowToyz in Vergennes is seeking part-time help for the morning shift in our warehouse, picking and packing orders and unloading trucks. Ideal candidates are organized, dependable, and able to work 20-30 hours/week, Mon-Fri. **Retirees are welcome and encouraged to apply!** We offer flexible work schedules and competitive wages.

Proof of COVID-19 vaccinations required for all employees

To apply email contact information and work history to: [resumes@wowtoyz.com](mailto:resumes@wowtoyz.com)

## For Rent

**COMMERCIAL/OFFICE SPACE** - 3000 sq ft - Middlebury. Loading dock. Tall ceilings. \$2,500.00 p/ month. 802-558-6092.

## For Rent

**DRY, WINTER/SUMMER STORAGE SPACE** in Addison. Available storage space in my barn for summer/winter storage. The barn is structurally sound and weather-tight with electricity. No heat or running water. The barn is also available for lease. The entrance door measurements are 8' wide by 7' high. For more info: 802-363-3403 or rochon\_m@yahoo.com.

## For Rent

**MIDDLEBURY BRIARWOOD APARTMENTS** is currently taking wait-list applications for 2- br apartments. No smoking/ No pets. Income limits apply- rent based on income- 2 person minimum occupancy. Equal Housing Opportunity. Handicapped accessible. 802-247-0165 TTY: 800-253-0191 www. SummitPMG.com.

## For Rent

**ALL REAL ESTATE** advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 as amended which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, national origin, sexual orientation, or persons receiving public assistance or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertisement for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination, call HUD Toll-free at 1-800-424-8590. For the Washington, DC area please call HUD at 426-3500..

## 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@cloud.com](mailto:svdwmiller@cloud.com) with "horse" in the subject line for more information.

## Att. Farmers

**WHITNEY'S CUSTOM FARM WORK** Pond agitating, liquid manure hauling, drag line aerating. Call for price. 462-2755, John Whitney.

## Help Wanted



## Production Team Members

Vermont Soap is looking for attentive, reliable and responsible people to work in our production department.

This position requires basic computer skills, attention to detail, the ability to sit or stand for long periods of time and the ability to lift up to 50lbs. Must be a team player and also able to work independently.

This is a full time position (Mon-Fri 7-3:30) with paid vacation time, paid holidays, 401k with employer match, and more!

Please send cover letter and resume to [nichole@vermontsoap.com](mailto:nichole@vermontsoap.com).

## Help Wanted

## Help Wanted



## AUTO & BODY

4087 States Prison Hollow Rd.  
Monkton Ridge, VT 05469 • (802) 453-3562  
[dupontauto7@gmail.com](mailto:dupontauto7@gmail.com)

**DuPont Auto and Body located in Monkton Vermont, is looking to hire a full time mechanic** to join our family owned business. We are looking for a candidate with 2-3 years mechanical experience who is familiar with general maintenance on vehicles such as oil changes, brakes, tire changes and Vermont state inspections.

**We Offer: Full time hours Monday-Friday: NO WEEKENDS: Paid Holidays**

If you are motivated, hard working and detail oriented call or email today!



## 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](mailto:dbailey@addisoncountypcc.org)



## Addison County Parent/Child Center

### Join the Parent/Child Center Team

#### CHILDCARE WORKER/PARENT EDUCATOR

**Childcare Staff Position:** We are seeking a childcare worker who will work with children and parents in our therapeutic program. This is a full-time position with generous benefits. We are a therapeutic childcare program that supports children birth through 5 and their families.

**Strong candidates** must have knowledge of child development, family systems, excellent communication skills, and want to work with young families. Flexibility and collaboration are a must. Experience with children and families wanted: a minimum of a Bachelor's degree preferred.

Please send a resume and cover letter, along with 3 references to **Donna Bailey** at [dbailey@addisoncountypcc.org](mailto:dbailey@addisoncountypcc.org)

**More Help Wanted ads** can be found on Page 8B.

## Wood Heat

**DRY OR GREEN** firewood for sale. Delivery available. 802-349-4212.

## For Rent

## For Rent

## For Rent

## FOR RENT

RELAX AT LAKE DUNMORE



This newly renovated **4-season cottage** has availability for graduation, Memorial Day and a few weeks still open this summer. Bright, spacious and private with a huge deck, views and terraced gardens, this **3 bedroom, 2 bath** home comes with two 2-person kayaks. Email [lisagksis@yahoo.com](mailto:lisagksis@yahoo.com) for direct pricing discounts.

Full listing and availability: [AIRBNB.COM](http://AIRBNB.COM)  
Search "Beautiful Lake Dunmore Ski Chalet / Cottage"

## For Sale

## For Sale

## For Sale

## For Sale

In print or online, find your dream job with help from the *Addy Indy*.



[addisonindependent.com/help-wanted](http://addisonindependent.com/help-wanted)

ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT

## YOUR NEXT RIDE!

**2012 Jeep Grand Cherokee Limited \$7,000 or best offer**



Great in the snow!



Well maintained, black leather seats and interior are in excellent shape. New brakes, studded snow tires, 4WD, sunroof, heated seats, etc. \$7,000 with just over 150,000 miles. Single owner (who bought a newer model). Call today! 802-349-7069

Available to see in Middlebury.



Call Angelo: 802-349-7069

### MARKET REPORT

#### ADDISON COUNTY COMMISSION SALES

RT. 125 • EAST MIDDLEBURY, VT

Sales for 4/11/24 & 4/15/24

BEEF	LBS.	/LB	\$
Goslga	1780	1.25	\$2225.00
Barnes Bros	1950	1.15	\$2242.50
Blue Spruce	1845	1.15	\$2121.75
Vorstevelid	1325	1.15	\$1523.75
Deer Valley	1755	1.13	\$1983.15

CALVES	LBS.	/LB	\$
A. Brisson	85	9.25	\$786.25
Savello	91	9.20	\$837.20
B. Rawson	112	8.50	\$952.00
Goodrich	76	8.05	\$611.80
Nop Bros	102	5.65 (+)	\$576.30

Total Beef - 123 Total Calves - 219

We value our faithful customers.  
Sales at 3 pm - Mon. & Thurs.  
call 1-802-388-2661



## Public Notices Index

Public Notices for the following can be found on **Pages 10B and 11B.**

Addison Northwest School District (1)	Middlebury (2)
Bridport (1)	Prospect Cemetery Association (1)
Cornwall (2)	Rutland Northeast Supervisory Union (2)
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (1)	Sports Car Club of Vermont (1)
Green Mountain Power (1)	Starksboro (1)
Lakeview Cemetery Association (1)	State of Vermont (1)
Lemon Fair Insect Control District (1)	Vermont Agency of Transportation (1)

### BARSTOW

#### UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT  
APRIL 22, 2024 AT 6:00 P.M.

The legal voters of the Barstow Unified Union School District (Unified Union District) comprising the voters of the Towns of Chittenden and Mendon are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Barstow Memorial School (virtual option available - Meeting link and dial in information can be found on the calendar on the RNESU website: <http://www.rnesu.org>) on April 22, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. to conduct the following business:

Article 1: To hear the Board of School Directors of the Unified Union District present its estimate of expenses for the ensuing year.

The meeting shall then be recessed to Tuesday, April 30, 2024 for the purpose of voting the following article at the usual polling places in the member districts by Australian ballot, said ballots being brought to the Chittenden Town Office following the closing of the polls in the member districts where they will be commingled and counted by the Board of Civil Authority of the constituent districts.

#### The Town polls will be opened as follows:

Town of Chittenden	10:00 AM - 7:00 PM	Chittenden Town Office
Town of Mendon	8:00 AM - 7:00 PM	Mendon Town Office

Article 2: Shall the voters of the school district approve the school board to expend Six Million Two Hundred Forty-Four Thousand Seven Hundred Thirty-Seven Dollars (\$6,244,737) which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year?

Dated at Chittenden, Vermont  
March 28, 2024

*Deborah Singiser*  
Deborah Singiser, Chair  
Barstow Unified Union School  
District No. U049

To learn more about the budget scan the qr code below or visit:  
<https://www.rnesu.org/page/budget>



Budget Website

### ATTENTION FARMERS!!!

#### ANNUAL SPRING MACHINERY/ FARM AND GARDEN CONSIGNMENT AUCTION

SATURDAY MAY 11<sup>TH</sup>- 10 AM

HELD AT

ADDISON COUNTY COMMISSION SALES BARN  
RT 125 EAST MIDDLEBURY, VERMONT

All Good Consignments Welcome!

\*\*Please No Household Items\*\*

Large Selection Of Tractors, Farm Equipment,  
Lawn And Garden,

A Must Sale To Attend!

Call ACCS 802-388-2661 Or 802-989-1507

Auctioneer-John Nop-Tom Wisnowski Sale Manager

[www.acscattle.com](http://www.acscattle.com)

### TOWN OF BRIDPORT PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Bridport Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, May 14, 2024, in the Town Office at 82 Crown Point Road, on each and to consider each of the following application:

At 6:30 PM on Application (#24-12) by Barbara Ann Gleeson for a 2-lot subdivision of parcel ID# 08-040.3 owned by Marcel Benoit and Julia Bonoit. The property is located at 881 Orchard Drive Bridport, Vermont 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 Commissions 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 STARKSBORO DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD NOTICE OF HEARING

Jason and Heather Barnard submitted a subdivision application (24-401) for subdivision review to include a site plan review of a Two-Lot Subdivision located on a 11.6-acre parcel (E517L1AW.1) 4400 VT Route 17, South Starksboro. The proposed subdivision is in the Low-Density district. The hearing on the application will be held per Sec. 426 of the Starksboro Land Use and Development Regulations (SLUDR)

The Starksboro Development Review Board will conduct the hearing on **May 9, 2024**, starting at 7p.m. at the Starksboro Town Office with remote access (info below). The application is available to review by request of the Starksboro zoning office.

Pursuant to 24 V.S.A. §§ 4464(a)(1)(C) participation in this local proceeding is prerequisite to the right to take any subsequent appeal.

Access via Zoom: Meeting ID:878 8416 6793

Passcode: stk@drbl

Phone 1-929-436-2866

Passcode: 44885153

Nancy Boss  
Zoning Administrator  
Date: April 10, 2024

### VERMONT AGENCY OF TRANSPORTATION PUBLIC NOTICE HERBICIDE SPRAYING

The Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) has requested from the Secretary of Agriculture, Food and Markets, a permit to apply the following herbicides: Garlon 4 ULTRA, Garlon 3A, Oust Extra, Escort, Krenite S, Polaris, and Roundup Custom to control unwanted vegetation along all State highways. Operations are authorized to start approximately May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024, but will not begin until the appropriate notification requirements are completed. The application will be made by certified pesticide applicators using mechanically controlled equipment and hand-controlled methods. The methods employed are intended to avoid or eliminate drift. Residents along the rights-of-way (ROW) are encouraged to protect sensitive environments or water supplies within 100 feet of the ROW limits, and to avoid entering the ROW as spray trucks pass and until products dry. Residents should notify VTrans of the existence of any water supplies within 100 feet of the State's ROW. Citizens wishing to inform VTrans are urged to contact the nearest District Transportation Administrator as follows: District 1 - Bennington - (802) 447-2790, District 2 - Dummerston - (802) 254-5011, District 3 - Mendon - (802) 786-5826, District 4 - White River Junction - (802) 295-8888, District 5 - Colchester - (802) 655-1580, District 6 - Berlin - (802)-917-2879, District 7 - St. Johnsbury - (802) 748-6670, District 8 - St. Albans - (802) 524-5926, District 9 - Derby - (802) 334-7934. The contact person at the State Highway Department Headquarters is Brandon Garretto, Vegetation Management Admin, 2178 Airport Rd, Dill Bldg Unit A, Barre, VT 05641 or [brandon.garretto@vermont.gov](mailto:brandon.garretto@vermont.gov). Contact can also be made using the VTrans Internet Web page at <https://vtrans.vermont.gov/operations>.

The appropriate place to contact with comments other than VTrans is the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets, Agriculture Resource Management and Environmental Stewardship, 116 State Street, Montpelier, VT 05602, (802) 828-2431. The link to their web page that would describe the VTrans herbicide application permit request can be found at [www.VermontAgriculture.com](http://www.VermontAgriculture.com).

### PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO APPLY MOSQUITO LARVICIDES

Local mosquito control districts may be making ground and aerial applications of *Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis (BTI)*, *Bacillus sphaericus (BS)*, spinosad and (S)-Methoprene to surface waters where mosquito larvae are present.

These applications will occur in the towns of Cornwall, Bridport, and Weybridge. Pesticide applications will begin on or after April 15, 2024.

Further information or comments about the larviciding activities or application exclusion requests can be obtained from:

Lemon Fair Insect Control District  
Email: [info@LFICD.org](mailto:info@LFICD.org)  
or phone our hotline: 802-349-5407

The Vermont Agency of Agriculture oversees the permitting of these mosquito larvicides and can be reached at 802-828-3473.

For more information see the following websites:  
<http://www.lficd.org/> OR <https://agriculture.vermont.gov/public-health-agricultural-resource-management-division/plant-health-and-pest-management/mosquitoes>

### PUBLIC NOTICE THE SPORTS CAR CLUB OF VERMONT PRESENTS THE HISTORIC MT. PHILO HILLCLIMB May 04 - 05, 2024 AT MT. PHILO, IN CHARLOTTE, VT

The Mt. Philo mountain road and hiking trails will be closed to the public from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM on Saturday and Sunday. A historic hillclimb is a speed event up the mountain road with drivers racing against the clock. We thank the residents of Charlotte and the State Parks for being a wonderful host for this historic event. Thank you!

[www.SCCV.org](http://www.SCCV.org)

### PROSPECT CEMETERY ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING PUBLIC NOTICE

The Officers and all Persons interested in the Prospect Cemetery Association are hereby warned to meet at the Sarah Partridge Community House in East Middlebury on Monday, 13th of May at 7:30 P.M. for the following purpose:

- To hear the reports of the officers.
- To hold election of officers for the following year.
- To vote on fees for the maintenance of the cemetery grounds.
- To transact any other business that may come before the meeting.

Elaine Newton, Secretary

### PUBLIC NOTICE INTENT TO APPLY HERBICIDES

Green Mountain Power Corporation, 2152 Post Rd Rutland, Vermont 05701 has applied for a permit from the Vermont Secretary of Agriculture to apply herbicides. All herbicides will be applied by ground-based, hand-held equipment. This notice constitutes a warning to residents along the right-of-way that water supplies and other environmentally sensitive areas near the right-of-way should be protected from spray and that it is the resident's responsibility to notify the contact person of the existence of a private water supply near the right-of-way. The contact person at GMP is Jarod Wilcox, (888) 835-4672. Further information may also be obtained from Plant Industry Division, Vermont Agency of Agriculture, 116 State Street, Montpelier, Vermont 05620-2901, telephone (802) 828-5667.

Operations will commence on or about June 3, 2024 using one or more of the following herbicides: Garlon 4 Ultra, Escort XP, Polaris & KreniteS

Maintenance will be conducted on the following transmission lines in the following towns:

**LINES:** SILVER LAKE - ROCHESTER **TOWN(S):** SALISBURY, GOSHEN



Green Mountain Power  
2152 Post Rd Rutland, VT 05701

## Solar eclipse traffic ends with two minor accidents

VERGENNES — Despite the heavy traffic during the day of the eclipse, Vergennes police reported only two minor vehicle accidents within city limits on April 8, and only one on Main Street, which is also Route 22A through the middle of the city.

Police responded to that accident at the intersection of Main and South Water streets, but they reported no injuries and only minor damage to the vehicles involved. Police also took a phone report of a fender-bender at the intersection of South Water and School streets.

Between April 8 and 14, Vergennes police went out on nine patrols in cruisers and two on foot, conducted eight traffic stops, processed two pre-employment fingerprint requests, responded to one false alarm, and:

On April 8, discussed with one half of a separated couple her difficulty in retrieving children's belongings from the other half's apartment, but concluded there was no real issue and she could do so the next day.

On April 9:  
• Directed traffic around a disabled vehicle on West Main Street.

### STATE OF VERMONT SUPERIOR COURT PROBATE DIVISION ADDISON UNIT DOCKET NO.: 24-PR-01620 IN RE ESTATE OF: FRANK L. CURTIS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
To the Creditors of: Frank L. Curtis, late of Hancock.

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 it is not presented within the four (4) month period.  
Dated: 04/12/24

Jennifer Wagner, Esq.  
62 Court Street, Unit 2  
Middlebury, VT 05753  
(802) 388-4026  
[jennifer@wagnerlawvt.com](mailto:jennifer@wagnerlawvt.com)

Publication: Addison Independent  
Publication Date: 4/18/24  
Address of Probate Court:  
7 Mahady Court  
Middlebury, VT 05753

## Vergennes Police Log

• Took a report of a fender-bender in the Shaw's Supermarket parking lot.

• Backed up Vermont State Police while they processed two drunken driving suspects, one at the intersection of Route 7 and New Haven Road, the other on Panton Road in Panton.

On April 10:  
• Went to a First Street address on behalf of Burlington police to look for a vehicle, but it wasn't there.

• Heard from a Commodore Drive resident that two unknown cars had been parked on the road for two hours; the resident soon called back to report they'd moved on.

On April 11, stood by while Addison Housing Works, the landlord, moved items temporarily out of the office at the Hillside Drive apartment complex due to a disgruntled tenant.

On April 12:  
• Directed traffic on Monkton Road near Main Street while city workers removed a large tree branch that had fallen onto the road during high winds.

• Went to West Main Street to check on the welfare of a grieving elderly man and stayed there until family members arrived.

• Checked on the welfare of a Green Street resident, who police said was eventually transported to receive mental health counseling.

On April 14, looked unsuccessfully for a man who had knocked on the door of a Panton Road residence and who the homeowners said acted oddly.

### LAKEVIEW CEMETERY ASSOCIATION NOTICE

The Lakeview Cemetery Association will hold their annual cemetery meeting on Tuesday, May 21, at 7 p.m., at the West Addison Community House.

### ADDY INDY WEBSITE [addisonindependent.com](http://addisonindependent.com)

### NOTICE TOWN OF CORNWALL INVITATION TO BID ON LAWN CARE 2024

Sealed bids for spring cleanup, mowing and trimming of various municipal parks, cemeteries, grounds, and ballfield for the Town of Cornwall during the 2024 season will be accepted until 5 PM on Tuesday, May 7, 2024 at the Cornwall Town Clerk's office, 2629 Route 30, Cornwall, VT 05753. Bids should be submitted with a price on a per mowing/trimming basis for each location. Frequency will be weekly or as needed. Must complete a short form contract and provide proof of insurance. Bids will be opened at the Selectboard Meeting on Tuesday, May 7, 2024. A list of mowing locations is available.

For further information and to obtain the locations listing, please contact Laura Fetterolf, Town Clerk at 802-462-2775 or at [townclerk@cornwallvt.com](mailto:townclerk@cornwallvt.com).

### PROPOSED STATE RULES

By law, public notice of proposed rules must be given by publication in newspapers of record. The purpose of these notices is to give the public a chance to respond to the proposals. The public notices for administrative rules are now also available online at <https://secure.vermont.gov/SOS/rules/>. The law requires an agency to hold a public hearing on a proposed rule, if requested to do so in writing by 25 persons or an association having at least 25 members.

To make special arrangements for individuals with disabilities or special needs please call or write the contact person listed below as soon as possible.

To obtain further information concerning any scheduled hearing(s), obtain copies of proposed rule(s) or submit comments regarding proposed rule(s), please call or write the contact person listed below. You may also submit comments in writing to the Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules, State House, Montpelier, Vermont 05602 (802-828-2231).

### Eligibility Criteria for Temporary Housing Assistance.

Vermont Proposed Rule: 24-E04  
**AGENCY:** Agency of Human Services, Department for Children and Families  
**CONCISE SUMMARY:** This emergency rule maintains categorical eligibility for families with children under 18 years of age or who are 18 or 19 years of age and attending school as adopted under Secretary of State emergency rule filing number 23-E11. This rule also maintains the language in rule 2650.1 authorizing the Department to withhold payment from motels for lodging licensing violations, along with the updates to the basic needs standard chart in rule 2652.4 and the methodology for calculating the 30 percent income contribution in rule 2652.4.  
**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT:** Heidi Moreau, Agency of Human Services, Department for Children and Families 280 State Drive, NOB 1 North, Waterbury, VT 05671 Tel: 802-595-9639 Email: [heidi.moreau@vermont.gov](mailto:heidi.moreau@vermont.gov) URL: <https://dcf.vermont.gov/esd/laws-rules/current>.  
**FOR COPIES:** Amanda Beliveau, Agency of Human Services, Department for Children and Families 280 State Drive, HC 1 South, Waterbury, VT 05671 Tel: 802-241-0641 Email: [amanda.beliveau@vermont.gov](mailto:amanda.beliveau@vermont.gov).

### Emergency Housing Transition Benefit.

Vermont Proposed Rule: 24-E05  
**AGENCY:** Agency of Human Services, Department for Children and Families  
**CONCISE SUMMARY:** Households eligible for the Emergency Housing Transition Benefit; the Department for Children and Families; motels/hotels serving General Assistance clients; and shelters and organizations serving unhoused populations.  
**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT:** Heidi Moreau, Agency of Human Services, Department for Children and Families 280 State Drive, NOB 1 North, Waterbury, VT 05671 Tel: 802-595-9639 Email: [heidi.moreau@vermont.gov](mailto:heidi.moreau@vermont.gov) URL: <https://dcf.vermont.gov/esd/laws-rules/current>.  
**FOR COPIES:** Amanda Beliveau, Agency of Human Services, Department for Children and Families 280 State Drive, HC 1 South, Waterbury, VT 05671 Tel: 802-241-0641 Email: [amanda.beliveau@vermont.gov](mailto:amanda.beliveau@vermont.gov).

# Middlebury man dies in Weybridge crash

ADDISON COUNTY — A Middlebury man was killed Saturday afternoon when the car he was driving left a rain-slickened road in Weybridge and struck a tree.

## Vt. State Police Log

Vermont State Police report that David K. Ricklefs, 53, was driving a 2013 Subaru Impreza northbound on Morgan Horse Farm Road at around 4:12 p.m. on April 12 when he lost control of the vehicle between the Morgan Horse Farm and the Rattlin' Bridge, crossed the road and slammed into a tree on the southbound shoulder of the road.

Ricklefs sustained critical injuries, and Middlebury Regional EMS rushed him to UVM Medical Center in Burlington, where he died.

The Vermont State Police Crash Reconstruction Team responded and assisted with investigating this incident. Middlebury police and the Weybridge Fire Department also assisted at the scene.

Anyone who may have information that could aid in this investigation is encouraged to contact the Vermont State Police, New Haven barracks, at 802-388-4919.

Elsewhere, a trooper noticed several moving vehicle violations on New Haven Road near the intersection of Route 7 in Vergennes on April 9 at around 5 p.m. They

identified the driver as Dylan Lussier, 23, of Bristol and observed indicators of impairment, so they screened Lussier for drunken driving. Police said they determined that he had been intoxicated while driving, and furthermore had a child in the backseat of the vehicle while under the influence.

Police took Lussier to the New Haven state police barracks for processing, where he was later released to a sober adult with a citation to appear in Addison County Superior Court, Criminal Division, to answer charges of driving under the influence and reckless endangerment. The officer also issued Lussier traffic tickets that carry a total of \$706 in fines and five points on his insurance. The tickets were for driving an unregistered vehicle, driving without insurance, following too closely and driving with an open container of marijuana.

State police also cited two others recently for driving under the influence.

The first was also on April 9, when troopers responded a little before 8 p.m. to Pantown Road in Pantown for a report of a stolen vehicle. Police located the vehicle and identified the driver as Nathan M. Redmond, 39, of Pantown. Police cited Redmond for DUI, third offense, and for driving a motor vehicle without the owner's

consent. Police also discovered crack cocaine on Redmond's person and cited him for possession of cocaine, as well.

The other drunken driving case originated about a quarter past midnight on April 13, when troopers responded to a call about a suspicious truck off the roadway in front of 341 Plank Road in Ferrisburgh. Police ended up citing

the driver, identified as Grady Devoid, 22, of Waltham, for DUI.

State police reported one other recent Addison County incident. At 8:45 a.m. on April 11, a trooper stopped a motor vehicle on Route 7 in Ferrisburgh after observing a traffic infraction. The officer ended up citing Brian K. Larrow, 35, of Brandon for driving with a criminally suspended license.

### TOWN OF MIDDLEBURY SELECTBOARD MEETING ROOM 116 – LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM TOWN OFFICES – 77 MAIN STREET TUESDAY, APRIL 23, 2024 - 7:00 P.M.

Also available via Zoom:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86409325327>  
By Phone: +1 646-558-8656 (not toll-free)  
Webinar ID: 864 0932 5327

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

#### AGENDA

- 7:00 1. \*\*Call to Order
- 2. \*Approval of Agenda
- 3. \*Approval of Consent Agenda
  - 3a. Approval of Minutes of the April 9, 2024 Regular Selectboard Meeting
  - 3b. Acceptance of Selectboard Subcommittee Meeting Minutes
  - 3c. Approval of Renewal Applications for 1st, 2nd & 3rd Class Liquor Licenses, Outside Consumption Permits and Entertainment Permits
  - 3d. Approval for First- and Third-Class Hotel Licenses and Outside Consumption Permit by New Owners of Waybury Inn
  - 3e. Approval of Halladay Road Culvert Grant Agreement with State of Vermont Agency of Transportation
  - 3f. Consent Agenda Placeholder
  - 3g. Town Manager's Report
- 4. \*Citizen Comments [Opportunity to raise or address issues not otherwise included on this agenda]
- 5. \*Appointments to Boards, Committees, Commissions & Official Positions
- 7:05 6. \*Emmalee Cherington & Bill Kernan, Department of Public Works - with updates & recommendations from the April 16, 2024 Infrastructure Committee Meeting
  - 6a. \*Recommendation on Preferred Alternative for Route 7-Exchange Street-Happy Valley Road Intersection Improvements
  - 6b. \*Recommendation on Mary and Luis Slosar's request for a connection to Middlebury's system in Weybridge on Sheep Farm Road
  - 6c. \*Discussion of Water System Repairs & Capital Improvements
  - 6d. \*Brief review of project updates
- 7:20 7. \*\*Tom Hanley, Emergency Management Director, regarding adoption of the 2024 Emergency Management Plan
- 7:50 8. \*\*Discussion of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (FERC's) Notice of Preliminary Permit Application of New England Hydropower Company, LLC for a Hydroelectric Facility on the north side of Middlebury Falls and consideration of submitting a Motion to Intervene
- 8:00 9. \*\*Recommendation from Personnel Committee Meeting of April 22, 2024 regarding Police Department Staffing
- 8:10 10. \*\*Agenda Placeholder
- 8:15 11. \*\*Agenda Placeholder
- 8:20 12. \* Approval of Check Warrants
- 13. \*\*Board Member Concerns
- 14. \*Executive Session - Anticipated - Contracts
- 15. \*\*Action on Matters Discussed in Executive Session
- 8:40 16. \*Adjourn

### STATE OF VERMONT

#### SUPERIOR COURT CIVIL DIVISION ADDISON UNIT DOCKET NO: 21-CV-02595

ROCKET MORTGAGE, LLC F/K/A QUICKEN LOANS, LLC F/K/A QUICKEN LOANS INC.  
PLAINTIFF  
VS.

TREVOR MATTON AND OCCUPANTS RESIDING AT 34 MIDDLEBROOK ROAD, FERRISBURGH, VT 05456

DEFENDANT(S)

#### NOTICE OF SALE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Trevor Matton, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as Mortgagee, as nominee for North Country Federal Credit Union, dated September 5, 2017, and recorded in Book 159, at Page 160, of the Town of Ferrisburgh Land Records, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder by Assignment of Mortgage recorded in Book 163, Page 399, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction at May 8, 2024 at 11:00 AM at 34 Middlebrook 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 Trevor Matton by Warranty Deed of Elaine M. Charillo and Gary J. Santimoro dated September 5, 2017 and recorded September 8, 2019 in Book 159, at Page 158 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.

Rocket Mortgage, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans Inc.

Sheldon M. Katz

Sheldon M. Katz  
BROCK & SCOTT, PLLC  
23 Messenger Street, 2nd Floor  
Plainville, MA 02762  
Sheldon.Katz@brockandscott.com

### TOWN OF CORNWALL

**The Town of Cornwall is looking for a Scope of Work Proposal.**

The Town of Cornwall is looking to upgrade the Town Maintenance garage. The existing garage needs to be modified to allow additional and larger equipment to be housed inside. There also is the need for additional space for maintenance work inside. The existing space is now quite limited for the above-mentioned needs.

Objective: The Town is considering adding on 2 work bays. We are also looking at bringing the restroom and break room up to standards. At this time, we will also need to address the current septic layout to accommodate expansion.

The work stated above is open for suggestions and advice or other ideas. We want to discuss proposals and ideas to decide whether or not this project is feasible or if other options need to be looked at.

The project implementation timeline is proposed for fiscal 2025/2026. All interested parties, please respond to:

Town of Cornwall  
2629 Rt. 30 • Cornwall, VT 05753  
or 802-989-0514 or 802-989-5776

### ADDISON NORTHWEST SCHOOL DISTRICT WARNING PUBLIC INFORMATION HEARING APRIL 29, 2024

The legal voters of the Addison Northwest School District are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Vergennes Union Middle/High School in Vergennes, VT on Monday, April 29, 2024 at 6:00 PM, for a Public Information meeting to discuss Australian Ballot article warned for vote on Tuesday, April 30, 2024.

Dated this 8th day of April, 2024.  
Margaret Carrera-Bly, District Clerk  
John Stroup, Chair of Board of Directors  
Addison Northwest School District

### WARNING APRIL 30, 2024

The legal voters of the Addison Northwest School District, consisting of the towns of Addison, Ferrisburgh, Pantown, Vergennes, and Waltham, are hereby notified and warned to meet at the following polling places on April 30, 2024, to vote by Australian ballot on the following article of business:

Municipality	Polling Hours	Location
Addison	7:00 A.M. - 7:00 P.M.	Addison Former School building
Ferrisburgh	7:00 A.M. - 7:00 P.M.	Ferrisburgh Town Office
Pantown	7:00 A.M. - 7:00 P.M.	Pantown Town Hall
Vergennes	9:00 A.M. - 7:00 P.M.	Vergennes Fire Station
Waltham	10:00 A.M. - 7:00 P.M.	Waltham Town Hall

Article 1: Shall the voters of the Addison Northwest School District approve the Board of School Directors to expend **\$27,250,000** which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year?

Dated this 8th day of April, 2024.  
Margaret Carrera-Bly, District Clerk  
John Stroup, Chair of Board of Directors  
Addison Northwest School District

### UNITED STATES OF AMERICA FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

New England Hydropower Company, LLC Project No.15327-000

**NOTICE OF PRELIMINARY PERMIT APPLICATION ACCEPTED FOR FILING AND SOLICITING COMMENTS, MOTIONS TO INTERVENE, AND COMPETING APPLICATIONS**

(March 26, 2024)

a. On October 11, 2023, New England Hydropower Company, LLC, filed an application for a preliminary permit, pursuant to section 4(f) of the Federal Power Act, proposing to study the feasibility of the Middlebury Falls Hydroelectric Project No. 15327 (project), to be located on Otter Creek in Addison County, Vermont. The sole purpose of a preliminary permit, if issued, is to grant the permit holder priority to file a license application during the permit term. A preliminary permit does not authorize the permit holder to perform any land-disturbing activities or otherwise enter upon lands or waters owned by others without the owners' express permission.

b. Project Description: The proposed project would consist of the following: (1) a new 12-foot-wide, 60-foot-long, and 6-foot-deep intake channel equipped with a 12-foot-wide, 6-foot-high sluice gate and 20-foot-wide, 20-foot long trashrack; (2) a new 30-foot-wide, 40-foot-long, 50-foot-tall powerhouse that would include a new 500-kilowatt Kaplan turbine-generator unit; (3) a new powerhouse access way; (4) a new transformer and a new 150-foot-long underground transmission line that connect the project to the electric distribution grid; and (5) appurtenant facilities. The project would use the natural flow of Otter Creek and would not include a dam or impoundment. The estimated annual generation of the project would be 3,100 megawatt-hours.

c. Applicant Contact: Mr. Michael Kerr, New England Hydropower Company, LLC, 100 Cummings Center Drive, Suite 451C, Beverly, MA 01915; telephone at (978) 360-2547; email at michael@nehypower.com.

d. FERC Contact: Arash Barsari, Project Coordinator, Great Lakes Branch, Division of Hydropower Licensing; telephone at (202) 502-6207; email at Arash.JalaliBarsari@ferc.gov.

e. The preliminary permit application has been accepted for filing.

f. Deadline for filing comments, motions to intervene, competing applications (without notices of intent), or notices of intent to file competing applications: 60 days from the issuance of this notice, **May 25, 2024**.

Competing applications and notices of intent must meet the requirements of 18 C.F.R. § 4.36.

The Commission strongly encourages electronic filing. Please file comments, motions to intervene, notices of intent, and competing applications using the Commission's eFiling system at <https://ferconline.ferc.gov/FEROnline.aspx>. Commenters can submit brief comments up to 6,000 characters, without prior registration, using the eComment system at <https://ferconline.ferc.gov/QuickComment.aspx>. You must include your name and contact information at the end of your comments. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at [FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov), (866) 208-3676 (toll free), or (202) 502-8659 (TTY). In lieu of electronic filing, you may submit a paper copy. Submissions sent via the U.S. Postal Service must be addressed to: Debbie-Anne A. Reese, Acting Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426. Submissions sent via any other carrier must be addressed to: Debbie-Anne A. Reese, Acting Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 12225 Wilkins Avenue, Rockville, Maryland 20852. The first page of any filing should include docket number P-15327-000.

g. The Commission's Office of Public Participation (OPP) supports meaningful public engagement and participation in Commission proceedings. OPP can help members of the public, including landowners, environmental justice communities, Tribal members, and others, access publicly available information and navigate Commission processes. For public inquiries and assistance with filings such as interventions, comments, or requests for rehearing, the public is encouraged to contact OPP at (202) 502-6595 or [OPP@ferc.gov](mailto:OPP@ferc.gov).

h. More information about this project, including a copy of the application, can be viewed on the Commission's website (<http://www.ferc.gov>) using the "eLibrary" link. Enter the docket number (P-15327) in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support.

Debbie-Anne A. Reese,  
Acting Secretary

### TOWN OF MIDDLEBURY, VERMONT WARNING SPECIAL TOWN MEETING MAY 6 AND MAY 7, 2024

The legal voters of the Town of Middlebury, in the County of Addison, the State of Vermont are hereby warned and notified to meet at the Large Conference Room, Middlebury Town Offices, 77 Main Street in Middlebury, with access via videoconference also available (see below), on Monday, May 6, 2024 at 7:00 P.M. for an informational meeting on Article 1; and on Tuesday, May 7, 2024 from 7:00 A.M. through 7:00 P.M. at the Town Offices, 77 Main Street in Middlebury, to vote by Australian ballot on Article 1 as provided by the Middlebury Town Charter.

**Article 1** Shall general obligation bonds or notes of the Town of Middlebury in an amount not to exceed Sixteen Million Nine Hundred Ninety-Five Thousand Dollars (\$16,995,000), subject to an anticipated reduction of Eight Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$8,500,000) from available alternate sources of funding (including fundraising, grants, and energy efficiency rebates), and the anticipated use of local option tax receipts to make annual bond payments in an estimated amount of Four Million Dollars (\$4,000,000), be issued for the purpose of renovating and expanding the Ilsley Public Library at an estimated cost of Sixteen Million Nine Hundred Ninety-Five Thousand Dollars (\$16,995,000)?


The legal voters of the Town of Middlebury are further notified that voter qualification, registration and absentee voting shall be as provided in Chapters 43 and 51 of Title 17, Vermont Statutes Annotated.

Dated at Middlebury, Vermont this 26th day of March 2024.  
Brian Carpenter, Chair    Andy Hooper, Vice Chair    Heather Seeley  
Farhad Khan                    Dan Brown                    Isabel Gogarty  
Fred Dunnington

**MIDDLEBURY SELECTBOARD**

To view and participate in the informational meeting on Article 1 on Monday, May 6, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom Videoconferencing:  
Zoom URL: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86173899263>  
By phone: 1 646 558 8656  
Webinar ID: 861 7389 9263

For view-only access: For those wishing to watch but not participate, the hearing will be livestreamed to MCTV's YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/user/MCTV Vermont> and also broadcast live on Comcast Channel 1071.



### OTTER VALLEY UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

#### OTTER VALLEY UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT APRIL 23, 2024 AT 6:00 P.M.

The legal voters of the Otter Valley Unified Union School District (Unified Union District) comprising the voters of the Towns of Brandon, Goshen, Leicester, Pittsford, Sudbury and Whiting are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Otter Valley Union High School in the auditorium (virtual option available - Meeting link and dial in information can be found on the calendar on the RNESU website: <http://www.mesu.org>) on April 23, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. to conduct the following business:

Article 1: To hear the Board of School Directors of the Unified Union District present its estimate of expenses for the ensuing year.

The meeting shall then be recessed to Tuesday, April 30, 2024 for the purpose of voting the following article at the usual polling places in the member districts by Australian ballot, said ballots being brought to the Brandon American Legion Post #55 following the closing of the polls in the member districts where they will be commingled and counted by the Board of Civil Authority of the constituent districts.


**The Town polls will be opened as follows:**

Town of Brandon	7:00 AM - 7:00 PM	Brandon American Legion Post #55
Town of Goshen	9:00 AM - 7:00 PM	Goshen Town Hall
Town of Leicester	10:00 AM - 7:00 PM	Leicester Town Office
Town of Pittsford	7:00 AM - 7:00 PM	Pittsford Town Office
Town of Sudbury	10:00 AM - 7:00 PM	Sudbury Town Hall
Town of Whiting	7:00 AM - 7:00 PM	Whiting Town Hall

Article 2: Shall the voters of the school district approve the school board to expend Twenty-Six Million, Nine Hundred and Seventy-Nine Thousand and Seventy-Two (\$26,979,072) which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year?

Dated at Brandon, Vermont  
April 4, 2024

To learn more about the budget scan the qr code below or visit:  
<https://www.mesu.org/page/budget>



Laurie Bertrand  
Laurie Bertrand, Chair  
Otter Valley Unified Union School  
District No. U053

# Midd police break-up large college party

MIDDLEBURY — Middlebury police responded to reports of a “large college party” at the intersection of Foote Street and Route 7 South at around 1 a.m. on Sunday, April 14. Police said they received reports of “dozens” of students standing in the roadway.

Police reported no arrests or citations following their investigation of the party.

In other action last week, Middlebury police:

- Referred to the dog warden a complaint about a dog barking in the Skyline Lane area on April 8.

- Received a report about a wallet allegedly being stolen from a Washington Street location on April 8.

- Assisted a Jackson Lane resident involved a dispute with a neighbor on April 8.

- On April 8, took a drunken man into protective custody and took him to Porter Hospital for evaluation.

- Provided a courtesy ride to a person stranded at Porter Medical Center on April 9.

- Received a complaint about a street performer playing an electric guitar at the intersection of Main Street and Merchants Row during the afternoon of April 9.

- Investigated a report of a man allegedly exhibiting behavior that was making employees of a Seymour Street business feel uncomfortable on April 9.

- Assisted Middlebury Union High School officials with a student-related problem on campus on April 9.

- Received a report about a juvenile allegedly driving unsafely on Charles Avenue on April 9.

- Confiscated a vape pen from an MUHS student on April 9.

- Searched in vain for a man who had reportedly been yelling at people while throwing things on Washington Street on April 9.

- Assisted a local resident with an identity theft case on April 9.

- Received a report of protestors allegedly causing a disturbance at

The Centre shopping complex on April 10. Responding officers said the protestors had left upon their arrival.

- Investigated reports of people sleeping and drinking alcohol on Memorial Baptist Church property on April 10.

- Assisted a local person who had received unwanted text messages on April 10.

- Responded to a domestic disturbance at an East Middlebury residence on April 10.

- Cited Henry M. Babcock, 58, of Middlebury for

driving under the influence, following a traffic stop on Monarch Court on April 11. Police said they measured Babcock’s blood-alcohol content at 0.128%; the legal limit for driving is 0.08%.

- Helped Middlebury Regional EMS with a man who had been under the influence in the Merchants Row area on April 11.

- Assisted a local resident who had received an unwanted phone call on April 12.

- Spoke with a local resident who had possibly been scammed on April 12.

- Responded, with Vermont State Police, to a single-vehicle crash on Morgan Horse Farm Road in Weybridge on April 12. Troopers report that David K. Ricklefs, 53, of Middlebury died from injuries sustained in the crash.

- Assisted a Seymour Street business with a loitering issue on April 12.

- Responded to a report of a man experiencing a mental health crisis in the Main Street area on April 12.

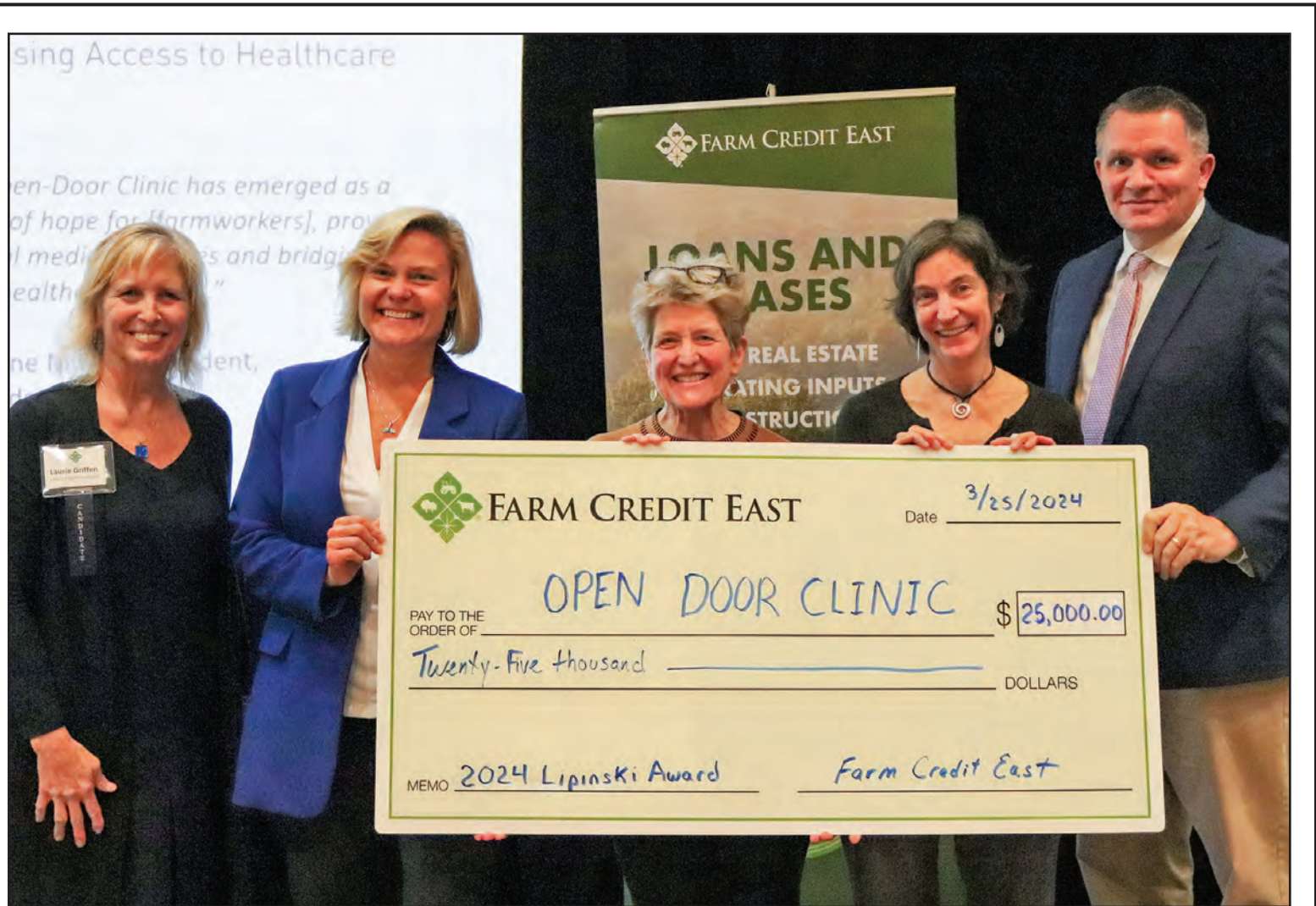
- Responded along with MREMS to a report of a man detoxing in the Monarch Court area on April 12. Police said the rescue squad took the man to Porter Hospital.

- Separated parties involved in a verbal dispute on the town green during the morning of April 12.

- Assisted a Washington Street business that had complaint about an internet scam on April 12.

- Investigated a report of a suspicious vehicle parked in

## Middlebury Police Log



### A big check of support

Open Door Clinic, based in Middlebury, was a recipient of a 2024 Lipinski Rural Initiatives Award. Open Door Clinic will use its \$25,000 award to support its clinics, including necessary supplies for managing chronic conditions and home monitoring. Pictured left to right are Farm Credit East Board Chair Laurie Griffen, CoBank Executive Vice President Brenda Frank, Open Door Clinic Executive Director Heidi Sulis, Program and Clinical Director Julia Doucet, and Farm Credit East CEO Mike Reynolds.

Photo courtesy of Heidi Sulis

Printer’s Alley on April 12.

- Investigated a report of horses loose on Lower Plains Road on April 13. Police said the horses were rounded up and returned to their owners.

- Were informed that someone had broken into an unlocked vehicle parked off Case Street on April 13.

- Assisted a South Ridge Drive resident with a tax-fraud incident on April 13.

- Continued their investigation on April 13 into the recent theft of a vehicle that had been parked off East Main Street.

- Reunited a lost dog with its local owner on April 13.

- Helped a driver experiencing

car trouble at the intersection of Court Street and Creek Road on April 13

- Investigated a report of someone taking a vehicle from the South Ridge Drive area without the owner’s permission on April 14.

- Responded to a reported family disturbance at a Halladay Road home on April 14.

- Responded to a noise complaint in the Main Street area on April 14.

- Conducted a welfare check on a local person on April 14 who had allegedly voiced thoughts of self-harm the previous night.

- Offered support to a houseless man who was battling the elements in the downtown area at around 1:30 a.m. on April 15.

## Leicester

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

### NEWS

LEICESTER — Town Clerk Julie Delphia reminds dog owners of the need to register dogs. Cost information is available on the town website. To avoid penalties and fees, be sure to register your dog(s) before the dog census is scheduled.

- Responded to a reported family disturbance at a Halladay Road home on April 14.

- Responded to a noise complaint in the Main Street area on April 14.

- Conducted a welfare check on a local person on April 14 who had allegedly voiced thoughts of self-harm the previous night.

- Offered support to a houseless man who was battling the elements in the downtown area at around 1:30 a.m. on April 15.

bags can be left at the trailer at the Town Shed that morning. Volunteers are eligible to pick up a free Leicester grocery bag, as well as a choice of Leicester cap or visor.

The state of Vermont is attempting to achieve a Guinness World Book record by gathering at least 5,000 pledges to help clean up trash that weekend. You can sign up at the Town Office to be part of the effort. For more information, or to volunteer to clean a particular road segment, contact Diane Benware at 247-3786.



**\$30 off**

a 4 tire changeover service (\$70 price after coupon)

Valid at Pete’s Middlebury location only Expires 5/31/24

**10% off**

any tire or automotive service purchase

Valid at Pete’s Middlebury location only Expires 5/31/24

**Free seasonal tire storage**

with tire changeover service (no purchase necessary)

Valid at Pete’s Middlebury location only Expires 5/31/24

Pete’s Tire Barns operates 6 service locations and a retread manufacturing facility in VT. We employ more than 75 Vermonters. **Still independently owned and operated.**



Pete’s goal is to provide the best overall tire products and services to the New England market.

Green Initiatives continue to be a high priority at Pete’s Tire Barns, including a manufacturing facility that produces truck retreads with solar power.

FRIENDLY, LOCAL SERVICE



**Enter to win a set of (4) Bridgestone or Firestone tires (with installation) a value of up to \$1,200.**

No purchase necessary to enter.

No cash value substitute.

Offer must be redeemed by 12/31/24.



28 Willow Dr., Middlebury, VT 05753  
Phone: (802) 388-4053

# ARTS + LEISURE

The Addison Independent

April 18, 2024



*The Heath Quartet, from left, Sara Wolstenholme, Christopher Murray, Juliette Roos and Gary Pomeroy, will perform a free concert of classical music at the Mahaney Arts Center on Sunday, April 28, at 2 p.m., which will also be streamed.*

PHOTO / KAUPU KIKKAS

## TUNE INTO SPRING WITH A FREE CONCERT IN MIDDLEBURY BY THE THE HEATH QUARTET

**S**pringtime can get going a little too fast — the sun's up at 6:05 a.m.; and days are busy with work, school, garden prep, sugaring, fruit tree spray schedules; and then there's cleaning out that closet you've been stuffing things in all winter... phew! Have you stopped to smell that new daffodil yet?

BY **ELSIE**

**LYNN PARINI**

If you need help slowing down for a moment, there is a

perfect opportunity coming up at the Mahaney Arts Center on Sunday, April 28, when the British chamber ensemble the Heath Quartet will perform a free concert for the community.

"This month's live Heath Quartet concert will

be their 11th at Middlebury, with the addition of three streamed encore performances during the pandemic," said Performing Arts Series Director Allison Coyne Carroll. "The Heath first appeared on the Middlebury Performing Arts Series on April 9, 2014 — one of only four performances on their U.S. debut tour and only three short days before their Carnegie Hall debut."

When Carroll assumed the directorship of the series in 2015-2016 from predecessor Paul Nelson, she began planning a longer residency for the Heath based on popular demand. The official quartet-in-residence plan came to fruition in January 2016.

"They stayed in Middlebury (all together in a

local four-bedroom home!) for the college's month-long Winter Term. During this time, the Heath Quartet:

- performed all six of Béla Bartók's string quartets in two concerts.
- presented a mixed repertoire concert.
- read through new compositions by five Middlebury College students.
- offered five engaging educational recitals at local schools and organizations, reaching close to 200 preschool through sixth-grade students.
- presented two lively pop-up concerts in the college dining halls, and one at the college's Davis Family Library.
- performed in the Middlebury College Orchestra for their Beethoven concert.

SEE QUARTET ON PAGE 2

## QUARTET

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

- offered 15 private lessons for college and Middlebury Community Music Center students.
- coached

two student ensembles and three orchestra sectionals.

- dined with students in Proctor Dining Hall.
- gave 2 Literary Journalism student interviews.
- received nine social invites (that I know of) from faculty, staff, or patrons.
- almost let loose 10 goats while visiting Twig Farm."

Yep, you read that correctly.... "Almost let loose 10 goats while visiting Twig Farm." Now that's a real Vermont experience.

"Middlebury has a special place in our hearts; as the place we've visited the most in the USA it feels like our American 'home from home,'" said Christopher Murray, the Heath Quartet cellist. "Since our very first visit to the college in 2014 we've always been made so welcome and the concerts feel more like we're playing to our family and friends than to the public."

The Heath Quartet was invited back to Middlebury to help celebrate the Performing Arts Series 100th anniversary season in 2019-2020, which coincided with the 250th birthday of composer Ludwig van Beethoven.

It was an "optimum opportunity for the quartet to perform all 18 of Beethoven's string quartets," Carroll explained. But long story short, "The pandemic prevented the quartet from returning in May 2020 for their final residency week. Instead, the quartet generously edited some personal videos they had taken from their previous Middlebury performances, and Heath@Home was born: two streamed, encore performances with quartet members live in the chat to answer patron questions."

The quartet will return once again for a live performance on April 28, supported by the generous Sunderman Family Concert Fund, which is celebrating its 20th year of offering free concerts for the community.

"F. William (Bill) Sunderman Jr. was a visiting scholar in chemistry and biochemistry at Middlebury College, and an accomplished violist," Carroll said, explaining the history of this generous fund. "He reached out to the series wanting to fund a string quartet concert — dedicated to his beloved wife Carolyn who'd recently passed — that would be free to the campus and community. The first 'Sunderman



The Heath Quartet will perform a free concert of classical music at the Mahaney Arts Center on Sunday, April 28, at 2 p.m.

PHOTO / KAUPU KIKKAS

concert' was performed during our 2003-2004 season by the Muir String Quartet on Nov. 23, 2003. The event was such a rousing success, the Sunderman family created an endowed fund to ensure the series could continue to present this free string quartet concert to the community for years to come.

"Ensembles who have performed for our Sunderman concert have included the Castalian, Doric, Elias, Emerson, Heath, Muir, Tokyo and Takács string quartets to name but a few," Carroll added. "We're eternally grateful to the Sunderman family for this most generous and visionary gift, but also for our relationship with Bill's daughter and local violinist Emily Sunderman, whose role in establishing the Middlebury Community Music Center (MCMC) has allowed us to maintain a vital relationship with the MCMC over the years."

The Heath Quartet will perform at 2 p.m., in the Mahaney Arts Center's Robison Hall, in Middlebury. The program

will include works by Bach, Haydn, Henriette Bosmans and Erick Korngold.

"The Heath's impeccable Bach interpretations were once selected for a 'Performing Miracles' series by BBC Radio," Carroll explained.

"Then they'll play a work by Haydn, often acknowledged as the father of the string quartet. Next is a string quartet by the sometimes-forgotten Dutch composer Henriëtte Bosmans, who was forbidden to perform publicly in the 1930s and 1940s due to her Jewish heritage, and who supported herself with underground house

"THEY ARE NOT ONLY AN ENSEMBLE OF EXCEPTIONAL MUSICAL ABILITY AND TREMENDOUSLY THOUGHTFUL INTERPRETATION BUT ALSO A **QUARTET OF WONDERFULLY WARM INDIVIDUALS.**"

— Allison Coyne Carroll

concerts. Lastly, the Heath will play the third quartet by Eric Korngold, a Viennese-born child prodigy who became the 'John Williams' of early Hollywood."

"The concert hall at the Mahaney Arts Center is so well suited to string quartet music, with an amazing acoustic that inspires musicians to play at their highest — a bit like Wimbledon Centre Court does for tennis players!" Murray said. "We've had some wonderful experiences here, our January 2016 residency with a complete Bartok series being especially memorable. Of course, it's not just about the concerts, but being part of the wider musical life of Middlebury — visiting local schools, the Suzuki classes at Middlebury Community Music Center, performing on Vermont Public Radio (once disastrously snapping a cello string live on air!), as well as fascinating musicology classes and composition workshops with students at the college."

"The Heath Quartet is one of the most generous, gracious and flexible residency partners we've had in my 25 years with the series," Carroll said. "They are not only an ensemble of exceptional musical ability and tremendously thoughtful interpretation but also a quartet of wonderfully warm individuals who have built flourishing relationships on campus and in our community since their first Middlebury residency in April 2014."

The concert on April 28 is free and open to all. No tickets are required. The concert will also be streamed for all to enjoy.

For more info about the concert visit [www.middlebury.edu/events/event/heath-quartet-3](http://www.middlebury.edu/events/event/heath-quartet-3). Learn more about the artists at [heathquartet.com](http://heathquartet.com). To find the live stream of the April 28 concert visit [go.middlebury.edu/Heath24stream](http://go.middlebury.edu/Heath24stream), there will be a 48-hour window for playback. For additional information, call 802-443-MIDD (6433).

"MIDDLEBURY HAS A SPECIAL PLACE IN OUR HEARTS."

— Christopher Murray

# Get ready to laugh — Cindy Pierce brings solo show to Middlebury

**L**acclaimed author, comic storyteller, innkeeper, and University of New Hampshire alum Cindy Pierce will perform at Town Hall Theater in Middlebury on Saturday, April 27, at 7 p.m. — her first stop on a tour performing in four Vermont communities, April through June.

Pierce's latest solo show is called "Keeping It Inn" — an intimate, rousing portrayal of her functioning, dysfunctional family. Pierce wrote, produced, and stars in the show. She plays the role of her mother, Nancy Pierce through six decades of raising seven kids and running an inn.

"My parents, Nancy and Reg, left suburban Connecticut to run the ramshackle Pierce's Inn in Etna, New Hampshire for 31 years," Pierce explained. "I created this show through the lens of my mom, who was a wholly unique, no-nonsense, and memorable character, even when suffering from dementia later in her life. With her quick wit and outspoken nature, my mom navigated life with flare and unrelenting optimism, bucking the conventional life expected of her as a woman born in the 1920s."

Much of the show is relatable to all audience members with a major theme of the play being: How do we process difficult emotions and what happens if we don't?

Critics call the show "funny, absorbing, and honest." Developed and directed by Traci Mariano, "Keeping It Inn" is the latest project from Pierce, a successful writer, performer, educator, and mother of three who runs Pierce's Inn (in Etna, N.H.) with her husband, Bruce.

A New Hampshire native, Pierce has performed her solo shows and presented



Cindy Pierce will perform her new solo show "Keeping It Inn" around Vermont this spring. The show hits the Town Hall Theater stage in Middlebury on Saturday, April 27, at 7 p.m.

COURTESY PHOTOS

to audiences in Vermont since 2005. Her solo show "Finding the Doorbell" launched a successful career as a comic storyteller, public speaker, and author of three books about sexuality, relationships, and young people navigating social media. Says former UNH classmate, actor, and director Mike O'Malley, "Cindy Pierce is, was, and will continue to be the funniest woman I have ever met. She is a natural storyteller."

Can't make the Middlebury performance? Check out these other options around the state:

Vermont Arts Center, Manchester

Friday, May 31, Saturday, June 1 and Sunday, June 2 — Main Street Landing, Burlington

Friday, June 7, Saturday, June 8 and Sunday, June 9 — Briggs Opera House, White River Junction

For more information about Cindy Pierce, visit [cindy-pierce.com](http://cindy-pierce.com). Tickets are \$33 (\$28 for students and seniors) in advance and are available at [townhalltheater.org](http://townhalltheater.org).

Saturday, May 11 — Southern



**MIDDLEBURY PERFORMING ARTS SERIES**  
WINTER/SPRING 2024 SEASON

Sunday, April 28 • 2:00 PM  
**Heath Quartet**  
Free event!  
Live and streaming

802-443-MIDD (6433) [go.middlebury.edu/pas](http://go.middlebury.edu/pas)

# ART ON EXHIBIT

## Celebrated Vermont artist exhibits at Tourterelle

Lincoln artist Janet Fredericks has brought her work off the mountain and away from her studio for an exhibit at Tourterelle this April and May. That's right, enjoy fine dining and fine art — a perfect pairing.

"Overview" opened on Sunday, April 13, and features an overview of the artist's exploratory work in a number of mediums and subject matter. Included in the exhibit are hand-stitched textile pieces, cyanotype prints, mono prints,

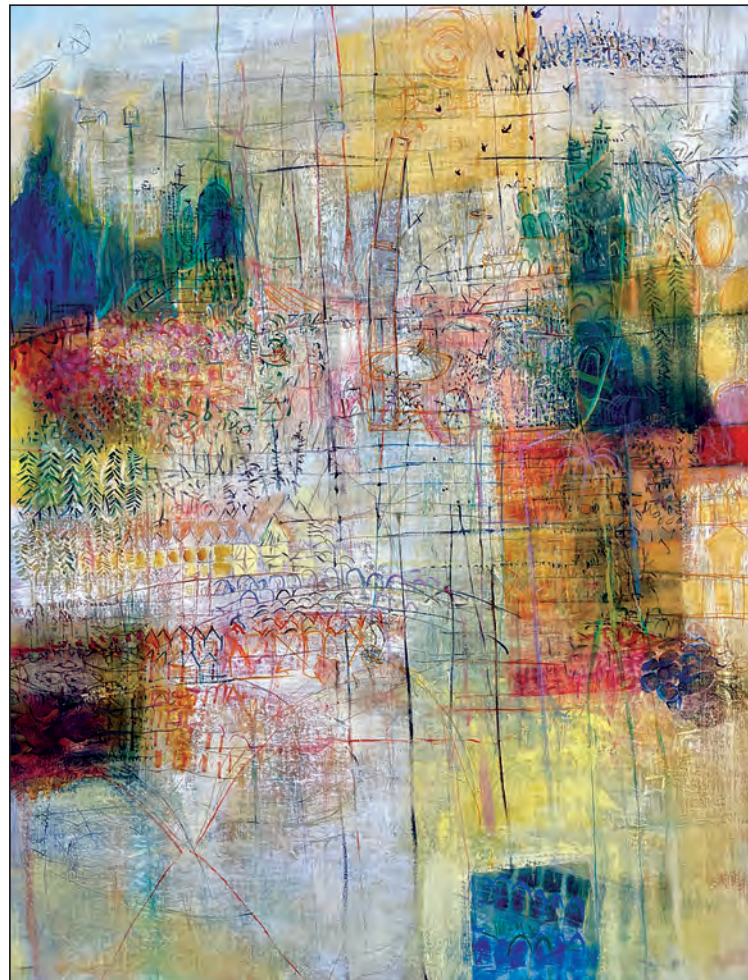
paintings, and drawings.

Fredericks' drawings and paintings are intended to give the sense of entering into the landscape rather than a surface perspective. This follows her lifelong interest in the seen and unseen worlds; spirit and matter.

Stop in to see Fredericks' artwork when Tourterelle is open: Wednesday through Saturday 5:30-9 p.m.

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT

[JANETFREDERICKSSTUDIO.COM](http://JANETFREDERICKSSTUDIO.COM) OR [TOURTERELLEVERMONT.COM](http://TOURTERELLEVERMONT.COM).



"Cities Unknown" (from Invisible series), acrylic on linen.



"Thalicturm and Hands" cyanotype print with embroidery. PHOTO / JACOB HANNAH



Eutropia (from Invisible series), acrylic on linen.



"Tulip Riot with Notes," drawing with watercolor, ink and graphite.

PHOTOS / JANET FREDERICKS

## Middlebury Community Players announces summer season auditions

The Middlebury Community Players is holding auditions for two plays, "Love/Sick" and "Steel Magnolias" to be presented this summer at the Vergennes Opera House. Auditions will be held on April 17 at Town Hall Theater, 68 South Pleasant Street, Middlebury and on April 18 at the Vergennes Opera House, 120 Main Street, Vergennes. Both auditions will begin at 7 p.m., with registration beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Auditions will consist of readings from

the scripts. There's no need to prepare anything, and you need only come one night. Callbacks, if necessary, will be scheduled after auditions.

"Love/Sick" will play from June June 20-23, and "Steel Magnolias" will play Aug. 15-18. All rehearsals will be held in Weybridge.

"Love/Sick" consists of nine scenes of contemporary love by John Cariani, the author of Almost, Maine. The cast can be anywhere from 4-18 actors, depending on doubling.

The scenes can accommodate a wide variety of types and ages.

"Steel Magnolias" has a cast of six women: Truvy, 40-ish; Annelle, 19; Claire, late 60s to early 70s; Shelby, 25-ish; M'Lynn, early 50s; and Ouiser, Late 60s to early 70s.

Interested, but unable to attend either audition? Email [info@middleburycommunityplayers.org](mailto:info@middleburycommunityplayers.org). For character descriptions and more details visit [middleburycommunityplayers.org](http://middleburycommunityplayers.org).

# ART ON EXHIBIT

## ART ON MAIN

25 Main Street, Bristol

For more info visit [artonmainvt.com](http://artonmainvt.com) or call 802-453-4032.

**"Community eclipse/Earth Day."** This exhibit will be on view April 5-27, with a community closing reception on the 27th from 5-7 p.m.

## BRANDON ARTISTS GUILD

7 Center Street, Brandon

For more info visit [brandonartistsguild.org](http://brandonartistsguild.org) or call 802-247-4956.

**"In the Path of Shade"** a celestial celebration that captures the awe-inspiring essence of a solar eclipse. On view March 1-April 28.

## DAVIS FAMILY LIBRARY

110 Storrs Avenue, Middlebury

For more info visit [middlebury.edu/library](http://middlebury.edu/library) or call 802-443-5494.

**"The Lesbian House (1972-1973): Photographs by Bee Ottinger, class of 1970."** Middlebury College Special Collections's new exhibition of photographs by alumna Bee Ottinger. On display in the atrium through April.

## EDGEWATER AT THE FALLS

1 Mill Street, Middlebury

Visit [edgewatergallery.com](http://edgewatergallery.com), call (802) 458-0098 or email [info@edgewatergallery-vt.com](mailto:info@edgewatergallery-vt.com) for more info.

**"Solitude."** Eight Edgewater artists have interpreted the theme of solitude in this first large group show of the year. The collections from each of the eight artists for "Solitude" will invoke a range of emotions from the viewer, perhaps helping the observer to better understand their definition of the word. Edgewater Gallery at the Falls will feature artists **Hannah Bureau, Ellen Granter, Jill Matthews, and Sasha Meyerowitz.** On view through April 30.

## EDGEWATER ON THE GREEN

6 Merchants Row, Middlebury

Visit [edgewatergallery.com](http://edgewatergallery.com), call (802) 989.7419 or email [info@edgewatergallery-vt.com](mailto:info@edgewatergallery-vt.com) for more info.

**"Introducing Bonnie Baird."** Baird's paintings are filled with an emerging fullness of heart. In her paintings, light infuses life into atmosphere, becoming the magic that conjures a personal memory. Her paintings simultaneously evoke a simple lament and heartfelt joy. On view through April.

**"Solitude."** Eight Edgewater artists have interpreted the theme of solitude in this first large group show of the year. Edgewater Gallery on the Green will feature artists **Kim Alemian, Bonnie Baird, Tracy Burtz and Kathleen Kolb.** On view through April 30.

SEE EXHIBITS ON PAGE 15



**ARIES:** March 21/April 20. You can get your spark back with some help from friends, Aries. You may have been struggling in one form or another, but others can provide the perspective needed.

**TAURUS:** April 21/May 21. Taurus, you are a dependable rock and that comes with a lot of responsibility. Sometimes you may feel overwhelmed, and in those instances feel free to delegate some tasks.

**GEMINI:** May 22/June 21. Too much joking around may strike a nerve of someone close to you, Gemini. Feel out every situation before you start communicating in such a laid back and jovial way.

**CANCER:** June 22/July 22. Cancer, like it or not, you have to stand by a promise or a commitment you made to someone, even if you no longer feel like doing so. Once it is finished, you can go your separate ways.

**LEO:** July 23/Aug. 23. Leo, if others have underestimated you or written you off in the past, you will have an opportunity to prove them wrong this week, even if you already know the truth.

**VIRGO:** Aug. 24/Sept. 22. Your keen eye for detail has you pointing out a mistake that may have cost someone a lot of money, Virgo. Your reward could be a promotion or another commendation.

**LIBRA:** Sept. 23/Oct. 23. Making room for your needs right now is challenging as others seem to require all of the attention, Libra. You will have a chance to balance the scales soon enough.

**SCORPIO:** Oct. 24/Nov. 22. Right now you may be reluctant to commit or comment on an issue that is affecting some in your circle, Scorpio. You can get involved once you dig further and do your own research.

**SAGITTARIUS:** Nov. 23/Dec. 21. Sagittarius, when you hang out with friends, you may be tempted to spend more than is in your budget at the moment. Set a limit, and perhaps leave your credit cards at home.

**CAPRICORN:** Dec. 22/Jan. 20. Capricorn, you are ready to move forward, but others in your orbit may be holding you back. Know when to cut loose and do things according to your bigger vision.

**AQUARIUS:** Jan. 21/Feb. 18. Thinking about all of the things in your life that may not be going to plan could have you feeling down, Aquarius. Flip the perspective and start focusing on the right things.

**PISCES:** Feb. 19/March 20. Pisces, you are known for being a dreamer, but right now you have to come down from the clouds and develop a solid plan of action. There will be time for fanciful ideas later.

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## FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

APRIL 19 — Ali Wong, actor (42)

APRIL 20 — Tito Puente, musician (d)

APRIL 21 — Charlotte Bronte, novelist (d)

APRIL 22 — Charles Mingus, jazz musician (d)

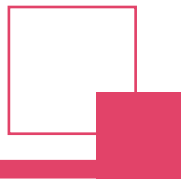
APRIL 23 — Dev Patel, actor (34)

APRIL 24 — Shirley MacLaine, actor (90)

APRIL 25 — Guglielmo Marconi, inventor of radio, Nobel laureate (d)

# CALENDAR

APRIL 18-27  
2024



## THURSDAY, APRIL 18

**ALUMNI TAKEOVER PANEL DISCUSSION IN MIDDLEBURY.** Thursday, April 18, 5-6 p.m., Dance Theater, Mahaney Arts Center, 72 Porter Field Rd. Panel discussion with seven dance alumni regarding their careers in artmaking beyond Middlebury. Free.

**MIDDLEBURY COMMUNITY PLAYERS AUDITIONS IN VERGENNES.** Thursday, April 18, 6:30 p.m., Vergennes Opera House, 120 Main St. Auditions for two plays, "Love/Sick" and "Steel Magnolias," to be presented this summer at the Vergennes Opera House. Auditions will consist of readings from the scripts. There's no need to prepare anything, and you need only come one night. Callbacks, if necessary, will be scheduled after auditions. "Love/Sick" will play from June 20-23, and "Steel Magnolias" will play Aug. 15-18.

**"BEYOND UTOPIA" ON SCREEN IN MIDDLEBURY.** Thursday, April 18, 7 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. Winner of the Audience Award for Documentary Feature at the 2023 Sundance Film Festival, "Beyond Utopia" is an astonishing and unforgettable film experience. In telling the incredible story of several families as they attempt to escape harsh oppression in North Korea, the film powerfully reveals a world most of us have never seen. An MNFF Selects series offering. Tickets \$14 advance/\$16 at the door. More info at townhalltheater.org

**"SHOULD WE GEOENGINEER THE PLANET IN RESPONSE TO CLIMATE**

**CHANGE?"** in Middlebury. Thursday, April 18, 7 p.m., Community Room, Ilsley Public Library, 75 Main St. Join Professor Tim Juvshik to discuss ethical questions about the costs, risks and benefits of geoengineering fixes to the climate change problem. This event is part of Vermont Public Philosophy Week. Visit publicphilosophyweek.org for the full listing of events.

**"I SAW THE TV GLOW" ON SCREEN IN MIDDLEBURY.** Thursday, April 18, 7-9 p.m., Dana Auditorium, 356 College St. An American horror-thriller film written and directed by Jane Schoenbrun. Staribng Justice Smith and Brigette Lundy-Paine, it tells the story of teenager Owen trying to make it through life in the suburbs when his classmate introduces him to a mysterious late-night TV show a vision of a supernatural world beneath their own. Owen's view of reality begins to crack. Free. More info at www.middlebury.edu/events/event/hirschfield-screening-i-saw-tv-glow.

**SAM KUHNS IN LINCOLN.** Thursday, April 18, 7:30 p.m., Lincoln Library. Kuhns is a native Vermont singer songwriter who is a graduate of Mount Abe. His heartfelt original tunes are informed by the people and places of his life in rural Vermont. He is a fine guitarist and canjo player (a banjo with a can for the body) who is a warm and engaging performer. Free. Part of the 5-Town Musical Library Tour.

**"AIRSWIMMING" ON STAGE IN MIDDLEBURY.** Thursday, April 18, 7:30-9 p.m., Hepburn Zoo, Hepburn Rd. Charlotte Jones's play follows Dora Kitson and Persephone Baker, two unlikely friends who are confined to

life in St. Dymphna's Hospital for the Criminally Insane beginning in the 1920s. Watch the evolution of their relationship as they cope with the pressure of 50 years of isolation by forming alter egos: bibliophile Dorph and Doris-Day-loving Porph. Tickets \$5. More info at 802-443-6433 or: boxoffice@middlebury.edu. Repeats April 19 & 20.

## FRIDAY, APRIL 19

**GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB WALK IN MIDDLEBURY.** Friday, April 19, Means Woods. Will the Dutchman's britches be hanging out to dry? Join this easy paced walk and find out. About 2 miles with little elevation gain. Contact David Andrews at 802-388-4894 or vtrevda@yahoo.com for details. More at gmcbreadloaf.org.

**DALY, COONS, CASSELS-BROWN IN MIDDLEBURY.** Friday, April 19, 7:30 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. Three of Addison County's finest songwriters return home for an intimate evening of original material and familiar classics in three-part harmony. Tickets \$33 at a table/\$22 standard seating, available at townhalltheater.org or by calling 802-382-9222.

**"AIRSWIMMING" ON STAGE IN MIDDLEBURY.** Friday, April 19, 7:30-9 p.m., Hepburn Zoo, Hepburn Rd. See April 18 listing.

## SATURDAY, APRIL 20

**GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB HIKE IN MENDON.** \*CANCELED due to trail conditions\* Saturday, April 20, Bald Mountain. Moderate 3.3-mile loop hike with 850 feet of elevation gain. There are

multiple viewpoints highlighted by great views of the Coolidge Range; including Killington, Mendon and Shrewsbury peaks. Another vista looks to the SW toward the Taconic Range. Contact Ken Corey at 802-349-3733 or kencorey53@gmail.com to register or for more information. More at gmcbreadloaf.org.

**CLIMATE FUTURE FILM FESTIVAL IN MIDDLEBURY.** Saturday, April 20, 1 p.m., Community Room, Ilsley Public Library, 75 Main St. Ten films from four continents in two hours give expression to what we are feeling — hope and cynicism; climate denial and climate grief; rage and heartbreak; resilience and resolve — and offers paths toward climate empowerment. Discussion to follow. More info at ilsleypubliclibrary.org.

**"LA RONDINE" LIVE IN HD IN MIDDLEBURY.** Saturday, April 20, 1 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. Puccini's bittersweet love story returns with soprano Angel Blue starring as the French courtesan Magda, opposite tenor Jonathan Tetelman as Ruggero, an idealistic young man who offers her an alternative to her life of excess. Pre-show talk with OCM board member David Clark beginning at 12:15 p.m. Tickets \$26 adult/\$12 student, available at townhalltheater.org or 802-382-9222.

**"AIRSWIMMING" ON STAGE IN MIDDLEBURY.** Saturday, April 20, 2-3:30 p.m. & 7:30-9 p.m., Hepburn Zoo, Hepburn Rd. See April 18 listing.

**"FACING THE GIANTS" ON SCREEN IN ORWELL.** Saturday, April 20, 3 p.m., First Congregational Church, Main St. Come

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.	
<b>Channel 1071</b> <b>Friday, April 19</b> Through the Night: Public Affairs 5 a.m. Press Conferences 7:30 a.m. Congregational Church Service 10 a.m. Selectboard, Legislative Breakfast 3 p.m. Energy Week 4 p.m. Memorial Baptist Church Service 5:30 p.m. Montpelier Happy Hour <b>Saturday, April 20</b> Through the Night: Public Affairs 5 a.m. Montpelier Happy Hour 10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 4 p.m. Memorial Baptist Service 5:30 p.m. Eckankar 6 p.m. Energy Week 7 p.m. Catholic Mass 7:30 p.m. Vote for Vermont, Press Conferences <b>Sunday, April 21</b> Through the Night: Public Affairs 5 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 8 a.m. Energy Week 9 a.m. Catholic Mass 11 a.m. Memorial Baptist Service 12:30 p.m. Energy Week 1:30 p.m. Leg. Breakfast, Public Affairs	4 p.m. Congregational Service 6:30 p.m. Eckankar 7 p.m. Catholic Mass 7:30 p.m. Energy Week 8:30 p.m. Dr. John Campbell 9 p.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs <b>Monday, April 22</b> Through the Night: Public Affairs 5:30 a.m. Eckankar 6 a.m. Press Conf., Public Affairs 9 a.m. Energy Week 10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 3 p.m. Legislative Breakfast 5 p.m. Vote for Vermont 9 p.m. Montpelier Happy Hour <b>Tuesday, April 23</b> Through the Night: Public Affairs 5 a.m. Montpelier Happy Hour 7 a.m. Press Conf., Public Affairs 9:30 a.m. Eckankar 10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 4 p.m. Congregational Church 7 p.m. Selectboard, Leg. Breakfast 11 p.m. Energy Week <b>Wednesday, April 24</b> Through the Night: Public Affairs 5 a.m. Energy Week 6 a.m. Legislative Breakfast 7:30 a.m. Memorial Baptist Service 9:30 a.m. Catholic Mass	10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 5 p.m. Montpelier Happy Hour 7 p.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs <b>Thursday, April 25</b> Through the Night: Public Affairs 5 a.m. Leg. Breakfast, Press Conf. 8 a.m. Congregational Services 12 p.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 8:30 p.m. Energy Week 9:30 p.m. Eckankar 10 p.m. Montpelier Happy Hour  <b>Channel 1091</b> <b>Friday, April 19</b> 8 a.m. All Things LGBTQ 9 a.m. First Tuesday Book Talk-George Bellrose 10:30 a.m. 16 Poems of Robert Frost 12 p.m. School Board Meeting/s 5 p.m. Night Owl Club 6:30 p.m. Historically Speaking 7 p.m. Saint Johnsbury Academy in a New World <b>Saturday, April 20</b> 7 a.m. Chair Yoga 8 a.m. Word Time With Miss Markee 8:35 a.m. Tai Chi 9 a.m. George Bellrose	10:30 a.m. 16 Poems of Robert Frost 12 p.m. School Board Meeting/s 5 p.m. All Things LGBTQ 6 p.m. Nature and Science Programs 8:30 p.m. At the Ilsley <b>Sunday, April 21</b> 5 a.m. Music in the Morning 7:05 a.m. Tai Chi 7:30 a.m. Nature and Science Programs 12 p.m. 16 Poems of Robert Frost 1 p.m. George Bellrose 2:21 p.m. School Board Meeting 4:30 p.m. Kids Yoga 6 p.m. All Things LGBTQ 7 p.m. Historically Speaking <b>Monday, April 22</b> 5 a.m. Tracking Wildlife 6 a.m. All Things LGBTQ 7 a.m. Tai Chi 7:25 a.m. Our Songs Remember 8:32 a.m. 16 Poems of Robert Frost 9:30 a.m. Nature and Science Programs 1:30 p.m. School Board Meeting/s 6 p.m. EEE The Politics of Dysfunction 7:02 p.m. George Bellrose 8:30 p.m. 16 Poems of Robert Frost <b>Tuesday, April 23</b> 7 a.m. Chair Yoga 8 a.m. Word Time With Miss Markee	8:35 a.m. Tai Chi 9 a.m. George Bellrose 10:30 a.m. 16 Poems of Robert Frost 12 p.m. School Board Meeting/s 5 p.m. Extinction Dynamics of the Great Auk 6 p.m. Historically Speaking (30) 8:30 p.m. Ohavi Zedek - Preserving and Sharing Yiddish Culture <b>Wednesday, April 24</b> 5 a.m. The Great Auk 6 a.m. All Things LGBTQ 7 a.m. Tai Chi 7:25 a.m. Our Songs Remember 8:32 a.m. 16 Poems of Robert Frost 9:30 a.m. Ohavi Zedek 1:30 p.m. School Board Meeting/s 7:02 p.m. George Bellrose 8:30 p.m. 16 Poems of Robert Frost <b>Thursday, April 25</b> 5 a.m. Music in the Morning 7 a.m. Tai Chi (25) 7:25 a.m. Kids Yoga 8 a.m. Chair Yoga 9 a.m. School Board Meeting/s 3 p.m. Ohavi Zedek 5 p.m. All Things LGBTQ 6 p.m. Recent School Board Meeting	

see this family-friendly movie about a losing football coach and a team that face their "giants" — fear and failure — on the field and off. Free admission and popcorn.

**FELLOW PYNINS IN RIPTON.** Saturday, April 20, 7:30 p.m., Ripton Community Coffee House, Route 125. Fellow Pynins is an award-winning contemporary folk duo with a keen sense of vocal harmony and song craft anchored in the balladry tradition. The duo consists of Dani Aubert (claw-hammer banjo, bouzouki) and solo artist Ian George (guitar, mandolin). They perform mostly original music alongside a few reworked traditional ballads gathered from their travels. Advance tickets are recommended and appreciated. Doors open at 7 p.m. Tickets general \$15/ generous \$20-\$25/or pay what you can. Beverages and baked goods available. More info at rcch.org.

## SUNDAY, APRIL 21

**CHAMPLAIN VALLEY FIDDLERS IN BRANDON.** Sunday, April 21, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Brandon American Legion, Grove St. \$3 cover charge, 50/50 raffle, door prize refreshments available. Come and enjoy the music and dancing.

**POETRY CAFÉ IN MIDDLEBURY.** Sunday, April 21, 2 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. Town Hall Theater is celebrating Poetry Month by inviting seven local poets to share their work with the community. A relaxed vibe, with table seating and drinks and snacks on offer. Admission is free and no ticket is needed, but a \$5 donation is suggested. More info at 802-382-9222.

## MONDAY, APRIL 22

**SUSAN RODRIGUEZ "ARCHITECTURE**

**FOR ALL: DESIGNING AT THE INTERSECTION OF PLACE, PURPOSE, HISTORY AND COMMUNITY CULTURE" IN MIDDLEBURY.** Monday, April 22, 4:30 p.m., Dana Auditorium, College St. As part of Middlebury College's Architecture for All: A Symposium about Radical Engagement through Architecture, Rodriguez will discuss designing in the public realm and the creation of buildings and spaces that distill the essence of cultures and communities. She will share a series of projects that serve a diverse range of communities from off-the-grid rural locations to dense urban neighborhoods of New York City. Free and open to the public. More info at sites.middlebury.edu/architectureforall.

**ARCHITECT MARLON BLACKWELL IN MIDDLEBURY.** Monday, April 22, 5:45 p.m., Dana Auditorium, College St. As part of Middlebury College's Architecture for All, Blackwell will discuss his architecture and design process through the lens of "radical practice." Free and open to the public. More info at sites.middlebury.edu/architectureforall.

## TUESDAY, APRIL 23

**TURNER BROOKS "MEMORIES, OBSESSIONS, PREOCCUPATIONS WITH SPACE" IN MIDDLEBURY.** Tuesday, April 23, 4:30 p.m., Dana Auditorium, College St. As part of Middlebury College's Architecture for All: A Symposium about Radical Engagement through Architecture, this talk will focus on the issue of space as it relates to the human body. Brooks will talk about this topic from his own early experiences in life, to becoming an architect, and finally to designing a project for those on the autistic spectrum whose sensibilities are so much related to the issue of space.

Free and open to the public. More info at sites.middlebury.edu/architectureforall.

**BILLIE TSIEN "OPEN" IN MIDDLEBURY.** Tuesday, April 23, 5:45 p.m., Dana Auditorium, College St. As part of Middlebury College's Architecture for All: A Symposium about Radical Engagement through Architecture, Tsien will illustrate how architecture has the ability to open institutions that have traditionally felt closed, creating an architecture for all. Free and open to the public. More info at sites.middlebury.edu/architectureforall.

**MILK & HONEY QUILTERS GUILD MEETING IN MIDDLEBURY.** Tuesday, April 23, 6 p.m., American Legion, 49 Wilson Rd. Vintage is in — vintage sewing machines. Louise Prescott will show some of her machines and share her knowledge of vintage and antique machines that she has used and maintained for many years. She will also share advice on maintenance of these gems. Bring items for Show & Tell.

## WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24

**VERMONT INTEGRATED ARCHITECTURE "DESIGNING FOR A COLLECTIVE FUTURE" IN MIDDLEBURY.** Wednesday, April 24, 4:30 p.m., Johnson 24, Chateau Rd. As part of Middlebury College's Architecture for All: A Symposium about Radical Engagement through Architecture, Andrea Murray and Megan Nedzinski will share information about VIA's proactive and forward-thinking design and construction processes. They will share several projects that carefully consider resilience, equity, accessibility, carbon, and (of course!) delight. Free and open to the public. More info at sites.

middlebury.edu/architectureforall/.

**JOHN MCLEOD "ARCHITECTURE FOR ALL" IN MIDDLEBURY.** Wednesday, April 24, 5:45 p.m., Johnson 24, Chateau Rd. As part of Middlebury College's Architecture for All: A Symposium about Radical Engagement through Architecture, McLeod will discuss three examples from his practice and teaching that demonstrate his belief in architecture's ability to serve anyone and anywhere, including the recent renovation of Johnson Memorial Building. Free and open to the public. More info at sites.middlebury.edu/architectureforall.

**"STALAG 17" ON SCREEN IN MIDDLEBURY.** Wednesday, April 24, 6 p.m., Community Room, Ilsey Public Library, 75 Main St. Middlebury Community Classic Films Club's Billy Wilder Series continues with this 1953 film. After two Americans are killed while escaping from a German POW camp in World War II, the barracks black marketer JJ Sefton is suspected of being an informer. Join fellow movie lovers for some of Billy Wilder's most popular films followed with a bit of discussion. Series runs through June.

## THURSDAY, APRIL 25

**JOHNSON GALLERY RENOVATION TOUR IN MIDDLEBURY.** Thursday, April 25, 4:30 p.m., Johnson Memorial Building, Chateau Rd. A guided visit through the renovated Johnson Building and a visit to the Architecture for All exhibition in the Johnson Gallery. Free and open to the public. More info at sites.middlebury.edu/architectureforall.

SEE CALENDAR ON PAGE 14

# TOP PICK

**MIDDLEBURY'S DIANA FANNING** will perform a piano concert at the beautiful and historic Hand House Mansion in Elizabethtown, N.Y., on Saturday, April 20, at 7 p.m., and on Sunday, April 21, at 3 p.m.

Admission is \$20. All seating is available in a first-come-first-served capacity. Reservations are encouraged due to limited seating and may be made through email at pianobynature@gmail.com or by phone at 518-962-8899. Elizabethtown, N.Y., is about a 75-minute drive from Middlebury, so not too far to see an amazing local pianist.



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Music by Dorothy Robson

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# UPCOMING MUSIC



Suzanne Germain, Carol Reed and Lausanne Allen will perform a free concert as Va-et-vient at the Bixby Library in Vergennes on Saturday, April 27, at 12:30 p.m.

COURTESY PHOTO

## Addison County's Va-et-vient to serenade Vergennes with free concert on April 27

CELEBRATE THE MUSIC OF MANY FRENCH CULTURES WITH A FREE CONCERT FROM ADDISON COUNTY'S OWN VA-ET-VIENT AT THE BIXBY LIBRARY IN VERGENNES

Come to Bixby Library in Vergennes on Saturday, April 27, from 12:30-2 p.m., to hear the talented musicians of Va-et-vient guide you through the centuries, from France to Québec and New Orleans, with lively dance numbers, touching love songs, kickin' Cajun and Créole tunes, and rollicking Québécois favorites. The group features Carol Reed from Leicester (voice, guitar, and mandolin), Suzanne Germain from Lincoln (voice and percussion), and Lausanne Allen from South Starksboro (voice, fiddles, flute,

penny whistles, harmonica, and mandolins).

This concert marks the second event in the Bixby's Frieda Fishman Stroh Free Concert Series and complements the library's latest historical exhibit, "Making Music in Vermont." This exhibit showcases the connections between music makers and their local Vermont community through a collection of historical artifacts, documents, and one massive drum. You can explore the exhibit in the Bixby Library's Kerr Room during the library's open hours.

The Freda Fishman Stroh Free Concert Series is made possible by a generous grant from the Vermont Community Foundation's Freda Fishman Stroh Memorial Fund. For more information, visit [bixbylibrary.org](http://bixbylibrary.org).

## MORE TUNES

### TRIO OF ADDISON COUNTY MUSICIANS TAKE THE STAGE AT TOWN HALL THEATER

On Friday, April 19, at 7:30 p.m., three of Addison County's finest songwriters return home to Town Hall Theater for an intimate evening of original material and familiar classics in three-part harmony. Mark Daly, the front person and founder of Vermont bands Madaila and Chamberlin, will be joined by Jer Coons, who has been called "the man behind Burlington's recent music boom," and Winooski-based singer-songwriter Erin Cassels-Brown.

Daly has been entertaining crowds across Vermont with his high-octane, unpredictable, and unique solo performances for more than a decade. Whether it's just Daly and his guitar, upbeat electronic beats, or even comedy, Daly's number one goal is to entertain. When he's not performing, he's tinkering away in the studio working on an album, fine-tuning his songwriting skills, or taking care of his two little boys. "Come on, let's be real," he said. Since 2020, Daly has released three records as Madaila and will debut new music at Town Hall Theater's upcoming show and at the ninth annual Foodaroo festival on Sunday, Aug. 11, in Middlebury's Marble Works.

"It's always a joy presenting Mark Daly and his accomplished collaborators," said Lisa Mitchell, THT Executive Director. "He's a true showman and always delivers on the promise of a great musical evening!"

Tickets for Daly, Coons, Cassels-Brown are on sale now and can be purchased at [townhalltheater.org](http://townhalltheater.org) or by calling 802-382-9222. Table tickets are \$33, and standard seating is \$22. THT's Cady Fund offers ticket subsidies to ensure cost is not a barrier to access.



Mark Daly, Jer Coons and Erin Cassels-Brown will take the stage of Middlebury's Town Hall Theater for an evening of three-part harmonies.

COURTESY PHOTO

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# PUZZLES

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## ACROSS

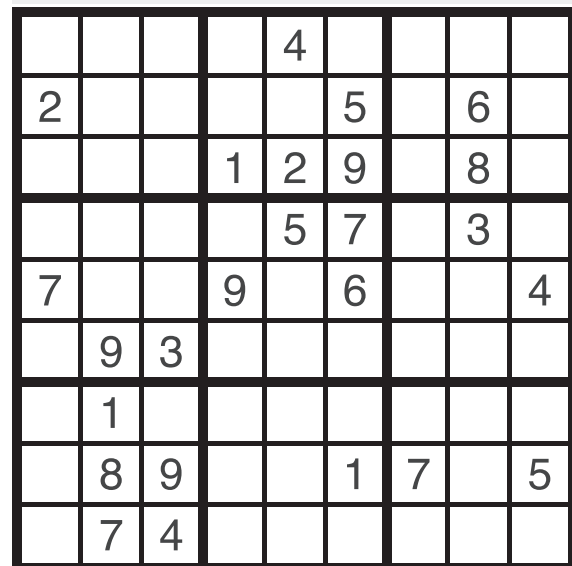
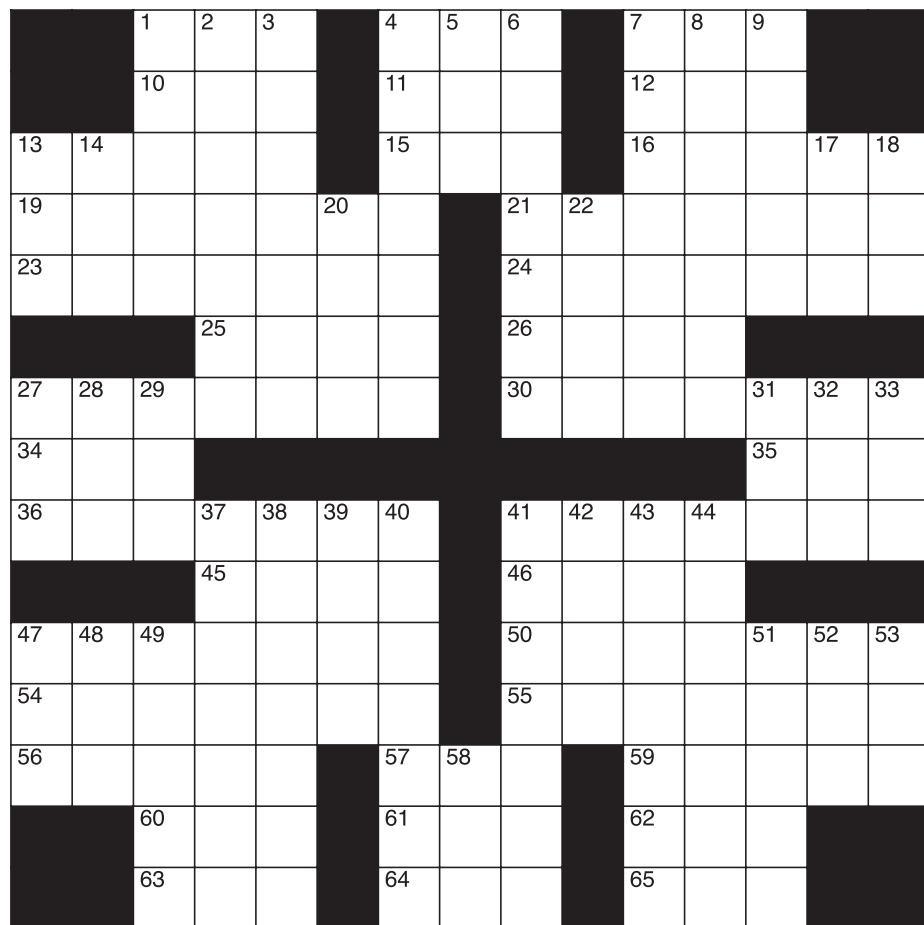
- 1. Midway between south and southeast
- 4. For each
- 7. Airborne (abbr.)
- 10. Photographs
- 11. They ...
- 12. It's important in respiration (abbr.)
- 13. Monetary unit
- 15. Cool!
- 16. A son of Jacob
- 19. Cut off
- 21. Devour
- 23. Agent of one's downfall
- 24. Best
- 25. Network of nerves
- 26. Partner to "oohs"
- 27. Origins
- 30. Sewing utensil

- 34. Alias
- 35. Swiss river
- 36. Greek mythological figure
- 41. Type of whiskey
- 45. Lay to rest
- 46. "Rule, Britannia" composer
- 47. Select jury
- 50. Feeling
- 54. Action regarded as morally wrong
- 55. Makes angry
- 56. Act incorrectly
- 57. Defensive nuclear weapon
- 59. Class of escort aircraft carrier
- 60. To what degree
- 61. Buzzing insect
- 62. The human foot

- 63. "The Leftovers" actress Dowd
- 64. A place to stay
- 65. Sun up in New York

## DOWN

- 1. An involuntary muscular contraction
- 2. Earnest
- 3. Cuts out surgically
- 4. Can't move
- 5. Baseball stat
- 6. British soldier
- 7. Traditional medicine plants
- 8. Political party controlled by managers
- 9. Hebrew prophet
- 13. Supporter



## 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**

- 14. Relative biological effectiveness (abbr.)
- 17. Liberty Mutual mascot
- 18. Georgia rockers
- 20. A place where building is done
- 22. Large, deep-bodied fish
- 27. Clothing retailer
- 28. Supplement with difficulty
- 29. Annoy constantly
- 31. Founder of Babism
- 32. Indigenous person in parts of Asia
- 33. Sea eagle
- 37. Leave behind
- 38. Time of day
- 39. Colorless crystalline compound
- 40. They lay out course requirements
- 41. A diamond has three
- 42. Algerian coastal city
- 43. Remove cover
- 44. Rechristened
- 47. Distinctive practice
- 48. Defunct phone company
- 49. Turkish officer of high rank
- 51. Eliminate from the body
- 52. Witness
- 53. Soviet Socialist Republic
- 58. Founding Father Franklin

This week's puzzle solutions can be found on Page 13.



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# Mini Bury

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## Night Moves

BY MEGAN JAMES

I've been waiting years for my kids to be old enough to take them to Morgan Road in Salisbury for the annual amphibian escort night. This past weekend, I finally got the chance.

Each year the Otter Creek Audubon Society and the Salisbury Conservation Commission invite the public to join them on a handful of warm, wet, early spring nights counting salamanders and frogs and helping them safely cross the road to their breeding grounds.

I went on my own about six years ago. At the time, my kids were too little to come along. The event starts at 8 p.m., practically midnight to a toddler (and to her exhausted parents). But I noticed lots of bigger kids there that night, wearing headlamps and raincoats, excitedly scooping up amphibians and carrying them across the road to safety.

This past weekend, I finally brought my whole family along. And it was really cool.

When we arrived, we checked in with herpetologist Jim Andrews, who was operating a little field station from the trunk of his car. He had collected one of each of the species we were likely to see that night and put each in its own little shallow pool at the bottom of a Tupperware container. He showed us how to identify them — wood frog, spring peeper, Eastern red-backed salamander, blue-spotted salamander, four-toed salamander, and red eft — then sent us off into the night to find more.

At first it seemed like the night

would be a dud. We walked for a while and only found worms. Folks who had been at the group's first gathering, in early March, said they had counted 900 amphibians that night. Maybe most of the animals had already migrated because of early warm weather?

My 7-year-old started whining. My 10-year-old was frustrated. Reflexively, I launched into that old sales pitch parents do: Hey, at least we're out here in the dark with flashlights after bedtime — isn't this a fun adventure?

Sure enough, activity picked up. There was a hopping wood frog! And a scurrying red-backed salamander! Two mesmerizing centipedes right over there! With every animal sighting, my 10-year-old updated the log she'd created in her journal.

And just when my younger daughter said she was ready to go home, she looked across the road and noticed an extra-large blue-spotted salamander. She scooped it up with glee, then showed it off proudly to every person she could find.

According to Andrews, the event drew 74 volunteers of all ages, who tallied 575 amphibians of nine species over the course of two and a half hours. By 9 p.m. my family was ready for bed. But we all agreed we'll be back next spring.

Want to join the amphibian escort next year? Email organizers Barry and Warren King at [kinglet@together.net](mailto:kinglet@together.net) to get on the alert list.



## Coming Up

### COMMUNITY VACATION SWIM

Monday through Friday, April 22-26, 8 a.m. to noon. Splash around in the Mount Abraham Union High School pool during school vacation.

### GRAND FRIENDS GALA

Friday, April 26, 4-7 p.m. at Town Hall Theater. Grandparents and other caregivers bring their special littles ones to an early evening of music, dancing and activities.

### LOCAL BIKE SWAPS

Saturday, April 27, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Cool Motion Outdoor Sports in Bristol; and Saturday, May 4, 9 a.m. to noon in Middlebury's Cannon Park outside Frog Hollow Bike Shop.

See more online

MiniBury.com

THINGS TO DO • MEET PARENTS & FRIENDS  
NEWS FOR FAMILIES • TIPS, TRICKS & TRENDS • CALENDAR

# Surviving mud season with your pup

**M**ud season can be a challenging time for dog owners, but with a few tips and tricks, you and your furry friend can navigate through it with ease. Here's your ultimate guide to keeping your pup happy and healthy during mud season:

**GROOMING IS KEY:** Regular grooming is essential during mud season. Keep your dog's fur trimmed to minimize mud buildup and make cleaning easier. Consider investing in a waterproof coat or doggy boots to protect their paws from mud and debris.

**CLEANLINESS IS NEXT TO DOGLINESS:** Keep a towel or pet wipes by the door to wipe down your dog's paws before they come inside. A quick wipe-down can prevent muddy paw prints from getting all over your floors and furniture.

**DESIGNATE A MUD AREA:** Create a designated muddy play area in your yard where your dog can romp and roll to their heart's content. Use gravel or mulch to minimize the amount of mud they track inside.

**STAY HYDRATED:** With all the extra outdoor playtime, it's essential to keep your dog hydrated. Make sure they have access to fresh water at all times, especially after muddy adventures.

**BATHTIME BLUES:** Embrace the inevitable and schedule regular baths for your pooch during mud season. Use a dog-friendly shampoo and conditioner to keep their coat clean and healthy.

**PROTECT AGAINST PESTS:** Mud season can also bring an influx of pests like ticks and fleas. Make sure your dog is up-to-date on their flea and tick prevention

medication to keep them safe and itch-free.

With these tips in mind, you and your dog can make the most of mud season

and enjoy all the outdoor adventures it has to offer. So grab your rain boots and embrace the muddy fun with your furry companion by your side.

*Editor's Note: This content was generated using OpenAI. "ChatGPT Conversation with Elsie Lynn Parini." ChatGPT, April 16, 2024. The Addison Independent will never use stories generated by artificial intelligence without letting our readers know. This content was reviewed and edited to maintain our journalistic integrity. Let us know how you feel about the use of AI in The Addy Indy. Email: news@addisonindependent.com.*

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## Pets In Need

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### Coconut

**Coconut** is a sweet, shy 2-year-old who has lived an indoor/outdoor lifestyle and enjoys the company of other cats. She loves chicken treats and cuddling with her cat friends in hidey spots.

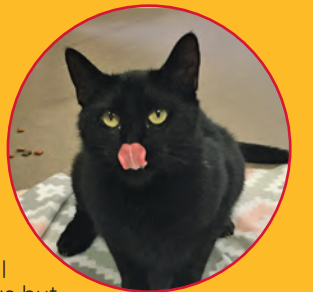


### Cynthia

This lovely 4.5-year-old girl was transported all the way from Florida. **Cynthia** was abandoned by their owner when they moved out of the country. She was left in the street and she was found in a plaza where she enjoyed a colony of cats. She was rescued because she always came to her feeder for attention. Cynthia is very calm and she likes to be petted most on her back, she loves wet food and she prefers to be with adult cats because she is calm and sweet. Cynthia is FIV+ and will have the same life expectancy as a cat that doesn't have FIV.

### Kita

**Kita** is a petite 2.5-year-old lady who loves playing with toys and snuggling. She was an indoor/outdoor cat in her previous home and may be open to exploring the outdoors in her new home after settling in. Kita has gotten along well with cats and kids and tolerates dogs but would prefer to live in a home without them.



### Nachos

**Nachos** is a 2.5-year-old black lab mix looking for a quiet home without other dogs. This boy is endlessly curious and craves exercise and stimulation. He exudes energy and charm and will shower you with love and snuggles. Nachos loves his training program and will need to continue this in his new home. He is super treat-motivated (veggies and fruit!), so training is a lot of fun with this sweet boy!

### Pepper

**Pepper** is part of our third party adoption program, so he is still residing with his family. Pepper is described as being social, very active, and playful, but also likes his quiet time. He has lived with other animals - cats, dogs, rabbits, and guinea pigs - and gets along well with all of them. He has not been around children on a regular basis. His owner says that Pepper is very sweet, quiet, and inquisitive. He happily greets you, explores his surroundings, and isn't bothered by noisy dogs. He is cuddly and will sit on your lap for petting, and reward you with his purrs.



## Want to learn more?

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A LOOK INSIDE ADDISON COUNTY HOMES FOR SALE

## Picturesque Hinesburg home for you

Charming three-bedroom, four-bathroom home in the heart of Hinesburg's sought-after Thistle Hill neighborhood. With great curb appeal, the inviting front porch is surrounded by hardscape and vibrant flower gardens. Gleaming wood floors and natural light shine through the open-concept layout seamlessly connecting the living room, dining area, and kitchen with spacious island. There's a separate office area too. Retreat to the expansive primary suite boasting a custom-built walk-in closet and en-suite bathroom. Two additional bedrooms, another full bathroom, and laundry on the second level for easy living. Venture downstairs to discover a finished bonus room with a full bath — perfect for a cozy hangout or guest suite — with plumbing for a small kitchenette and a private entrance, there are endless possibilities. Enjoy sunset views over the Adirondacks, wooded common land, and the nearby Russell Farm trails for outdoor adventures galore!



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*This home is listed by Michael Johnston of Coldwell Banker Hickok & Boardman. Please call 802-846-9518 or visit [HickokandBoardman.com](http://HickokandBoardman.com) for details.*






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## IPJRE Insights

### What does it mean when a property is listed as “Active Under Contract” vs. “Pending?”

When a seller accepts a conditional offer on their property they have two options regarding how to note the status change on the Multiple Listing Service [The Multiple Listing Service or ‘MLS’ is the repository of data that allows you to view properties across several websites like Realtor.com, Zillow, Homes.com, and on independent firms sites like ipjrealestate.com.

**Active Under Contract** This status generally means that the seller and buyer still have some contingencies to work through. Contingencies vary from contract to contract but can include things like a property inspection, financing, a home sale, etc. Until those contingencies are satisfied the seller has the option to continue to show the property to prospective buyers if they have elected an ‘active under contract’ status. Other prospective buyers may continue to view the home and even make backup offers (although in most cases the seller is still obligated to perform under the terms of their original contract). If the seller elects this option, the property will remain visible on the internet.

**Pending** A seller may choose a ‘pending’ status when they feel there is little to no risk in the deal ‘going south.’ A pending status usually indicates one or more of the following: the seller is confident in the present terms; the contract is simple and without contingencies; they received multiple offers and feel assured interest will remain; they feel displaced during times of active showings and would prefer privacy as the contract period unfolds (showings cease when status changes to “pending”). If the seller elects the ‘pending’ option you will see a banner across the photo that says “Pending” or “Under Contract” or you may see the listing disappear altogether, depending on the real estate website.

**It is the seller’s choice on which option to go with. A professional REALTOR can help determine which contingencies pose the most risk to the seller, helping their client to make an informed decision on the status label.**

*When you have questions about real estate - call your IPJ Real Estate agent. We are here to help!*

*\* Disclaimer - This is not a solicitation to sellers/buyers who are represented by any other firm.*



photo © ERICKILLORIN.COM

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## CALENDAR

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

### FRIDAY, APRIL 26

**GRAND FRIENDS GALA IN MIDDLEBURY.** Friday, April 26, 4-7 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. \*RESCHEDULED FROM MARCH 23.\* Vermont Children’s Museum invites you to a magical evening of dancing, live music and kid-friendly appetizers. Dress your best and have fun supporting this fundraiser for Vermont Children’s Museum. Viva El Sabor will be providing food. Tickets \$50/\$30/\$22/\$15. Sliding scale pricing available. More info at townhalltheater.org or 802-382-9222.

**INTRODUCTORY BULLHEAD FISHING CLINIC IN PANTON.** Friday, April 26, 6:30 p.m., Stonebridge Dam. A seasonal opportunity to target one of Vermont’s most overlooked fish species. Explore different fishing styles used to target brown bullhead, found in many of the shallower, muddier lakes, ponds and rivers of Vermont. Open to people of all ages and levels of experience, including those who are completely new to fishing. Equipment provided, but participants are encouraged to bring their own rods as well. Dress for the weather and bring a flashlight or headlamp. Space is limited to the first 30 registrants. Pre-registration required at vtfishandwildlife.com.

### SATURDAY, APRIL 27

**GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB BIRD WALK IN ADDISON.** Saturday, April 27, 7 a.m., Dead Creek Wildlife Management Area, Route 17W. Morning bird walk of 2-3 miles; slightly uneven terrain with minimal to no elevation gain. Find as many species as time allows at a comfortable pace. Bring your binoculars. Plan for 3 hours. Contact Jen Kluever at jennifer.kluever@yahoo.com with questions and to register. More at gmcbreadloaf.org.

**A CELEBRATION OF POETRY IN ORWELL.** Saturday, April 27, 10 a.m., Orwell Free Library, 473 Main St. Join the Orwell Writers Group and celebrate National Poetry Month with writing exercises to inspire and get your creative juices flowing. All experience levels are welcome. An open mic night will be held later in the day, at 6 p.m. Bring a poem or two to share, or any short piece of prose (under 5 minutes in length). Refreshments provided.

**VA-ET-VIENT IN VERGENNES.** Saturday, April 27, 12:30-2 p.m., Bixby Memorial Library, 253 Main St. These Addison County musiciennes will take you through the centuries from France to Québec and New Orleans with lively dance numbers, touching love songs, kickin’ Cajun and Créole tunes, and rollicking Québécois favorites. Free.

**“KEEPING IT INN” IN MIDDLEBURY.** Saturday, April 27, 7 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. Dive into the heartwarming and humor-filled world in this captivating one-woman show by Cindy Pierce. Over the course of 90 minutes, Pierce paints a vibrant portrait of Nancy Pierce’s extraordinary journey through life, love and the challenges of family dynamics. From a daring leap into innkeeping in rural New Hampshire to the trials of motherhood, love and loss, Nancy’s story is one of resilience, humor and an unwavering spirit. Tickets \$33 advance/\$37 at the door/\$28 seniors and students, available at townhalltheater.org.

**THE HITMEN IN MIDDLEBURY.** Saturday, April 27, 7-10 p.m., VFW, 530 Exchange St. Doors open at 6 p.m., Open to the public. \$10 cover. Light snacks provided.



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**EXHIBITS**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

**JACKSON GALLERY**

68 S Pleasant St, Middlebury  
 Visit [townhalltheater.org/jackson-gallery](http://townhalltheater.org/jackson-gallery) or call 802-382-9222 for more info.

**"The Blue Between Day and Night."** Paintings by East Middlebury artist Leigh Harder. For this exhibit, Harder uses alcohol ink to "catch the particular blue of the changing twilight sky." A free opening reception will be held Friday, April 12, from 5-7 p.m. On view April 12-June 8

**MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE MUSEUM OF ART**

72 Porter Field Rd, Middlebury  
 For more info visit [middlebury.edu/museum/exhibitions](http://middlebury.edu/museum/exhibitions).

**"Derrick Adams: Sanctuary"** featuring 50 works of mixed-media collage, assemblage on wood panels, and sculpture that reimagine safe destinations for the black American traveler during the mid-20th century. On view Jan. 26-April 14.

**"David Plowden: Portraits of America."** This exhibition is arranged around the major themes that dominated the artist's body of work: locomotives, steam ships, steel mills, bridges, small towns, and the agricultural landscapes of the Midwest. On view Jan. 26.-April 14.

**PHOTOPLACE GALLERY**

3 Park Street, Middlebury  
 For more info visit [photoplacegallery.com](http://photoplacegallery.com).

**"Quiet Landscape."** An exhibition of photographs that show landscape: natural, urban, industrial, and abstract. Photographers show us how they see the world, in a quiet mode. Jurors Jacob and Alissa Hessler selected approximately 35 images for exhibition in the Middlebury gallery, and 40 more for the online gallery. On view April 5 - April 26.

**SPARROW ART SUPPLY**

44 Main Street, Middlebury  
 For more info visit [sparrowartsupply.com](http://sparrowartsupply.com) or call 802-989-7225.

**"Green Gold,"** Sparrow Art Supply's debut exhibition at 44 Main Street, is a celebration of new beginnings. In this exhibit seven artists explore growth, transition and renewal. An opening reception and celebration of the new space will be held Friday, April 5, from 5-7 p.m., free and open to the public, with treats by Thistle and Honey Baking and complimentary wine by Dedalus Wine. The exhibit will be on view through May 11

**TOURTERELLE RESTAURANT & INN**

3629 Ethan Allen Hwy, New Haven  
 For more information visit [JanetFredericksStudio.com](http://JanetFredericksStudio.com) or [tourterellevermont.com](http://tourterellevermont.com), or call 802-453-6309.

**"Overview,"** featuring work by Lincoln artist Janet Fredericks. Included in the exhibit are hand-stitched textile pieces, cyanotype prints, mono prints, paintings, and drawings. Fredericks' drawings and paintings are intended to give the sense of entering into the landscape rather than a surface perspective. This follows her lifelong interest in the seen and unseen worlds; spirit and matter. On view at the restaurant Wednesday through Saturday 5:30-9 p.m., through May.

# Architecture exhibits on view

The Architectural Studies Program at Middlebury College is hosting a week-long symposium focusing on the ways in which architecture serves us all — appropriately named "Architecture for All." In addition to speakers and events there will be an ongoing exhibition of work by Marlon Blackwell Architects, Susan T Rodriguez Architects, Turner Brooks, and Tod Williams and Billie Tsien Architects on view at the Johnson Gallery on Middlebury College campus. The works will be on exhibit through April 30. For hours and more info visit [architectureforall.net](http://architectureforall.net) and scroll all the way down to the bottom of the page.

## FOR RENT

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 Search "Beautiful Lake Dunmore Ski Chalet / Cottage"

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# Sports Report



**Mt. Abraham | Vergennes | Middlebury | Otter Valley**  
**A Publication of The Addison Independent | Thursday, April 18, 2024**



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# Plethora of MUHS teams ready for enjoyable springs

BY ANDY KIRKALDY

MIDDLEBURY — Middlebury Union High School offers its students more athletic choices in most seasons than any other two local schools combined, and spring is no exception — athletes can participate in eight sports at the varsity level alone.

That means more students are involved in healthy activities and having fun, and, yes, more chances for titles.

The spring of 2023 saw one MUHS track star winning gold twice, two Tiger teams reach state finals, and another group come up just short against an eventual champion in a semifinal match. That track star is back, and all three of those teams are optimistic this spring.

Other MUHS teams believe they are ready for steps forward, or can at the very least point to encouraging signs for the future, such as large turnouts.

In all, it's safe to say it looks like an interesting spring on Charles Avenue.

## SOFTBALL

Coach Tim Hanley's softball team a year ago made it to the Division-II final as a No. 5 seed, and the group is looking to add one more playoff win this season, a fair goal considering most of the key athletes are back in the fold.

"The feeling is we've got a lot of returners," MUHS Activities Director Sean Farrell said. "We should be able to put ourselves in that position again."

Of course, pitching and catching is critical in softball, and those areas appear to be Tiger strong points.

Senior Emma Deering and junior Lexi Whitney should again make a potent one-two punch on the mound, with whichever is not pitching probably lining up in the middle infield.

Senior Sienna Rubright returns behind the plate to handle the pitching staff, with freshman Sarah Beveré the backup.

Around the infield, junior Meredith Cameron returns at third base, and sophomores Ireland Hanley and Skyler Choiniere look to be set at shortstop and first base, respectively. Hanley could slide over to second while Deering takes over at short if Whitney is on the mound.

Senior Izzy Wilbur, juniors Lily Dame and

Lily Orleans, and sophomores Madison Selleck and Madelyn LaDuke are the outfielders.

Farrell said the Tigers are optimistic: "We're excited for them to pick up where they left off last year."

## BASEBALL

Farrell said most of the Tiger baseball team's eight seniors have had quite a journey.

When they were freshmen, low numbers and a lack of upperclassmen led to the school to decide not to field a varsity team. The next season the group took its lumps as the program returned to varsity. In 2023 they began to gain some traction under Coach Tim Paquette, especially in Lake Division play.

Another step forward is reasonable to expect this year, Farrell said, especially once the Tigers get past a tough early non-league stretch against D-I teams.

"We're competitive within the Lake," he said. "That really tough competition gets you ready for the Division."

A deep pitching staff should help.

Seniors Carter Paquette and Tim Whitney, juniors Tucker Morter and Alex Sperry and sophomore Gabe Velez look like the starters, Farrell said, with senior Cole Warren, and freshman Ryan Brouillard also available. Paquette will be the top catcher.

Sperry will return at the top of the batting order and play center field, and others who will play key roles offensively and defensively include seniors Aiden LaDuke, Whitney, Warren, Ethan Sweet and Dylan Stowe. Seniors Riley Disorda and Wyatt Stearns will be role players, Farrell said. Sophomore Owen Butterfield and freshman Tucker Wright round out the roster and could swing to JV at times.

With the team's experience, leadership and deep pitching, there is potential for a breakthrough, Farrell said: "There's a good chance they'll make a pretty good run for it in

the playoffs."

## BOYS' LACROSSE

Coach Matt Rizzo's boys' lax team made history in the 2023 D-I semifinal, ending CVU's nine-year championship streak by knocking off the Redhawks. But in the final, top-seed South Burlington claimed the title at the Tigers.

But the Tigers have been knocking on the door in recent years. And Farrell said MUHS should be in the mix again this season.

"It's certainly a seasoned group that's had that playoff experience," Farrell said. "You've got some younger kids in there, but it's a real strong group."

One thing that will be critical will be the performance of the defense in front of a new goalie: Freshman Levi Nuceder is projected to take over between the pipes. Senior defender Noah Doherty Konczal, senior long-stick midfielder Gavin McNulty, junior long-stick midfielder Cam Whitlock, and sophomore defenders Marshall Eddy and Cooke Riney will be tasked with shutting down opposing attacks.

Seniors Jackson Gillett and Gus Hodde return to lead the midfield, along with juniors

George Devlin, Landon Kean and Luke Nuceder. Senior Toby Draper is a multi-year starter at attack, where also juniors Angus Blackwell and sophomore Logan McNulty return. Junior Callan Boulanger is likely to handle the faceoffs.

A return to the championship game is something the team can shoot for, according to Farrell.

"It's a realistic goal for us because we're returning so many athletes," he said.

## BOYS' TENNIS

Coach Ken Schoen's tennis team has been on a steadily upward trajectory in recent seasons, and last year reached the D-I semifinal round before falling to eventual champion Burlington in a tightly contested

match.

Farrell and Schoen believe the Tigers could be better this spring, even though two singles players have graduated.

"In talking to Coach, some of our younger (See MUHS, Page 9)

## BASEBALL

*"We're competitive within the Lake. That really tough competition gets you ready for the Division."*

— Activities Director  
Sean Farrell

## BOYS' TENNIS

*"They're a tight group. They really support each other. There's some great leadership with their captains and the seniors on the team to make it really fun, but also very competitive."*

— Activities Director  
Sean Farrell

# MUHS

# BASEBALL



**Middlebury Union High School  
Varsity Baseball Team**

Coach: Tim Paquette		Cole Warren	12
<b>Name</b>	<b>Grade</b>	Timothy Whitney	12
Aiden LaDuke	12	Tucker Morter	11
Riley Disorda	12	Alex Sperry	11
Carter Paquette	12	Owen Butterfield	10
Wyatt Stearns	12	Gabriel Velez	10
Dylan Stowe	12	Ryan Brouillard	9
Ethan Sweet	12	Tucker Wright	9

**Middlebury Union High School  
Varsity Baseball**

Date	Opponent/Event	Time	5/14	VUHS	4:30 p.m.
4/23	Mt. Mansfield	4:30 p.m.	5/16	Mt. Abe	4:30 p.m.
4/27	Colchester	11 a.m.	5/18	@ Milton	11 a.m.
4/30	CVU	4:30 p.m.	5/21	Enosburg	4:30 p.m.
5/2	@ St. Albans	4:30 p.m.	5/23	@ Missisquoi	4:30 p.m.
5/4	@ Montpelier	3 p.m.	5/25	@ VUHS	11 a.m.
5/?	Fair Haven	4:30 p.m.	5/28	@ Mt. Abe	4:30 p.m.
5/9	@ Enosburg	4:30 p.m.	5/30	Milton	4:30 p.m.
5/11	Missisquoi	11 a.m.			

# MUHS

# SOFTBALL



Middlebury Union High School Varsity Softball Team		
Name	Grade	
Coach: Tim Hanley		
		Lexi Orleans 11
		Lexi Whitney 11
Emma Deering	12	Skyler Choiniere 10
Sienna Rubright	12	Ireland Hanley 10
Izzy Wilbur	12	Madelyn LaDuke 10
Lily Dame	11	Madison Selleck 10
Meredith Cameron	11	Sarah Bevere 9

### Middlebury Union High School Varsity Softball

Date	Opponent/Event	Time
4/23	Mt. Mansfield	4:30 p.m.
4/27	Colchester	11 a.m.
4/30	CVU	4:30 p.m.
5/2	@ St. Albans	4:30 p.m.
5/4	@ Montpelier	3:00 p.m.
5/7	Northfield	4:30 p.m.
5/9	@ Enosburg	4:30 p.m.
5/11	Rice	11 a.m.
5/14	VUHS	4:30 p.m.
5/16	Mt. Abe	4:30 p.m.
5/18	@ Milton	11 a.m.
5/21	Enosburg	4:30 p.m.
5/23	@ Rice	4:30 p.m.
5/25	@ VUHS	11 a.m.
5/28	@ Mt. Abe	4:30 p.m.
5/30	Milton	4:30 p.m.



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# MUHS

# GIRLS' LACROSSE



Middlebury Union High School Girls' Varsity Lacrosse Team		
Name	Grade	
Coach: Jeff Weaber		Addison Schnoor 11
		Pelagia Slater 11
Hope Bellinger 12		Ada Weaber 11
Brandy Bishop 12		Lila Cook Yoder 11
Lily Finn 12		Ronan Young 11
Addison Dunakin 11		Lia Calzini 10
Aven Frankovic 11		Kenyon Connors 10
Juliette Hunsdorfer 11		Quinn Doria 10
Sara Kent 11		Isla Weaber 9
Georgie Kiel 11		Alice Livesay 9
Sophia Lawton 11		Ida Blackwell 9
Margaret Orten 11		Isabel Quinn 9
Ava Schneider 11		

Middlebury Union High School Varsity Girls' Lacrosse		
Date	Opponent/Event	Time
4/10	Harwood	4:30 p.m.
4/13	St. Albans	11:45 a.m.
4/15	Stowe	4:30 p.m.
4/17	CVU	4:30 p.m.
4/29	Rice	4:30 p.m.
5/1	S. Burlington	4:30 p.m.
5/4	@ Essex	11 a.m.
5/7	@ Mt. Mansfield	4:30 p.m.
5/9	@ Colchester	4:30 p.m.
5/14	@ St. Albans	4:30 p.m.
5/17	@ CVU	4:30 p.m.
5/21	@ VUHS	4:30 p.m.
5/24	@ S. Burlington	4:30 p.m.
5/28	Essex	4:30 p.m.
5/31	Mt. Mansfield	4:30 p.m.

# MUHS

# BOYS' LACROSSE



### Middlebury Union High School Boys' Varsity Lacrosse Team

Coach: Matt Rizzo

Name	Grade	Name	Grade
Noah Doherty-Konczal	12	Tassilo Luksch	11
Toby Draper	12	Luke Nuceder	11
Jackson Gillett	12	Aiden Pellerin	11
Gus Hodde	12	Cooper Quinn	11
Brady McDonough	12	Cam Whitlock	11
Gavin McNulty	12	Ben DeBisschop	10
Angus Blackwell	11	Marshall Eddy	10
Callan Boulanger	11	Jaxson Heffernan	10
George Devlin	11	Logan McNulty	10
Landon Kean	11	Cooke Riney	10
		Brady Lloyd	9
		Levi Nuceder	9

### Middlebury Union High School Varsity Boys' Lacrosse

Date	Opponent/Event	Time
4/11	Harwood	4 p.m.
4/13	@ St. Albans	11 a.m.
4/16	Woodstock	4:30 p.m.
4/18	@ CVU	4:30 p.m.
4/20	Rice	11 a.m.
4/27	@ Woodstock	11 a.m.
5/1	@ S. Burlington	4:30 p.m.
5/4	Essex	11 a.m.
5/7	Mt. Mansfield	4:30 p.m.
5/10	@ Burr & Burton	4 p.m.
5/14	St. Albans	4:30 p.m.
5/17	CVU	4:30 p.m.
5/21	@ Rice	4:30 p.m.
5/24	S. Burlington	4:30p.m.
5/28	@ Essex	7 p.m.
5/31	@ Mt. Mansfield	4:30 p.m.

# MUHS

(Continued from Page 3)

players are ready to contribute,” Farrell said.

Junior Jackson Murray returns at No. 1, and senior Kellan Bartlett will probably move up from No. 3 to No. 2, unless freshman Charles Young, currently penciled in at No. 3, unseats him. Senior Iver Anderson could move up from doubles to take over No. 4 or No. 5, and senior Brian Newton, No. 5 a year ago, or freshman Nate Cook Yoder might hold down the final singles slot.

Seniors Eddie Fallis, Milo Rees and Eliot Heminway all return after starting on doubles teams a year ago, and one will likely pair up with whoever doesn't claim the final singles slot. Competition will be stiff, though.

The team will also be looking to maintain its traditions of good chemistry and sportsmanship while contending for a title.

“They're a tight group. They really support each other,” Farrell said. “There's some great leadership with their captains and the seniors on the team to make it really fun, but also very competitive.”

## GIRLS' TENNIS

*“The athletes we have back are great kids. We've got three seniors who are great leaders in Amelia Coburn, Audrey Carpenter and Caroline Nicolai.”*

— Activities Director  
Sean Farrell

## GIRLS' TENNIS

Coach Dan Comar's girls' tennis team is now two years removed from the program's second of two straight appearances in D-II finals, and for the second straight spring some players have been lost to graduation.

Still, Farrell said the team should have strong senior leadership and an enjoyable season.

“The athletes we have back are great kids. We've got three seniors who are great leaders in Amelia Coburn, Audrey Carpenter and Caroline Nicolai,” Farrell said.

Carpenter played mostly at No. 2 a year ago

and should take over at No. 1. Nicolai saw time on the singles ladder and should do so again.

Both doubles pairings who teamed up in the 2023 postseason return: Coburn and junior Piper Farnsworth at No. 1 doubles, and juniors Maryam Khan and Anna Wolosinski at No. 2. Both pairings could team up again, or depending on who emerges among the newcomers as doubles or singles players, those four could also compete for spots on the singles ladder.

The team only won twice in 2023, but were often competitive in their setbacks. For example, the Tigers lost by 4-3 to higher-seeded Harwood in the first round of the playoffs, with the teams splitting four individual matches in tiebreakers.

The Tigers' cohesion could help them improve that record this spring, according to Farrell.

“They may be a little stronger due to their time together,” he said.

## GIRLS' LACROSSE

The Tiger girls' lacrosse team is seeing a  
(See Midd, Page 12)

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# MUHS

# BOYS' TRACK AND FIELD



Middlebury Union High School Varsity Track and Field		
Date	Opponent/Event	
4/11	@ Burlington	3:15 p.m.
4/15	@ CVU	3:30 p.m.
4/30	@ Mt. Abe	3:45 p.m.
5/8	@ Mt. Mansfield	3:30 p.m.
5/15	Host at Midd College	3:30 p.m.
5/20	@ Burlington	3:15 p.m.

Middlebury Union High School Varsity Track and Field Team		
Name	Grade	
Coach: Chris Anderson		
Keil Broderson	11	Kaden Hammond 10
Aaron Carr-Perlow	11	Mary Harrington 10
Lucas Flinger	11	Teddy Manning-Lonczak 10
Jazmyn Hurley	11	Vivian Mott 10
Beth McIntosh	11	Grace Ritter 10
Maggie Noble	11	Laila Sunderland 10
Gabe Schmitt	11	Sarah Tolgyesi 10
Ethan Spritzer	11	Alixis Williams 10
Solstice Binder	10	Sawyer Witscher 10
Maya Breckenridge	10	Blake Davidson 9
Navah Glikman	10	Try MacTavish 9
		Sawyer Malzac 9

# MUHS

# GIRLS' TRACK AND FIELD



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## Midd

*(Continued from Page 9)*

fair amount of change this spring. Several key players graduated, and its former coach stepped down late this winter, with team parent Jeff Weaber stepping up to fill the void.

Weaber has some youth lacrosse coaching experience, and Farrell said Middlebury College Women's Lacrosse Coach (and former MUHS all-star) Kate Livesay has been generous with her time helping out at preseason practices, and the transition has gone smoothly.

The Tigers have more often than not won at least one playoff game each year since the championship seasons of 2017 and 2018, but have not been serious title threats. There are plenty of good young players, though, and Farrell believes the team will be competitive.

Key returners include senior defender captain Lily Finn; junior midfielder Ada Weaber, who hopes to make an impact after injury-plagued seasons; junior Ava Schneider, moving out from the goal up to attack; sophomore middle Quinn Doria; and sophomore attacker Kenyon Connors.

### GIRLS' LACROSSE

*"We have players who have some experience, and this could be a year where we bring it together. We have some pieces we didn't have before. I have high hopes for them."*

— Activities Director  
Sean Farrell

Taking over in goal is ninth-grader Ida Blackwell, and joining Finn on defense will be players from a group that includes seniors Brandy Bishop and Hope Belling, and juniors Lila Cook Yoder, Margaret Orton, Addison Dunakin and Ronan Young. The other midfielders are freshman Isla Weaber, sophomore Lia Calzini, and juniors Juliette Hunsdorfer and Georgia Kiel. Listed on the attack are freshman Isabel Quinn and juniors Pelagia Slater, Addison Schnoor, Sara Kent, Sophia Lawton and Aven Frankovic.

Farrell sees a good blend of seasoned players and newcomers who could make an immediate impact, plus good numbers to create internal competition and depth during games.

"We have players who have some experience, and this could be a year where we bring it together," he said. "We have some pieces we didn't have before. I have high hopes for them."

### TRACK & FIELD

Probably the single best bet for a championship at MUHS this spring is junior Jazmyn Hurley. At the 2023 Division II title meet Hurley won both the girls' 200- and 400-meter races. This past winter, Hurley doubled up again, winning at 55 and 200 meters at the D-II indoor championship meet.

"We're expecting a lot of great things out of her," Farrell said.

Of course, maybe Hurley shouldn't look over her shoulder: Sophomore Solstice Binder might be gaining. Binder placed in both the girls' 100 and 400 a year ago, and joined classmates Grace Ritter, Alexi Williams and Sawyer Witscher on the third-place four-by-400-meter relay team. All four return this spring.

Also on the girls' side, junior Beth McIntosh and sophomore Mary Harrington ran on a sixth-place 4x800 team a year ago, but Coach Chris Anderson will have to find new teammates to run with them after the other

*(See Tigers, Page 16)*

# MUHS

# ULTIMATE



### Middlebury Union High School Varsity Ultimate

Coach: Michelle Steele		Axel de Boer	11	Avery Hohenschau	10
<b>Name</b>	<b>Grade</b>	Javier Fernandez Garcia	11	Callan McDowell	10
Asa Baker-Rouse	12	Anika Heppell	11	Sole Pareja	10
Robin Chamberlain	12	Zackery Ho	11	Toby Baker-Rouse	9
Maura Connelly	12	Gavin Jones	11	Ava Bienvenu	9
Addison Copeland	12	Ella Kozak	11	Julie Connolly	9
Benedict Diehl-Noble	12	Jackson Trump	11	Annan Duquette-Hoffman	9
Max Carpenter	12	Avery Vant	11	Lila Hescok	9
Bea Porter	12	Elen Melkonyan	11	Adalaide Markowski	9
Sara Sansone	12	Ian Sinclair	11	Charlie Reiderer	9
Henry Weston	12	Nick Carpenter	10	Isaiah Robinson	9
Matthew Berg	11	Peter Conklin	10	Ana Sansone	9
Jessie Bodette	11	Berkeley Graham-Gurland	10	Greta Suter	9

### MIDDLEBURY UNION HIGH SCHOOL Ultimate

Date	Opponent/Event	Time
4/12	Burlington	4 p.m.
4/17	Rice	4 p.m.
5/1	S. Burlington	4 p.m.
5/3	@ VT Commons	4 p.m.
5/8	TBA	4 p.m.
5/10	@ Colchester	4 p.m.
5/20	CVU	4 p.m.
5/22	@ Milton	4 p.m.
5/24	@ Mt. Mansfield	4 p.m.
5/29	St. Johnsbury	4 p.m.

# MUHS

# GIRLS' TENNIS



### Middlebury Union High School Girls' Varsity Tennis Team

Coach: Dan Comar		Piper Farnsworth	11
<b>Name</b>	<b>Grade</b>	Subia Khan	11
Audrey Carpenter	12	Mirabelle Markowski	11
Amelia Coburn	12	Olivia Kearley	10
Caroline Nicolai	12	Maryam Khan	10
Ryte Akramaite	11	Oprea Littlefield	10
Sophia Boise	11	Anna Wolosinski	10
Clara Chant	11		

### Middlebury Union High School Varsity Girls' Tennis

<u>Date</u>	<u>Opponent/Event</u>	<u>Time</u>			
	5/6	Montpelier	3:30 p.m.		
4/10	U-32 at MUHS	3:30 p.m.	5/8	N. Country	3:30 p.m.
4/13	@ Harwood	3:30 p.m.	5/10	Mt. Mansfield	3:30 p.m.
4/17	Spaulding	3:30 p.m.	5/15	Stowe	3:30 p.m.
4/19	@ St. Albans	3:30 p.m.	5/17	Harwood	3:30 p.m.
4/29	@ N. Country	3:30 p.m.	5/20	St. Albans	3:30 p.m.
5/1	Rice	3:30 p.m.	5/29	@ Colchester	3:30 p.m.

# MUHS

# BOYS' TENNIS



### Middlebury Union High School Boys' Varsity Tennis Team

Coach: Ken Schoen

Name	Grade		
Iver Anderson	12	Avery Hamilton	11
Kellan Bartlett	12	Jackson Murray	11
Eddie Fallis	12	Kirin Biancosino	10
Baxter Harrington	12	Matias Citarella	10
Eliot Heminway	12	Spencer Copeland	10
Brian Newton	12	Yankee Rheaume	10
Milo Rees	12	Nathan Stefani	10
Silas Taylor	12	Nate Cook Yoder	9
		Charles Young	9

### Middlebury Union High School Varsity Boys' Tennis

Date	Opponent/Event	Time
4/12	CVU	3:30 p.m.
4/15	Stowe	3:30 p.m.
4/17	@ Colchester	3:30 p.m.
4/29	S. Burlington	3:30 p.m.
5/1	@ Rice	3:30 p.m.
5/3	Burlington	3:30 p.m.
5/6	@ Essex	3:30 p.m.
5/8	@ CVU	4:30 p.m.
5/10	@ Mt. Mansfield	3:30 p.m.
5/13	St. Johnsbury	3:30 p.m.
5/15	@ Stowe	3:30 p.m.
5/22	@ N. Country	3:30 p.m.
5/24	U-32	3:30 p.m.
5/29	Colchester	3:30 p.m.

# Tigers

(Continued from Page 12)

two runners graduated.

On the boys' side, juniors Ethan Spritzer and Keil Broderson and sophomore Kaden Hammond ran on relay teams that either placed or came close a year ago, but others who placed or did well at the state meet have moved on, and those relay groups will have to be rebuilt.

Farrell acknowledged the numbers are down, but said that would also allow Coach Anderson and his two new assistants, William Haig and Stephen Kelley, to devote more time to individuals on a smaller team and help them develop; thus, he said, it's possible several could emerge among the team's returners, 12 sophomores and three freshmen.

"You're focus can be greater, and you can kind of push kids a little harder with a small group," said Farrell, himself a former track and field coach.

## ULTIMATE

The Ultimate program has a problem, but in the long run a good one. Plenty of girls signed on, enough to field a separate girls' team, but not until after the multi-school administrative deadline to field a varsity team.

## ULTIMATE

*"Watching the team, they appear to be having a lot of fun. They've come together, and are looking to grow the program for future teams."*

— Activities Director Sean Farrell

As a result, despite having 37 athletes signed up with an almost even split by gender, MUHS has one co-ed Ultimate squad playing a boys' varsity schedule.

It's not a matter of wins and losses, as the MUHS Ultimate teams have never had a remarkable record, but enthusiasm for the sport played with throwing discs known by their commercial name Frisbee. It is also a matter of the Tiger teams' reputation for sportsmanship in competition in which players officiate themselves.

The issue is that Farrell said it will be difficult for Coaches Michelle Steele and

Drew McDowell to find playing time for all the athletes, a fair number of whom are learning the sport. Thus he is looking for other larger schools who might also have extra numbers and be willing to schedule JV coed competition. But as of late in the preseason he was still looking for a JV coach.

"We're trying to break it up into a varsity and JV," he said. "We're trying to figure that out, and figure out coaching."

On the field, a number of players return who Farrell said would both help model the ethos of the sport and raise the level of play for the newcomers. He cited as among them seniors Asa Baker-Rouse, Robin Chamberlain, Maura Connelly, Max Carpenter, Bea Porter and Henry Weston, and juniors Matthew Berg and Ian Sinclair.

Farrell also pointed out the original version of Ultimate was coed, and as for the numbers — better late than never.

"Watching the team, they appear to be having a lot of fun," he said. "They've come together, and are looking to grow the program for future teams."

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# Mount Abraham teams seeking championships

BY ANDY KIRKALDY

BRISTOL — The spring of 2023 overall treated Mount Abraham Union High School athletes pretty well, even considering a few glitches.

The Eagle softball team picked up its fifth Division II crown in six years, while the boys' lacrosse team saw a furious comeback fall short in the D-III final.

Despite an unfortunate DQ for the best D-II boys' hurdler, the Eagle track and field team still managed a few podium places at the state meet. The only team that never really got on a roll was Eagle baseball, despite some good moments along the way.

This spring brings new faces and renewed optimism to most of the teams.

## SOFTBALL

After Coach Don McCormick watched his softball team win the D-II championship last year, he then saw his top two pitchers, and his top three power hitters (two of them the same players, and one of that duo his daughter Eve), walk across the stage and receive diplomas.

But the Mount Abe program has been reloading for years, and this season could be no exception.

"It's a little bit of a different squad," said Athletic Director Devin Wendel. "We'll be younger in a few positions. But we're still returning some key players, and I think that overall the culture of our program is so strong that it allows players to step up and shine."

Among the key returners are senior Madelyn Hayden, a three-year starter either at second base or outfield; Joanna Toy, probably the team's catcher this season; versatile senior Sarah Heath; and junior infielder Abigail Parker.

Wendel expects several sophomores who played limited roles in 2023 to see more fulltime action this spring, in particular Gretchen Toy, the team's No. 1 pitcher, and infielders Gen Forand and Morgan Larocque.

The lineup in the field would most likely be influenced by what McCormick saw during a team trip last week to South Carolina, Wendel added, where he could "see them in an open

field to determine what serves us best" rather than the school gym.

Overall, it's safe to say the Eagles will be a solid squad once again, offensively and defensively.

## SOFTBALL

*"It's a little bit of a different squad. We'll be younger in a few positions. But we're still returning some key players, and I think that overall the culture of our program is so strong that it allows players to step up and shine."*

— Athletic Director  
Devin Wendel

to be players. Some of them are going to see reps at the varsity level, I'm sure."

And the team is confident and motivated heading into the season.

"The kids, being in the state championship two years in a row, having the feeling of getting that close, and especially last year, having that comeback and falling just short, I think this group is pretty darn hungry," Wendel said. "And they have one goal in mind."

A dozen seniors return to lead the way, including goalie Walker Forand; midfielders Jamison Couture, Sam Mangini and Finley Kaeck; defenders Jordan Schroeder, Connor Kelly and Olin Kidder; and attackers Andrew Nolan and Noah Ladeau.

"The leadership that is there, too, is going to be pretty spot on," Wendel said.

"I think this team is going to have to play a little bit more small-ball to get the job done," Wendel said. "Once we catch our groove I think we're going to be just fine."

## BOYS' LACROSSE

Coach Ed Cook's boys' lacrosse squad has reached the D-III final each of the past two seasons, and has hopes of reaching the top of the mountain this season.

Two high-scoring attackers graduated, but most of the team's core returns this spring, and Wendel noted at least some of the 13 freshmen who signed on can help right away.

"When I look at just the lacrosse IQ, and the general baseline skills of these kids coming in ... it's huge," he said. "To lose two and replace with 13, it's big. And these kids, some of them are going

## TRACK & FIELD

*"I think we're going to see a lot more explosiveness out of some of these kids this spring. We definitely have some kids coming back that are going to be pretty successful, for sure."*

— Athletic Director  
Devin Wendel

Among the key juniors who return include faceoff specialist Lorenzo Atocha and midfielder Spencer Gebu.

Wendel also credits Cook for instilling a strong team atmosphere.

"He's done a nice job," Wendel said. "Ed's now been at Mount Abe for long enough to build a lacrosse culture, too, and a positive and consistent one. And I think the kids have bought in, and they're holding each other accountable."

## TRACK AND FIELD

Returning scorers from the 2023 D-II state meet are for Co-Coaches Katie Burdett's and Brent Crum's 2024 Eagle track and field team: Senior Joseph Darling returns after taking fourth in the discus and sixth in the long jump and junior Hazel Stoddard finished fourth in the high jump.

At this winter's indoor track championship meet, Darling moved up to second in the long jump, and junior Ruby Connell was just out of the money at 50 and 300 meters.

Wendel said Darling will be looking to cap his career with more podium appearances.

"He hit some really nice marks in indoor, and obviously had some great success in outdoor last year," he said.

Given their recent track records, Wendel also cited Stoddard and Connell.

"Hazel Stoddard and Ruby Connell are going to be kids to watch this spring," he said, noting that Connell broke the Eagle 300-meter mark this winter.

Wendel and the coaches were pleased to see 10 ninth-graders sign up. Among them Truman Sawyer could make the earliest impact in the long jump and at the middle distances.

"He has a lot of potential," he said, also citing his classmate Kassondra Garrow in the long jump and at 55 meter as "someone to watch."

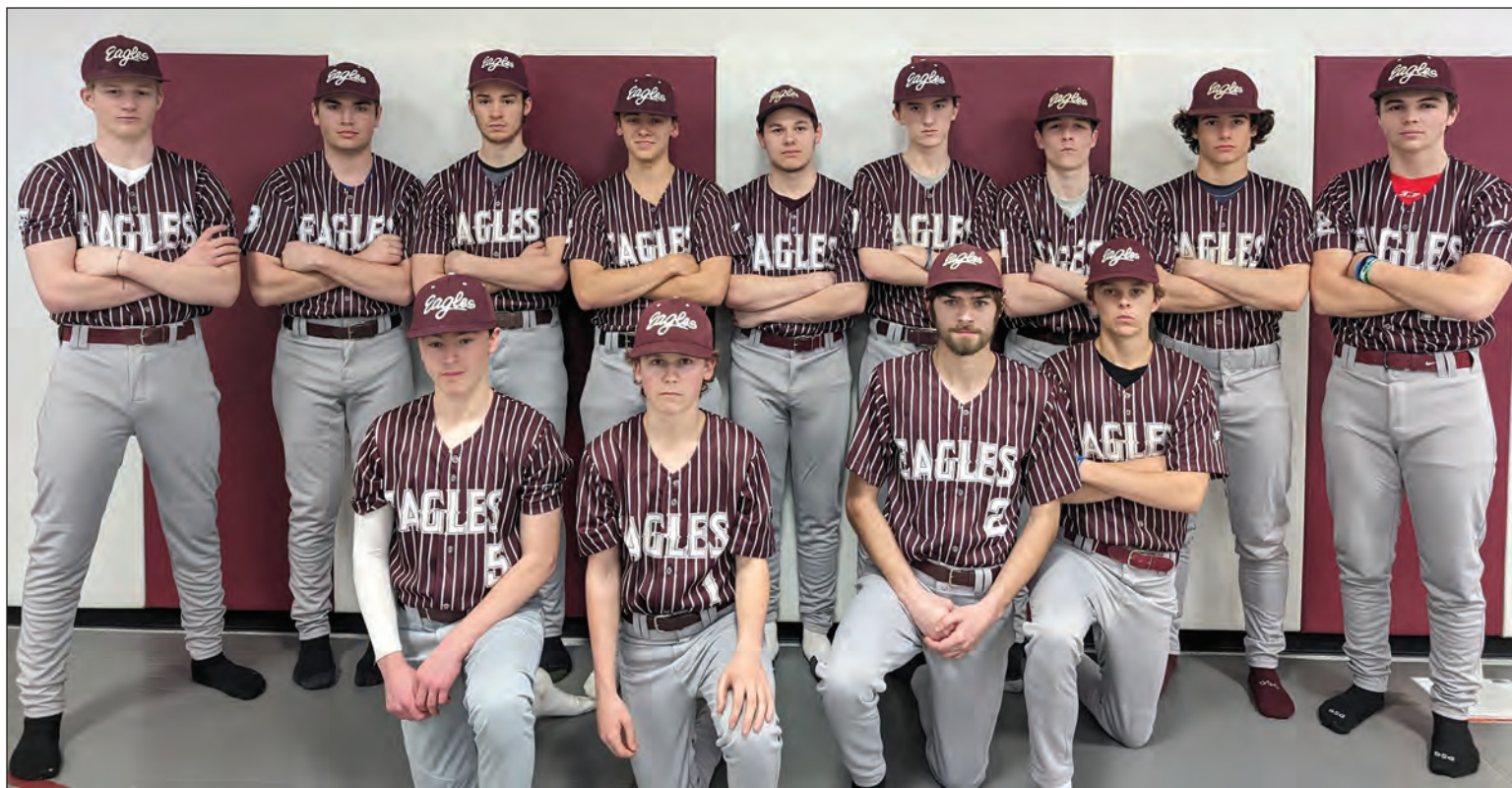
The coaches are also stressing "general strength and conditioning," including weight training with the expectation that other athletes could emerge in the course of the season,

Wendel said.

"I think we're going to see a lot more (See Mt. Abe, Page 22)

# Mt. Abe

# BASEBALL



### Mount Abraham Union High School Varsity Baseball Team

Coach: Jason Barnard

<u>Name</u>	<u>Grade</u>
Tanner Castillo	12
Jamison Huizenga	12
Riley Coffey	11
Gavin Conrad	11
Aricin Griffin	11
Connor Peck	11
Tyler White	11
Brody Barnard	10
Evan Corrigan	10
Cameron Castillo	9
Clark Crary	9
Abraham Ready	9

### Mount Abraham Union High School Varsity Baseball

<u>Date</u>	<u>Opponent/Event</u>	<u>Time</u>
4/23	@ CVU	4:30 p.m.
4/25	North Country	4:30 p.m.
4/30	Spaulding	4:30 p.m.
5/2	@ OV	4:30 p.m.
5/4	Rutland	11 a.m.
5/7	@ BFA Fairfax	4:30 p.m.
5/9	Missisquoi	4:30 p.m.
5/11	Milton	11 a.m.
5/14	Enosburg	4:30 p.m.
5/16	@ MUHS	4:30 p.m.
5/18	@ VUHS	10 a.m.
5/21	@ Missisquoi	4:30 p.m.
5/23	@ Milton	4:30 p.m.
5/25	@ Enosburg	11 a.m.
5/28	MUHS	4:30 p.m.
5/30	VUHS	4:30 p.m.

# Mt. Abe

# SOFTBALL



**Mount Abraham Union High School  
Varsity Softball Team**

Coach: Don McCormick		Brooklyn Ryersbach	10
<b>Name</b>	<b>Grade</b>	Gretchen Toy	10
Madelyn Hayden	12	Kayleigh Austin	9
Sarah Heath	12	Brooke Barnard	9
Joanna Toy	12	Idalee Jackman	9
Abigail Parker	11	Reese Kihm	9
Elise Parker	11	Reagan LaFreniere	9
Genevieve Forand	10	Emmali Rougier	9
Morgan Larocque	10	Leah Tierney	9
Molly Mangini	10		

**Mount Abraham Union High School  
Varsity Softball**

Date	Opponent/Event	Time
4/23	@ CVU	4:30 p.m.
4/25	North Country	4:30 p.m.
4/27	@ Missisquoi	11 a.m.
4/30	Spaulding	4:30 p.m.
5/2	@ at OV	4:30 p.m.
5/4	Rutland	11 a.m.
5/7	@ BFA Fairfax	4:30 p.m.
5/9	Rice	4:30 p.m.
5/11	Milton	11 a.m.
5/14	Enosburg	4:30 p.m.
5/16	@ MUHS	4:30 p.m.
5/18	@ VUHS	10 a.m.
5/21	@ Rice	4:30 p.m.
5/23	@ Milton	4:30 p.m.
5/25	@ Enosburg	11 a.m.
5/28	MUHS	4:30 p.m.
5/30	VUHS	4:30 p.m.

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**Mt. Abe**

**BOYS' LACROSSE**



Mount Abraham Union High School Varsity Boys' Lacrosse Team		
Name	Grade	
Coach: Ed Cook		Toby Tillotson 12
		Chase Atkins 11
Jamison Couture	12	Lorenzo Atocha 11
Walker Forand	12	Spencer Gebo 11
Noah Ladeau	12	Hayden Lutz 11
Andrew Nolan	12	Jacob Prouty 11
Jake Kadar	12	Cooper Cook 10
Finley Kaeck	12	Connor Nason 10
Connor Kelly	12	Jacoby Senecal 10
Olin Kidde	12	Joseph Sullivan 10
Benjamin MacDonald	12	Lincoln Painter 9
Samuel Mangini	12	Asa Pratt 9
Jordan Schroeder	12	Levi Smith 9

Mount Abraham Union High School Varsity Boys' Lacrosse		
Date	Opponent/Event	Time
4/10	OVUHS	4:30 p.m.
4/13	Stowe	11 a.m.
4/16	Hartford	4:30 p.m.
4/19	St. Johnsbury	4:30 p.m.
4/30	@ Lamolile	4:30 p.m.
5/1	Randolph	4:30 p.m.
5/3	Lyndon	4:30 p.m.
5/8	@ Burlington	4:30 p.m.
5/11	@ Milton	11 a.m.
5/15	Harwood	4:30 p.m.
5/18	Colchester	10 a.m.
5/21	@ OVUHS	4:30 p.m.
5/25	Fairfax	11 a.m.
5/29	@ Spaulding	4:30 p.m.
5/31	@ Montpelier	4:30 p.m.

# Mt. Abe

*(Continued from Page 17)*

explosiveness out of some of these kids this spring,” he said. “We definitely have some kids coming back that are going to be pretty successful, for sure.”

## BASEBALL

This past spring, despite a few bright spots, was a largely forgettable one for Coach Jason Barnard’s Mount Abe baseball program.

But there are a few reasons for optimism heading into this season, according to Wendel, including veteran pitching and an infusion of young talent, including two sophomores and three freshmen who made varsity.

“We’ve got some pitching coming back,” Wendel said. “This freshman class is one that we’ve been really excited coming up through.”

The team will look to its two seniors, Tanner Castillo and Jamison Huizenga to help Barnard steer the ship.

“Tanner Castillo, Jamo (Huizenga), those two are going to be the leaders this year,” Wendel said.

Live-armed junior lefty Aricin Griffin is back



FILE PHOTO

to lead the pitching staff, and Castillo; freshman Abe Ready, juniors Gavin Conrad and Tyler White; and sophomore Brody Barnard are also candidates to take the mound. They will throw to a catching crew that includes Castillo, Ready

and freshman Clark Crary, Wendel said.

Wendel said other positions were still being sorted out in the preseason, but that the team has the depth and talent to move pieces around.

*(See Mt. Abe, Page 24)*

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# Mt. Abe

## TRACK & FIELD



Mount Abraham Union High School Varsity Track & Field Team		
Coaches: Katie Burdett & Brent Crum		
<b>Name</b>	<b>Grade</b>	
Joseph Darling	12	Emily Fritz 10
Teagan Obarski	12	William McLeod 10
Michael Sayre	12	James Mount 10
Siena Stanley	12	Charles Anderson 9
Ruby Connell	11	Rhiannon Andrews 9
Ryan Cross	11	Megan Bowers 9
Finn Harris	11	Garrett Duell 9
Whitney Dykstra	11	Elias Eberhardy 9
Damian Newell	11	Ada Fisher 9
Nola Roberts	11	Kassondra Garrow 9
Elliot Senecal	11	Merissa Gordon 9
Isabella Shea	11	Jackson LaMarche 9
Hazel Stoddard	11	Truman Sawyer 9
		Lincoln Ward 9

Mount Abraham Union High School Varsity Track & Field		
<b>Date</b>	<b>Opponent/Event</b>	<b>Time</b>
4/11	@ Mt. Mansfield	3:30 p.m.
4/17	@ Burlington	3:15 p.m.
4/24	@ Essex	9:30 a.m.
4/30	Hosts	3:45 p.m.
5/4	@ South Burlington	1 p.m.
5/8	@ Milton	3:30 p.m.
5/11	@ Burlington	9 a.m.
5/13	@ Missisquoi	3:30 p.m.
5/20	@ CVU 3:30	p.m.
5/25	@ Essex	9 a.m.
5/28	@ Mt. Mansfield	3:30 p.m.
5/31	D-II State Meet-Burlington 2	p.m.

## Mt. Abe

(Continued from Page 22)

“If someone is on the mound we still have a solid replacement behind them,” Wendel said.

Among the team’s better offensive players could be the seniors, junior Griffin, sophomore Evan Corrigan, and freshman Ready, Wendel said.

Barnard was emphasizing fundamentals and team chemistry in the runup to the season.

“He’s just trying to keep it simple. He wants pitchers to throw strikes. He wants his players to make the routine players, and he wants his players to be positive and encouraging,” Wendel said. “Those are the big things he’s focused on. He’s saying if we do those things, we’re going to be just fine.”

As always, the Eagles will play a schedule that will include Division 1 teams, but Wendel believes they will hold their own.

“We can hang with teams as long as everyone does their jobs individually,” he said. “I’m looking forward to it.”

### BASEBALL

*“Coach Jason Barnard is just trying to keep it simple. He wants pitchers to throw strikes. He wants his players to make the routine players, and he wants his players to be positive and encouraging.”*

— Athletic Director  
Devin Wendel



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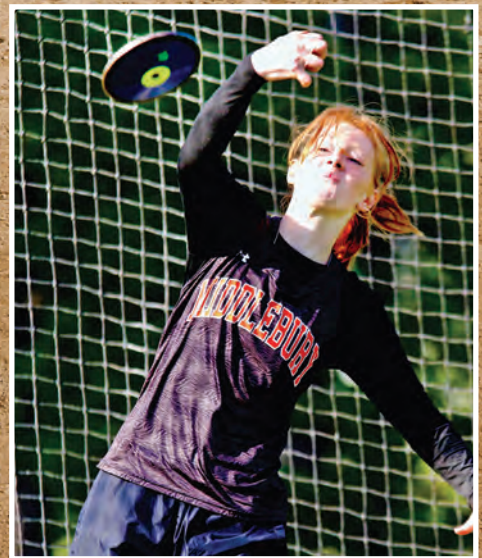
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# Good Luck to Area Athletes!

FILE PHOTOS



# Commodore teams look to build on past success

BY ANDY KIRKALDY

VERGENNES — The spring of 2023 had to be rated a success for the Vergennes sports teams.

The Commodore track and field squad earned two individual victories and one silver medal — and many athletes return.

Meanwhile, the Commodore baseball and softball squads and the cooperative girls' lacrosse team VUHS shares with Mount Abraham all reached semifinals. New faces might have to emerge if those groups are to repeat those performances, but spring always brings optimism, in most cases likely justified.

## TRACK AND FIELD

It's been a productive couple of championship meets in the past year for Coach Brad Castillo's Commodore track and field program. In the spring of 2023 Calder Rakowski won the boys' 800-meter race and also ran on the Commodores' winning four-by-800-meter relay team along with Calvin Gramling, Riley Gagnon and Grey Fearon. Fearon also took second at 1,500 meters for the other top boys' result; he was also third at 800 meters. All four return this spring.

A thrower who picked up silver outdoors for the VUHS girls graduated, but Jing Williams is back after taking fifth at 1,500 meters. And she, Quincy Sabick and Gina LeBeau all return after finishing just seconds out of the money in the 4x400 relay.

This winter in the D-II indoor title meet, Fearon won at 1,000 meters, and the four-by-800-meter relay team of Fearon, Gagnon, Gramling and Rakowski prevailed, and taking second were Rakowski in the 600 and the 4X400 team of Rakowski, Fearon, Chance Koenig, and Ryder Messinger. Koenig also returns.

VUHS Athletic Director Peter Maneen said he and Castillo are looking for more good results from that group, including possibly a Division-III record in the boys' 4x800.

"We're expecting some good things there," Maneen said.

The optimism surrounding the program is not limited to the boys' side: 16 girls signed up, including five freshmen as well as strong athletes from the upper grades. In particular it



FILE PHOTO

shouldn't be difficult to add a runner to the girls' 4x400 team to contend again, Maneen said.

"Our track numbers in general have improved," he said. "We have a number of new kids in the program that show a lot of potential."

## TRACK & FIELD

*"Our track numbers in general have improved. We have a number of new kids in the program that show a lot of potential."*

— Athletic Director Peter Maneen

## GIRLS' LACROSSE

Coach Marikate Kelley's VUHS-Mount Abraham cooperative girls' lacrosse team has reached at least the D-II semifinals every season since its undefeated championship season in 2019. That record includes in 2022 coming up just short in a final.

Key this year for the team will be replacing offense lost to graduation, Maneen said.

"The biggest thing for girls' lacrosse will be who is going to be the consistent scorer,"

he said. "There are a number of returning defenders, and in the midfield."

The team also returns a veteran goalie, senior Carley Cook. Defenders in front of her could include seniors Nell Harvey and Julia Sonneborn, also potentially midfielders;

juniors Safoura Camara, Ellie Hellier and Kennedy Denecker (the latter two are also potentially midfielders); and sophomores Scout Jacobson and Eleanor Wilkinson-Sachs.

Senior Annie Dufault will help anchor the midfield and could provide an offensive spark. Other midfielders include senior Siena Stanley and sophomore June Yates-Rusch.

Senior Anna Stillwell could be a key cog and leader on the attack, where also junior Esme Visco-Lyons and sophomore Maris LaPerle could line up.

Four ninth-graders will also be seeking roles, probably at midfield or attack, Maneen said: Thompson Davis, Meredith Dufault, Zoey Johnston and Adrienne Smits.

How quickly some or all of the younger athletes acclimate to varsity play will help determine how the Commodores fare, Maneen said.

"The question is which of those players are going to step forward and become more consistent and comfortable at the varsity level and speed of play," Maneen said.

A tough early schedule should help prepare the Commodores for D-II competition, including the postseason, Maneen added.

"Continuing on their recent success is I  
(See VUHS, Page 31)

# VUHS

# BASEBALL



### Vergennes Union High School Baseball Team

Coach: Andy O'Brien		Carter McGuire	10
<b>Name</b>	<b>Grade</b>	Dekota Safford	10
Jackson Becher	12	Elliot Cosgrove	9
Benjamin Hargett	12	Juan De La Cruz	9
Tyler Kimball	12	Ryan Johnson	9
Eyon Tembreull	12	Aaron Kandzior	9
Reese Paquette	11	Liam McGuire	9
Gabriel Scribner	11	Colton Reed	9
Aiden Fuller	10	Izaak Wolniewicz	9

### Vergennes Union High School Varsity Baseball

Date	Opponent/Event	Time			
	5/14	@ MUHS	4:30 p.m.		
4/20	@ Thetford	11 a.m.	5/16	Missisquoi	4:30 p.m.
4/23	@ Richford	4:30 p.m.	5/18	Mt Abe	10 a.m.
4/25	Burlington	4:30 p.m.	5/21	@ Milton	4:30 p.m.
5/2	@ Peoples	4:30 p.m.	5/23	Enosburg	4:30 p.m.
5/4	Randolph	11 a.m.	5/25	MUHS	11 a.m.
5/9	Milton	4:30 p.m.	5/28	@ Missisquoi	4:30 p.m.
5/11	@ Enosburg	11 a.m.	5/30	@ Mt Abe	4:30 p.m.



# SOFTBALL



Vergennes Union High School Varsity Softball Team	
Coach: Travis Scribner	
Name	Grade
Savanah Blaise	11
Rory Couture	11
Rory Hendee	11
Katelyn Laberge	11
Ava Mullin	11
Phoebe Raphael	10
Kaiya Corbett-Anderson	9
Alexandria Jewell	9
Jayden Ploof	9
Acasia Visser	9
Ryenn Wisell	9

Vergennes Union High School Varsity Softball						
Date	Opponent/Event	Time				
5/14	@ MUHS	4:30 p.m.				
4/16	Oxbow	4:30 p.m.	5/16	Rice	4:30 p.m.	
4/20	@ Thetford	11 a.m.	5/18	Mt Abe	10 a.m.	
4/23	@ Richford	4:30 p.m.	5/21	@ Milton	4:30 p.m.	
5/4	@ Oxbow	11 a.m.	5/23	Enosburg	4:30 p.m.	
5/7	@ Twinfield	4:30 p.m.	5/25	MUHS	11 a.m.	
5/9	Milton	4:30 p.m.	5/28	@ Rice	4:30 p.m.	
5/11	@ Enosburg	11 a.m.	5/30	@ Mt Abe	4:30 p.m.	

**VUHS**

**GIRLS' LACROSE**



Vergennes Union High School Girls' Varsity Lacrosse Team		
Name	Grade	
Coach: Marikate Kelley		Ruby Hellier 11
		Esme Visco-Lyons 11
Carley Cook	12	Scout Jacobson 10
Ann Marie Dufault	12	Maris LaPerle 10
Nell Harvey	12	Eleanor Wilkinson-Sachs 10
Julia Sonneborn	12	June Yates-Rusch 10
Siena Stanley	12	Thompson Davis 9
Anna Stilwell	12	Meredith Dufault 9
Safoura Camara	11	Zoey Johnston 9
Kennedy Denecker	11	Adrienne Smits 9

Vergennes Union High School Girls' Varsity Lacrosse		
Date	Opponent/Event	Time
4/11	Stowe	4:30 p.m.
4/13	Essex	11 a.m.
4/16	@ Hartford	4:30 p.m.
4/20	@ St. Johnsbury	11 a.m.
4/27	@ St. Albans	11 a.m.
4/30	Lamoille	4:30 p.m.
5/3	@ Lyndon	4:30 p.m.
5/8	Burlington	4:30 p.m.
5/11	Milton	11 a.m.
5/14	@ Harwood	4:30 p.m.
5/16	GMVS	4:30 p.m.
5/18	@ Colchester	11 a.m.
5/21	MUHS	4:30 p.m.
5/25	@ Rice	11 a.m.
5/29	Spaulding	4:30 p.m.
6/1	U-32	11 a.m.



# TRACK & FIELD



Vergennes Union High School Varsity Track Team			
Name	Grade		
Coaches: Brad Castillo		Mary Cosgrove	11
<b>BOYS:</b>		Torrey Hanna	11
Riley Gagnon	12	Sophia Johnson	11
Calvin Gramling	12	Tryphene Miguel	11
Calder Rakowski	12	Jing Williams	11
Connor Brogan	11	Ava Francis	10
Owen Collette	11	Gina LeBeau	10
Grey Fearon	11	Faith McAllister	10
Brody McGuire	11	Libby Ringer	10
Chance Koenig	10	Quincy Sabick	10
Peter Maneen	10	Eva Borah	9
		Isabella Romond	9
		Madeleine Stroup	9
<b>GIRLS:</b>		Isabelle Van Voorst	9
Alaina LeBeau	12	Megan Willis	9

Vergennes Union High School Varsity Track & Field		
Date	Opponent/Event	Time
4/11	@ Mt Mansfield	3:30 p.m.
4/15	@ CVU	3:30 p.m.
4/30	@ Mt Abe	3:30 p.m.
5/4	@ S. Burlington	1 p.m.
5/8	@ Essex	3:30 p.m.
5/11	@ Burlington	9 a.m.
5/15	@ MUHS	3:30 p.m.
5/21	@ S. Burlington	3:30 p.m.
5/25	@ Essex	9 a.m.
5/28	@ Mt Mansfield	3:30 p.m.
6/1	D-III Title Meet	TBA

# VUHS

*(Continued from Page 26)*

don't think unreasonable," he said. "I think the goal is to be in the top four when the playoffs come around and making another run."

## BASEBALL

Coach Andy O'Brien's baseball team won twice in the D-III playoffs a year ago, the second victory being on the road against the top seed. Several players earned diplomas after that playoff performance, but a number of players are back, critically pitchers and a catcher.

"We lost some pretty important players from that program, but we have some pretty key returning players. We have some pretty good pitching depth," Maneen said. "So we're looking for some pretty good things out of the baseball program."

The pitching rotation will include seniors Tyler Kimball and Eyon "Tiki" Tembreull, and juniors Gabe Scribner and Reese Paquette.

Those players will also almost certainly occupy key defensive positions when not on the mound. Paquette will be the primary catcher, with the backup spot up for grabs in the early going. Kimball is the center fielder, Tembreull the shortstop, and Scribner the third baseman.

Other positions were subject to competition in the preseason, with seniors Jackson Becher and Benjamin Hargett, three sophomores and seven freshmen seeking playing time.

Maneen said some of those younger players

will have to make solid contributions and the seniors will have to show the way if the Commodore nine is to contend again.

He added the younger players have devoted themselves to the sport.

"There's a number of younger players, but it's big baseball crew. They've played a lot of baseball over the years," Maneen said. "So it will be a fun year. There will be some young kids in the mix with some veteran leadership. They should be competitive."

## SOFTBALL

The VUHS softball program will have a new coach, Peter Monty, who was until this spring the Essex JV program head.

Monte will be looking to preserve the momentum the program has gained over the past few years: The Commodores reached the D-III final in 2022 and lost a close semifinal a year ago.

But Maneen acknowledged some rebuilding might be in order, with just 11 high school students in the program, including five freshmen and no seniors, to tide things over until 17 middle school participants move up the ladder.

"Softball graduated a number of older players last year. They're very young this year," Maneen said.

The good news is two-year starting junior pitcher Savannah Blaise, also a top-of-the-order hitter, is back.

"Savannah is a good place to start from," Maneen said.

## SOFTBALL

*"We're looking forward to seeing how these players take to the game. The goal is development over the course of the season."*

— Athletic Director Peter Maneen



Two other key junior starters return, outfielder Katie LaBerge and infielder Rory Couture, and junior Rizz Mullin has also seen time over the past couple seasons.

Rounding out the roster are junior Rory Hendee, essentially new to the sport; sophomore Phoebe Raphael; the five freshmen; and likely one 8th-grade callup. Of the freshman, one has experience — Ryenn Wisell, who played varsity a year ago as an 8th-grader and, according to Maneen, was a .300 hitter.

Maneen said how quickly the younger players, some of them short on softball experience, adapt to the varsity game could determine the Commodores' fate. But wins and losses might not be the most important piece of the agenda for this season, he added.

"We're looking forward to seeing how these players take to the game," Maneen said. "The goal is development over the course of the season. We obviously want to be competitive, but we want to see these kids learn and enjoy the game and continue to take steps forward as players."

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# Otter Valley squads will be relying on new faces

BY ANDY KIRKALDY

BRANDON — Two spring sports programs at Otter Valley have each won a Division II title and reached another final since 2014, those being baseball and softball. Those teams have also more often than not picked up at least one postseason victory during the other years. The third, boys' lacrosse, has had a few bright spots since it was established, including three playoff victories, but has yet to break through for sustained success.

What to expect this season?

## BASEBALL

OV athletic director Steve Keith noted the Otter baseball team graduated 10 seniors from the group that hosted and won a Division II playoff game a year ago.

But there are some quality returners, Keith said, including seniors Brayden Chandler, Luciano Falco and Isaiah Wood, while adding that Coach Mike Howe has established a winning culture.

"I think the guys coming are very determined to maintain that same level of expectations," Keith said, including newcomers who had good seasons on the JV team in 2023. "They're excited. They're working really hard, and Mike's been really pleased with the level of effort."

Wood and sophomore Jackson Howe will head the pitching rotation, and Keith said junior Nolan Tripp and sophomore Jacob Warrell will be among "some other guys who are going to contribute" on the mound.

Falco will start behind the plate, and Warrell can also catch and help elsewhere on the diamond. Keith said Howe is carrying just 12 players, most of whom are capable of playing multiple positions and all of whom will play. But with the team's preseason scrimmages snowed out in the first week of April, it was difficult to predict a starting lineup.

"We have a good option for all those guys, and all of them are going to see time in different places," Keith said. "I think the flexibility of them all playing different spots is going to be helpful."

It is possible Tripp could play shortstop, while Warrell and sophomore Dominyk Waite could see time at second base, Keith said, and there are "four or five guys in the outfield that are all going to get opportunities."

The Otters have hosted and won first-round playoff games in two of the past three years.

"It's always a goal to get yourself a home playoff game and put yourself in the mix," Keith said. "They're going to compete and be in the mix for everything. They're always well prepared."

## SOFTBALL

Meanwhile, the OV softball team has won at least one playoff game for six straight seasons with Coach Kelly Trayah at the helm after Pattie Candon's retirement.

Like baseball, however, there were losses to graduation, and this year's team features only two seniors,

Sierra Cormany, probably the team's No. 1 pitcher and also a shortstop, and MyKenzie Thibault, a versatile player likely to also see time on the mound.

"We have a young roster," Keith said. "We have some sophomores, some freshmen who are all going to play roles, some juniors and the seniors. So we're really mixed across the board."

A strong point could be the

mound corps.

"We have a lot of pitching," Keith said, with sophomore Leann Thomas and freshman Sophia Parker rounding out a deep rotation.

Junior Kaylee Maloy and sophomore Noelle Seigle will handle the catching chores, and they could also DH.

Elsewhere, Keith said there will be new faces around the infield and in the outfield,

and like baseball there are different lineup possibilities for Trayah to work out because of his athletes' versatility.

"He's really excited about that group. They have a lot of softball abilities, a lot of athletes across the field," Keith said.

Junior Lauren Palmer, sophomore Hannah Desabrais and freshman Adyson Humiston, plus Cormany and Parker when not on the mound, are infield candidates. Thibault, juniors Randi Lancour and Charlotte Newton, and sophomores Michael Hobbs and Thomas could patrol the outfield grass.

Overall, Keith foresees the outlook as positive and Otter softball to be competitive once again.

"I think they all hit the ball pretty well," he said. "Kelly's been pretty excited about the possibility of getting speed on the basepaths, and also putting the ball in play."

## BOYS' LACROSSE

The OV boys' lax program has a new coach, Emerson Doty, an OV English educator who Keith said played for a strong

high school program. Keith added Doty's classroom skills appear to be translating to teaching the sport.

"He's done a really nice job so far. Practices have been really well run," Keith said.

Critically, the program is picking up some numbers, including nine sophomores who can help grow the program over the next few years joining three juniors and six seniors.

"We're in the 16-to-18 range, which is a healthy number for us," Keith said.

The Otters only won a game or two a year ago, but learned as they went along, he said.

"Obviously there were lopsided scores, but a lot of kids got good playing experience," he said.

There are also valuable players returning, including senior defenders Simon Martin, Aiden Wade and Matt Cole, and senior midfielder Chase Cram, coming off outstanding football and wrestling seasons.

"He's going to score some goals for us," (See OVUHS, Page 35)

## BASEBALL

*"I think the guys coming are very determined to maintain that same level of expectations... including newcomers who had good seasons on the JV team in 2023. They're excited. They're working really hard, and Mike's been really pleased with the level of effort."*

— Athletic Director Steve Keith

## BOYS' LACROSSE

*"A lot of those guys in that sophomore group, they convinced their friends to come out. And they really enjoyed it. I think that's really key to our growth (in lacrosse) at school, convincing some of your friends to come out and give it a shot."*

— Athletic Director Steve Keith

OVUHS

## BOYS' LACROSSE



**Otter Valley Union High School  
Boys' Varsity Lacrosse Team**

Coach: Emerson Doty		Gavyn Towle	11
<b>Name</b>	<b>Grade</b>	Timothy Baron	10
Matthew Cole	12	Jaydon Connors	10
Chase Cram	12	Ethan Dukette	10
Simon Martin	12	Robert Gilbert	10
Sawyer Tinsman	12	Jason Hartwell	10
Aiden Wade	12	Benjamin McGuigan	10
Damon Wood	12	Brayden Meza	10
Kaiden Lee	11	Samuel Luis	10
Jackson Marks	11	Ethan Ross	10

**Otter Valley Union High School  
Boys' Varsity Lacrosse**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Opponent/Event</b>	<b>Time</b>
4/10	@ Mt Abe	4:30 p.m.
4/12	Fairfax at OV	4:30 p.m.
4/19	Randolph at OV	4:30 p.m.
4/23	@ Rutland	4 p.m.
4/27	Hartford at OV	10 a.m.
5/3	GMVS at OV	4:30 p.m.
5/8	@ Randolph	4 p.m.
5/13	@ Montpelier	5 p.m.
5/21	Mt Abe at OV	4:30 p.m.
5/25	@ Brattleboro	7 p.m.
5/28	@ Stratton	4:30 p.m.
5/31	Brattleboro at OV	4:30 p.m.

# OVUHS

(Continued from Page 33)

Keith said of Cram.

Senior goalie Damon Wood returns for his second year between the pipes. "That's a real positive," Keith said.

Juniors who should make an impact include midfielders Gavyn Towle and Jackson Marks, he said.

## SOFTBALL

*"I think they all hit the ball pretty well. Kelly's been pretty excited about the possibility of getting speed on the basepaths, and also putting the ball in play."*

— Athletic Director  
Steve Keith

Several sophomores should be ready to emerge, he added, including T.J. Baron, Braydon Meza and Benjamin McGuigan.

The sophomores have already helped, in fact.

"A lot of those guys in that sophomore group, they convinced their friends to come out," Keith said. "And they really enjoyed it. I think that's really key to our growth (in lacrosse) at school, convincing some of your friends to come out and give it a shot."

As for an outlook, Keith said growing the sport and honing skills are important goals, but winning a couple games would be fun.

"There are games the guys are certainly looking at in the schedule and saying, 'We can compete,'" he said.

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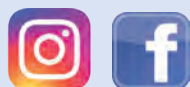
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## OVUHS

## SOFTBALL



**Otter Valley Union High School  
Varsity Softball Team**

Coach: Kelly Trayah

<b>Name</b>	<b>Grade</b>
Sierra Cormany	12
MyKenzie Thibault	12
Randi Lancour	11
Kaylee Maloy	11
Charlotte Newton	11
Lauren Palmer	11
Hannah Desabrais	10
Micheala Hobbs	10
Noelle Seigle	10
Leann Thomas	10
Adyson Humiston	9
Sophia Parker	9

**Otter Valley Union High School  
Varsity Softball**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Opponent/Event</b>	<b>Time</b>
4/9	Burr & Burton	4:30 p.m.
4/11	@ Fair Haven	4:30 p.m.
4/23	@ Springfield	4:30 p.m.
4/25	@ Rutland	5 p.m.
4/30	@ Bellows Falls	4:30 p.m.
5/2	Mt. Abe	4:30 p.m.
5/3	@ Green Mt.	4:30 p.m.
5/7	@ White River	4:30 p.m.
5/9	@ Hartford	4:30 p.m.
5/14	@ Mt Anthony	4:30 p.m.
5/16	Springfield	4:30 p.m.
5/18	@ Brattleboro	11 a.m.
5/21	Hartford	4:30 p.m.
5/23	Fair Haven	4:30 p.m.
5/25	Bellows Falls	11 a.m.
5/28	@ Woodstock	4:30 p.m.

# OVUHS

# BASEBALL



**Otter Valley Union High School  
Varsity Baseball Team**

Coach: Michael Howe

Name	Grade
Brayden Chandler	12
Luciano Falco	12
Nathaniel Gaissert	12
Isaiah Wood	12
Tucker Maranville	11
Noel Pearsons	11
Nolan Tripp	11
Jackson Howe	10
Lucas Kendrick	10
Dominyk Waite	10
Jacob Warrell	10
Wyatt Cone	9

**Otter Valley Union High School  
Varsity Baseball**

Date	Opponent/Event	Time			
4/9	Burr & Burton	4:30 p.m.	5/11	Windsor	11 a.m.
4/15	Leland & Gray	4:30 p.m.	5/14	@ Mt Anthony	4:30 p.m.
4/20	@ Springfield	11 a.m.	5/16	Green Mt.	4:30 p.m.
4/23	@ Fair Haven	4:30 p.m.	5/18	@ Brattleboro	11 a.m.
4/25	@ Rutland	5 p.m.	5/21	@ Hartford	7 p.m.
4/30	@ Bellows Falls	4:30 p.m.	5/23	Fair Haven	4:30 p.m.
5/2	Mt Abe	4:30 p.m.	5/25	Bellows Falls	11 a.m.
5/9	Hartford	4:30 p.m.	5/28	@ Windsor	4:30 p.m.



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