



Volunteers

We give of ourselves around here! See the stories of many do-gooders in our Volunteers special section.



Make it 14-0

Trinity posed another test for the Middlebury women's lacrosse team, but the Panthers passed. Page 1B.



Recreation

Look at our quarterly recreation guide and make a plan for your kids' summer activities.

ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT

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Planned roundabout gathers momentum

Solution eyed for Rt. 7/Exchange St.

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — The town of Middlebury is trying to thaw a high-priority, safety-related road construction project that's been moving at a glacial pace.

At issue is a single-lane roundabout that would serve the intersection of Route 7, Exchange Street and Happy Valley Road just north of the village. The current intersection — featuring stop signs at both the Exchange Street and Happy Valley Road outlets to the U.S. highway — can make for white-knuckle driving, particularly for the high

volume of drivers trying to turn left from Exchange Street onto Route 7, enroute for New Haven, Vergennes and points north. Drivers queued up to make that left must currently wait for a break in northbound Route 7 traffic that, after leaving Middlebury Village, is often barreling at 50-plus miles per hour around a tree-lined curve that funnels traffic into the intersection. The troublesome junction — which currently accommodates an average of 9,150 vehicles daily —

— VTrans

"A roundabout will increase the safety of the intersection through traffic calming, as the average speed through the roundabout will be designed for 20 miles per hour."

(See Roundabout, Page 13A)

Third ANWSD vote set for Tuesday

Spending cuts made, but CLAs remain an issue

By ANDY KIRKALDY

VERGENNES — After rejecting two budget proposals, one decisively on Town Meeting Day and one by just 18 votes on March 26, Addison Northwest School District residents on Tuesday will again make a decision on proposed spending for the 2024-2025 school year.

Polls in each community will be open most of the day, and residents can also vote early in most towns on Friday or Monday.

This time they'll be deciding on a \$27.25 million spending plan to fund the three district schools: Vergennes Union High School, Vergennes

(See ANWSD, Page 10A)



A GROUP OF Ferrisburgh residents who support passage of the latest ANWSD budget proposal gathered in front of the Union Meeting Hall on Route 7 on Thursday, April 18, to encourage their neighbors to vote this coming Tuesday, or at town offices on Friday or Monday beforehand.

Independent photo/Steve James



Expert volunteers

AT SATURDAY'S REPAIR Fair in the American Legion hall off Boardman Street in Middlebury, Kerri-Ann Jennings of Vergennes is clearly pleased that volunteer Dan Rossignol of Addison was able to fix the learning tree her son used to stand on to watch her cooking. See more photos from the fair on Page 12A.

Independent photo/Steve James

Barriers, opportunities seen in Vt. opioid crisis

By MARIN HOWELL

MIDDLEBURY — Vermont has in recent years made concrete efforts to address the state's ongoing opioid crisis, but experts say there's still plenty of work to be done — including in Addison County.

Locally, community members

recovering from substance use disorder face barriers in getting support, including a lack of available services and transportation.

"I think the rural landscape of this county makes it really difficult for people to get the support they need," said Danielle Wallace,

(See Opioid crisis, Page 15A)

No more wakeup with Zeman & pups

Popular radio DJ moves on

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — After 2,084 morning radio shows, each preceded by a skull-rattling 2:45 a.m. alarm blast at home, longtime 92.1 WVTK-FM disc jockey and animal

rights activist Bruce Zeman made his bittersweet exit from the Addison County airwaves this past Friday to the beat of K.C. & The Sunshine Band's 1975 anthem "That's The Way

(See Zeman, Page 14A)



BRUCE ZEMAN AND his rescue dog Gracie on April 18 make their final appearance behind the mic for the 92.1 WVTK-FM "Wake Up Crew" show. Zeman and his beloved posse entertained lots of people and raised thousands of dollars for animal welfare causes during a 2,084-show run at the Middlebury radio station.

Independent photo/Steve James



By the way

Here's another reason to go to Agway Farm and Garden on Middlebury's Exchange Street this Saturday, April 27: Salisbury's Chip Piper will be there, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., to

(See By the way, Page 18A)

Donors rally for local coffee shop

Royal Oak campaign raises \$30,000 in just a few days

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — Middlebury-area residents have always valued a good cup of coffee — especially when it's brewed and poured by congenial, caring folks in a soothing environment. It's a recipe that kept Carol's Hungry Mind Café percolating thanks to donations long after it became clear its financial cup was running dry at its erstwhile Merchants Row location (now home to Little Seed Coffee Roasters).

So when Royal Oak Coffee on Seymour Street in Middlebury last week launched an online fundraising campaign to remain in business, it wasn't super surprising to see faithful customers rally behind their favorite java joint.

But Royal Oak owners Matt and Aless Delia-Lôbo never imagined just how quickly and generously their fans would respond.

The outpouring has indeed been grande.

Just 48 hours after issuing their

GoFundMe plea on Wednesday, April 17, the Delia-Lôbos eclipsed their \$30,000 goal to catch up on back taxes, pay off penalties, draw down business loans, finish repairing flood damage, settle miscellaneous debts, and contract with a new financial planner.

"We are absolutely floored by the outpouring of support we have received," the Delia-Lôbos wrote in an update message on their GoFundMe page.

(See Royal Oak Coffee, Page 17A)

Fort Ti Ferry's start could be under water

By JOHN FLOWERS

SHOREHAM — The Ticonderoga Ferry has dutifully whisked travelers across Lake Chaplain, from Shoreham to Ticonderoga, N.Y., since 1759. The service has understandably had to make occasional concessions to the Revolutionary War, gale-force winds and the vicissitudes of harsh Vermont winters.

(See Ferry, Page 18A)

Middlebury maps '24 infrastructure projects

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — South Street will again be at the epicenter of Middlebury's public works-related projects during this construction season, but those traveling in or through the county's shire town will notice other road, culvert and

(See Middlebury, Page 13A)

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Folklife center nets grant to boost ethnography efforts

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — The Vermont Folklife Center in Middlebury has landed a \$665,000 federal grant that will allow it to establish a Youth Community Action Corps intended to immerse youths and adults in recording and preserving the state's cultural history, while at the same time helping participants tear down communication walls erected during the COVID pandemic.

The Youth Community Action Corps, or YCAC, will focus on strengthening community engagement and youth leadership through the use of historical records collections, archives and "participatory action programming," said Andy Kovolos, associate director and archivist of the Vermont Folklife Center (VFC).

In short, a crew of YCAC fellows will be selected to identify what they believe to be important cultural community issues and then work collaboratively with neighbors and fellow stakeholders to address them.

Part of the fellows' work will involve chronicling their efforts through an audio-visual archive, including interviews with those taking part in the community project they've decided to tackle.

"The big piece for us is community engagement and interpersonal connection," Kovolos said. "One of the things we proudly preach is, 'Listening can be a radical act.' That act of engaging with someone, being open to what they're saying, empathetically connecting with them, builds these interpersonal connections."

He noted human connections became more difficult, even strained, due to the COVID pandemic.

"COVID is something that really pulled people apart, or at least put up walls between them," Kovolos said. "What we do (at the Vermont Folklife Center) can help alleviate that. It's about building bridges between people — especially

bridges across differences of opinion and perspective."

Founded in 1984, the folklike center is a nationally known education and cultural research nonprofit that uses ethnography — the study of cultural experience through interviewing, participation and observation — to strengthen the understanding of the cultural and social fabric of Vermont's diverse communities.

The YCAC will be a three-year program and will prominently feature Addison County's Mary Simons, executive director of "Conversations From the Open Road," a youth storytelling, digital media organization that probes the challenging issues and individual stories in our communities, according to its website.

Organizers will spend the next six months finalizing the YCAC details and timeline. But Kovolos suggested some scenarios that might fit in the YCAC mold: Preservation of a local general store, the impacts of climate change on hunting and fishing, or exploration of the ethnic transformation of Winooski, which has become a settlement hub for refugees.

"We really want it to be about community needs, community engagement and then community-based actions," Kovolos said. "Ideally, it's people saying, 'We have a need here,' or, 'There's something we really want to explore here.'"

VFC staff have become proficient — in terms of equipment and interviewing techniques — at chronicling these kinds of stories. But the name of the game with YCAC will be youths and adults taking on such assignments, with support from the folklife center.

"What we can do is say, 'In our experience, this is how we might approach that,' or, 'You might want to think about it this way,' or 'Have you considered this?'" Kovolos said of the kind of guidance the center

can dispense.

"Ideally, the project would originate from the people themselves and the larger communities of which they are part," he added. "We hope this will lay the groundwork for us to begin an ongoing program around this idea of community fellows, of connecting with people in multiple communities, giving them the skills we have to be able to do the work we do — but on their own, with our support and in their own towns, or however their 'community' is defined."

The VFC asked for \$799,000 in Congressionally Directed Spending (formerly known as a federal earmark) through U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-Vt. The \$665,000 it received will be used for such things as paying a stipend to each of the fellows, hiring additional folklife center staff — such as an archival cataloguer — to help implement the YCAC, and buying more equipment (such as recording devices) for the fellows to use for their projects.

Kovolos anticipates the VFC will facilitate virtual meetings with program fellows and periodically visit participants.

In the end, the fellows' completed projects will have a place in the vast VFC archive, which continues to inform new generations of Vermonters about their state's cultural heritage.

Simons is excited to participate.

"We're looking forward to bringing young folks to the table to deeply grapple with the needs of our community and working with them to ultimately shape and enact meaningful community action projects," she told the *Independent* through an email. "This multi-year program is an opportunity for young adults to listen to and learn from

folks in our community, to immerse in the stories of our individual and collective humanity within the intersecting issues we are facing in Vermont today."

She said she's particularly interested in uniting her young protégés with elders, and "using the Folklife archives as a resource about how we have cared for each other, endured, and overcome struggles in our past. The goal of this ethnographic research is for us to both share what

we have learned with the broader public, and to allow a more intentional engagement for each of the Fellows in their community action project."

Plans call for VFC to recruit its first YCAC fellows this fall.

VFC Executive Director Kate Haughey is excited to collaborate with Vermonters young and old whose lives are most affected by a variety of inequities and barriers — people who hold deep knowledge through their lived experiences — to produce information that can lead to solutions and change.

"This project challenges the assumption that only academics can do research," she said. "Through our community fellows model, youth and adult community-based researchers will learn to document, analyze, interpret, and share their own experiences."

"I am thrilled for this opportunity for Vermont Folklife to deepen Vermonters' understanding of one another by engaging with communities across the state to document and share everyday expressions of tradition, innovation and culture."

Reporter John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.



KATE HAUGHEY



Just hangin'

MIDDLEBURY GORGE WAS busy with local firefighters this past weekend when the Addison County Regional Fire School held an advanced ropes and knots course. Many participants spent time hanging from ropes — or fellow participants.

Photos by Carla Powers



Bristol store latest business targeted in vape theft

Over \$4,000 in goods and merchandise taken during April 16 break-in

By MARIN HOWELL

BRISTOL — Recent burglaries at gas stations around the state have targeted thousands of dollars' worth of vape products, including an April 16 break-in at the Bristol Country Store.

Store employee Nichole Bachand-Bartlett said someone broke into the Route 116 South store around 4 a.m. on that Tuesday morning and stole four large display cases of Loon vape products. Vermont State Police reported that around \$4,136 worth of merchandise was stolen — specifically, 144 Loon Air e-cigarettes and 84 Loon vape juice cartridges.

"We are thinking it had to be two people based on how quickly they took everything," Bachand-Bartlett said.

She noted the store's owners live nearby and arrived at the scene shortly after the shop's

alarms went off, at which point the suspects were gone.

"They had cameras, but of course (the suspect) had a hoodie on and it was dark and so you can't really see," Bachand-Bartlett said. She added that similar incidents have occurred recently at other gas stations in the area.

"Apparently this has happened at the Mobil in Ferrisburgh and (Simon's Gas Station in St. George)," she told the *Independent*. "From what I've heard, at those stores all that was stolen was the Loon vapes."

Bachand-Bartlett said security footage from other stores shows the suspect in a green hoodie and a jacket with a design on the left chest and sleeve.

Vermont State Police reported earlier this month that someone had broken into the Simon's Gas Station in St. George on April 3 and stolen an estimated \$15,000

worth of vape products. According to police, the suspect forced entry into the building by ramming a vehicle through the front door before stealing the merchandise.

Bachand-Bartlett said the Bristol Country Store is also in the process of repairing its front door after the incident. She noted this is the third time in the past nine months that someone has broken through the shop's front door, though, in those other instances nothing was stolen.

"(The store owners) are going to get a whole different door this time with some kind of steel wire in the glass so even if the glass is broken, they can't get through and probably do that with the large windows in the front as well," Bachand-Bartlett said.

She added that in the past, the store has had individuals try to break in through other parts of the building, including a small

window in the kitchen.

"It's almost like they'll always find a way no matter what you do," she said of the break-ins. "Hopefully the new door will help, and the windows."

Bachand-Bartlett noted the store has received support from the surrounding community following the incident.

"There's a lot of people who are upset, sad for the family and would keep an eye out if they could, so it's nice that the community is supportive of the store," she said. "But at the same time when it happens at four in the morning, no one's around."

Vermont State Police are investigating the incident and encouraged anyone with information to reach out to the New Haven state police barracks at 802-388-4919 or to submit an anonymous tip at vsp.vermont.gov/tipssubmit.

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Apr 25 - May 1

Bristol eyes plan for Basin St. intersection

By MARIN HOWELL

BRISTOL — The town of Bristol is making progress on a multi-year project tackling safety and stormwater drainage improvements on Basin Street. Among the issues in need of addressing are the road's steep slope and intersection with Main Street, as well as chronic erosion issues in the area caused by the lack of a proper stormwater collection system.

The Bristol selectboard at its April 8 meeting voted to move forward with a preferred alternative for the project that would address concerns in part by realigning the street's entrance approximately 30 feet to the west of its existing location and creating a flat area at the top of the road for cars to rest before pulling out onto Main Street.

"I like (that option), I think that it creates more ability for drivers to see before the curve starts on East Street," selectboard member Jessica Teets said. "I like the idea of having more space for cars to come up before they have to enter the road, I think it seems safer."

Town officials have for years eyed streetscaping improvements to Basin Street. The current condition of the road has raised various safety and accessibility concerns, particularly regarding the intersection of Basin and Main streets.

The top of Basin Street is a 20% slope, which makes it difficult for drivers to easily enter and exit the street, particularly in the winter.

The steep entrance also raises accessibility issues for pedestrians. The crosswalk at the top of Basin Street has an around 20% cross slope, which greatly exceeds the ADA recommended maximum of 2%.

Maintaining easy access to the street is important, as the road provides the only vehicular entrance to several residences and to the septic field that serves Bristol's downtown buildings. The town also uses a structure near the septic field to store equipment for maintenance of the town's water system, making it essential for water and sewer system operators

to have a safe and easy way to access the area.

Other areas of concern include deterioration of the retaining walls supporting a portion of Basin Street and needed upgrades to the area's storm drain system.

Current drainage patterns and an inadequate stormwater collection system have led to chronic erosion of the embankment at the intersection of Basin and Main streets. As a result, the town has had to make routine repairs to the Main Street roadway shoulder, sidewalk and guardrail along the slope.

The town has contracted with engineering firm Dubois & King to help identify options for improving the street. At the April 8 meeting, Chris Lathrop of Dubois & King presented the selectboard with two alternatives: elevating the road in its current alignment (an estimated cost of \$1.11 million) and realigning the road's intersection with Main Street 30 feet to the west (\$1,035,020).

Both options would create an approximately 20-foot-long flat area for a vehicle to land at the top of Basin Street before entering traffic on Main Street, as well as reconstruct the streetscape and storm drain system to address erosion issues.

Town Administrator Valerie Capels noted Basin Street residents seemed to favor the realignment option. Lathrop said other potential benefits of that alternative included the ability to create a catch basin in the area.

Selectboard members ultimately voted to move forward with the realignment option. Next steps for the project include having Dubois & King create a conceptual design for the project and apply for additional funding.

In 2022, the town was awarded a \$200,000 Downtown Transportation Fund grant for improvements to Basin Street. Bristol has also received \$26,000 in Clean Water money from the Downtown Transportation Fund and \$300,000 in federal funds from the VTrans Transportation Alternatives Program to put toward

the project.

Capels noted that, after factoring in current contracts, the town has around \$452,000 left in existing funding to put toward construction and other next steps.

"Obviously that doesn't come close to \$1 million, so my suggestion is that we continue to apply for additional funding," Capels told the selectboard.

Potential funding options identified by Capels include the Addison County Economic Development Corporation's Regional Priority Project List and the Northern Border Regional Commission.

If all goes to plan, construction on the project would begin in 2026.

OTHER PROJECTS

Town officials are also making headway on other projects around town.

Capels noted in her April 8 report that the town's purchase of 4.7 acres at the corner of Hewitt Road and Route 116 is expected to close April 23.

Bristol voters on Town Meeting Day agreed to buy the property on which to build a new Public Works Department facility, as the current structure is aging and no longer meets the needs of the department.

Capels in her report recommended the town move forward with hiring an engineer/design team to conduct a site analysis and preliminary design process for the new facility.

"However, I do not expect we will see actual development of the site for at least a year, possibly two or three, while the project goes through the design, voter approval, and permitting processes and, ultimately, bidding for construction," Capels wrote.

The Town Administrator's report also highlighted a \$240,000 VTrans Transportation Alternatives Program and Stormwater Mitigation Program grant the town was awarded last month to support construction of a new sidewalk on Airport Drive.

"That is truly awesome news for this long-overdue project," Capels said in her report. "We will need to wait until we receive the grant agreement to see all of the final terms and conditions before going further. This is the same program providing funds for the Basin Street project, which includes many layers of process."



A day well spent

ADDISON COUNTY FIREFIGHTERS wrap up a recent Advanced Ropes and Knots course at the Middlebury Gorge. They are all smiles, even the upside down guy.

Photo by Carla Powers

FRIENDS & FAMILY FUNDRAISING TEA!



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Voters get 2nd look at OV budget

By STEVEN JUPITER
Brandon Reporter

BRANDON — Voters in the Brandon area on Tuesday will get a second chance to approve a fiscal year 2025 spending plan for the Otter Valley Unified Union schools.

The new proposed budget reflects \$26,979,072 in total spending, a reduction of \$268,751.13, or 1%, from the \$27 million spending proposal district voters defeated on Town Meeting Day.

To achieve those savings, the OVUU School Board agreed at its April 2 meeting to cut a "late run" afterschool bus for the middle school, the Nordic ski team, the dean of students position at the Neshobe Elementary School in Brandon and \$164,000 in assessments from OVUU to the Rutland Northeast Supervisory Union for

its share of district expenses like special education, mental health professionals and transportation.

As reported in the *Brandon Reporter*, those reductions represent an average annual tax savings of \$13.60 per \$100,000 of assessed property value across the OVUU district, which includes Brandon, Pittsford, Leicester, Whiting, Sudbury, Goshen and Sudbury. For example, a taxpayer who owns a \$200,000 home would likely see an annual savings of \$27.20 and a taxpayer with a home assessed at \$300,000 would likely realize annual savings of \$40.80. Actual amounts will vary amongst the district's towns but should largely align with those numbers.

If the revised budget fails on April 30, the board must return to the drawing board to make additional

spending cuts. District officials must continue to propose budgets until an FY'25 spending plan is approved by voters. In the meantime, the district is legally allowed to borrow up to 87% of its previous year's budget to keep schools open, should a new budget not pass before the end of the current year's budget on June 30.

SUPERINTENDENT NEEDED
This comes as the school district is looking for a new superintendent.

Kristin Hubert early this spring submitted her resignation to the RNESU Board and will leave the position on July 1. She took on the role in 2022, after spending three years as RNESU's director of curriculum.

"It has been my pleasure to serve the Supervisory Union as
(See Budget, Page 7A)

Addison County's Hometown Dealer



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Guest Editorial

H.289 – Good intentions on renewables but one big flaw

By Dave Blittersdorf

The Vermont General Assembly — in attempt to move the state to 100% renewable energy — is making changes to how the state's utilities buy energy. Within the next couple of weeks, the Senate Natural Resources Committee will consider H. 289, a bill to require the state's utilities to buy 100% renewable energy.

This is known as the Renewable Energy Standard law. States around Vermont have been updating their own laws in this area and Vermont is following suit as we all take part in the transformation from a fossil fuel economy to a one powered by renewables.

The bill has already passed the House and has strong support from utilities and the environmental community.

As someone who has spent his life promoting and building the renewable energy system in Vermont, I am in complete agreement that 100% renewable energy is a must.

However, there is a major flaw in H.289 that threatens Vermont renewable energy jobs and the ability of Vermonters to participate in the benefits of community solar power projects. The bill eliminates a tried and true mechanism called "group net metering." It sounds wonky, but group net metering is the only meaningful way in which Vermont customers who do not have their own solar sites can have direct access to solar energy.

Elimination of this mechanism will drive Vermont solar companies out of state to New York and other nearby states. It will stall in-state development of solar and take away the benefits of solar to affordable housing developers, schools and others.

Imagine a housing developer building a project. They want to power the project with solar energy. But the roof isn't big enough to hold enough solar panels to do the job.

Group net metering allows the developer to partner with a Vermont solar company to build a solar project elsewhere in the state and buy the energy from that project at a discount. H.289 would eliminate that program.

With so much going on in the world and the H.289 bill over 40 pages long, we are concerned that many Vermonters, and perhaps even some of our conscientious legislators, have missed this very negative part of the bill. More than anything else, the transformation to renewable energy requires that projects of all types and sizes be built. We need all kinds of projects, not just the speculative utility-based projects outside Vermont.

H.289 takes away one of Vermont's most successful programs and replaces it with nothing. While utilities have expressed cost-related concerns about your direct access to Vermont-generated solar, net metering rates have in fact come down for newer projects and are fully regulated by the Vermont Public Utility Commission.

This is a critical issue for our Vermont energy future.

I sent a letter to the Chair of the Senate Natural Resources Committee (to read it, head online totinyurl.com/blittersdorf-bray-letter). It has been a decades-long effort to secure your direct right to purchase solar energy to meet your needs. I hope you will join me and contact your Vermont Senators today. Their contact information can be found online at Vermont Legislative Senate Contacts.

Vermont needs a community-based solar energy program for everyone. I sincerely hope the Senate Natural Resources committee will amend the bill to preserve group net metering before passing the overall legislation. H. 289 has the right goals. But getting rid of community based solar programs is not the way to go.

Editor's note: Dave Blittersdorf is the president of All Earth Renewables in Bristol.

Editorial

A note on H.289 and net metering

To give David Blittersdorf a little background, for the past several years under Gov. Phil Scott's term the governor and the Democratic controlled Legislature have been undermining community solar and siding with the Public Utility Commission's interest in driving down electric costs over the vital interest of reducing the state's carbon footprint. H.289, as written, would put a nail in the coffin of community solar, at least for the time being and would disrupt a vital part of the state's solar production.

Community solar is simply the ability for an individual to participate in solar usage if their own lot or circumstances prevent them from being able to place any solar arrays of their own — usually because they are in a place without adequate sunlight to make it feasible. Renters also can participate in community solar.

In Blittersdorf's letter to Sen. Chris Bray, chair of the Senate Natural Resources Committee, he clearly spells out the threat this bill poses to companies like his own, but also how it can be simply fixed.

"H.289 effectively puts renewable energy development solely in the hands of the utilities ... While AllEarth Renewables appreciates that H.289 has now evolved to recognize the importance of actual procurement ... the interplay of that section and the rest of the bill has the incongruous result of that report not being due until after the ability to permit group net metering projects has expired.

"Elimination of that incongruity and retention of the benefits of group net metering, can happen by simply removing H.289's proposed changes to the "group net metering" and "net metering" definitions ... This change preserves the opportunities that net metering offers to renters, participants in future community solar arrays, affordable housing communities, and other Vermonters who have no other meaningful solar energy access beyond what group net metering provides, and the legislature will, of course, be free to assess the desirability of any changes once the report has been completed."

In short, if the state's goal is to reduce the use of fossil fuels and to promote the use of solar energy, there is no reason to restrict or eliminate the ability in the future to promote community solar arrays. It's a simple fix that should be made before passage of this bill.

— Angelo Lynn



Closing the circuit

VOLUNTEER FIXER JON Deming tinkers with a broken DVD player brought to American Legion Post 27 on Saturday for the Addison County Solid Waste Management District's Repair Fair. Deming did his best to get three DVD players working.

Independent photo/Steve James

The Passover tradition honors all

The full moon shines. We chant a familiar melody in a minor key. It is time to open the door to any stranger passing by our home, for they might be Elijah, the prophet who will herald in the Messiah. "Let all who are hungry come and eat," we recite as cool night air sweeps across the room. I wander back to another time. We open the door and Uncle Martin storms into the house, his long coat flapping and big-brimmed hat pulled down over his face. "Elijah!" we children cheer in delight, "Come and join us for the Seder."

Earlier this week, Jews around the world gathered for the Passover Seder, a ritual meal that celebrates the Biblical liberation of the Israelites from slavery in Egypt. The 8-day holiday of Passover begins at sundown on the fifteenth day of the month of Nissan on the Jewish lunar calendar. Jews bless and eat symbolic foods, drink four glasses of wine and sit on pillows to emphasize our freedom. It includes a treasure hunt and other portions specifically designated for children. Adults tell stories and lead songs that get increasingly boisterous with each successive glass of wine until everyone is pounding the table loud enough to shake the silverware.

Passover has always been my favorite holiday. When I was a child, it was the night our extended family came together around a table and acted silly for hours on end. As an adult I participate in a community seder involving dozens of families. Our gathering is infused with the comfort and aroma of our shared foods and traditions. By the time this article appears in the paper, our community seder will have just gone by, but observant Jews will continue eating only unleavened bread for the entire eight days of Passover.

Early in the evening, children chant the Four

Questions, starting with, "Why is this night different from all other nights?"

In fact, this year is different from all other years. It is a challenge to celebrate our freedom while an ever more tragic situation unfurls in the Middle East, bringing death, destruction and devastation to many thousands of people in Gaza and Israel. These events, in turn, have ignited emotions which blaze around the world each day war continues.

At the seder table we will honor and mourn all those lost and wounded — in Gaza and in Israel as well as in too many other places around the world — while also celebrating our personal freedom. In preparation, the rituals that in the past have felt so comforting have been re-envisioned.

We ask ourselves, how can we use this opportunity to sit at the seder table together with our many perspectives and painful emotions?

We live in a world of paradox, of contradictions and conflicting truths. We each work with them as best we can. At our seder table, we pray for our families and for the stranger, for a lasting peace and resolution to the devastating conflicts in the Middle East and around the world.

The family seder of my youth ended with an hour-long drive home. Along the way, I faded in and out of sleep, my head pressed against the window. Every so often I'd turn my gaze up to the full moon high overhead. Although small, it seemed to light the whole sky, even filling our car with its radiant glow.

Alice Leeds, of Bristol, taught in a variety of private and public schools and colleges for forty years. Presently retired, she tries to engage in some useful endeavor each day. She enjoys hearing from readers at aleeds@gmavt.net

Ways of Seeing

By Alice Leeds



The boundaries of education

There is a wide boundary between the teacher and the student, found most profoundly in colleges and universities. It is thick with emotional distance and widened by a hierarchy of needs determined by a skewed value system.

This boundary is not of the teacher's making; not of the student's making, either — it is culturally produced and defines a fissure between what professors feel is important, learning as its own end, and "real world" interests, profitable outcomes measured by wealth and its offspring, leisure.

Between a teacher and a student stand the values and the mechanisms that create them, what Sartre describes as the "refined and parasitic organisms which are found in all societies of oppression and which produce values and works of art like papal bulls."

This is how oppression works: dreams about material wealth and power enter us unconsciously through our society's value system; wealth is spectacularized at every turn. The real purpose of school is to acquire wealth, a leg up. This is how a hierarchy is constructed. Someone must be left behind; someone must be kept down.



HECTOR VILA

"In The Artist and His Conscience," which I find terribly relevant, was first published in 1950 as a preface for "L'Artiste et sa Conscience," by René Leibowitz, Sartre is concerned with the relationship between the elite, the average person, the working class, and the artist.

What in good conscience is an artist to do? What in good conscience is a teacher to do? What in good conscience is right and just for a society? How do we determine that? What is the place of education in this problem, in answering our challenges, in forming a good conscience?

The teacher, very much like an artist — an artist in her own right — creates something, a view with images, language, music and drama, established ideas, literature and history and philosophy, data and models, and articulates a world as it was, as it is, and is to be.

The man who renounces himself, comes to himself, says Ralph Waldo Emerson in "The Divinity School Address" (1838). Wherever a man comes, there comes a revolution.

(See Vila, Page 5A)

Letters to the Editor

Library project merits support

The Ilsley 100 Project Team has done a superb job. It has developed a beautiful design to provide library users — from toddlers to seniors — with a safe, accessible, energy-efficient building to accommodate their needs for the next 50 years or more.

Furthermore, thanks to private fundraising and use of a small portion of the annual receipts of the Cross Street Bridge Fund, which is producing far more revenue than needed for bridge maintenance and bond payments, the team developed a funding plan that requires Middlebury property owners to pay only one-quarter of the cost! Owners of a \$250,000 home, for example, will pay just \$95 a year to construct a \$17 million building, hosting 100,000 persons a year.

Please join me in voting YES on May 7 to authorize bonding for this inspired project.

John Freidin
Middlebury

Recommended reading on Gaza

Two commentaries in the *Times Argus & Rutland Herald, Week-End Edition*, April 13-14, are a must-read to help understand the situation in Israel and the Gaza Strip: David Gram, "First Amendment violation," and John Nassivera, "Nationalism's false god."

These important commentaries delve into the religious aspects of the state of affairs in Israel and Gaza.

Also, it's important to understand the encroachment of religion into U.S. policies on national and local levels. Currently there is move in the U.S. to infiltrate religion in our governing institutions, which is explained by David Gram very well. This is something we must strongly resist.

These thoughts are emphasized by the disturbing survey that John Nassivera quotes: a Oct. 27, 2022, survey that found that 50% of Americans believe the U.S. "should be a Christian nation."

We live in a scary time and all must be attentive to, and resist the perils to democracy by the troubling direction we, as a nation, seem to be headed.

Paul Stone
Orwell

'Old school' was often effective

By sowing the wind, in the form of our society's ongoing worship of youth, as the excellent recent journalism by the *Independent* makes it all too clear, we are now reaping the whirlwind in our elementary schools. We have finally managed to elevate and entrench infantilism. "I can do what I want," and "Make me," are rampant responses to adult directives. The former has unfortunately come true and the latter, as every young child discovers, leaves adults helpless.

My own career as an educator began as a preschool teacher, continued into high school and included a stint at university level. I began each day expecting that I would learn something. What I did absorb, among other things, was the never-ending devotion by theoreticians to the mission of imposing shiny new concepts onto classroom practitioners. The persistent trend, which my wife (also a career educator) and I were repeatedly forced to deal with, struck us as misguided. Academics had somehow become quaint.

"Old School" is intended as a pejorative. Some of us wear the term as a badge of both pride and yes, defiance. Data and evidence are conveniently ignored when deemed unfashionable. I suggest the author Lawrence Gonzalez and his interesting findings in "Deep Survival: Who Lives, Who Dies, and Why." After sifting through multiple accounts, Gonzalez found one trait in common in the

(See Munford letter, Page 5A)

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Letters to the Editor

'Eclipse hate' outdoor artwork provokes thought

I have a pretty long commute in the morning, Route 116 from Monkton into Burlington. Recently, on the way to work, I noticed something new on the right, near South Brownell Road: a large painted sun, with an accompanying sign that reads "Eclipse Hate." It's a timely metaphor, and a nice piece of art. The sun is colorful, and the whole display is shimmering, joyful. And the message definitely resonated with me. I appreciate these people, the ones who took the time to put out such a compassionate, hopeful message, in such a creative way.

But as I mentioned, I have a pretty long commute, and as I continued along, I started to have a little trouble with the metaphor itself. I started to think about what an eclipse actually is: a hiding of something that is still there, waiting to reveal itself. It occurred to me that hate is often like that, and that one of the big problems with hate in our country, in our state, is its deniability. So often, hate, and the disregard that is its close cousin, are expressed in subtle ways, ways apparent to the people affected by it, but all but invisible

to folks outside the fold of the marginalized.

Think of the Me Too movement, and the remorseless behavior and demeaning attitudes it revealed. Think of racism. A consistent message from people of color in Vermont is that Vermonters' absolute confidence in their egalitarianism causes a cluelessness, a defensiveness, about the actual experiences of the people of color who live here, that is annoying at best, and traumatizing at worst. Think of people with disabilities; of all of the families, for example, who had to wait through generations, who are still waiting, for accessible playgrounds to become enough of a priority to actually get built.

The work of the 21st century is the opposite of the idea embedded in the "Eclipse Hate" metaphor. We need to bring hate into the light.

On the other hand, in the past eight years or so, the norms of decency that used to govern public discourse have been dismantled. Actually, dismantled is too gentle a word. Busted into pieces, torn to bits — those phrases fit the situation better. In some ways, hate is not hidden at all anymore,

but has emerged completely intact, with a heat that threatens to burn us all alive. But the deeply cynical scapegoating and gleeful, no-holds-barred nastiness celebrated at one end of the political spectrum brings darkness with it, not light. And while I would not for a minute suggest a false equality, the seething, righteous anger of the other side is more a laser than a star. Rage may be justified, may even be necessary — but doesn't it also contribute to the darkness? How could hate ever be eclipsed when it is the thing casting the shadow?

The lovely "Eclipse Hate" display has, obviously, stuck with me. Like most good art, it got me thinking, and I deliberately look at it every time I go by. The compassion driving the installation, the beauty of the image, the creativity of artists and dreamers everywhere — I do, ultimately, find hope, find light, in that. So whether the metaphor fully works is actually not the point. The point is the intention, and the spiritual nourishment, available on Route 116 to anyone who drives by.

Melody Daigle
Monkton

Stars are aligning for positive vote on Ilsley bond

Ilsley Public Library — a Middlebury treasure — deserves the support of town residents when we vote on a bonding proposal to expand and renovate its century-old building on Main Street.

The shortcomings of the present structure include moisture problems in the basement, heating/cooling deficiencies, elevator and building code issues, and inadequate accessibility. Many programs serving children, tweens,

and adults have simply outgrown the building's capacity. Just addressing the maintenance needs would be very expensive and still leave the library with a severely inadequate facility.

The Ilsley 100 Project planning team, with broad representation from the community, has developed an imaginative proposal for expansion of the building. Retaining its Main Street location, the plan calls for a combination of

renovation of the original building and new construction. There will be welcoming ground-level entrances in the front and from the parking lot at the rear, and room for activities serving all ages, including doubling the space for children on the main floor.

The library must vacate the present building during construction, but an extraordinary offer from the National Bank of

(See Rucker letter, Page 7A)

Vila

(Continued from Page 4A)

In "The Divinity School Address," Emerson is addressing future ministers, future teachers. Will you be that man or woman that brings forth a revolution against a sea of troubles?

"To provide a true image of our time," says Sartre, "he [the artist; the teacher] must consider it from the pinnacle of the future which it is creating, since it is tomorrow which will decide today's truth" (the parenthetical is mine).

Teaching is a process of straddling histories and pedagogies, some of these confused by the insistence that education is a means to wealth; yet there exists a counterbalance, powerful narratives that linger enough in our minds to enable a sense of what's to come, a sense of how we might face the surety of unpredictability, not ledgers and to do lists, not the predictable scratching that, we know by experience, gets pushed aside anyway because capricious uncertainty comes in-between what we forecast and what is.

Teachers mine the past, bring it forward into the present, and very much as artists, say something of what's to come for the student so she can imagine herself. This is how teaching works.

"It is the artist who must break the already crystallized habits which make us see in the present

tense those institutions and customs which are already out of date," says Sartre.

A teacher conflates the art and the science of teaching and thus "break(s) the already crystallized habits." She indeed does do that, causing great confusion and even animosity in a culture looking not for critique (or criticism), but approval for the spectacularized pursuit of wealth, the only truth imagined.

A teacher disrupts and transgresses boundaries.

A teacher is the critical eye; she emphasizes the internal workings of language(s) and conceptual systems, the relational qualities of meaning, and the assumptions implicit in forms of expression.

A teacher is always deconstructing by design, which places her at odds with the mechanisms that are creating value and meaning through narratives oriented towards an advanced future, meaning a future paved with gold, rather than a future that advances the whole lot of humanity.

Students' eyes are on beneficial outcomes, however, the boundary socially constructed. Success, not learning. This is what rules the academy, and if not rules, it hangs over it, a massive, weighty gray cloud, threatening, urging.

This system is held up by

assessment — the best school rankings, individual student rankings, college board scores, athleticism counts too, a lot. In college it's then all about the grade (GPA), and U.S. News & World Report. At the heart is the establishment of measurable value so that a brand can stand above others. Colleges and universities are the mirror image of our socioeconomic system.

Students and their families want the best value — no one can blame them for that. But there is more, we professors say: the pursuit of the truth without considering calculations of utility and advantage (the advantage one student may want over another, over the relatively harsh conditions of competition; the advantage of one social class over another; the advantage of one culture, one society over another — a world at odds with itself).

This is the wildly confusing and powerful border between teachers and students, a thick wall. It is frustrating to always labor to walk through it, climb over it, pierce even the tiniest peep hole for the slightest daylight so that we can both, teachers and students, find our way, come closer to the truth, see each other, and recognize what we mean to each other and to society.

Support Ilsley Library bond

I'm asking Middlebury townspeople to vote yes on the May 7 Library bond not to exceed \$16,995,000. This project results

not impact the local property tax. Likewise, the selectboard has identified another source of funding: local option tax

donor interest, grant funding and energy efficiency rebates that brings our community cash flow to a manageable number feels penny wise and pound foolish to me.

There will be a public information meeting on May 6 at 7 p.m. in the town offices to discuss the upcoming bond vote. Middlebury residents may also wish to learn more about the library renovation and expansion by visiting the project website: www.ilsleypubliclibrary.org/about-us/ilsley-100-project-team. Questions about the project may be addressed to library director Dana Hart (dana.hart@ilsleypubliclibrary.org). The bond vote will take place on May 7 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the town offices at 77 Main St. (absentee ballots and in-person early ballots are available in the Town Clerk's Office, Monday - Thursday).

Ilsley Public Library is one of the most used facilities in our community and with this investment will see further growth as programming and meeting space availability increases.

Please vote yes on May 7.



Community Forum

This week's writer is Brian R. Carpenter, chair of the Middlebury selectboard.

from an intensive, multi-year review of Ilsley Public Library's building and programs and in-depth analysis and thorough consideration of options for addressing identified deficiencies, including repairing, renovating, and/or building new. The study, with significant community input, revealed a desire to keep the library where it is, but to remove problematic additions to the historic structure and rebuild flexible, congruous space capable of adapting to programming changes into the future.

While the bond dollar figure may seem daunting, the library committee has been engaged in private fundraising and grant writing to source funds that do

receipts that will cover \$4 million over the life of the bond. Therefore, we (the selectboard) recommended we go forward with the project subject to raising sufficient funding to reduce the bond covered by new property taxes to be \$4.5 million or less (\$39/\$100,000 property tax value for a 20-year bond.)

For perspective on this, the library currently needs a new elevator, new HVAC system, and secondary egress to the third floor. This historic structure and rebuild necessary work alone is around \$2 million to \$3 million and we still have a deteriorating old building with a leaking roof, a leaking foundation and problematic plumbing. Performing the maintenance work and not addressing the total problem at a time when we have significant

seem justified. Correlation, I used to tell my classes, does not equal cause and effect. On the other hand, our repeated insistence on Social Emotional Learning is, in a word, failing. We are failing our children.

But wait, imposing scripted lessons on math instructors has been in place for well over a decade. It has improved test scores, hasn't it? I guess I will have to Google that for an answer.

And, oh yes, the noble experiment with stopping the teaching of cursive made quite an impact, didn't it? A pity that established neurological findings have long since proven that taking note in longhand improves retention. Oh, well. Thanks for listening. It is a Brave New World, after all.

David Munford
Middlebury

Munford letter

(Continued from Page 4A)

small group of individuals who rose to the occasion as leaders. They all relied on inner resources as sources of strength, which is not surprising in itself. What is striking is how many of them had previously memorized poetry and were able to recite it to calm their companions.

Reviewing the dismaying information revealed in last week's *Independent*, certain conclusions

seem justified. Correlation, I used to tell my classes, does not equal cause and effect. On the other hand, our repeated insistence on Social Emotional Learning is, in a word, failing. We are failing our children.

But wait, imposing scripted lessons on math instructors has been in place for well over a decade. It has improved test scores, hasn't it? I guess I will have to Google that for an answer.

New reporting helps explain school budget nuances

I want to thank Marin Howell and the rest of the *Addy Indy* for some clear, (if depressing,) coverage of the MAUSD budget saga in April 18th's paper. In my letter last week, I criticized the paper for their sometimes confusing reporting on the matter so it's important I applaud them where I feel they do an exceptionally good job.

In particular I appreciated that in the opening sentences it was made clear that "the revised spending plan was projected to LOWER the district-wide homestead tax rate," [emphasis mine.] despite how the CLA nevertheless caused it to raise. I also found helpful the clear breakdown of the tax changes on the average \$300,000 home, and especially the anticipated 14.89% tax increases for the income-based taxpayers — an item I've often seen referenced, but never specified like this. (It does raise a question to me that I'd never before considered: I know property owners pay taxes to fund schools, and many of those property taxes are adjusted to reflect their owner's income. But do non-property owners' state income taxes fund education as well?)

I do still have questions regarding the CLA, but I'm glad they're getting more specific. It's reported that the revised MAUSD budget was expected to lower

the tax rate by over 2%, but that once the CLA was applied, rates actually would increase instead. But surely, the CLA is known in advance, so how could it not be applied as part of the original tax rate expectations? In any case the extra word-count given over to trying to more clearly spell out the CLA process is much appreciated. I would also still like to know the mysterious "ratio the state uses to make adjustments," and what does it mean "to make the level of taxation equal among all Vermont towns?" Just what exactly is being made "equal" in this case? I get the vague impression that if some communities' tax rates go up due

to the CLA, then others must go down, but I think that must not be true. If it were true, then I don't think the 17% tax hike would be described by the paper as a state-wide problem the legislature is bending over backwards to solve.

Incidentally, I also appreciate Emerson's editorial on the Legislature's efforts. He rightly points out that our lawmakers need to still make more clear this muddy process, and need to focus on the largest cost-saving measures, such as health-care.

Thanks as always to the entire Addy Indy team.

Kris Diehl
Middlebury



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ADDISON
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Obituaries

Betsy Brown Heath Gleason, 87, of Middlebury

MIDDLEBURY — Betsy Brown Heath Gleason, 87, passed away peacefully surrounded by her family on Friday, April 19, 2024, in Middlebury, Vt.

Betsy is the daughter of the late Winford Eddy Heath and the late Dorothy Helen Brown Heath. She was born in Bound Brook, N.J., on Nov. 19, 1936, spent her childhood years in Somerville, N.J., and Ship Bottom, N.J., and graduated from Somerville High School in 1954. She was an avid dancer from an early age and was at her happiest on any stage.

She attended Middlebury College in a long line of family who also attended Middlebury, including her sister, Ann Miner Heath Fay ('54), her mother ('18), father ('21), uncle ('29), grandfather ('93), and great uncle ('93). At Middlebury College her love of dance and music and her gregarious personality earned her a spot on the football and basketball cheerleading squads. She graduated in 1958 as a certified elementary school teacher with a BA degree in Fine Arts.

As an upperclassman, Betsy met her future husband, Robert Willard Gleason, who graduated from Middlebury College in 1954 and stayed on campus to earn a master's degree in chemistry in 1956. Betsy and Bob were married in Somerville, N.J., in 1958. Betsy taught elementary school in Melrose, Mass., while Bob completed his Ph.D. degree in chemistry at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. In 1960, Bob accepted a one-year teaching position at Middlebury College; he and Betsy returned to Middlebury and "the college on the hill" where Bob continued to teach for an additional 33 years.

Betsy thrived in various positions within the town and

BETSY BROWN HEATH
GLEASON

college communities, including as an elementary school teacher, an instructor with the Middlebury College Elementary Education Program for Practice Teaching, the original director of the Addison County Counseling Service Day Treatment Program, and the Alumni/Development Officer for Middlebury College's 25th and 50th Reunion Programs. She was involved in numerous volunteer activities benefiting her children's schools as well as her church, Porter Hospital, and local dance and theater organizations. Her proudest volunteer achievements were as co-chair (with Bob) of the Addison County United Way campaign and serving in leadership roles supporting the multi-year Middlebury College Bicentennial celebration, including the Bicentennial Hall science facility capital campaign.

Betsy will be remembered for her infectious smile, her cheerful enthusiasm, her "can-do" spirit, her boundless energy, her bold sense of adventure, her love of hiking and camping, her passion for music and

dance, her childlike excitement for every holiday, her joy in being with her extended family, her love of the Jersey shore, her endless pride in all things Middlebury College, her excellence as a grandmother, and her adoration for all animals, especially her many golden retrievers.

Betsy is predeceased by both her parents, her brother Richard E. Heath and his wife Beth M. Heath, and her sister Ann H. Fay. She is survived by her husband of 65 and a half years, Bob; her sister's husband Charles B. Fay (Middlebury '54); her three children, Nancy G. Simms, recently of Dover, Mass., and currently of South Walpole, Mass., Amy G. Barrett and her husband Bill of Concord, Mass., and Mark H. Gleason and his wife Shannon of Salisbury, Vt.; and her nine grandchildren, Britny and her husband Corey, Max and his wife Merrill, Robert, Caroline, Allie and her husband Dennis, Lizzie, Andrew, Catherine, and Abby.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, May 11, at 11 a.m. at the Congregational Church of Middlebury at 2 Main Street, Middlebury. A luncheon reception following the service will be hosted by the family for all guests at the Middlebury College Kirk Alumni Center at the Ralph Myhre Golf Course, 317 Golf Course Road, Middlebury.

Contributions in Betsy's memory may be made to: the Middlebury College Chapel Fund, Middlebury College Office of Advancement, 700 Exchange Street, Middlebury, VT 05753; The Congregational Church of Middlebury (address above); Homeward Bound, Addison County's Humane Society, 236 Boardman Street, Middlebury, VT 05753, or any charity of one's choice. ◊

Cullen Elisha Bouvier, 41, Bristol native

BOSTON, Mass. — On Wednesday, April 10, 2024, heralded by the voices of his parents and siblings with many of the songs he loved most, and embraced in as much warmth and love as his parents, partner, siblings, and a few close friends could muster, Cullen Elisha Bouvier, 41, passed away at Massachusetts General Hospital from complications due to pneumonia following a year long illness.

Cullen was born on Aug. 23, 1982, in Middlebury Vt., the third and beloved child of James ("Buzz") and Wanda Bouvier, and grew up in the hills of Bristol, attending Bristol Elementary School and graduating from Mt. Abraham Union High School.

Cullen spent his childhood playing along the banks of the New Haven River, swimming in the beautiful waters of Lake Champlain, and spending countless hours roaming the streets of his beloved Bristol with his siblings, friends and cousins.

Undoubtedly, Cullen would say that some of his fondest memories were spent in the woods located off Briggs Hill, alongside his "second parents," Pam (his Godmother) and Brian Ladeau, gathering sap and producing maple syrup.

Cullen was both highly intelligent and extremely obstinate. At a mere 16 years of age, Cullen decided he wanted to pursue his pilot's license. Despite his young age, with sheer grit and conviction, he successfully obtained his license. Cullen found the view from the air exhilarating and after high school intended on pursuing aviation school to become a commercial airline pilot. His decision to pursue this undertaking was made over the objection of his parents, who thought that Cullen's colorblindness would most definitely (and understandably) be a deterrent to the endeavor.

Always full of bravado, Cullen would not be deterred by his inability to differentiate between colors. Cullen spent hours preparing for the exam by memorizing light sequencing patterns in an effort to reach his goal — colorblindness be damned. Unfortunately, when taking his commercial pilot's test examination, Cullen soon realized that memorizing the light sequences would not work — those pesky test examiners intentionally varied the light patterns, thus foiling his plans. We still laugh thinking about him recounting the story of his test for aviation school, "that light is red ... or maybe green ... or white ... I think."

After realizing that a career as a commercial airline pilot would not be in his future, Cullen focused his attention on his second love — music.

Cullen was a skilled clarinetist and attended numerous All-District, All-State and All-New England Music Festivals. Much to his great grandmother's delight, he loved sharing his gift by playing in the Town Band for the Wednesday Bristol Band Concerts throughout his high school career. He was also a gifted self-taught pianist and could play any song he heard by ear, and composed many original pieces. While his clarinet and piano skills were impressive, for anyone who had the supreme fortune of listening to Cullen sing, you know — his voice came from a higher power. It could make both angels and those of us lucky enough to hear it, weep. Cullen's love of music was fostered by two of his favorite music educators, Bill Bowers, and Megan LaRose (wife of Cullen's cousin, Kevin).

After graduating from Mt. Abraham Union High School with honors and as a member of the National Honor Society, Cullen



CULLEN ELISHA BOUVIER

attended the University of Arizona in Tucson, where he received a Bachelor of Arts in Vocal Music Performance.

Following graduation, Cullen channeled his education and passion for the arts into his career, working in Boston for organizations focused on the arts and endowment for musicians. Most recently, Cullen worked for the Boston Symphony Orchestra and From the Top, a non-profit organization focused on providing opportunities for young musicians.

Cullen resided in Boston since graduating from college and, for the past eleven years, had the supreme fortune of spending his days with the love of his life, Justin Holliday, and their sweet fur baby, Myrtle. Justin and Cullen loved to travel and took numerous trips visiting family and friends in New Orleans, NYC, Georgia, Arizona, California, and Washington D.C. They also enjoyed regular visits with Justin's family in Boston and NYC, and trips to Vermont to visit Cullen's family and friends, where they could both enjoy the slower pace that "country living" has to offer. Cullen's family will forever be grateful that Cullen found Justin, an angel on this earth whose support of Cullen during his long illness has been unyielding. We truly could ask for no one better. Cullen's family is thankful that, though Cullen is no longer with us here, Justin (and his sister Jayme) will forever be a part of our family and another connection to Cullen.

While Cullen resided in Boston for the past twenty-plus years and loved "the Bean" and the rich culture, diversity, and opportunities it provided, Vermont and the Green Mountains he loved so, were always "home."

Cullen will be remembered for his infectious smile, captivating blue eyes, profound sense of humor, and supreme wit. Cullen was steadfast in his convictions. He could be pointed. Sharp. He did not hesitate to zealously champion the causes he believed most fervently in. He celebrated principles of equality, diversity, and love. He frequently voiced his disdain and intolerance for the perpetuation of injustice or oppression of any kind.

While Cullen could be strident and rigid, the only thing more unwavering than his firm opinions was the love and loyalty he had for his family and friends. He loved unabashedly and without restraint.

Cullen is survived by an army of people who love him and whose hearts are broken at his passing, including his adoring parents, Buzz and Wanda Bouvier; his partner, Justin Holliday; his siblings, Sarah Haselton (Tom), Justin Bouvier (Brian Farnum), and Matthew Bouvier. He is also survived by "his babies," his cherished niece and nephew, Lottie (AKA: "Chuckie")...thanks Uncle Cullen for that nickname) and Emmitt Haselton, and maternal grandparents Patricia and Robert Turner.

Cullen leaves his paternal aunts and uncles and their children and children-in-law, Connie and Ron LaRose (Kevin and wife Megan,

and Brett and wife Erin), Shelly and Rod Cousino (Chris and wife Tracy, Greg and wife Koran, and Kate and husband Darrin), Mark and Debbie Bouvier (Jaime, Nate and wife Erica, and Andy and partner Erika), Laura Bouvier (Jen and husband Devin, and Tim and wife Kristine), Colleen and Reg Wedge (his Godfather) (Rebecca and partner Jeffrey, Casey and partner Kara, and Eric and wife Taylor), Pete and Tina (Kari and husband Eric, and Ryan and wife Sarah), and Joel and Starr (Tasha and Megan).

Cullen leaves behind his maternal aunt and uncle, Tracie and Paul Cassarino, and their children Nicholas (wife Erin Boyd, Cullen's confidante and consigliere who shared daily phone calls with Cullen filled with friendship and sisterhood), and Joshua (wife Crystal), as well as maternal Uncle Franklin ("Butch") Hier. He also leaves close friends Katy Unger (his friend of forever), Sabine Keljik, and Kara O'Keefe, his partner's sister, Jayme Holliday, other members of the Holliday family, as well as a whole community of coworkers, friends, and second cousins who love and adore him.

Cullen was predeceased by paternal grandparents, Jim and Alice Bouvier, maternal grandparents, Franklin Hier and Marie Hier, and paternal uncles Eric and Jeffrey ("Hub") Bouvier. He was also predeceased by his beloved fur baby, Myrtle Aretha, as well as his great-grandmother Lottie ("GL") Follansbee, who helped raise and shape Cullen into the man he was, alongside his parents. We take comfort in knowing that Cullen has been reunited with his beloved GL, Myrt, and all those who have gone before him.

Cullen's family would like to thank the doctors, nurses and staff at Mass General who worked valiantly to restore Cullen to full health and, despite all odds, were able to give us another year with him and the ability to spend time in song, love and hope as we walked him home. The family would especially like to thank Dr. Nahel Elias, who fervently advocated for Cullen and undertook heroic efforts to save Cullen's life.

Cullen's "Ma Tante", Shel, recently reminded us that it has been said that the depth of our grief is comparable to the love for the loved one lost. Our grief is currently suffocating, the kind that steals your breath away and seems insurmountable because... Cul...you were so very loved. By so many. Cully, we will miss you forever and love you for always. You can now fly above the clouds as often as you'd like. Rest easy, our beautiful boy. Until we meet again.

A celebration of Cullen's life will be held at the Old Lantern in Charlotte, Vt., on Saturday, July 13, at 2 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation, in Cullen's name, to one of the following organizations or causes: From the Top, c/o Gretchen Nielsen (PO Box 845429, Boston, MA 02284-5429; Angell Animal Medical Center Memorial 350 South Huntington Avenue, Boston, Mass 02130; or a donation in Cullen's name, c/o Sarah Haselton (64 Bittersweet Ridge, Bristol, VT 05443), as the family intends on establishing a memorial fund in Cullen's name to fund a scholarship for a local Mt. Abraham student intending on pursuing a career or education in music or the arts.

Arrangements by the Barile Family Funeral Home, 482 Main St. (RT 28) Stoneham, Mass. To send a memorial condolence, go to www.barilefuneral.com or www.facebook.com/BarileFamilyFuneralHome ◊

Obituary
Guidelines

The Independent will publish paid obituaries and free notices of passing. Paid obituaries cost 25 cents per word and will be published, as submitted, on the date of the family's choosing. For those who do not wish to purchase an obituary, the Independent offers a free notice of passing up to 100 words, subject to editing by our news department. Photos (optional) with either paid obituaries or free notices cost \$10 per photo. Obituaries may be emailed to obits@addisonindependent.com.

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

CHARLES EDMUND
CALLAHANCharles Edmund
Callahan
celebration of life

ORWELL — A celebration of life for Dr. Charles Callahan, who died Dec. 25, 2023, will take place on April 27, at 2 p.m. at the First Congregational Church of Cornwall, 2598 Route 30. Light refreshments will follow. Memorial contributions in his honor may be made to the Cornwall Congregational Church Music Program at 2598 Route 30 Cornwall, VT 05753.

Swenor
graveside service

ADDISON — Family and friends of Donald F. Swenor, who died on Jan. 10, 2023, and Ramona E. (Danyow) Swenor, who died on Jan. 9, 2024, are respectfully invited to attend the graveside service for Donald and Ramona, which will be held at Grandview Cemetery, Route 22A, Addison, Vt., on May 11, 2024, beginning at 11 a.m.



ELEANOR RUPRECHT

Eleanor Ruprecht
celebration of life

SALISBURY — We invite family and friends to join us in our celebration of life service for Eleanor Ruprecht, who died Feb. 21, 2024. It will be held Saturday, May 4, at 11 a.m., at St Stephen's church in Middlebury. Reception immediately following. ◊

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Marshall Castle Harrington, 77, of Addison

ADDISON — Marshall Harrington passed away peacefully Saturday April 13, 2024 at Fletcher Allen Hospital. He is survived by his wife, Betty, and son, James Harrington of Addison County Vt.; brother Frederick Harrington and his family in N.M.; sister Martha Webster and her family in Md.; brother-in-law John Desautels of Fla.; sister-in-law Mary Basalier and her family of Essex, Vt.; Clair Heisler and her family of S.C.; and cousins Elizabeth Hansen and Cheryl Huard.

Marshall worked at Simmonds Precision, now Collins Aerospace, for over 40 years, where he achieved the position of machinist and befriended many coworkers he fondly remembered after retirement. He was also very



MARSHALL CASTLE HARRINGTON

helpful and knowledgeable in fixing most anything mechanical

and was always there to help people out when they needed extra support.

Marshall was passionate in raising various types of pigeons, which he competitively raced and enjoyed watching. He also was active in carpentry, carving decoys, sugaring, hunting and fishing. He became very active at salmon fishing on Lake Ontario during his retirement and enjoyed many hot summers out on the lake creating memories and reminiscing over past adventures.

Marshall will have a private memorial service with family.

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

Julie A. Worth, 56, of Shoreham

SHOREHAM — Julie A. Worth, 56, died early Monday morning, April 22, 2024, at the Porter Medical Center after complications of her multiple medical challenges.

Julie was born Sept. 11, 1967, in Portsmouth, N.H. She was the youngest child of Richard Warrington Worth and Marilyn Holbrook Worth. Julie attended the Kimi Nichols Development Center, Plaistow, N.H. After completing her education, she delivered newspapers for a time through a sheltered workshop in southern N.H.

Julie loved music of many genres — classical, country western and hymns. She was a member of the Shoreham Congregational Church. Julie will be remembered by her family and friends for her patience, resilience, sense of humor, and

unconditional loving and forgiving nature. She imparted many life lessons that support and enrich the world through the lives of those who knew her. She was a force of exceptional good and personal strength.

Julie is survived by her mother, Marilyn Worth of Shoreham; her siblings, Carol-lee Lane (Barry) of East Stoneham, Maine, Leslie Goodrich (Stephen) of Shoreham, and Steven Worth (Elsa) of Keene, N.H. She is also survived by many nieces, nephews and great nieces and a great nephew, all of whom contributed to the richness and fullness of her life.

She was predeceased by her devoted father, Richard.

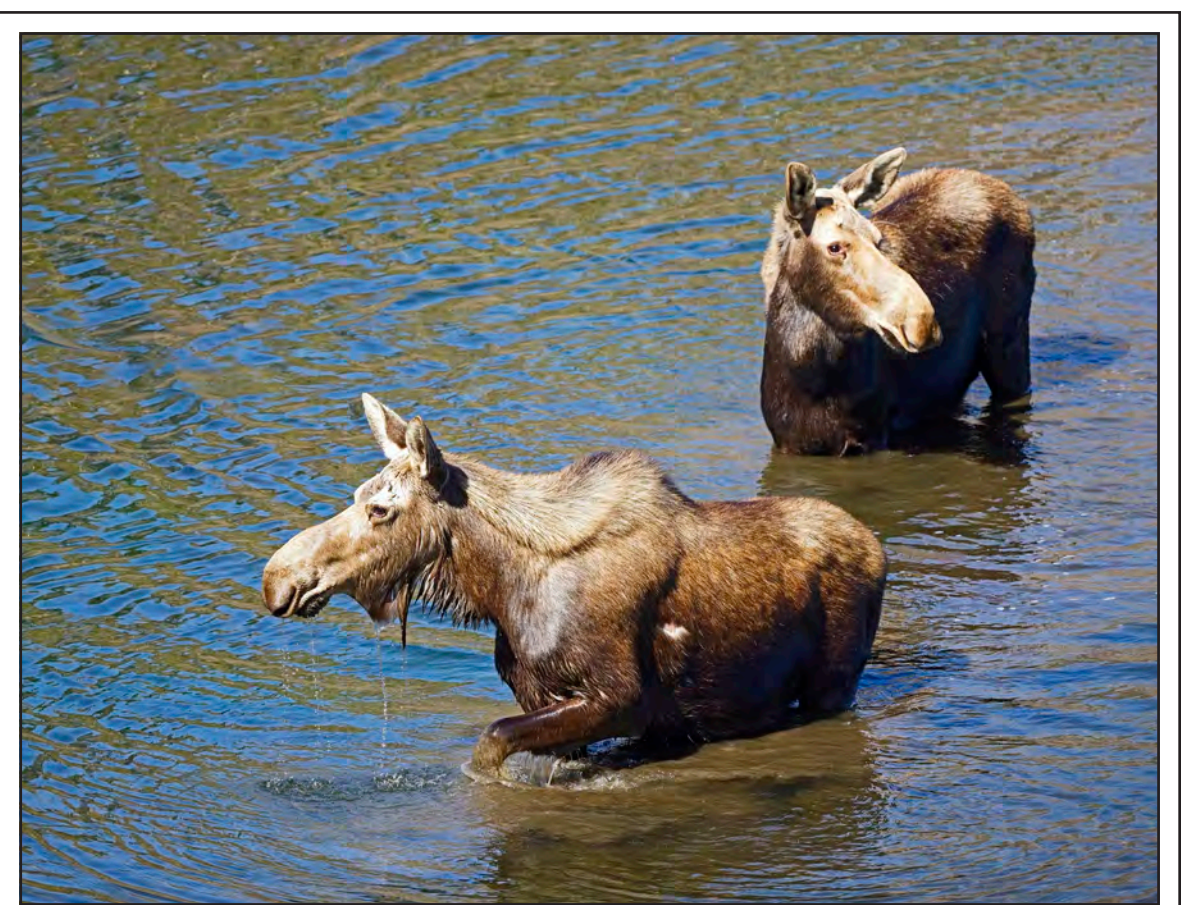
In addition to her family, Julie was lovingly cared for and supported by many professional

medical service providers, doctors, nurses, case managers, personal care providers and therapists. Their services to Julie and her family are gratefully recognized and honored.

A private graveside services was held in the Village Cemetery in Shoreham where the Reverend Marion Paquette officiated. A memorial celebration of life will be held at a later date.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Addison County Home Health and Hospice, the Shoreham Rescue, the Middlebury Regional EMS, Community Health Shorewell and/or the Porter Medical Center.

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



Hey, those aren't beavers

TWO MOOSE WADE in a Lincoln beaver pond recently. Hopefully the pond denizens won't mistake the moose legs for trees.

Photo by Dale Cockrell

Budget

(Continued from Page 3A)

both Superintendent and Director of Curriculum, contributing to its success while serving the students, teachers, and staff," Hubert wrote in an email to the RNESU community on March 22.

"I am proud of the contributions I have made to the district, and I am grateful for the opportunity to have served in this role," Hubert continued.

"We are saddened that Dr. Hubert has decided to pursue other interests," wrote Laurie Bertrand, chair of the OVUU School Board. "During her time here, she has strengthened our processes and led by example, always putting students

first."

Hubert will continue to work in education. She leaves RNESU to join the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation as Director of Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programming (GEAR UP), an educational nonprofit based in Winooski that helps junior high and high school students prepare for education and training after graduation. She will also teach doctoral-level classes at Northeastern University in Boston.

During her two-year tenure heading RNESU, Hubert oversaw the district's return to pre-COVID life while addressing new challenges, such as school

safety and the accommodation of transgender students at Otter Valley.

Dr. Hubert's resignation comes in the midst of a difficult budget season as well. OVUU's proposed FY2025 budget was defeated at the ballot box on March 5 and the OVUU Board is currently preparing a second proposal to put before voters on Tuesday, April 30. Dr. Hubert will remain at RNESU through June 30, leaving enough time to shepherd through next year's budget.

Hubert's resignation was the third high-level departure in the district this school year. Neshobe Principal Vicki Wells and Lothrop Principal Erica Williams Harryman both tendered resignations as well.

Letters to the Editor

MAUSD staff cuts hurt more than just teachers

The budget has failed for a second time in our district, so the school has responded by issuing potential layoff notices to a number of beloved teachers and talking seriously about making major changes to the arts department and sports teams.

We are a group of Mount Abe middle school students who are very concerned about losing teachers and extracurricular activities. Our teachers are what shape this school and make us into the people that we are. They sacrifice so much time and effort to make sure that we succeed and give us a better educational experience. Our after-school activities are crucial to us — for some students they are the best things (other than the teachers!) about our school. They're also important to the community.

The teachers who will be laid off are part of the core of our school. They have the power to turn school from something you dread into something you are excited for. Without them, our learning experience won't be nearly the same.

Cutting these teachers is bad financially for them. Several of them have kids or even babies that they need to take care of, and it is much harder to support their families if the teachers don't have a

job. It is also not fair for people to change our school so much without listening to us. These changes massively affect morale and energy in the building, and they do not consider what's actually best for the students.

Having fewer teachers means bigger classes, and bigger classes mean less hands-on learning time. This is a problem for everyone, but especially for students who don't take in information very well by listening to a big lecture. If half the students in the class don't understand something, and the class is comprised of 30-40 students, the teacher will not be able to individually help everyone, and several kids will be left wondering.

Extracurricular activities are very important, too. According to a study found in the National Center for Education Statistics, "Extracurricular participation was positively associated with each of these success indicators among public high school seniors," the success indicators being "consistent attendance, academic achievement, and aspirations for continuing education beyond high school." This study shows that out-of-school activities can improve students' performance in classes, which reflects well on both the pupils and the school. Furthermore,

community members enjoy watching various sports events and musicals. If that is taken away, it not only affects the participants, but anyone in the area who would like to see the hard work and talent that the scholars are putting in.

Extracurricular activities also provide fun opportunities for students that don't excel in regular classroom settings and traditional school subjects. It offers them a chance to shine when they might not otherwise be able to. Cutting after-school activities is not equitable to people who want to continue these pursuits. While some may be able to afford to travel somewhere or go to a different school, others definitely can't. This could possibly ruin someone's chance at their dream career or keep them from getting a scholarship to a college that they couldn't pay for otherwise.

We understand that times are hard for everyone, but we beg you to support our schools and vote yes on the next budget.

Eliza Ruble, Mabinti Bangoura, Sloane Gryzb, Anika Morton, Ada Thomas, Sage Stevers, Tinsae Deas, Clem Briggs, Trinity Croft, Sadie Nezin, Saebryn Carter and Finley Vincelette New Haven, Lincoln, Bristol, and Monkton

Legislature needs to pass bills for paid family leave

My name is Darla Senecal, email heydarla@comcast.net. I live in Bristol, Vermont, with my fiancé. I work from home for a non-profit, Building Bright Futures. I just completed two two-year terms as a selectboard member in Bristol. I am also a board member of a local childcare center and the Early Care and Learning Partnership. I am a mother of three and grandmother of three.

Below is my story of why I believe paid family leave is important.

Vermont caregivers need paid leave.

In 2020, my fiancé contracted long COVID. Since then, I've been his primary caregiver and our household's sole wage earner.

Long COVID affects everyone differently. My fiancé's symptoms include: chronic pain, exhaustion, memory loss, aphasia, and vision problems. Because of his illness, I also do most of the cooking, cleaning, and household chores. I drive him to doctor's appointments — and sometimes, just coordinating his medical care feels like a full-time job.

Luckily, I work for a very flexible employer. I work remotely from home and am available to my fiancé during the day. Still, it is a lot to juggle my caregiver responsibilities and my full-time job. There is very little margin for error, and having flexibility does not mean I have enough hours in the day.

I used to be fortunate enough to roll over extra vacation days and leave time at the end of each year. Now, in a typical year, my caregiving duties alone might use up the generous bank of paid time off provided by my employer.

This year, I required two major surgeries. My doctor advised me to take six full weeks off to recover after each procedure. I could only take three weeks for the first surgery and four weeks for the second — part of that was unpaid — because I didn't have enough paid leave to cover the basic needs of our household.

When something must be sacrificed, that something is usually my own physical or mental (See Senecal letter, Page 8A)

Rucker letter

(Continued from Page 5A)

Middlebury will make the ground floor of the Duclos building available for the library to continue serving users.

The total cost is expected to be \$17 million, and voters will be

asked to bond for the full amount but, as the ballot explains, the town will need to borrow only \$4.5 million, with the balance coming from grants, fund-raising, and an existing town revenue stream. Construction can begin in 2025 and

be completed in 2026. The public library which Middlebury needs and deserves is attainable. Please vote yes on May 7!

Nancy and Ron Rucker Middlebury

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Senecal letter

(Continued from Page 7A)
 health needs.
 To be clear, I love my job. The work I do for children and families speaks to my heart and makes me happy. I have no intention of leaving or even slowing down my work. I want to stay with my employer and continue to work in

the field I love.
 But without any downtime between caregiving and work, I'm often worn thin and feel unable to give my full effort and attention to any part of my life.
 Being able to take paid leave, especially as I recovered from my own surgeries, would have made such a difference. I could have

focused on recovering my health — both mental and physical. This would have allowed me to take better care of my fiancé and return to work with something closer to my full energy.

Every day, I face impossible choices: between family care and doing my best at work, between personal health and financial security — and I always feel I'm letting someone down. There is no "right" answer.

I'm far from the only one facing these impossible choices. Over 70,000 Vermonters are providing unpaid care for family members. Nearly everyone will need time away from work to care for themselves or a loved one at some point in their lives. Our communities are stronger when they can count on paid leave.

That's why I hope the legislature will pass a strong paid family and medical leave program, like H.66, this year. In 2023, the House advanced H.66 to the Senate. It would provide up to 12 weeks of paid leave so workers can welcome a new child, recover from a serious health condition, or care for a loved one without risking a paycheck.

A strong paid leave program would allow caregivers like me to take better care of ourselves, our loved ones, and our communities. It is time to pass paid leave.

**Darla Senecal
 Bristol**



I see you, man

A MALE PURPLE Finch is a stunning sight. This one was captured with a camera in Lincoln recently, and seems to be staring right at the photographer.

Photo by Dale Cockrell

City to hold hearing on zoning change

By ANDY KIRKALDY
 VERGENNES — The Vergennes City Council last week scheduled a public hearing for 6 p.m. on May 14 on a zoning change that could pave the way for 130-unit workforce housing development behind the city's police station.

But they didn't do so before getting a preview of an issue that could be on the table at that hearing.

The proposed zoning change would allow for the first time ground-floor housing in the Northern Gateway zoning district, which runs roughly from the Vergennes Animal Hospital to the railroad bridge near the Ferrisburgh town line. The proposal is based on a similar, recent amendment to the Vergennes city plan.

Currently, Vergennes zoning laws state that residential units are "prohibited at the ground level" in the city's Northern Gateway District. That provision is intended to encourage businesses and offices in what is a mixed-use area.

The proposed change would add to the language "in buildings within 150 feet ... of Main Street/Route 22A." Thus, housing would be allowed further off of what is the city's central artery.

This change could allow one 14.4-acre lot behind the police station to accommodate those 130 units — assuming at least three of them were either affordable, workforce or elderly housing, or met strict energy-efficiency standards, as also permitted by city zoning through what are called "density bonuses."

The developer is Peter Kahn, a principal in a company eyeing the 14.4-acre parcel and the founder of the existing Claybrook housing subdivision off West Main Street.

Kahn told the *Independent* late last year preliminary plans for the 14.4 acres called for building 130 one-, two- and three-bedroom rental and condo units in multi-family buildings that he said "will be more affordable for people with regular jobs" — in other words, workforce housing.

But one former planner, Tim Cook, who helped write the density bonus regulations into the city's zoning laws, now calls them too permissive.

The regulations state if three units of a Planned Unit Development of any size meet those affordability or strict energy standards, the entire development may add 50% more

units overall.
 For example, a developer that would otherwise be allowed to site 10 units on a parcel could build 15. Or in the case of the 14.4 acres in question, if a developer could otherwise build around 90 units, that number could rise to roughly 130.

Cook has lobbied his former planning colleagues and councilors to seek a more restrictive standard. He came to the March 9 meeting to make the case for such a density bonus amendment before an application for Kahn's or another large development off North Main Street is filed.

"It creates this loophole that is not the intent of the workforce density housing bonus," he said. "There is the number three in there. Three units out of 140 potential units will do nothing for workforce housing in Vergennes."

Cook said he "would like to see the 130 units built out there as soon as possible," but suggested if the council members simply accepted the recommendation, and then later decided they agreed density bonus language should be changed, it could set the project back months while planners and the council did rewrites and held more hearings.

But planners didn't attend the March 9 meeting to explain their point of view. As City Manager Ron Redmond put it, "The intent was to receive it (the amendment) and set a public hearing," and not to discuss its merits.

Councilors agreed it was not the proper forum to discuss the issue. Deputy Mayor Dickie Austin said it would be "irresponsible" for the council to turn back the planners' recommendation without a public hearing.

"I look forward to actually getting into the nuts and bolts and actual discussion of it," he said.

Councilors all voted to accept the amendment, but some said they'd keep an open mind.

"I appreciate that conversation. I understand the issue more now," said Councilor Sue Rakowski. "I do hope the planning commission will consider sending over another changed regulation."

NOT SO FAST?
 In a later interview, Planning Commission Chair Shannon Haggett said the question of changing the density bonus provision was not simple. He confirmed planners had heard and considered Cook's concerns, but chose to advance the Northern Gateway zoning amendment without addressing density bonuses.

"We're talking about putting forth a very limited proposal based on ... the plan," Haggett said. "We did discuss Tim's point

of view and his position, and we just collectively said, that's about something else we may need to look at, the language regarding density bonuses."

Haggett said those discussions could be more than a simple change to numbers or percentages, in part because there are questions about whether density bonuses can be enforced on future owners of properties built using them — in other words, initially more affordable apartments could be converted to market-rate units.

"We were looking at it as a planning commission and saying, 'We're not sure the language we have for density bonuses is doing what we want it to do, anyway,'" Haggett said. "We ... may come up with something different, or eliminate the density bonuses in that section entirely and work toward changes the regulations in the dimensional standards in what's allowed in the district."

Planners, he said, might also want to take into consideration results from the city's recent community-wide discussions on housing in Vergennes.

Those include the Addison County Regional Planning Commission's county-wide housing survey, and two initiatives from 2023, when the city was picked for a "Vermont Homes for All Toolkit" study that examined how housing could be added to existing neighborhoods, and Vergennes's Neighborhood Development Area designation, a state designation that offers municipalities and developers incentives for new and/or infill housing near downtowns.

Basically, Haggett said, planners want to take comprehensive look at the regulation for a thorough rewrite rather than hold up the one zoning amendment called for in the city plan.

In the meantime, Haggett acknowledged that "technically," the Vergennes Development Review Board could not say "no" to a proposal for a large Planned Unit Development with just three qualifying units.

But he said Kahn would lose the goodwill he has gained through the years, good will that led the city council to ask for \$5 million of Congressionally Directed Spending to support his \$17 million North Main Street project, and the council's \$100,000 city Revolving Loan Fund offer to Kahn to support another workforce housing proposal on Armory Lane — both actions the council took on March 9. (See related story.)

Haggett also described that scenario as unlikely.

"I've had lots of talks with Peter about all this," he said. "It wouldn't fit in his plan to do all that."

Orwell gears up for Food Fest

By JOHN FLOWERS
 ORWELL — Orwell's scenic town green will host three farmers markets this summer that will showcase local growers while offering residents and visitors a bounty of fresh food — right at their doorstep.

They're being called the "Orwell Food Fests," and they're being made possible by an \$8,000 grant through the Association for Rural and Small Libraries, and the generosity of the Manton Foundation. Orwell Free Library Director Kate Hunter said the Food Fest markets are slated for noon to 4 p.m. on July 14, Aug. 11 and Sept. 8. In addition to local produce, the events will feature live music, kids' crafts and market, a food making contest and an apple pressing demonstration.

The Orwell Food Fest is a project of the Orwell Free Library and Farmers Haven. Led by MaKayla Davis, Farmers Haven each year runs a series of weekly indoor markets on Sundays at 318 Route 22A in Orwell. The upcoming Food Fests will include Farmers Haven participants to make for an even bigger draw, according to Hunter.

In addition to providing three fun community gatherings, Hunter noted the markets are intended to boost food system resiliency and celebrate Addison and Rutland County growers, producers and makers.

"The real heart of this project is connecting our community with the growers and makers right next door," Hunter said through a press release. "The range of what is

available is much wider than we realize. I hope the connections made will extend beyond these markets and assist in building a more resilient food system and economy."

During a phone interview late last week, Hunter said she'd like to see 12-15 vendors at each of the three summer markets. Because the events are grant-funded, vendors won't be assessed a participation fee.

Organizers hope the Orwell markets can become an annual offering on a town green that's being sized up for improvements. As previously reported by the *Independent*, the town recently capped a successful \$41,000 fundraising effort — which included a state grant and crowdfunding — to replace the town green's six deteriorating tables and seven benches with new versions.

That new town green infrastructure probably won't be in place in time for Food Fest 2024, but it will be for future years. Hunter is hoping for a big turnout this summer.

"Vendors from all over Addison and Rutland counties are welcome to join us," she said. "We look forward to showcasing the exceptional and diverse products of our region, including tomatoes, mushrooms, flowers, beef, pork, dairy and CBD products."

To learn more about becoming a vendor, visit orwellfreelibrary.org or contact Kate Hunter at orwellfreelibrary@gmail.com.

Reporter John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.

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Middlebury Police Department: 1 Lucius Shaw Lane, Middlebury

Vergennes Police Department: 8 Main Street, Vergennes

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LETTERS?

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GMP to upgrade transmission lines

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — Green Mountain Power is seeking state permission to upgrade and resupply its 46kV “Transmission Line 60,” which runs through the towns of Salisbury, Middlebury, New Haven, and Weybridge.

The estimated six-month project will likely start this September, assuming GMP receives permission from the Vermont Public Utility Commission. Once completed, the project will increase the reliability and safety of the 46kV line serving the Belden Falls and Huntington Falls hydroelectric plants in Addison County by replacing current equipment that’s at the end of its useful life, according to GMP Spokesperson Kristin Carlson.

The work will also shorten the radial transmission line feed, while providing improved clearances for installing fiber optic cable, GMP officials added.

“This is a routine system maintenance project and will enhance reliability two ways. Several miles of lines will be removed, leaving less line exposed to potentially damaging weather. And it creates an alternate path of power that could be used in case one part of the line is damaged,” Carlson said.

Line 60 is a radial 46kV transmission feed that extends from GMP’s Florence substation to its Huntington Falls substation in Weybridge off Morgan Horse Farm Road.

It was on Feb. 27 that John R. Riske of JRF Engineering delivered details about the Line 60 project to Vermont PUC, on behalf of the power company. He listed the project’s three components:

- Replacing existing transmission

infrastructure along approximately 4.9 miles of Line 60 in New Haven, Weybridge and Middlebury. Approximately 98 structures will be replaced using “T” construction and transferring the existing 312.8 AAC conductor within the existing transmission line corridor. Pole heights are to increase by an average of less than 10 feet, with some poles increasing in height by 25 feet, according to GMP officials’ testimony.

The poles are being replaced due to age, condition, clearance improvements for new fiber optic cable and double circuit construction.

Carlson said the infrastructure in question is in a remote area and that its replacement won’t present visual impacts for residents in Salisbury, Middlebury, New Haven or Weybridge. A helicopter will be enlisted to help access and haul out the poles etc. that’s being retired, officials said.

“The reason the team wants to use a helicopter is that it will have less of an impact environmentally, and will be more cost-effective, from a time perspective as well,” Carlson said.

- Resupplying roughly 0.7 miles of Line 60 within the town of Middlebury.

- Retiring approximately 8.8 miles of Line 60 in the towns of Middlebury and Salisbury.

The project includes installation of new fiber optic cable from the Middlebury Substation to the Belden Falls and Huntington Falls substations along the upgraded Line 60. The existing obsolete fiber optic cable from Belden Falls to the Huntington Falls substation will be retired.

Line 60 right now consists

of twenty-six 1940-vintage transmission structures, fifty-two 1950-vintage structures, nineteen 1960-vintage structures, five 1970-vintage structures, one hundred and twenty-seven 1980-vintage structures, ten 1990-vintage structures, two 2000-vintage structures, eight 2021-vintage structures, three 2020-vintage structures and associated hardware with 312.8 AAC conductor.

The line crews will cut the poles down with chainsaws, remove the conductors and structure hardware (cross arms, braces, and insulators), and prepare the structures to be picked up from a helicopter, all within the right of way. Most of this work is to be done with crews accessing the structures with ATVs and/or foot rather than bucket trucks. The poles will then be transported by a helicopter to one of four landing zones where they’ll be disposed of according to applicable regulations, according to GMP.

The structure hardware will be removed from the right of way with ATVs or by workers carrying parts out. GMP will manage the project and will hire temporary contractors to help complete the work.

Carlson said GMP has budgeted for the Line 60 project; it will not force a rise in electricity rates.

There are no additional transmission line upgrades planned for Addison County in the near future, according to Carlson. GMP provides electricity to roughly 75% of the state, amounting to approximately 275,000 customers. The company has 12,500 miles of distribution line, and 1,011 miles of sub-transmission line.

Reporter John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.



THE NEW OWNERS and existing crew stop for a photo at Juice Amour, a downtown Middlebury eatery. Pictured from left are founder Sheri Bedard, manager Shawna Sherwin, Sustainable Kitchen founders and new Juice Amour owners Rick Causey and Kate Halladay and their daughter Flora.

Sustainable Kitchen buys Juice Amour

MIDDLEBURY — Sustainable Kitchen, an establishment dedicated to promoting sustainability and healthy eating, recently announces its acquisition of Juice Amour, a beloved local juice and smoothie bar in downtown Middlebury. The acquisition took place on March 6, marking an exciting new chapter for both businesses.

Founded by Sheri Bedard and her father, David Bedard, a decade ago, Juice Amour has been an import part of the Middlebury business community, serving organic, fresh-made juices, smoothies and bowls. Over the years, the business has garnered a loyal following and has weathered various challenges, including the COVID-19 pandemic and operational adjustments. They started on Route 7 and moved the business to 16 Merchants Row downtown a few years later.

The new owners of Juice

Amour are Richard Causey and Kate Halladay, co-owners of Sustainable Kitchen in Lincoln. They said they are enthusiastic about carrying forward Juice Amour’s legacy of health and wellness. With a commitment to preserving everything that Juice Amour is known for, Halladay and Causey plan to enhance the menu by introducing robust breakfast and lunch options while expanding the retail area to offer more local foods and snacks.

“We are thrilled to embark on this journey with Juice Amour and the Middlebury community,” Halladay said. “We are dedicated to maintaining the high standards set by Sheri, David, and the team while bringing new and exciting offerings to our customers.” Sheri Bedard expressed her gratitude for the support of loyal customers and the Middlebury community, stating, “We absolutely adore our clients and

champions in Middlebury. Their loyalty and faith in us have sustained us through absolutely crazy times.”

Sheri, David and Shawna Sherwin, Sheri’s sister and manager, are excited about the future of the business and are confident that it could not be in better hands.

As part of Sustainable Kitchen’s ethos, Halladay, Causey and their daughter Flora are committed to sourcing local ingredients and serving the community with integrity and dedication.

The acquisition of Juice Amour by Sustainable Kitchen marks a significant milestone for both businesses and underscores their shared commitment to promoting health, sustainability, and community engagement.

For more information about Juice Amour and Sustainable Kitchen, visit juiceamour.com and sustainablekitchenvt.com.

Collected deer teeth pinpoint accurate age

RUTLAND — Hunters who provided the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department with a tooth from their deer can now find out how old their deer was by visiting the department’s website.

A total of 1,966 usable deer teeth were received from successful hunters in 2023. When added to the 952 deer examined

by biologists during the youth and regular November seasons, the department was able to get accurate ages for 2,918 deer.

This age information helps VTF&W estimate deer population size and assess the health of deer and is critically important for understanding the effects of hunting regulations on the deer

population and buck age structure.

The oldest deer harvested was a 19-year-old doe taken in Leicester. The oldest bucks were 12 years old and were taken in Whitingham and Vershire.

The deer ages can be found on the Vermont Fish and Wildlife website.

SNACKS

COFFEE

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CONVERSATION

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GREEN UP &
TEAM UP!
AN ADDY ALL-STAR EVENT!

9:30 GREEN UP

10:30 TEAM UP

Saturday, May 4

The Addison Independent, Marbleworks

GREEN UP DAY is a long-standing Vermont tradition that brings communities together to keep Vermont litter-free. It relies on people coming together with a common goal to make their shared spaces better for all.

The ADDY ALL-STARS share a similar mission — to come together to support community journalism and ensure Addison County sustains its local news coverage.

This event is free and open for all who want to help make downtown Middlebury shine a little brighter for all.

Come grab a green-up bag at the Addy Indy, do your part to make the community litter-free, then enjoy some snacks, coffee and an opportunity to chat with our team about how we’re covering local news stories, or what you’d like to see us add or change or amplify.

WE’RE ALL IN IT TOGETHER!



TAKE HOME A NEW
ADDY
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EVENT
DETAILS 
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ANWSD

(Continued from Page 1A)

Union Elementary School and Ferrisburgh Central School.

It is almost \$250,000 lower than the budget that lost on March 26 and \$1 million less than the budget put before voters on March 5, but would still increase spending from the current year.

Despite the three dozen Reduction In Force (RIF) notices the district sent out to educators after the previous budget defeat, officials said this plan retains all educational and extracurricular program and positions (except one) proposed in the previous budget.

The proposal would increase spending 7.65% from the current academic year. According to school officials, the main drivers pushing expenses up faster than the rate of inflation (about 3.5%) are new contracts for both teachers and staff that bring their pay in line with neighboring districts, a 16% increase in health insurance benefits, and a 10% increase in busing.

The district tax rate (before adjustments for Common Levels of Appraisals, or CLAs) will actually be lower, however, dropping from to \$1.5194 per \$100 of assessed property value from \$1.5411, or a little more than 2 cents.

For perspective: A penny on a tax rate translates to \$10 in taxes per \$100,000 of assessed value, so a \$300,000 home would see a \$30 increase before the state applies its CLAs.

Officials attributed the 2-cent district tax rate change to more special education grants, a small surplus being applied from two years ago, and a revised state funding law that gave some districts, including ANWSD, a 2-cent break on school tax rates.



IN A FERRISBURGH demonstration this past Thursday, Lindsey Brown and her two children, 11-year-old Elijah and 8-year-old Aaliyah, tried to rally Addison Northwest School District voters to pass the school budget, with colorful signs.

ANWSD Board Chair John Stroup urged passage of the plan even though there will be higher homestead school taxes — ranging from almost 10% to about 18%. Despite the lower district rate increase, the higher actual taxes are attributed to the impact of towns' low CLAs (see details below and in chart).

"The central message is we need a budget to fund our schools," Stroup said. "Our teachers, or staff, have to have clarity about the kind of programs and the kind of education that we're going to be able to provide. And our families and our students want to know that the kind of education that they hope for their children will be able to be provided."

IF BUDGET IS VOTED DOWN
If this budget fails, the district will also send out RIF notices to many non-teaching staff members on Wednesday, as required by a

deadline in their union contract.

RIF notices don't necessarily mean those who receive them will lose their jobs. The problem is that state law limits the district's spending if it doesn't have an approved budget before July, and the district must be legally prepared to lay off some employees.

According to the district website, "If we do not have a passed budget by July 1, we are allowed to borrow 87% of the FY24 budget to continue to operate while we try to get a budget passed. This would mean reducing our budget to \$22,022,108 — a \$5,227,892 reduction from our proposed FY25 budget ... The RIF notices are a contingency measure to ensure the district has some flexibility in terms of decision-making if the subsequent budget(s) do not pass."

School officials said the worst-case scenario would mean drastic reductions of extracurriculars,



SUPPORTERS OF THE latest ANWSD budget proposal gathered on April 18 at Ferrisburgh's Union Meeting Hall property on Route 7 to urge others to vote yes on Tuesday. They included, from left, Lindsey Brown and her son, Elijah; Heidi Willette; Carolinne Griffin (in rear); Maggie Rollins and her daughter Lola (a VUHS student).

Independent photos/Steve James

including sports and other activities, and of course offerings that aren't required by state standards, such as art, chorus, band and electives. Because of mandates at the elementary level, they said the high school would be hardest hit.

And CLAs would still take their toll even with deeper cuts, officials said. ANWSD Director of Finance and Operations Elizabeth Jennings gave one example.

She offered a scenario of the district operating on the current year budget of \$25,312,768, which would mean about another \$1.94 million of cuts from the current \$27.25 million proposal.

"If we tried to run on the exact expenditure budget we have this year, next year, Ferrisburgh's post-CLA tax rate is still at an increase of 10%," Jennings wrote in an email.

CUTS MADE

In preparing the budget proposal for the upcoming vote, the school board included eliminating a building administration job (\$124,000) and the expected realization of \$94,000 in lower expected special education tuition. The board also applied almost \$40,000 from a fiscal year 2023 surplus to lower taxes.

- Other reductions:
- \$40,000 in technology purchases.
 - \$50,000 in furniture purchases for the middle and high schools.
 - \$54,075 by leaving vacant a social worker position.
 - \$167,332 by cutting a central office position and a halftime reading position
 - \$250,546 by discontinuing The Walden Project, the high school alternative education program, taking advantage of the retirement of the program head.
 - \$162,488 by cutting two special

education teachers by discontinuing ANWSD participation in the Addison Consortium Program.

HIGHER TAXES

But ANWSD taxes will still rise. It should be noted in any discussion of school taxes that those who pay based on their incomes, about two-thirds of all homeowners, won't feel the full weight of any increase. During the 2023-2024 fiscal year, 6,951 Addison County recipients received an average property tax credit of \$1,634.

Still, because of rapidly rising property values, ANWSD towns' grand lists are out of date, and thus so are CLAs, which are going to cause increases in ANWSD tax rates.

Why does the state apply CLAs? Essentially, it's a matter of fairness to taxpayers statewide who pay into Vermont's Education Fund. State officials use CLAs in an effort to treat all Vermont property owners equally when they pay school taxes.

Using sales data, the state calculates CLAs annually for every Vermont community to adjust the listed value of properties to reflect fair market value as closely as possible.

CLAs are expressed as a percentage: If sales show assessments are low, as is now the case in almost all Vermont towns, that percentage is less than 100. For example, Addison's CLA is currently 72.35%, down about 10% from its 2023 CLA of 82.8%.

And if a town's CLA is low, its district tax rate is adjusted upward by dividing the CLA into the rate.

Thus, when the ANWSD district rate of \$1.5194 is adjusted by the CLA (1.5194 divided by 0.7235) it becomes \$2.10 per \$100 of assessed property value.

Addison's tax rate in the current fiscal year adjusted by its previous

CLA of 82.8% was \$1,861.2.

That means if the current budget is approved, Addison is looking at a 12.8% increase in its homestead rate despite the lower district rate and the 7.65% proposed budget increase. All other ANWSD communities are also looking at homestead tax percentage increases: 9.6% in Waltham, 11% in Vergennes, 17.8% in Pantton, and 18% in Ferrisburgh.

Why could this be seen as fair? For example, look at the owner of a \$300,000 home accurately assessed in a town with a 100% CLA.

Meanwhile, a home assessed at \$300,000 in a town with a 75% CLA is worth closer to \$400,000.

Should those two property owners pay the same in school taxes to the Education Fund even though one home is worth more than the other?

Or should their home values be equalized before tax bills are sent out? State law says they must be equalized.

No matter how one might feel about the answer to that question or the larger question of how Vermont funds its schools, ANWSD homeowners are in the latter boat, caught in a rising tide of property values. See chart for details.

A readable explanation of CLAs is available at tinyurl.com/yc9b8kty.

Stroup said with all this in mind, the board tried strike a balance between doing what little the board can do to control tax rates given CLAs, and offering a spending plan that would still meet student needs.

"This budget still does an awful lot for our community and our schools," Stroup said. "We're trying to make sure both parts of this are told."

Addison Northwest budget tax impact

FY2025 projections under new proposed school district spending plan

Town	Union Tax Rate, revised budget FY25	CLA (FY25)	Homestead Tax Rate, adjusted by CLA	Change	Change per \$100,000 of assessed value
Addison	\$1.5194	72.35	\$2.10	\$0.2388 / 12.8%	+ \$238.80
Ferrisburgh	\$1.5194	72.60	\$2.0928	\$0.3186 / 18.0%	+ \$328.60
Pantton	\$1.5194	75.96	\$2.0002	\$0.3018 / 17.8%	+ \$301.80
Vergennes	\$1.5194	70.78	\$2.1466	\$0.2125 / 11%	+ \$212.50
Waltham	\$1.5194	73.79	\$2.0591	\$0.1811 / 9.6%	+ \$181.10

Source:ANWSD.org

PLEASE JOIN THE CONVERSATION ABOUT VERMONT'S ELECTRIC GRID

Public Meetings on the 2024 Vermont Long-Range Transmission Plan

May 1, 5:00pm - 7:00 pm
Delta Hotel, 1117 Williston Rd, South Burlington, VT

May 2, 12:00pm - 2:00pm
Virtual Meeting - Registration required

May 14, 12:00pm - 2:00pm
Rutland Free Library, 10 Court St, Rutland, VT

May 15, 5:00pm - 7:00pm
St. Albans Town Office, 398 Georgia Shore Road, St. Albans, VT



Refreshments will be served.

Please RSVP at www.velco.com/vlrtp or 802-770-6381



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Tickets make great gifts! To participate, mail the name and address square below, with a check for \$26 made out to "Libanus Lodge" to Libanus Lodge, P.O. Box 124, Bristol VT 05443. Any questions, please reach us at libanus.lodge.47@gmail.com.

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1st Drawing: June 28th, 2024 - \$300.00 • \$200.00 • \$100.00
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Proceeds to support the Libanus Lodge, who has supported the People, and Projects throughout our Community.

Supported in part by the Addison County Independent.



WITH THE LATEST ANWSD budget in the five district towns coming up for a vote on Tuesday, backers of the board's proposed spending plan last week posted signs alongside Route 7 in Ferrisburgh to show their support.

Students receive firefighter scholarships

ADDISON COUNTY — The Addison County Firefighters Association Scholarship Committee has chosen Ellison Thomas and Elias Pike to receive scholarships awarded to Addison County students. A formal presentation was made at the Association's quarterly dinner meeting held April 17 at the Shoreham fire station. The scholarships are in the amount of

\$1,000 each. Thomas is the daughter of Aaron Thomas of Starksboro. She is graduating from Mount Abraham Union High School and will attend Trinity College in Hartford, Conn. Pike is the son of Chris and Zoe Pike of Ripton. He is a member of the Ripton Fire Department graduating from Middlebury Union High School and will

attend Champlain College in Burlington, Vt., seeking a degree in Criminology and criminal justice. The Ray E. Davison Scholarship fund was established in 1992. The Addison County Firefighters Association is proud to be assisting families of Addison County Firefighters with their college education.

Vekos gets law license back

By ALAN J. KEAYS
VTDigger.org

MONTPELIER — The Vermont Supreme Court has reinstated the law license of Addison County's top prosecutor roughly three weeks after suspending it for her failure to cooperate with an investigation about her paid leave that followed a drunken driving charge.

The high court issued the ruling in favor of Addison County State's Attorney Eva Vekos on Friday, April 19. Earlier this month, her attorney, David Sleigh, had argued to the court that Vekos's suspension should be lifted because she had come into compliance with that investigation, which was headed by the prosecutor for the state panel overseeing Vermont lawyers.

"We grant (Vekos's) motion given her recent cooperation," reads this past Friday's decision, which was signed by all five justices.

Sleigh, in an interview, said he appreciated the court's decision.

"We're happy to move forward," he said.

Jon Alexander, the disciplinary counsel with the Professional Responsibility Board, had initially sought the suspension of Vekos's law license in February for failure to cooperate with his investigation into her three-week

paid medical leave following her drunken driving arrest in January.

Alexander, according to his own filing last week, did not object to lifting the suspension that had been ordered by the high court in late March.

Since the court suspended Vekos's law license, Alexander wrote, "She has responded, with apparent candor, to all Disciplinary Counsel's previously ignored inquiries about the reasons, nature and causes of her now-concluded medical leave."

Specifically, Alexander wrote, Vekos has provided him with "satisfactory and confidential" responses related to the medical condition prompting her leave, any potential effects of the condition, her work performance, and the names of health care providers whom she had consulted.

"Because of (Vekos's) newfound willingness to respond to Disciplinary Counsel's inquiries about her medical leave and other matters," Alexander wrote, "the conditions and dangers that caused this court to suspend respondent from practice are not currently present."

Vekos was arrested on the night of Jan. 25 on a drunken driving charge after she allegedly drove impaired to the scene of a suspicious death investigation in

Bridport.

According to charging documents, Vekos refused to perform field sobriety tests when requested to do so by a Vermont State Police trooper or to take a breath test.

In the days after her arrest, Vekos engaged in an email exchange with law enforcement leaders in Addison County, in which she said she no longer felt safe around police and disparaged their intelligence and grammatical skills.

Vekos has pleaded not guilty to the DUI charge, which is currently pending.

Vekos continued to serve as Addison County state's attorney, an elected position, while her license was suspended. She was limited to mainly administrative tasks without the ability to practice law.

She has resisted calls from a majority of the legislative delegation from Addison County calling on Vekos to resign following the suspension. In the first week of April, they issued a press release citing what they called her "unprofessional conduct" and "offensive comments about local law enforcement."

Vekos was elected to her first four-year term in the post in November 2022.



Red, white and blue

A WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILL enjoys the sun on a recent morning in Lincoln. The peculiar bill enables these colorful birds to pry seeds from spruce and tamarack cones.

Photo by Dale Cockrell

Leave wildlife babies alone

MONTPELIER — Watching wildlife is enjoyable, especially when young animals appear in the spring. But it is best to keep your distance. Picking up young wildlife can do more harm than good, according to the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department, and it is also against the law.

When people see young animals alone, they often mistakenly assume these animals are helpless or lost, in trouble or needing to be rescued. Bringing young wildlife into a human environment often results in permanent separation from their mothers and a sad ending for the animal.

Handling wildlife could also pose a threat to the people involved. Wild animals can transmit disease and angry wildlife mothers can pose significant dangers.

Fish and Wildlife scientists encourage wildlife watchers to respect the behavior of animals in

the spring and early summer, and to resist the urge to assist wildlife in ways that may be harmful. Here are some helpful tips:

- Deer and moose nurse their young at different times during the day, and often leave young alone for long periods of time. These animals are not lost. Their mother knows where they are and will return.

- Young birds on the ground may have left their nest, but their parents will still feed them.

- Young animals such as fox and raccoon will often follow their mother. The mother of a wildlife youngster is usually nearby but just out of sight to a person happening upon it.

- Animals that act sick can carry rabies, parasites or other harmful diseases. Do not handle them. Even though they do not show symptoms, healthy-looking raccoons, foxes, skunks, and bats

may also be carriers of the deadly rabies virus.

- Many wildlife species will not feed or care for their young when people are close by. Obey signs that restrict access to wildlife nesting areas, including hiking trails that may be temporarily closed.

- Keep domestic pets indoors, leashed or fenced in. Dogs and cats kill many young animals each year.

- Avoid projects that remove trees, shrubs and dead snags that contain nests during the spring and summer.

For information about rabies, call the Vermont Rabies Hotline at 1-800-4RABIES (1-800-472-2437).

For the safety of all wildlife, taking a wild animal into captivity is illegal, even one you suspect is sick, injured or has been abandoned.

Monkton

Have a news tip?
Call Liz Pecor at 802-453-2180

NEWS

MONTPELIER — The Monkton Museum and Historical Society is working to preserve Monkton's past. Won't you help us by sharing photographs of people, places or events of Monkton? As historians, we try to make Monkton's history come alive. We are thrilled whenever we discover images of the people or places we are studying. We've seen how popular these photos can be when we post them on our website or on our Facebook page or when people tell us about

their reactions to our publications.

Recently, Lauren Parren spent an afternoon looking at family photos with a man whose family used to live in Monkton. Inadvertently those snapshots documented the buildings, clothes, hairstyles, eyeglasses, and people who visited a Monkton farm decades ago. They'll be scanned into our MMHS catalog for future historians to savor.

It will be current residents who inform Monkton historians of

the future. Please bring up to six photos to our Scanning Day on May 5, between 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at the new Monkton Town Hall for us to scan and immediately return to you. We'll ask you to fill out a form describing the photo and a permission form that allows us to use your photo in future work. Please sign up on this form: tinyurl.com/MMHC-photo-scan or email laurenparren@gmail.com.

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Contact: info@pahcc.org or 802-382-1012 for more information and an application



Repair Fair frenzy

THE ADDISON COUNTY Solid Waste Management District hosted its "Repair Fair" this past Saturday at the Middlebury American Legion headquarters, an event that saw at least 95 area residents turn out to get household items fixed by 23 savvy volunteer "fixers." The reason behind the fair was to prevent items from ending up in landfills.

Clockwise from top right, Courtney Krahn of Cornwall gets her chainsaw fixed by Dan Rossignol of Addison; Dan Griese of Bristol reattaches a zipper to a fleece; John Deming tinkers with Larry Montague's DVD player; Carrie Macfarlane and Jeff Margolis bring in a stationary bike that needed some tweaks; Cindy Waltrous of Orwell waits with some sheep shears; no sewing job is too tough for Louise Prescott; retired electrician Jeff Cathcart performs surgery on a lamp; and former bike shop owner Richard McKerr delivers some TLC to the aforementioned stationary bike.

Independent photos/Steve James



Roundabout

(Continued from Page 1A)

is bordered by the Bridge School, and it accommodates many 18-wheelers headed to and from Middlebury's industrial park off Exchange Street.

Current and past Middlebury selectboards, during at least the past 30 years, have noted the exasperating and dangerous nature of the intersection and have requested state help in addressing it. The Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) acknowledged Middlebury officials' concerns and in 2004 performed a scoping study of the Route 7/Exchange Street/Happy Valley Road junction.

That study indicated a driver stopped at the Exchange Street/Route 7 intersection has 400 feet of sight visibility for oncoming Route 7 traffic. The American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials recommends a minimum sight distance of 555 feet, given the speed limit on Route 7 is 50 mph, according to VTrans.

The 2004 study pegged a single-lane roundabout as the "preferred alternative" to address the needs of the intersection. The document pointed to data showing roundabouts typically provide a 39% reduction in total crashes, a 76% reduction in injurious crashes, and an 89% reduction in fatal crashes.

"A roundabout will increase the safety of the intersection through traffic calming, as the average speed through the roundabout will be designed for 20 miles per hour," VTrans acknowledged in a follow-up scoping report released just this past December. "The roundabout will also increase the capacity of the intersection, as all approaches operate simultaneously, eliminating the delays experienced on the Exchange Street approach."

While VTrans doesn't classify the convergence of Route 7/Exchange St./Happy Valley Road as a "high-crash" intersection, the agency reported 13 accidents — six of them involving injuries — in that area between 2019 and 2023.

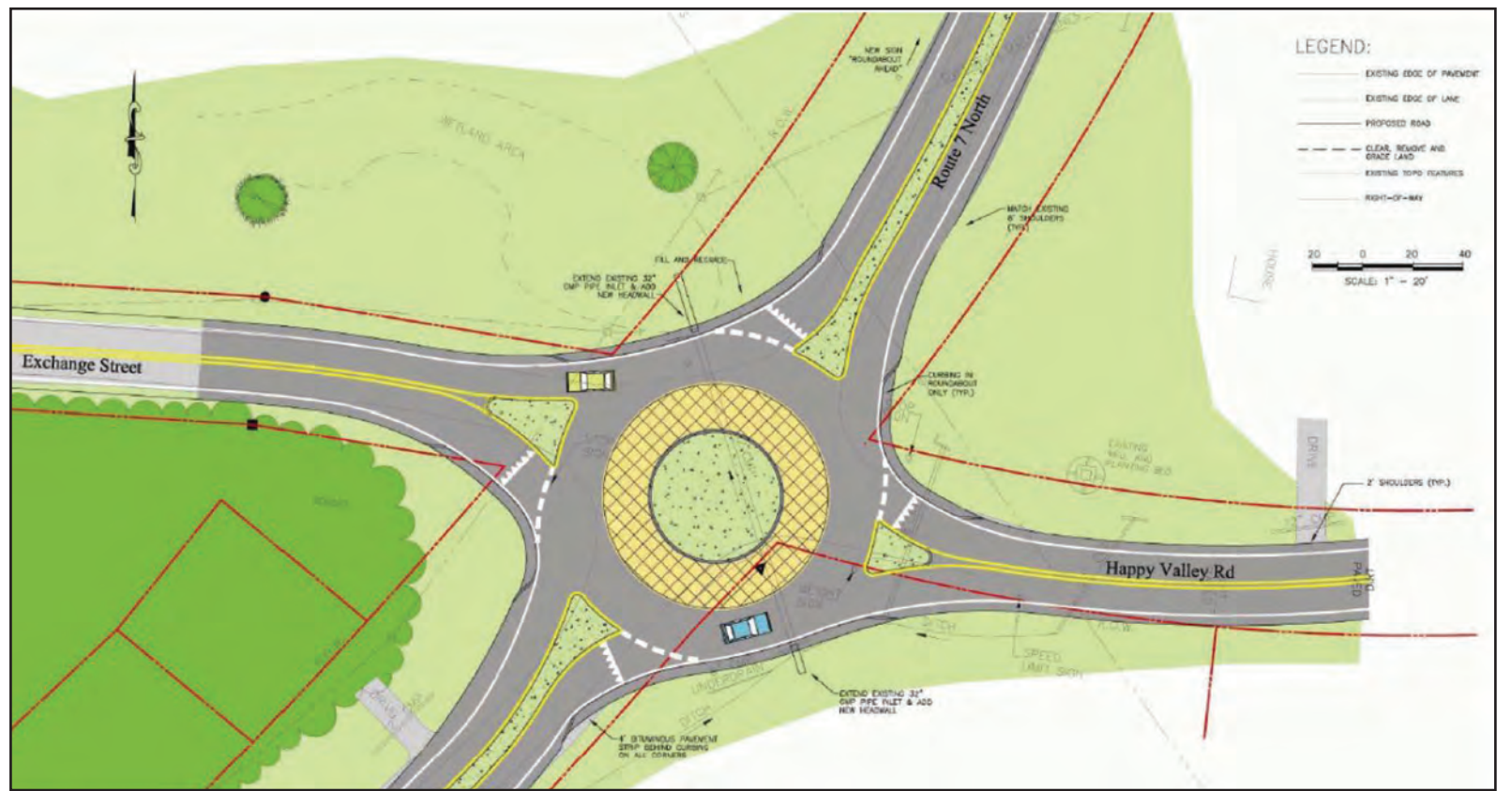
VTrans most recently assigned a "D" level of service to the Exchange Street portion of the intersection, noting vehicles — during the peak morning commute period — queue up for an average of 75 feet, waiting an average of 28.5 seconds to make their turn onto Route 7. The wait is 26.5 seconds, with a queue of 119 feet, during peak afternoon commute time, according to VTrans.

If a roundabout were built, the Exchange Street queue at Route 7 could decline to 9 feet, with a 6.4-second waiting period during a.m. peak travel; and to a 29-foot queue, with a waiting an average of 6.5 seconds during peak p.m. travel, according to VTrans modeling.

Middlebury and VTrans officials are on the same page with respect to a roundabout. But they appear to differ on a series of complementary Route 7 corridor improvements extending south of the intersection, to the point where Route 7 becomes North Pleasant Street (and the town of Middlebury's responsibility).

VTrans wants the roundabout project to include widening that section of the Route 7 corridor, to create up to an 8-foot shoulder (costing around \$856,000) to accommodate cyclists. The agency also wants to resurface the pavement (\$219,000) and replace the existing drainage (\$37,000) and guardrail (1,400 feet, at a cost of \$26,000).

The total estimated construction cost of the preferred roundabout/corridor improvement alternatives



MIDDLEBURY TOWN OFFICIALS have endorsed a Vermont Agency of Transportation plan to add a roundabout on Route 7 at Exchange Street to improve safety and reduce wait times for drivers entering the highway. Such an improvement is at least two or three years away.

is approximately \$4.64 million, according to VTrans.

VTrans project manager Taylor Sisson discussed the latest Route 7/Exchange Street/Happy Valley Road intersection planning with the Middlebury Infrastructure Committee on Thursday, April 18. Local officials were pleased to see the roundabout plan gain momentum, but voiced surprise and skepticism that the agency had identified the busy Route 7 corridor in Middlebury as a "high priority bicycle route."

Sisson said VTrans made that decision internally.

8-FOOT SHOULDERS?

Committee members Heather Seeley and Luther Tenny noted it would be difficult — if not impossible — to install 8-foot shoulders from the intersection south to Middlebury village. The reason: The hilly terrain that hugs the road.

"It's narrow there because it goes around Chipman Hill; I think there's a reason why there aren't 8-foot shoulders there," Seeley told Sisson.

"As you're approaching Middlebury, (the shoulders) neck down to three, or less than three feet. We have three houses that are very proximate to the road, where they park between the house and the road, leaving little ability for the town to widen the shoulders," Tenny said. "I don't want to invite cyclists to go to an unsafe scenario, where it necks down so much."

Infrastructure Committee Chair Jeff Bratspis echoed those concerns:

"I'm also sensitive to an 8-foot shoulder necking down to zero."

Some committee members said they feared that an impasse on the subject of 8-foot shoulders could further forestall the roundabout

project. Seeley suggested the corridor improvements be performed as a separate project, and that resources set aside for that purpose be diverted to a separate effort to install a path along Exchange Street.

Mike Winslow, assistant director and transportation planner with the Addison County Regional Planning Commission, recommended against that strategy.

"Don't separate the (roundabout and corridor) projects," he urged. "I think that if they're not linked, the second part of the project never gets done."

Sisson suggested VTrans could be flexible with the width of the Route 7 shoulders and that the state could assist Middlebury in integrating the corridor improvements into the town's highway system. He said VTrans would consider 5-foot shoulders

as a compromise.

"We want to keep the project moving as best we can," he stressed.

The Infrastructure Committee on April 18 voted to recommend the roundabout project to the selectboard, with Seeley as the lone dissenter (because of the Route 7 corridor elements). The board heard the committee's advice at its Tuesday, April 23, gathering and endorsed the roundabout concept.

It could be two or three years before the project moves to construction, officials said. VTrans must now refine its project design, work with adjacent landowners, and take care of a lot of other details before putting shovels in the ground.

Reporter John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.

Middlebury

(Continued from Page 1A)

waterline improvements that could cause minor traffic delays — all in the name of long-term progress.

Contractors on Monday began work on the last leg of a major waterline replacement project that will affect South Street from its intersections with Green Mountain Place and Porter Field Road.

In addition to the waterline work, the project calls for what Middlebury Director of Public Works Planning Emmalee Cherington described as a considerable amount of sidewalk replacement.

New water-service lines will be installed on both sides of South Street, as will new sidewalk. New temporary waterlines will maintain service during the project. Traffic will be limited to one way during construction hours (7 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday to Friday), and on-street parking will be limited.

The project is scheduled to wrap up in early July, though weather and other factors could push that date back, according to Cherington.

"The contractor has a good plan to make considerable progress," she said. "They're proposing to use at least two crews at a time (one for each side of the street). I think that'll really help the project go faster."

South Street residents and travelers have grown accustomed construction disruption. This is "Phase V" of an improvement project that began a decade

ago, aimed at improving and separating sewer and stormwater lines in what was an antiquated, combined sewer system.

Next spring will bring a final phase of construction — a sewer/stormwater system replacement project, which is headed to engineering and environmental assessment.

"South Street will really be buttoned-up for quite some time" after next spring's work, Cherington said.

Meanwhile, 10 local roads will receive 2.25 inches of pavement to increase their structural integrity, according to Cherington. These will include Forest Lane, Forbes Circle, Peterson Terrace, Gambrel Court, Methodist Lane and High Street, and Munson, Valley View, East and Springside roads.

"We're not milling anything this year; we're just doing a strict overlay so we can get more coverage," she said. "These are roads that have been neglected for years. It's been over 20 years for most of them."

Other projects that will be performed or further defined this year include:

- Replacement of a Halladay Road culvert located just south of its intersection with Middle Road South. The project this fall will replace a deteriorated, 5-foot-diameter corrugated metal pipe

with a 6-foot-wide concrete box culvert, sized to meet hydraulic and environmental standards. The Town received a Vermont Municipal Highway Structures Grant for \$200,000 (with a required 20% match) to offset the cost of the replacement, according to Cherington. The balance of the cost will be paid through a portion of Middlebury's federal American Rescue Plan Act allocation.

Expect full closure of Halladay Road at the height of the project; Middle Road South will be available as a detour.

• Stabilization of the Middlebury River flood wall located just downstream of the Grist Mill Bridge in East Middlebury. That flood wall was battered by the high flows during last summer's major rainstorms. The stabilization effort will be funded through a \$519,000 grant through U.S. Department of Agriculture's Emergency Watershed Program.

The flood wall was part of a comprehensive Middlebury River flood resiliency plan, led by land use planner Amy Sheldon. Those improvements, installed in 2021, were put to a major test by flooding last July and August.

"The sheet piles on the face of the wall ... peeled off; now they're dangling in the river and no longer protecting the

concrete," Cherington said. "We have a design in place to get them anchored back to the wall."

Also, workers will remove large stones currently blocking the entrance of the downstream floodplain, while stabilizing an eroded river slope at 12 Grist Mill Road.

Cherington said he flood wall project will soon go out to bid.

• A stormwater project designed to process water from impervious surfaces on the Mary Hogan Elementary School property. The project design will soon be presented for approval by state regulators, with construction planned for spring of 2025.

• An additional 1.3-million-gallon water storage tank, to be located on Chipman Hill adjacent to the existing water storage tank, is currently in engineering. The town is seeking funding through the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund, the Northern Borders Regional Commission and Congressionally Directed Spending to help offset the anticipated \$3,750,000 cost of the project. Middlebury voters last fall endorsed the storage-tank project, but it's been in a holding pattern due to the absence of federal funds that town officials had counted on to help reduce the \$3.5 million project's financial impact on municipal water ratepayers.

• Planning remains underway for a major overhaul of Middlebury's 24-year-old wastewater treatment facility at 243 Industrial Ave. Tentative plans call a bond vote

this November on a project that could begin during the fall of 2026, according to Cherington.

• Ongoing planning for a massive overhaul of Bakery Lane, likely to take place in 2026. Middlebury residents on Town Meeting Day endorsed a \$1.2 million plan for a complete reconstruction of the roadway to accommodate vehicular and pedestrian traffic, while also addressing ongoing drainage issues. The existing water main, gravity sewer system, and pressure force main from the town's wastewater pump station will need to be replaced. A large amount of paving and striping is also in the works.

Among other things, the

town will have to complete environmental studies of the project area, a key to accessing state and federal grant money to help pay for the work.

"(The 2026 timeframe) gives us time to get all of our easements in place, and a plan for all the businesses that will be impacted by then project," she added. "A lot of thought has to go into that process."

Businesses like Haymaker and Taste of India will be difficult, if not impossible to access at times during the Bakery Lane process, and the town is exploring ways to indemnify them for lost revenues.

Reporter John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.



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Zeman

(Continued from Page 1A)
(I like It.)”

The April 18 departure tune seemed particularly apt, because Zeman, 54, liked virtually every minute of his lengthy WVTk gig, during which he and his beloved dachshund sidekicks became popular fare in cars, homes and businesses in our area.

Well, Bruce, his wife Tami and his dogs Calvin and Gracie won't have to bark at the alarm clock anymore. The family has relocated to Lewes, Del., where Tami will continue to work in the medical records field while Bruce will remain plugged into ice hockey, making new friends and lending his voice to animal welfare issues, with an emphasis on dogs.

“I've always believed what makes someone 'important' is making the lives of others better, and I hope I've done that — for animals and people,” Zeman wrote in his farewell Facebook entry.

“I may not ever have that huge bank account, but I've been part of a radio station I love that's changed the world for animals, terrific friends, and rescue animals who love me — so I really am very wealthy.”

Zeman was just 17 when he broke into the radio business, as an intern at 95 WXXX-FM in Burlington. He was introduced to Ken Barlow, chief operating officer of VOX Media — the parent company of several radio stations, including WVTk, WXXX and WVMT.

“I was doing weekends at triple-X, and (Barlow) called me up one night and said, 'I like your voice, would you like to come work at Q-106 in New Hampshire,’” Zeman recalled.

That's where he got to be a real on-air presence while doing a lot of the grunt work — from cutting commercials to selling ads — that goes with the radio biz.

Barlow and VOX have been a fairly consistent presence in Zeman's career. Zeman has left the company on occasion to work at other stations and even briefly explore a career in education, but he's always returned to the VOX fold.

Barlow helped Zeman reminisce

during the final hour of his last WVTk “Wake-Up Crew” show on April 18.

“He's been my mentor in radio forever,” Zeman said.

His entrée into the Addison County airwaves came in 2009. Zeman had moved to Middlebury and was prepping to become a history teacher. But he closed the book on that career change upon learning that VOX/Barlow owned WVTk.

Zeman needed to scratch a radio itch and offered to join the WVTk as a part-time DJ.

Barlow countered: Would he like to do the morning show?

“Of course I said, ‘Yes,’” Zeman recalled.

There he remained until 2013, when he chose to try other stations on Vermont's radio dial. He worked stints at WOKO, Froggy 100.9, Eagle Country, Farm Fresh Radio, and other spots before deciding in 2017 that WVTk was the best place for him to be.

“It's local and I can directly impact people's lives,” Zeman said of his WVTk landing spot. “I think one of the things that makes this station relevant to people is the relationship we can have with (the community).”

Through interviews of local leaders, inspirational words, and passing along local news and weather, Zeman said the station has been able to become useful — if not indispensable — to Addison County residents. The “classic hits” music format hasn't hurt, either.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

“We're a big station, but we're not that big where if someone has a problem, we can't help,” he said, citing folks looking for lost dogs or to promote a fundraiser.

“That's why we're here; to make a difference,” he said.

While Zeman helped plenty of Addison County residents and charitable causes during his long WVTk run, he was literally a lifesaver when it came to dogs.

It's a passion he developed as a child back in New Jersey. The Zemans always had dogs, and Bruce learned to treat them with love and respect.

“They were part of the family,” he said.

And Zeman has made the four-legged members of his family part of his morning show — beginning with his beloved dachshund Hobbes. Their first meeting was in 2009, at Homeward Bound, Addison County's Humane Society. This was a tumultuous period during which Zeman had finalized a divorce from his first wife, had moved into new house and was transitioning to a new job.

“We went over to see him,” Zeman said. “He had bloody welts and pieces of skin missing from the back of his head. I remember thinking to myself, ‘I can't leave him here.’”

He called his future wife, Tami, who validated his desire to bring him home. After what he'd been through, Hobbes was understandably skittish during his first few days in his new home.

But the breakthrough was breathtaking.

“After two or three days, he ran out from behind our couch, jumped on my lap, put his head on my knee and let out a big sigh,” Zeman recalled.

The rest is heartwarming history. Hobbes became Zeman's constant companion and the co-star of “The Wake-Up Crew with Bruce & Hobbes.” Bruce and Tami would co-write a children's book, called “Hobbes Goes Home,” celebrating the pup's rescue and his impact on others. The duo brought Hobbes's story into hundreds of schools throughout the country.

Zeman has placed proceeds from books sales and other pup-related merchandise into a “Bruce & Hobbes” fund to help pay medical bills for dogs from low-income households, rewards for info in animal cruelty cases, and to secure rescue animals slated for destruction in kill shelters.

“It's my way of giving back,” said Zeman, who still gets calls out of the blue from distraught pet owners or people supplying tips about imminent euthanasia cases. Like this past Christmas Eve, when a caller from Alabama appealed to him to help with an animal rescue case there. He was asked for a \$60



MANY PEOPLE WISHED longtime WVTk DJ and local animal-welfare activist Bruce Zeman well during his final on-air shift on Thursday, April 18. Among them were Homeward Bound Development Director Hannah Manley, left, and Addison County Home Health & Hospice Development Director Maureen Conrad. Independent photo/Steve James

donation, whereupon he wrote the check and popped it in the mailbox.

“It never ends,” he lamented of the mistreatment of animals.

The Vermont Legislature in 2010 and 2014 recognized “The Wake-Up Crew with Bruce & Hobbes” with resolutions honoring them for their community service work, and dedication to helping animals.

NOT A GIMMICK

While some wondered if a dog-and-human radio pairing could catch on with listeners, Bruce & Hobbes proved quite the ratings juggernaut.

“It was never a marketing gimmick,” Zeman stressed. “We did everything together.”

Several years ago, the Zemans added another dachshund, Calvin, to the family. Bruce joked that Calvin served as Hobbes's “stunt double” as the senior pup got older.

Sadly, Hobbes got sick and passed away in 2020.

Zeman was devastated.

“It was very hard,” he said. “(Barlow) had the entire company come down to pay their respects.”

The Zemans still have Calvin, now 11, but went through the joy — an inevitable heartache — with another pup, Zoey. She was

another rescue dachshund, adopted on Christmas Eve of 2017 from a shelter in Connecticut. Bruce Zeman has her case number tattooed on his left wrist. The Zemans were able to give Zoey — who was starving, had a heart murmur and severe dental problems — four great years. She, too, became part of the WVTk wake-up crew before succumbing to an illness last year.

“Saving this baby was, by far, the most difficult and trauma-filled rescue I ever did, but I would do it again, because Zoey was always meant to be my little girl,” he said.

After Zoey's death, the Zemans opened their hearts to another dog in dire straits — Gracie, a 6-pound Havanese. The pup was targeted for euthanasia because its custodians didn't want to spend \$8 for eyedrops to solve her vision problem.

Zeman saw a photo of the tiny white fluff-ball and had to have her. Fortunately, Calvin and Gracie have become friends and were a big part of the morning show.

Bruce, Tami and their pups will be missed; they've relocated to Delaware for its ocean views and more tax-friendly climate. Bruce will continue to produce and star in his “Full Press Hockey podcast,”

dealing with all things National Hockey League. He will maintain a remote relationship with VOX and WVTk, but the details are still being figured out. Ted Richards will take his place his place on the Wake Up Crew.

Among those wishing the Zemans well are their friends at Homeward Bound. Hannah Manley, the organization's director of development, noted Zeman and his pups raised thousands of dollars for local animal welfare causes.

“Bruce is a champion in the animal welfare world and has used his position at the radio station to put a spotlight on the issues impacting companion animals for many years,” Manley said. “As the humane society in his backyard, we have been the beneficiary of this attention and it has been a huge help to us. From educating the community about the dangers of leaving an animal in a hot car, to staying on-air for 24 hours straight to raise money for our shelter during

Cash for Paws, and promoting animals that have been lingering at the shelter, Bruce has stepped up every time we have needed him. We are incredibly grateful to him and to WVTk.”



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Opioid crisis

(Continued from Page 1A)
 executive director of the Turning Point Center of Addison County.

Wallace was one of three professionals to take part in an April 15 panel discussion on Vermont's drug policy and response to the opioid overdose crisis, an event hosted by the Addison County Democrats in Middlebury. Rutland County State's Attorney Ian Sullivan and David Mickenberg, a longtime drug policy reform advocate with the Drug Policy Alliance, also participated in the discussion.

Panelists shared their experiences working to address the opioid epidemic, highlighting roadblocks and potential solutions.

LOCAL RESPONSE

Wallace spoke about the situation locally, including programs offered by the Turning Point Center and others in the county.

The nonprofit provides peer-based individual and group support services for people recovering from substance use disorder and other addictions, as well as for their families. Turning Point also collaborates with local organizations like the Counseling Service of Addison County (CSAC) to provide a wider range of supports.

The Turning Point Center's programs are voluntary, so there's no requirements or consequences for individuals obtaining services.

Wallace said that professionals recently have noticed a rise in the use of stimulants like cocaine and methamphetamine in addition to opioid use.

"Since COVID, we are starting to see a shift from opioid use to a combination of opioid use and stimulant use, and also seeing the consequences of stimulant use," Wallace said, adding that stimulants

and opioids have different effects on individuals.

"I think Middlebury saw that this summer pretty significantly," Wallace continued. "When people are up for a long time and just the way stimulants work on your brain."

There were 50 opioid-related deaths in Vermont in 2012; that number was 244 in 2022, according to the Vermont Department of Health.

Wallace said the Turning Point Center currently serves around 40-50 people at any given time, around 75% of whom are from the Middlebury area.

"There's a lot of people we're missing," Wallace acknowledged.

"We're noticing that our numbers really drop off outside of Middlebury."

Transportation is a major obstacle for community members seeking recovery support, such as meetings and coaching sessions, Wallace said.

"Once you've lost your (driver's) license, the systems to get it back are incredibly difficult to manage, especially after a DUI charge," she explained.

Outside of her work with Turning Point, Wallace is an instructor for the Impaired Driver Rehabilitation Program, a mandatory program for Vermonters seeking to reinstate their driver's license after alcohol or substance-related driving offenses.

"It's \$400 to take the course, which for some of the people I work with, that's maybe a million," Wallace said. "There isn't a scholarship, and there is no sunset provision. So, sometimes I'm working with someone who had a

DUI 10 years ago and they've been sober for eight of it, but they can't get their license back because they can't come up with \$400."

Wallace noted there are virtual options available for some services, though those options present their own set of challenges.

"We're also dealing with a population that struggles with that pretty significantly, the ability to use technology, to be able to get onto a Zoom meeting," she explained. "And it's just not the same. That in-person, one-on-one support is different and the ability to get to in-person meetings is also different."

Addison County also has a significantly smaller population than that of neighboring Chittenden and Rutland counties. Wallace said the county's population limits the services available for those recovering from substance use disorder.

"I think what we see in this county is that because the numbers are smaller, sometimes it doesn't have as much of an impact, so there are not the supports available," she said.

For example, Addison County does not offer treatment court,

an alternative to incarceration for people experiencing addiction that provides participants with substance use disorder treatment and other support.

"We have the option to send people to the Chittenden treatment court, but we're dealing with a population that doesn't have transportation. So, we're asking them to commit to something that's nearly impossible," she said.

Wallace added the county doesn't have an intensive out-patient program for individuals struggling with substance use disorder.

"CSAC is really our go-to option for substance use, and typically people are met with long waiting lists, months at times, to even get assessed to see where they may fit within what kind of treatment that (professionals) recommend," she said.

Wallace said the Turning Point Center is exploring ways to address barriers like transportation, such as by bringing support services to individuals.

"We're really working on how we can get to people instead of requiring them to get to us," she said. "We're hoping to secure funding so we can do more of an outreach, similar to a home health model, so that we can actually do coaching at people's houses."

STATEWIDE EFFORTS

Panelists also highlighted efforts to address the opioid crisis in other parts of the state.

Sullivan provided an overview of the current state of the opioid overdose epidemic in Vermont. According to Vermont Department of Health data, there were 50 opioid-related deaths in the state in 2012. In 2022, that number was 244.

"There are very few families, very few people I talk to, that have gone untouched by these deaths," Sullivan said.

The Vermont Department of Health also reports an increased involvement of drugs like gabapentin and xylazine (often used in horse tranquilizers) in fatal opioid overdoses.

"For reasons that I can't fully explain, those drugs have made an increasing appearance in the drug supply in Vermont," Sullivan said.

The state's attorney also spoke about his experience running a treatment court docket in Rutland

County. The county is one of four in the state to offer treatment court as an alternative to traditional prosecution. Sullivan explained the jail diversion program is intended for high-need/high-risk individuals, a population determined by their risk of reoffending and the intensity of their substance use disorder.

Throughout the process, participants with case managers and treatment providers, as well as check in regularly with a judge.

"If a person is successful to get to graduation, there is no jail time. There is either dismissal or a reduction of charges," Sullivan explained. "If they are not successful, a traditional jail sentence is imposed."

Key components of the program include a continuum of care available to participants and complimentary treatment and social services to support lasting sobriety.

"If we put that person in jail, they leave jail and they're still driven by their substance use disorder, odds are good we're going to see them again," Sullivan said. "If through engagement with our treatment courts, the person achieves a lasting and durable sobriety, that's a powerful public safety outcome that we do not achieve with nearly the same regularity in a traditional criminal justice system."

Zooming out to the state level, Mickenberg highlighted recent legislative efforts to address the drug overdose epidemic. Those efforts include adopting a law in 2021 that decriminalized the possession of a certain amount of buprenorphine, a prescription drug used to treat opioid use disorder.

Mickenberg said Vermont OK'd a law last year that would allow individuals to have their drugs tested for the presence of drugs like

xylazine and fentanyl.

A bill, H.72, currently making its way through the Legislature is seeking to further address the opioid overdose crisis by establishing an overdose prevention center in the state. At such facilities, Vermonters could consume their own opioids while being monitored by trained professionals, as well as access resources for treatment in a safe environment.

Another bill, H.423, seeking to decriminalize the personal-use possession of controlled substances Vermont was introduced last year.

"The idea is that when we take criminality out of it, we can then focus on the things that are actually going to impact people's lives in a positive way," Mickenberg said. "And not just the individual, but people's families and our communities. The consequences of criminality are significant."

Mickenberg stressed that when considering long-term solutions to the opioid epidemic, Vermont must approach the crisis through a public health lens and consider the other issues intertwined with drug use.

"We isolate this conversation about drug policy and make it about drugs, but I think people much smarter than me, and experts, would say this is really a conversation that we should be having about housing, about food insecurity, about transportation," Mickenberg said. "The conversation about those root causes and then the continuation of people's lives in which they can't access the type of services that they need because of poverty, because of trauma and all those things, I think those conversations need to go hand in hand."

Wallace added that solutions must also focus on long-term support for individuals recovering from substance use disorder.

"We need to put funds into how we give people support beyond 'we'll get the drugs out of system, but then go back to the homeless shelter or wherever you were staying prior that caused these issues,'" she said.

"If we put that person in jail, they leave jail and they're still driven by their substance use disorder, odds are good we're going to see them again."

— Rutland County State's Attorney Ian Sullivan

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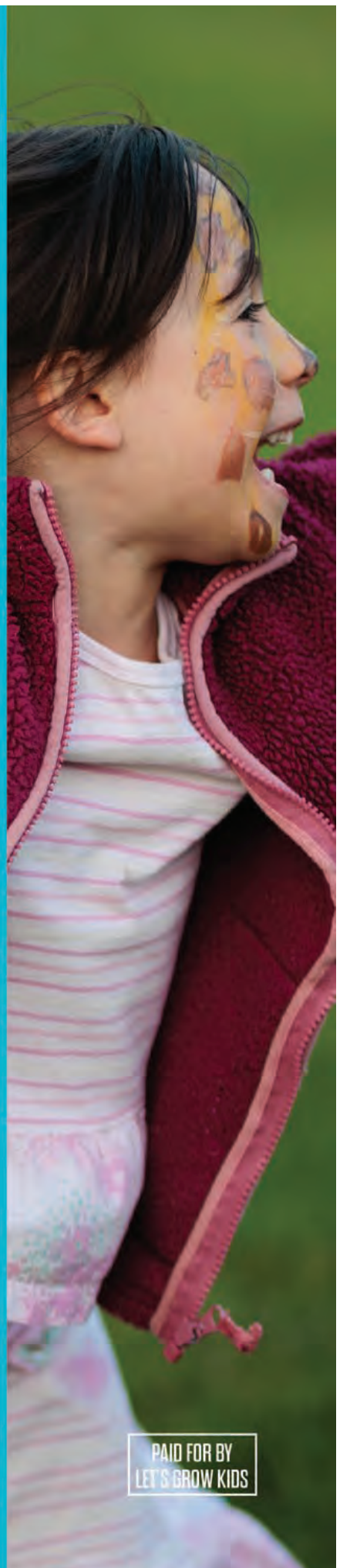
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Ferrisburgh preps sale of Rte. 7 church

By ANDY KIRKALDY

FERRISBURGH — The former Ferrisburgh United Methodist Church on Route 7 has been put up for sale by its new owner, the town of Ferrisburgh, with conditions that include historic sensitivity to be considered in any renovations.

After efforts failed to find a child care provider to take over what is known as the Brown Church, the Ferrisburgh selectboard on April 16 voted to put out a Request for Proposals (RFP) seeking buyers.

The selectboard is focusing on more than simply maximizing the financial return.

The RFP lists three conditions for potential buyers — and there is one local business interested already.

The board will evaluate offers not only on the “price to be paid to the town of Ferrisburgh,” but also on “community benefits from the proposed use” and “historic preservation commitments by the proposed user.”

Selectboard Chair Clark Hinsdale also said the selectboard wants to honor the congregation’s gift to Ferrisburgh by using the sale proceeds to create a tangible and lasting benefit to the town and its residents.

He cited as possibilities that the proceeds could help fund an addition to the town’s fire station, or enrich the town’s Rogers Hazard Fund, which dates back to the 19th century and is used to

help residents in times of hardship. The church’s former minister, Paul Hoffman, also a former Ferrisburgh town clerk, sits on the board that runs that fund.

Choices like those, Hinsdale said, would “be a community benefit where we could

say, ‘The congregation donated to us the church, and this is what the community has to show for it,’ along with hopefully a clean, well maintained building that’s got something’s positive going on it.”

The property itself has some pluses, such as prominent location, and minuses, an old building needing repairs and upgrades.

The former church, deeded a few months ago to the town by its dwindling congregation, sits on the west side of the highway, next to the town office building.

The property was privately appraised at \$205,000. Per the appraisal, the roughly 135-year-old building on a half-acre contains 2,200 square feet above ground and 1,800 square feet of finished basement.

The location in the village area near the school, post office and town offices and its flexible commercial zoning could make the building attractive.

Rick and Nan Benson, the owners of Gilfeather’s Fine Provisions, a sandwich shop and catering concern that does business just south on the same side of Route 7,

Selectboard Chair Clark Hinsdale also said the selectboard wants to honor the congregation’s gift to Ferrisburgh by using the sale proceeds to create a tangible and lasting benefit to the town and its residents.



FERRISBURGH TOWN OFFICIALS recently asked that anyone interested in buying the Brown Church on Route 7 in the village put in a proposal in the next month. Buyers of the building, which was recently deeded to the town, would have to agree to maintain its historic look.

Independent photo/Steve James

apparently think so. According to Ferrisburgh Building Committee meeting minutes, they are aiming for a “full-service market,” in the building.

According to minutes, they visited the building with contractors and have met with the committee. Hinsdale said the Bensons made a presentation that appeared to show a historically sensitive plan for renovations to what is known as the Brown Church.

Hinsdale said the church would allow them to offer “an expanded version of what he’s doing, plus a little sit-down space,” which is lacking in Gilfeather’s current location. Warm-weather dining outside is the only possibility there, Hinsdale said, but the septic system is inadequate for indoor dining.

But the town had to tell the

Bensons to wait until it could put out the RFP and do due diligence and find the best possible offer that satisfied its three criteria.

“We have to advertise it,” Hinsdale said.

Hinsdale said the selectboard might consider Gilfeather’s with even just a few seats to provide a community benefit. He recalled the void left when a nearby former diner closed, only to be replaced with a McDonald’s and a gas station.

“I can tell you after Burdick’s Country Kitchen was no more, that was sorely missed,” he said. “Even if it was only a dozen tables, that would be a big deal to have a place we could sit down and have a cup of coffee and visit.”

The Bensons and any other interested party will benefit from some work that has already been done to the building, plus research on the structure.

“We checked for lead. We checked for mold. And we checked for asbestos. We did the septic testing. We had a structural person look at it,” Hinsdale said. “In the process of trying to attract a child care operator, we were realizing the more data we collected about the building, the easier it would be for someone to create a budget.”

Per Building Committee minutes, the biggest remaining

need is a new inground septic system. The town will provide an estimate for that project to potential buyers. The driveway might have to be moved to make room for the new system.

Other work includes the building’s roofing, which might need to be replaced, and belltower, which might need to be removed. Minutes also describe its “sagging floor.”

Some projects have been wrapped up: A “footing drain has been completed, and building winterized,” per minutes.

The first ad seeking RFPs was printed last week, with a 30-day time limit to respond. The selectboard could open RFPs on Tuesday, May 28.

Hinsdale said he would expect, assuming all went well, that a successful RFP would proceed to a more detailed purchase-and-sale contract, probably including deed covenants related to historic preservation.

The building will be available for viewing during normal business hours, or Building Committee Chair Red Muir might be available at other times. Muir may be reached at 802-338-2946. Routine questions regarding submissions may be directed to Town Clerk Pam Cousino at 802-877-3429.

City police investigate theft of car

VERGENNES — Vergennes police are looking into the Sunday afternoon theft of a Buick Encore from the Champlain Farms convenience store on Main Street. Police said a woman hopped into the momentarily unattended vehicle and drove off northward.

Police said the vehicle was later recovered at the South Burlington Hannaford Supermarket on Shelburne Road after OnStar software was used to disable its operation. But that didn’t occur until after the driver had apparently been involved in what

police called a “property damage accident”

Vergennes Police Log

in Shelburne, and left that scene.

Police have a photo of the suspect taken from a video feed at Champlain Farms, and an investigation is ongoing.

Between April 15 and 21, Vergennes police also conducted a dozen cruiser patrols, seven traffic stops and two property watches; responded to one false alarm and one 911 hang-up call; processed four pre-employment fingerprint requests; and:

On April 15:

- Helped calm a disorderly Valley Vista Rehabilitation Center client.

- Listened to a landlord describe a potential parking problem.

- Went to Porter Hospital to help Vermont State Police evaluate a suspect for driving under the influence of drugs, an action taken following the suspect’s involvement in an accident.

On April 16, heard from a grandparent concerned her grandchildren were not making good choices in friends.

On April 17:

- Helped state police at the New Haven barracks evaluate a driver for operating under the influence of drugs.

- Took a call from a tenant being evicted from a Hillside Drive apartment who did not want to talk directly with Addison Housing Works management, his landlord. Police asked Helping Overcome Poverty’s Effects officials to serve as a conduit between the parties.

- Helped Elizabethtown, N.Y., social services by serving papers to a Vergennes-area resident, with an assist from his parents.

- After hearing from a neighbor at a Hillside Drive apartment of banging and yelling in another apartment, checked in on a parent and children, determining the scene had calmed down.

On April 18:

- Heard from a Hillside resident of a neighbor dispute, but determined the caller was having a mental health issue.

- Were told by a Green Street resident that a man walking a dog was allegedly looking in his windows.

On April 19:

- Were told a dog was running loose near the intersection of New Haven Road and Adele Drive, but found nothing.

- Contacted a bank in hopes of finding the owner of a credit card found near Collins Aerospace on Pantown Road.

- Checked on the welfare of an Armory Lane resident, who was found to be OK.

On April 21:

- Took a complaint of a man taking a photo of a home and determined it was a mental health issue.

- Calmed a dispute between neighbors after one alleged the other had backed a trailer across his lawn and was drunk, which police said was not the case.

- Were told of suspicious behavior in the Maplefields parking lot, including handing out unknown items. Police were told the person in question headed off on foot down South Water Street.

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Panton’s Agricola Barn receives historic grant

PANTON — Agricola Farm in Panton was among 20 farms to receive a Barn Preservation Grant recently from The Vermont Division for Historic Preservation and the Vermont Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. This year, the program will award \$350,235 to fund 20 preservation projects in eleven Vermont counties. These grants will leverage \$1 million in restoration and rehabilitation efforts. The program received 28 applications this year requesting a total of \$483,424 in grant funding.

Agricola Farm dates to 1840 and includes a dairy barn, a horse barn, three silos, and a farm shop. The property was recently converted by the current owners into a hog and sheep farm. The \$20,000 will support repairs on the main barn’s slate roof. The building currently houses almost 200 pigs and over 100 sheep.

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Royal Oak Coffee

(Continued from Page 1A)
 “We had no idea what to expect at first, but it’s amazing that this is getting so much traction already,” they added.

During a brief phone interview with the *Independent* on Monday, Matt Delia-Lôbo said it was with mixed feelings that he and Aless advanced the GoFundMe effort as a last-ditch effort to salvage Royal Oak, located at 30 Seymour St.

“Asking for help was very difficult. As business owners, we feel like we should be able to figure this out; this is our responsibility,” he said. “The \$30,000 (appeal was), ‘If we make this goal, we literally won’t lose our house and everything.’”

The couple, in their GoFundMe narrative, was candid in what led Royal Oak to the precipice. Those reasons, they said, included:

- A 2019 launch that just preceded the COVID pandemic, which sent local, state, national and global economies into an economic tailspin. An enterprise tied to the premise of social interaction was suddenly paralyzed by lockdowns.

The couple has already pared back operations in view of budget challenges. Last year they closed their smaller, second location — Lost Monarch, which was in the Stone Mill building.

- “Bad luck with professional financial services” that put the business “in a chokehold.”

- “An unprecedented issue with our point-of-sale system, Square, which has now taken over a week to resolve, with the result that our income from recent sales is inaccessible.”

- Being let down by a “trusted financial professional” who allegedly accepted payment for services but didn’t follow through with services. “When we caught

on to the severity of the situation, we reached out to remedy the issue only to find out they had retired and left the state,” according to the Delia-Lôbos.

“We have subsequently become locked out of several financial programs and opportunities that we should have been able to take advantage of while they were available for things like utilities, property taxes, home repairs, childcare, etc., leading to more debt,” they stated. “We have a new professional we are working with now so we’re ready to move forward but the financial hole this has left us in is now insurmountable.”

Compounding the financial stress and uncertainty: The Delia-Lôbos are expecting their second child.

“You, as part of our community of customers, supporters, and friends, as well as the shop, mean absolutely everything to us,” their GoFundMe message states. “We want more than anything to keep the shop open; we know it means a lot to many others just as it does for our family.”

Matt said he was too nervous to check the campaign progress until several hours into its first day. He was thrilled to see a total of more than \$12,000. The donations have kept on coming; as of Tuesday they had received \$34,365 from 457 donors.

Based on that success, and advice they subsequently received for giving Royal Oak a stronger financial foundation, they bumped their goal to \$60,000.

“Reaching this amount will allow us to wipe out the rest of the business-related, high-interest debt, taxes, and penalties, allowing us to utilize our income from sales to keep up with ongoing taxes, fees and rent moving forward, and



ROYAL OAK COFFEE owners Aless and Matt Delia-Lôbo, holding their daughter, Frances, were surprised how quickly and generously people responded to the GoFundMe campaign for their Middlebury business.

will help us begin to repair flood damage at our home,” the couple said. “This strategy will maximize our use of the donations, stopping the snowball of compounding interest. Then, we can catch our breath, regroup and keep things moving forward sustainably.

ENCOURAGING WORDS

Some donors offered words of encouragement with their Royal Oak donation, which have ranged from \$5 to \$1,250.

“Thank you, Matt and Aless, for providing such warmth, care and delicious coffee!” Christopher Leonard wrote in a message with his \$300 donation.

“Running a small business is HARD. So often, business owners struggle in silence, while keeping a smiling face on for their community,” wrote donor Natalie Miller.

“Proud of you for asking for

help and so happy to see your community rallying around you.”

Also on the donor list is Counseling Service of Addison County Executive Director Rachel Lee Cummings. She told the *Independent* why she contributed.

“I grew up in a small family business that always seemed to be on the brink of bankruptcy, no matter how hard my parents worked,” she said. “I’m happy to support Royal Oak both as a regular customer and through their fundraising efforts. The owners have created a wonderful space with exceptional coffee and treats. I want them to thrive, even in the face of recent setbacks. Small businesses form the backbone of our community and economy, and it’s disheartening that the margin for success remains so narrow.”

Reporter John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.

Taxi driver innocent of restraint charges

MIDDLEBURY — An Addison County Superior Court jury late last week found a Ferrisburgh man innocent of charges that he illegally restrained six young women when he was driving a taxi in which they were passengers almost two years ago.

Marvin Morley, 60, is glad that he is free to resume his side business driving taxi without restrictions that were imposed when he was charged with six counts of felony second-degree unlawful restraint, stemming from a Vermont State Police investigation into allegations he detained six young women in his vehicle while driving them from Burlington to Salisbury during the evening of July 4, 2022.

After a three-day trial at Mahady Courthouse in Middlebury, a jury judged Morley not guilty of the charges.

Morely said he and the young women, who ranged in age from 22 to 24 at the time, misunderstood each other. Four of them were from overseas, and they were all tired after spending a long day in Burlington.

Earlier that day, he had picked up the group from a summer camp in Salisbury and drove them to downtown Burlington with the promise to pick them up later. According to court records, he returned around 10 p.m. and started driving them back to Salisbury. Morely said that he was talking to one woman from Ireland who was here on a work visa and he said she told him she didn’t like her current job.

During the discussion, Morely said, he had the idea that if she wanted to leave her job but needed a place to stay while working elsewhere, she might want to rent a suite he and his wife had set up as an AirB&B. Coming south on Route 7, he turned off and went to his house on Plank Road to show her the place right then and there.

Not understanding what he was doing, at least some of the women became scared. One said she

needed to get back to Salisbury to take her medication, so Morley returned to the highway and took them home. The women contacted Vermont State Police, two troopers investigated and charges were filed.

In retrospect, Morley said he sees that there may have been some cultural misunderstandings, and he said the two American women did not seem flustered when he was charged with six counts of felony second-degree unlawful restraint, stemming from a Vermont State Police investigation into allegations he detained six young women in his vehicle while driving them from Burlington to Salisbury during the evening of July 4, 2022.

In court, Morley told his story. He said he did take them to his house, but that he turned right around when it was clear that they wanted to leave.

He faulted the state police investigation, saying it was alleged he was parked in the driveway five to 15 minutes, but Morley said he was only there 30 seconds. Later, the owner of the taxi told Morley that he had a GPS device on it that recorded the vehicles movements; when he checked the data showed that the taxi was in the driveway less than a minute.

Morley also said that many of the women in the car had their phones out and were texting; if they had felt threatened they could have texted police or a friend right then.

Morley continued to drive taxi from time to time, but while the case was being adjudicated, the court issued a condition. Morley said he was not allowed to pick up a female under age 30 unless there was another person in the taxi who was not a relative. In one instance, he said, he had to turn down a job that would have had him transport a female Middlebury College student and her parents.

As a work-around, his own wife sometimes rode with him in the taxi as the unrelated third party.

That condition is now lifted.

Morley is ready to get on with his life. He wants to get his good reputation back.

“I’ve kept quiet until now, but it’s time to say something,” Morley said. “They put me through hell.”

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Ferry

(Continued from Page 1A)

But the ferry this year is encountering a new potential disturbance, one not caused by harsh weather or skirmishes between the Green Mountain Boys and the Redcoats.

The ferry's planned May 1 launch of service could be tabled for an unspecified amount of time while workers representing the Champlain Hudson Power Express (CHPE) prepare to lay two hydroelectric power cables in Lake Champlain, a project that'll whisk electricity from the Quebec transmission system to New York. We're talking about approximately 339 miles of 1,250-megawatt, direct-current underground and underwater transmission cable from the U.S./Canada border to Queens, New York.

A portion of that cable will be laid on the bed of Lake Champlain — including in an area bisecting the route of the Fort Ti Ferry.

Jack Doyle, owner and captain of the historic ferry, is currently embroiled in a legal tiff with CHPE, a multi-billion-dollar effort backed by the huge asset-management concern Blackstone Inc. To Doyle's chagrin, CHPE — through New York state courts and its regulatory system — earlier this month filed a successful eminent domain action that's allowing its

divers to probe Lake Champlain waters along the Fort Ti Ferry route. The divers are posting buoys at locations in which submerged debris — including old ferry cables discarded by past owners through the years — will need to be removed to accommodate the two CHPE power cables.

"This vessel has been running on cables since 1946," said Doyle who took ownership of the business on May 9, 2022. "I guarantee you that during the 1950s and '60s, the farm boys that owned this ferry back then weren't dragging these cables out of there. These guys were just cutting those cables and they're down there."

Doyle, during a series of phone interviews with the *Independent*, said he's concerned CHPE could foul, accidentally cut or displace his ferry's current cable system while trying to retrieve the submerged debris. It's a cable system he depends on to precisely guide the ferry from pier to pier following its 7-minute voyages across the lake.

"If they snap my cables somehow, I don't know how I'm going to replace them," he said. "If they damage my cables without having a replacement set in place, I'm screwed. They don't know how to do this; they don't understand the process."

That process, Doyle explained,



THE OWNER OF the historic Fort Ti Ferry said a planned May 1 service launch has been cast in doubt by an ongoing inspection and debris-recovery effort being staged by developers of the Champlain Hudson Power Express. That's a new cable sending electricity to New York City. Independent photo/Steve James

typically involves a barge and a big spool of cable that's gradually paid out during a careful jaunt along the ferry route.

"We get over to the other end, we cut it over there... and we turn around, drive back and lay another cable. When those are offloaded, we can then attach them at either side of the lake and tight them up. Then, we can cut the old cables loose, pull those out, and cut them up into lengths

and dispose of them," he said.

The *Independent* submitted seven questions to CHPE officials, through its PR firm. The questions sought to clarify the timing of the project, potential impacts on lakefront residents and businesses, and the latest friction between the CHPE and the Fort Ti Ferry.

The *Independent* received the following response:

"Cable laying is on schedule

to begin in May of 2024 and be completed this fall. CHPE remains on track to be operational in 2026. Cable laying is not expected to significantly impact anyone living or recreating on the lake. Boaters should observe boater safety rules when they are near our installation work. CHPE has had meetings with marina operators and other stakeholders on both sides of the lake and will continue to engage as installation

moves forward."

As the *Independent* went to press on Wednesday, Doyle and his crew were preparing the ferry for a May 1 opening — but he reiterated that could change very quickly depending on CHPE operations in the lake. He urged ferry users to diligently check the ferry's Facebook page at [tinyurl.com/3ej7vz9t](https://www.facebook.com/3ej7vz9t) for updates.

Reporter John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.

By the way

(Continued from Page 1A)

unveil a 2023 Suzuki 750 AXI ATV that's being raffled off — along with other prizes — to raise money for organizations assisting folks with substance use disorder. It's part of Piper's TR4R Health & Wellness effort that sees him participate in long-distance running events to raise funds for — and increase awareness of — addiction and its impact on individuals and families. Chip lost his son Michael to opioid addiction back in 2020. He subsequently decided to use running as a vehicle to help others. He's now training

for the 3rd annual Trail Run 4 Recovery, where he's registered to run the Ultra Infinitus DECA-Marathon — that's 10 marathons in 10 days. Raffle tickets are \$100 each, with a maximum of 200 sold. Get more details at trailrun4recovery.com.

Three local newly minted Eagle Scouts will be celebrated, along with others, at the Green Mountain Council's "Eagle Scout Recognition Day" on Friday, April 26, at the Vermont Statehouse in Montpelier. This event will recognize 54 Vermont youth who earned Scouting's highest rank in

2023. Three Vergennes youths will be saluted for their Eagle Scout rank: Evan Ambrose, Gideon Palmer and Calder Rakowski. The event will begin at 11 a.m. in the Cedar Room of the Statehouse. The Eagle Scout Class of 2023 will then be recognized during a lunch program at the Capital Plaza immediately following the ceremony. Collectively this new crop of Eagle Scouts organized leadership projects that contributed more than 5,100 service hours to towns and organizations statewide last year — an economic benefit of about \$167,000.

The Vermont Chamber of Commerce and the Vermont Department of Tourism and Marketing have designated Middlebury's upcoming 45th Annual Middlebury Summer Festival on the Green (July 7-13) as one of 13 "Vermont Signature Events" for 2024/25. The chamber touts the festival as "a longstanding event showcasing 17 acts over seven days and providing a delightful outdoor experience for visitors of all ages." The chamber's other signature events this year include the Vermont Maple Festival, the 8th Annual Vermont

Renaissance Faire, Rutland's Whoopie Pie Festival and Stowe Winter Carnival. Learn more about the 2024/25 Vermont Signature Events at tinyurl.com/3w9kwync.

Samuel Luis of Whiting placed first in the in the 14- to 18-year-old age group at this year's 18th annual Bart Jacob Memorial Youth Turkey Calling Contest, held April 13 at Kehoe Conservation Camp in Castleton. The Oxbow Mountain 4-H Club of Pawlet sponsored the event in collaboration with the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department. It was open to anyone

18 or younger and attracted several participants as young as four-years-old. Each age group was asked to perform a specific set of calls, using either a handmade or store-bought turkey call. Ken Jones of Proctor donated mouth calls to the top three winners in each age group. The annual contest honors the late Bart Jacob, a nationally recognized turkey-call maker and avid turkey hunter from Pawlet. Jacob was a staunch supporter of youth hunters as well as a founder of the National Wild Turkey Federation and past president and life member of the Vermont chapter.

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SPORTS

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Trinity challenges women's lax, but Panthers win again

By ANDY KIRKALDY
MIDDLEBURY — This past Saturday brought another challenge for the undefeated Middlebury College women's lacrosse team from a determined NESCAC foe. It came a week after the April 13 game during which the Panthers needed a last minute save by senior goalie Gina Driscoll to preserve a one-goal win at second-place Tufts. This time, visiting Trinity trailed Middlebury by 8-7 early in Saturday's second half, and by 10-8 early in the fourth quarter. But the Panthers answered again, closing the fourth period on a 5-2 run to prevail by 15-10 and push their record to 14-0. Middlebury seniors who were honored before their final regular-season home game pushed their personal win-loss record to 59-1. They also contributed three of the goals in the closing surge, two by attacker Susan Rowley and one by midfielder Sara Ellinghaus. Junior Hope Shue and freshman attacker Kate Motley added the other two scores during that pivotal stretch. Middlebury visited Williams on Wednesday in a game played after our deadline. The Panthers were seeking to close out their undefeated regular season. On Saturday, they'll

host the league's No. 8 seed in a NESCAC quarterfinal. Assuming a Panther victory in that game, the NESCAC semifinal and final will come to Middlebury's Kohn Field the following Saturday and Sunday — as will quite possibly first-round NCAA Division III games the weekend after. The Panthers had clinched the league's top seed the weekend before with the win at Tufts, while Trinity (7-7 overall, 3-6 NESCAC) is fighting for a playoff spot. Panther Coach Kate Livesay said the Bantams were motivated given their postseason push, while Livesay called the Panthers "a little flat" early on. "There is more parity in the league this year," Livesay said. "Basically, our message to the team was they (Trinity) play everyone tight, whether it's the top of the NESCAC or the bottom of the NESCAC. They're in these tight games and they're battling. So we expected them to battle today, and we got exactly what we were expecting." Defensively, the Bantams slowed the Panthers down until late in the game, when Middlebury began to move the ball more effectively to set up goals.



MIDDLEBURY SENIOR MIDFIELDER Niki Mormile carries the ball up the field on Saturday past a Trinity player during the Panther women's lacrosse team's home victory.

"They were just really clogging the middle. We like clean lanes to cage and letting our athleticism get us to net. And we just didn't have those clean looks today," Livesay said. "So we needed to be a little

more assist-minded. I just feel like we were missing that early on." Still, the Panthers took an early 3-1 lead on goals by Maggie Coughlin, Kelcey Dion and Skylar Lach, with Rowley and Shue

picking up assists. But Trinity responded with its own 3-1 surge, tying the score at 4-4 with 2:08 left in the period. Late goals by Shue in transition (See Panthers, Page 3B)

Independent photo/Steve James

Schedule

HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

Softball

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
4/30 Spaulding at Mt. Abe 4:30 PM
4/30 CVU at MUHS 4:30 PM
4/30 OV at Bellows Falls 4:30 PM
5/2 MUHS at St. Albans 4:30 PM
5/2 Mt. Abe at OV 4:30 PM
5/3 OV at Green Mtn. 4:30 PM
5/4 MUHS at Montpelier 3:00 PM
5/4 Rutland at Mt. Abe 11 AM
5/4 VUHS at Oxbow 3 PM

Baseball

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
4/30 Spaulding at Mt. Abe 4:30 PM
4/30 OV at Bellows Falls 4:30 PM
4/30 CVU at MUHS 4:30 PM
5/2 Mt. Abe at OV 4:30 PM
5/2 MUHS at St. Albans 4:30 PM
5/2 VUHS at Peoples 4:30 PM
5/4 Randolph at VUHS 11 AM
5/4 MUHS at Montpelier 3 PM
5/4 Rutland at Mt. Abe 11 AM

Boys' Lacrosse

4/25 Harwood at MUHS 4 PM
4/27 Hartford at OV 10 AM
4/27 MUHS at Woodstock 11 AM
4/29 OV at Mt. Abe 4:30 PM
4/29 MUHS at St. Albans 4:30 PM
4/30 MAV at Lamaille 4:30 PM
5/1 Randolph at Mt. Abe 4:30 PM
5/1 MUHS at S. Burlington 4:30 PM
5/3 Lyndon at Mt. Abe 4:30 PM
5/3 GMVS at OV 4:30 PM
5/4 Essex at MUHS 4 PM

Girls' Lacrosse

4/27 MAV at St. Albans 11 AM
4/29 Rice at MUHS 4:30 PM
4/29 GMVS at MAV 4:30 PM
4/30 Lamaille at MAV 4:30 PM
5/1 S. Burlington at MUHS 4:30 PM
5/3 MAV at Lyndon 4:30 PM
5/4 MUHS at Essex 4 PM

Girls' Tennis

4/29 MUHS at N. Country 3:30 PM
5/1 Rice at MUHS 3:30 PM
5/3 MUHS at Harwood 3:30 PM

Boys' Tennis

4/29 S. Burlington at MUHS 3:30 PM
5/1 MUHS at Rice 3:30 PM
5/3 Burlington at MUHS 3:30 PM

Track & Field

4/30 VUHS/MUHS+ at Mt. Abe ... 3:30 PM
5/4 VUHS/Mt. Abe at S. Burlington .. 1 PM

Ultimate

5/1 S. Burlington at MUHS 4 PM
5/3 MUHS at VT Commons 4 PM

COLLEGE SPORTS

Women's Lacrosse

4/27.NESCAC Playoff Quarterfinal at Midd

Men's Lacrosse

4/27NESCAC Playoff Quarterfinal

Baseball

4/26 Midd at Wesleyan 4 PM
4/27 Midd at Wesleyan (2) Noon

Softball

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.



MOUNT ABE FRESHMAN Abe Ready applies the tag to a Redhawk baserunner during the Eagle baseball team's home opener vs. CVU on Tuesday.

Independent photo/Steve James



EAGLE FRESHMAN HURLER Cameron Castillo delivers a pitch against CVU on Tuesday. Castillo threw well in the home setback, striking out 10 in five innings. The Redhawks won, 10-3.

Independent photo/Steve James

Otters only baseball winners in recent action

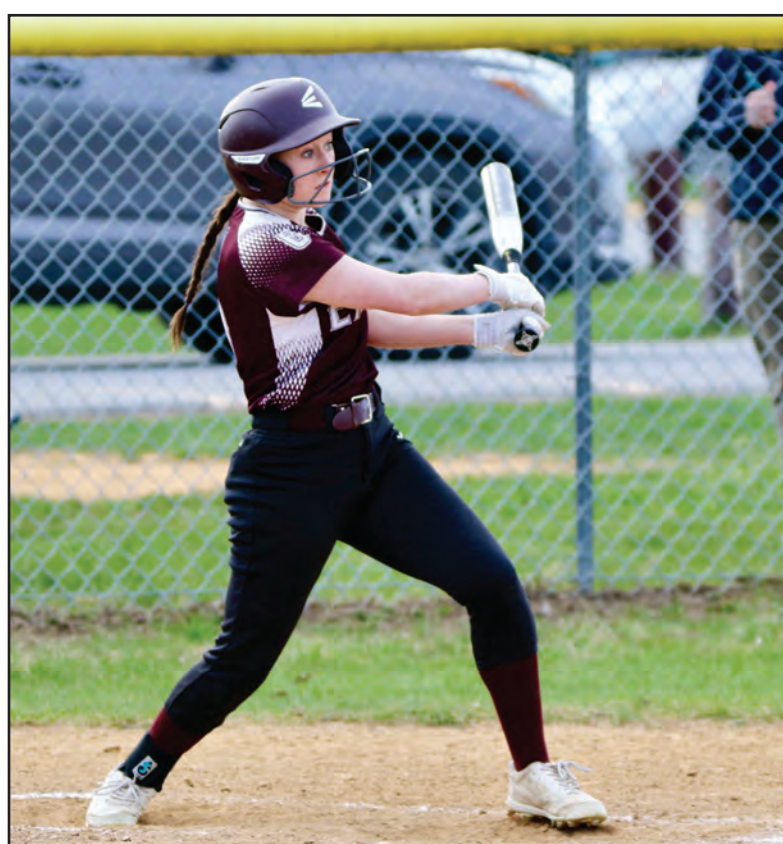
By ANDY KIRKALDY
ADDISON COUNTY — Otter Valley was the only winner among local baseball teams in action in the past week, as Vergennes dropped three games, and Middlebury and Mount Abraham each came up

short against Division I visitors in their opening outings. **OTTERS** The Otters improved to 2-1 with a pair of road victories. On Saturday the Otters edged host Springfield, 3-2, behind

Isaiah Wood's strong pitching performance. Wood tossed a complete-game two hitter, walking one and striking out seven. **Jackson Howe** stroked an RBI single for OV, which added two runs on passed balls to eke out

the road victory. On Tuesday the Otters broke open the game with six seventh-inning runs to win at rival Fair Haven, 11-2. **Jacob Warrell** drove in three runs with three hits, **Luciano**

Falco drilled two doubles and picked up five RBIs, and Howe and **Noel Pearsons** each poked a pair of hits, with Howe driving in a run. Howe earned the pitching win, (See Baseball, Page 2B)



EAGLE RIGHT FIELDER Sarah Heath launches a three-run homer over the center-field fence during the Mount Abe softball team's 18-run second inning on Tuesday.

Independent photo/Steve James

Eagle softball thumps CVU in season-opening victory

By ANDY KIRKALDY
BRISTOL — Mount Abraham Union High School softball Coach Donnie McCormick phrased it diplomatically after his team's 27-5, five-inning victory over Champlain Valley in Tuesday's Eagle opening game. Three Redhawk pitchers had just combined to issue 15 walks, toss six wild pitches, and hit nine batters (Eagle senior catcher Jo Toy took three for the team), all in four innings. The Eagles managed nine hits when they had pitches to swing at in their four innings at the plate, including homers by senior Sarah Heath and sophomore Morgan Larocque. McCormick's take on the game? "I was happy with our discipline at the plate. We weren't swinging at high pitches," he said. McCormick is also confident that with more to swing at, more Eagle hits will come.

"We're going to hit. I know we're going to hit," he said. "It's going to be fun to see." CVU actually took a 1-0 lead in the first inning. Baylee Yandow led off with a bunt single and made it to second on an uncharacteristic throwing error by junior third baseman Abba Parker. Yandow reached third on a ground out and scored when Amber Reagan's grounder back to pitcher Gretchen Toy popped out of her glove, and she momentarily couldn't find the ball. The threat ended with Jo Toy catching Reagan stealing. Gretchen Toy allowed only two more hits and one walk in her three-inning stint. Sophomore shortstop Gen Forand helped her work out of a two-on, one-out jam in the third. She fielded a grounder cleanly and threw out the batter despite being run into by the batter, who was called out for interference as the double play ended the threat. (See Softball, Page 4B)



SOPHOMORE PITCHER GRETCHEN Toy earned the pitching win for the Eagle softball team against visiting Champlain Valley on Tuesday, allowing no earned runs in three innings.

Independent photo/Steve James

Score BOARD

HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

Girls' Lacrosse

4/18 CVU at MUHS.....Postponed
4/20 MAV vs St. J.....14-4

Boys' Lacrosse

4/8 CVU vs MUHS.....9-8
4/19 Randolph vs OV.....10-8
4/19 MAV vs St. J.....13-6
4/20 Rice at MUHS.....Postponed
4/23 OV vs Rutland.....19-8

Baseball

4/19 Blue Mtn. vs VUHS.....10-0
4/20 OV vs Springfield.....3-2
4/20 Thetford vs VUHS.....16-3
4/23 OV vs Fair Haven.....11-2
4/23 Mt. Mansfield vs MUHS.....10-3
4/23 Richford vs VUHS.....8-1
4/23 CVU vs Mt. Abe.....10-3

Softball

4/18 MUHS at U-32.....Postponed
4/20 Thetford vs VUHS.....16-4

4/23 OV vs Springfield.....19-6
4/23 VUHS at Richford.....VUHS Forfeit
4/23 Mt. Abe vs CVU.....27-5

Boys' Tennis

4/17 MUHS vs Colchester.....7-0
4/19 MUHS vs S. Burlington.....6-1

Girls' Tennis

4/19 MUHS vs St. Albans.....7-0

Ultimate

4/17 Rice vs MUHS.....15-4

COLLEGE SPORTS

Women's Lacrosse

4/20 Midd vs Trinity.....15-10
4/24 Midd at Williams.....Late

Men's Lacrosse

4/20 Midd vs Trinity.....15-7
4/24 Williams at Midd.....Late

Baseball

4/19 Amherst vs Midd.....4-2
4/20 Midd vs Amherst.....2-1
4/20 Midd vs Amherst.....8-4

Softball

4/20 Midd vs Williams.....4-3
4/20 Midd vs Williams.....6-3
4/21 Trinity vs Midd.....2-1
4/21 Midd vs Trinity.....10-0
4/23 Midd vs Skidmore.....5-0
4/23 Midd vs Skidmore.....3-2

OV softball prevails

SPRINGFIELD — The Otter Valley softball team defeated host Springfield on Tuesday, 19-6. The Otters evened their record at 1-1 with the victory.

Sierra Cormany tossed the complete-game win on the mound for the Otters, and Leann Thomas

and Adyson Humiston each stroked multiple hits.

The Otters are set to hit the road for their next two games, at Rutland on Thursday and at Bellows Falls on Tuesday. Mount Abraham is scheduled to visit on May 2.

Tiger boys' tennis wins two more matches, moves to 4-0

COLCHESTER — The Middlebury Union High School boys' tennis team won two more matches last week to improve to 4-0.

On April 17 they defeated host Colchester, 7-0, and on April 19 the Tigers won at South Burlington, 6-1, prevailing in four tiebreakers in the process.

The Tigers are off until Monday, April 29, when they are scheduled to host South Burlington. They visit Rice on May 1, and two days later they will entertain defending state champion Burlington. All matches are at 3:30 p.m.

In individual matches vs. the Lakers on April 17:

At No. 1 singles, Jackson Murray, M, defeated Anthony Klemm, C, 6-0, 6-0.

At No. 2 singles, Kellan Bartlett, M, defeated Miles O'Brien, C, 6-3, 6-1.

At No. 3 singles, Charles Young, M, defeated Lucien Timmerman, C, 6-0, 6-0.

At No. 4 singles, Iver Anderson, M, defeated Isaac Blaisdell, C, 6-2, 6-2.

At No. 5 singles, Nate Cooke

Yoder, M, defeated Josh Bier, C, 6-1, 6-0.

At No. 1 doubles, Milo Rees/Eddie Fallis, M, defeated Kaine Than/Tucker Farnham, C, 6-0, 6-0.

At No. 2 doubles, Eliot Hemingway/Brian Newton, M, defeated Josh Kaarla/Nate Meyer, C, 6-4, 6-2.

In individual matches vs. the Wolves on April 17:

At No. 1 singles, Murray, M, defeated Yuyan Zhang, SB, 4-6, 6-2, 1-0 (10-2).

At No. 2 singles, Young, M, defeated Mateo Duracak, SB, 6-3, 6-0.

At No. 3 singles, Cook Yoder, M, defeated Will Bradley, SB, 6-1, 6-3.

At No. 4 singles, Newton, M, defeated Jules Butler, SB, 5-7, 6-4, 1-0 (11-9).

At No. 5 singles, Omar Daoudi, SB, defeated Heminway, M, 6-3, 6-1.

At No. 1 doubles, Rees/Fallis, M, defeated Jay Eagle/James Bradley, SB, 6-4, 4-6, 10-8.

At No. 2 doubles, Baxter Harrington/Noah Doherty Konczal, M, defeated Nicolas Charlebois/Robin Hokenmaier, SB, 7-6 (7-3), 6-4.



EAGLE JUNIOR FIRST baseman Aricin Griffin stretches for a pickoff throw during the Eagle baseball team's home opener vs. CVU on Tuesday.

Independent photo/Steve James

Baseball

(Continued from Page 1B) striking out 13 while surrendering four hits and three walks.

The Slayers bunched their hits in the fifth, scoring twice on a walk and singles by **Joe Buxton**, **Max Kyhill**, **Luke Senecal** and **Trey Lee**. Slater hurler **Mason Gutel** started and took the loss.

EAGLES

On Tuesday visiting Champlain Valley scored six times in the sixth inning to break the game open and defeat the Eagles in their opener, 10-3. Stephen Rickert earned the pitching win, allowing three hits and striking out nine, and John Deyo, Russell Willoughby and Orion Yates had multiple hits and RBIs for the Redhawks.

Freshman **Cameron Castillo** tossed five innings for the Eagles, allowing three hits and striking out 10. Freshman **Abe Ready** also debuted for Mount Abe with two hits and an RBI.

COMMODORES

On Aug. 19 visiting Blue Mountain scored 10 unearned runs in a 10-0 defeat of the Commodores in their home opener. Pitcher **Tyler Kimball** started and took the loss, tossing five

innings, walking none, allowing no earned runs and striking out 13. **Aiden Fuller** threw the rest of the game, allowing no earned runs and striking out three. **Izaak Wolniewicz** hit two singles, half of the four VUHS hits.

On Saturday host Thetford knocked off VUHS, 16-3. **Eyon Tembreull** started and took the pitching loss, allowing five earned runs on 12 hits in four innings, striking out nine. **Gabe Scribner** and **Tembreull** doubled, and **Reese Paquette** singled for the second straight game.

On Tuesday host Richford defeated the Commodores, 8-1. Scribner took the pitching loss, allowing four earned runs in 5.1 innings. Wolniewicz poked two more hits and drove in the VUHS run.

TIGERS

D-I Mt. Mansfield on Tuesday defeated MUHS by a 10-3 final. Details of that game were not reported. The Tigers are scheduled to host two more D-I teams next, Colchester on Thursday and CVU on Tuesday.



MOUNT ABE SENIOR Jamison Huizenga drops down a successful bunt in the Eagle baseball team's home opener vs. CVU on Tuesday.

Independent photo/Steve James

Ultimate drops opener

MIDDLEBURY — Visiting Rice bested the Middlebury Union High School Ultimate team on April 17 in the Tigers' opening game of the spring. The final score was 15-4.

Dallas St. Peter (six goals), Tommy Archer (four goals), and Elijah Wood (six assists) sparked the Rice attack.

Matthew Berg's two goals and Ian Sinclair's two assists led the Tiger offense, and Callan McDowell registered a half-dozen defensive blocks.

The Tigers are off until May 1 and 3, when they're set to visit South Burlington and Vermont Commons, respectively.

MAV boys' lacrosse team posts victory; MUHS, OV come up short

By ANDY KIRKALDY

ADDISON COUNTY — Only Mount Abraham-Vergennes picked up a victory among local high school boys' lacrosse teams in recent play, as Middlebury came up just short in a duel between projected Division I title contenders, and Otter Valley dropped two games. The schedule was light due to spring break.

EAGLES

The D-III Eagles' win came at home on April 19 vs. D-II St. Johnsbury, 13-6. The game was tied at 4-4 at halftime, but MAV went on a decisive 5-0 run in the third quarter.

Eagle senior attacker **Noah Ladeau** led the way with four goals and an assist, and **Andrew Nolan** also found the net four times. Middle **Asa Pratt** contributed three goals and two helpers for MAV, and **Finley Kaeck** and **Joe Sullivan** added a goal apiece. Middle **Jamison Couture** chipped in two assists, and goalie **Walker Forand** made five saves as MAV (1-2) broke into the win column.

Hayden Angel scored twice to lead St. J., and goalie Connor Brigham made 11 saves.

TIGERS

In a game moved to South Burlington on April 18,

Champlain Valley, technically the host, bolted to a 9-1 halftime lead over MUHS, but had to hold off a furious Tiger rally to prevail, 9-8.

Peter Gilliam led the Redhawks with two goals, and Jacob Bose scored twice.

Toby Draper, **Logan McNulty** and **Angus Blackwell** each found the net twice, but it wasn't quite enough to prevent the Tigers from dropping what was their opener.

The Tigers' Saturday home game vs. Rice was postponed due to wet field conditions.

The Tigers are scheduled to host D-II contender Harwood on Thursday before playing their next three games on the road. Their next home date is against Essex at 4 p.m. on May 4.

OTTERS

On April 19 visiting Randolph took an early 5-0 lead over the Otters and then did enough afterward to prevail, 10-8, in a D-III matchup.

The Otters got four goals apiece from senior **Chase Cram** and junior **Caleb Brytowski**, while goalie **Damon Wood** made eight saves.

On Tuesday undefeated D-I side Rutland dropped OV to 0-2 with a 19-8 home victory. Cram led OV with five goals, and **T.J. Baron** added a pair.

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Questions? Reach out to Jenna at contests@addisonindependent.com

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Panthers

(Continued from Page 1B)

own 3-1 surge, tying the score at 4-4 with 2:08 left in the period. Late goals by Shue in transition and Rowley on a free position made it 6-4 after one period.

The Panthers looked like they'd pull away early in the second, with a quick-stick goal by senior middle Niki Mormile, set up by Dion, and a Rowley strike at 10:15, making it 8-4. But they'd go 10:21 of game time without scoring, and Trinity worked its way back in. Natalie Miller finished high mid-period, and 7.6 seconds before the half, Alex Lesko deposited a Caroline Lampert feed, and it was 8-6.

Two minutes into the second half, Bantam Casey Ward dodged through the Panther defense and made it 8-7. The Panthers broke through at 10:36, when a cutting Shue took a Caroline Adams feed and finished from point blank. With 1:11 left in the period, Anna Spehr converted a pass Shue threaded through traffic, and the Middlebury lead was 10-7.

Lampert converted 25 seconds into the fourth period, and the lead was back to two. But back-to-back goals by Rowley 50 seconds apart, the second one set up by Coughlin, made it 12-8 at 12:54.

Lampert cut the lead to three at 8:58, but solo efforts by Shue and Ellinghaus pushed the lead to 14-9 at 7:04. After one last Trinity goal, Motley iced the cake at 1:46.

Lampert (three goals, two assists) and Miller (three goals) led for Trinity, and goalie Ali Macdougall made six saves.

Shue (four goals, two assists), Rowley (four goals), and Coughlin



MIDDLEBURY JUNIOR KÉLCEY Dion tightropes the sideline past a Trinity player during Saturday's Panther lacrosse team's home victory.

Independent photo/Steve James

and Adams (a goal and two assists apiece) led the Panthers. Driscoll started in goal, but didn't record a save in the first quarter. Freshman Elizabeth Savage played three quarters and surrendered six goals and made seven saves.

Livesay said overall, "We're feeling good," but she didn't sound satisfied with the status quo on Saturday. She said if the Panthers are to reach their goals, they probably need to tie up a few loose ends.

"I think defensively we're toggling between a couple of defenses (man-to-man, and a zone with a backer in the fan), and we just have to be a little bit sharper in both of them," she said.

Livesay is also still tinkering

up front. Shue (16 assists) and Rowley (nine assists) have 48 goals apiece; draw specialist Adams has 27 goals and 18 assists, Coughlin has 13 goals and 18 assists, and Motley has 19 goals. Another four players have between 16 and nine goals and between three and eight assists.

"We've got a lot of depth on offense. The tricky thing is know what matchups work on what days," Livesay said. "We've got a lot of people who can contribute. But on a day like today, we needed a few more looks, and I felt like we weren't getting that from our depth today. So we're just hoping to be a little sharper offensively."



PANTHER FRESHMAN GOALIE Elizabeth Savage saves a high shot during the third quarter of Saturday's Middlebury women's lacrosse team's home victory over Trinity.

Independent photo/Steve James



PANTHER JUNIOR ATTACKER Hope Shue fires home one of her four goals on Saturday during the Middlebury women's lacrosse team's home victory.

Independent photo/Steve James

Girls' tennis prevails in opener

By ANDY KIRKALDY

ST. ALBANS — After two earlier postponements, the Middlebury Union High School girls' tennis team opened its season on April 19 with a 7-0 victory over host St. Albans.

Coach Dan Comar, while pleased with the victory, noted the Comets were shorthanded and forfeited three matches.

"The home match vs. St Albans in May should be a better

indicator of where each team is developmentally," Comar said.

Individual results were: At No. 1 singles, Audrey Carpenter, MUHS, defeated Shelby Bechard, BFA, 6-2, 7-6.

At No. 2 singles, Sophia Boise, MUHS, defeated Lily Zekos, BFA, 6-0, 6-0.

At No. 3 singles, Anna Wolosinski, MUHS, defeated Emma Elwood, BFA, 6-0, 6-0.

At No. 4 and 5 singles, Subia

Khan and Olivia Kearley, respectively, won by forfeit.

At No. 1 doubles, Amelia Coburn/Maryam Khan, MUHS, defeated Sofia Ozurak/Taylor Olds, BFA, 6-0, 6-0.

Sophia Nicolai and Oprea Littlefield won their doubles match by forfeit.

The Tigers are off until they visit North Country on April 29. Their first scheduled home match is vs. Rice on May 1.

College to add new facilities

Three tennis courts, track & field throwing area on deck

MIDDLEBURY — Middlebury College plans to break ground this summer on new outdoor tennis courts and enhanced throwing areas for its track and field teams.

The new construction will occur along the west side of South Street. The tennis facility will move to an area near the men's soccer field and the college's track and field complex. A throwing area — for those competing in the shot put, javelin, discus and hammer throw events, now just east of the track — will be established on the grass area above the men's soccer field and south of the track.

Director of Athletics Erin Quinn said the new courts are an opportunity to enhance the playing

experience for student-athletes on the men's and women's tennis teams, who currently play on the Proctor Tennis Courts to the west of Middlebury Chapel.

"While we have enjoyed the central location of the courts, this move will allow matches and practices to take place in closer proximity to our other athletics facilities. With three additional tennis courts, matches and practices will become more efficient for our teams and will provide more opportunities for those participating in recreational tennis as well," Quinn said.

Regarding improvements for the track and field teams, Quinn said, "The throwing areas have been in

need of critical upgrades, and I'm excited that this project allows us to make those improvements for our student-athletes."

The throwing areas will be constructed first, followed by the tennis facility, with expected completion in September.

Eventually, according to a college press release, the institution's 2008 campus master plan calls for a new student center to be built on the site of the college's Proctor Tennis Courts. The college envisions the student center "to be a vibrant, active living room for the campus, where every student, faculty, and staff member feels a sense of belonging," according to the release.

MAV girls' lax earns first victory

ST. JOHNSBURY — The Vergennes-Mount Abraham girls' lacrosse team got goals from six players and defeated host St. Johnsbury on Saturday, 13-6, in a clash of Division II programs.

The Commodores evened their record at 2-2 heading into their spring break. They're scheduled to visit Division I St. Albans this Saturday and host D-II Lamoille this coming Tuesday at 4:30 p.m.

Anna Stillwell recorded four goals and an assist to lead the MAV attack. Siena Stanley and Meredith Default each had two goals and an assist, and Annie Dufault and Nell Harvey each scored twice. Thompson Davis and June Yates-Rusch added a goal apiece.

The Commodores fared well controlling draws, with Meredith Dufault picking up four, and Annie Dufault and Safoura Camara

controlling three apiece. MAV goalie Carley Cook backstopped the win with 10 saves, and Maris LaPerle led the team with four groundballs.

For St. J., Kelsey Greenwood scored twice, Emmy Morgan and Maggie Langlois added a goal apiece, and two goalies combined for 11 saves.

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Middlebury police kept busy handling several residents' mental health issues

MIDDLEBURY — Middlebury police and Middlebury Regional EMS this past week responded to multiple reports of people dealing with mental health issues. These cases included a suicidal man in the South Village Green neighborhood on April 16, a man experiencing a mental health crisis in the Meadow Glen Drive area on April 17, a mental health patient requiring assistance near the intersection of Abbey Pond Road and Case Street on April 17, a man in crisis in the Court Street Extension area on April 20, and a suicidal person in the Route 7 South area at around 2:20 a.m. on April 22.

In other action last week, Middlebury police:

- Helped a beaver safely cross Franklin Street during the evening of April 15.
- Helped Middlebury Union Middle School officials with a juvenile issue on April 15.
- Responded to a report of a drunken man in the Bakery Lane area on April 15. Police said the man was picked up by a sober person.
- Offered support to a houseless person at risk of exposure in the Bakery Lane area at around 1:30 a.m. on April 15.
- Received a report about someone allegedly throwing rocks at another person on Merchants Row on April 16.
- Assisted Porter Hospital with a combative patient on April 16.
- Checked on a report of a disoriented man in the Porter Hospital parking lot on April 16.
- Followed up on April 16 on a report of a laptop stolen from Middlebury Union High School.
- Served a no-trespass notice on a man who had cause a disturbance

at a Court Street business on April 16.

- Responded to a report of a tractor-trailer truck stuck in Court Square on April 16.
- Spoke with a man who had allegedly been creating a disturbance at the Ilsley Library on April 16. Police said the man left without incident.
- Responded on April 17 to a 911 hang-up call about a person who had fallen in the Case Street area and was "bleeding profusely." MREMS arrived on scene and took the patient to the hospital.
- Followed up on April 17 on a report of an unwanted houseless person on Memorial Baptist Church property on April 17.

Middlebury Police Log

- Investigated a report that a student had run away from MUHS on April 17.
- Responded to a landlord-tenant dispute at a Route 7 South property on April 18.
- Assisted state police in dealing with an unwanted person in the Hillside Drive area of Starksboro on April 18.
- Investigated reports of vandalism and someone driving erratically on Main Street on April 19.
- Responded to a report of someone shooting water, or a BB gun, from a car while traveling past people on Storrs Avenue on April 19.
- Received a report on April 19 about a local elderly resident

- falling victim to a phone scam.
- Responded to a report of a car striking a utility pole on Washington Street Extension on April 19. Police reported no injuries as a result of the crash.
- Responded with MREMS to a medical call off Abbey Pond Road on April 19.
- Assisted a downtown business owner with a "suspicious person" on April 19.
- Assisted MREMS with an unresponsive patient on Route 7 South on April 19.
- Warned a local dog owner about needing to have control of a dog in the Court Street area on April 19.
- On April 20, were informed of a recent theft from TJ Maxx.
- Received a report about a man "seemingly under the influence" at McDonald's Restaurant on Court Street Extension on April 20.
- Responded to a report of someone allegedly rifling through a vehicle parked on Weybridge Street on April 21.
- Received a report on April 21 about a break-in at a jobsite trailer off Quarry Road on April 21.
- Responded to a report of a man having a mental health crisis on Court Street on April 21.
- Warned a North Pleasant Street resident about playing loud music during the afternoon of April 21.
- Assisted Counseling Service of Addison County officials after they had received a threatening phone call on April 21.
- Responded to a noise complaint in the Maecliff Court neighborhood on April 21.
- Assisted Vermont State Police in responding to a threatening complaint in Leicester on April 21.

Softball

(Continued from Page 1B)

The Eagles tied the game in the bottom of the first when Parker, who had walked and moved to third on another walk and a wild pitch, then bolted home on another wild pitch.

Then the Redhawks' wheels came off in the second inning. Eagle sophomore outfielder Brooklyn Ryersbach, senior outfielder Madelyn Hayden and junior first baseman Elise Parker singled during the 18-run rally, Larocque lined a two-run homer to left, and Heath lofted a three-run blow over the center-field fence.

Meanwhile in that inning, two Redhawk pitchers combined to walk Mount Abe batters four nine times, hit them three times and toss three wild pitches as 24 Eagles paraded to the plate.

Mount Abe added eight more in the third inning off the third CVU hurler, who hit the first three batters she faced, four in all, and walked four. Amid the freebies, Hayden, Jo Toy and Elise Parker stroked RBI singles. Miraculously, the Eagles went down in order in their fourth and final at-bat.

The Redhawks scored three in the fourth off Eagle freshman reliever Reagan Lafreniere, who threw hard but had trouble locating. She walked



MOUNT ABE THIRD baseman Abba Parker makes a lunging fifth-inning grab of a CVU line drive during the Eagle softball team's big win on Tuesday.

Independent photo/Steve James

two and hit a batter, and a two-out error allowed the third run to score. Abba Parker's leaping grab of a line drive ended the threat. CVU added another run in the fifth on a walk, a stolen base and two wild pitches, but Lafreniere bore down to end the game on a strikeout, a grounder to Forand and another liner to Abba Parker.

Hayden, Larocque, both Parkers, courtesy runner Leah Tierney, and Heath all scored three runs. Heath led with four RBIs, Larocque drove in three, and Hayden and Jo Toy

drove in two runs apiece. Tougher competition awaits, including a home game vs. North Country on Thursday and a trip to Missisquoi on Saturday.

But McCormick is confident in the Eagles' defense and in the team's sophomore pitcher as well as the offense. He said if the Eagles keep focusing on improving they will succeed this spring.

"Just keep working together," he said. "It's just reps. We've got a good team."



SOPHOMORE SHORTSTOP GEN Forand completes the tag play on an attempted CVU steal after taking Eagle senior catcher Jo Toy's throw during their team's home win on Tuesday.

Independent photo/Steve James

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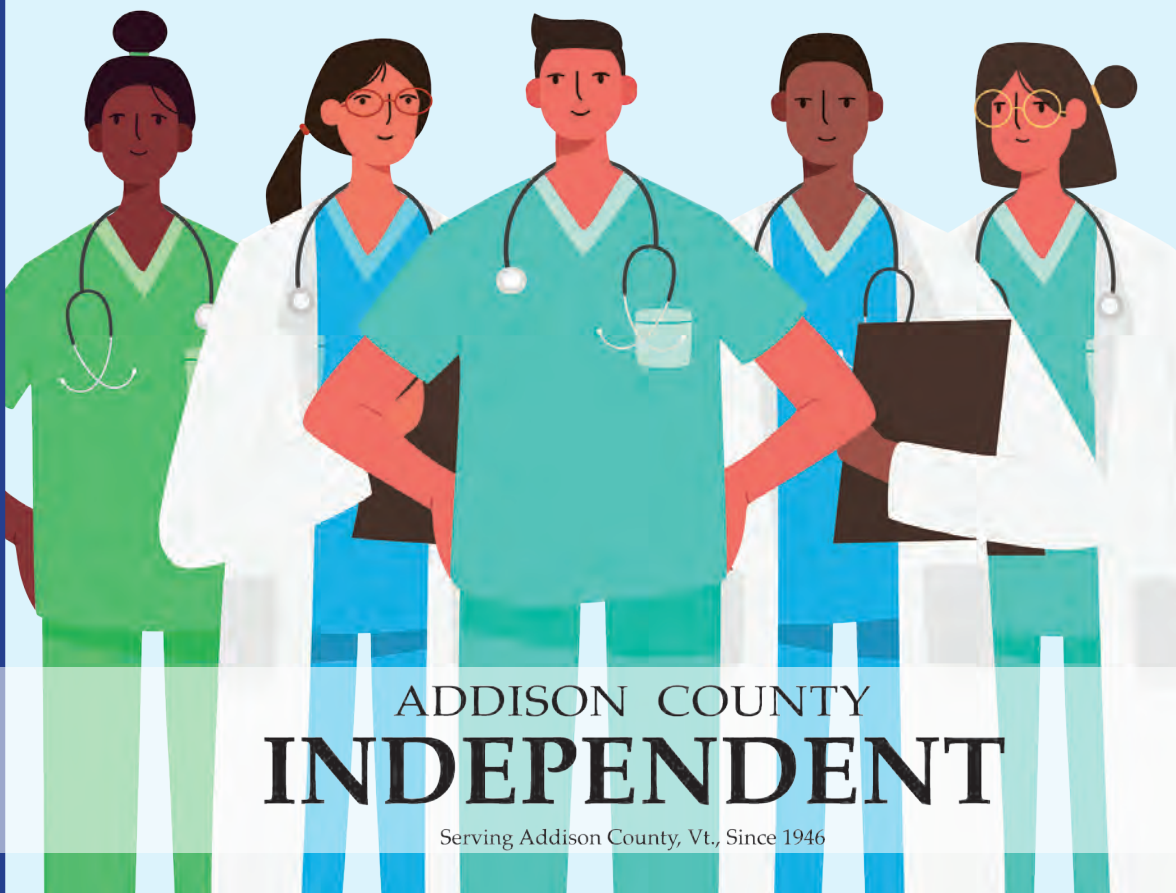
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State police cite driver for DUI

ADDISON COUNTY — Vermont State Police responded to a two-vehicle crash on Route 22A just north of Town Line Road in Addison on April 15 at a few minutes before 2 p.m. Police report that Thaddeus Mead, 53, of Poultney was driving a 2019 Ford F-250 pickup truck belonging to Casella Waste Management, and was stopped on the side of the southbound lane to pick up garbage. Police said a southbound 2010 Toyota Prius driven by Terra Fleming, 37, of Vergennes struck the rear end of the pickup truck.

Fleming, who was not wearing a seatbelt, and a child in the car sustained suspected minor injuries and were taken to Porter Medical Center. Mead sustained moderate injuries and was taken to UVM Medical Center.

State police cited Fleming for driving under the influence of drugs and cruelty to a child. Fleming also got a traffic ticket, which carried a \$220 fine.

Troopers were assisted on scene by Vergennes police, Middlebury Regional EMS and the Addison Fire Department.

Vt. State Police Log

State police issued another DUI citation on April 21. That day at a couple minutes after 9 p.m. troopers saw a motor vehicle violation in Bristol on Mountain Street and stopped the car. Police cited Eben M. Clifford, 22, of Starksboro for driving under the influence. Since

Clifford had a passenger in the front seat, they also cited him for reckless endangerment.

Separately, on April 17 at 5:17 p.m. a trooper stopped a motor vehicle on Monkton Road near Nichols Road in Monkton. Police cited Donald G. Blanchard, 35, of Pantton for driving with a criminally suspended license and driving without a required ignition interlock device.

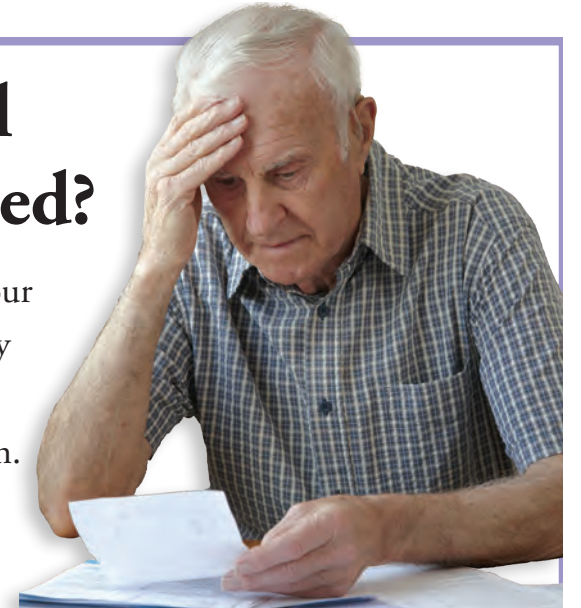
Meanwhile, on April 22, state police logged a complaint that someone stole firewood from a residence in Ripton. Through investigation, police said they determined that 66-year-old James Webb of Ripton had traveled to the victims' property, cut up the firewood, and took the firewood back to his home.

Police cited Webb for larceny and unlawful trespassing.

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community calendar

Leicester

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NEWS

LEICESTER — Town Clerk Julie Delphia reminds dog owners of the requirement 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.

Green Up Day is Saturday, May 4. As usual, a free volunteer luncheon for workers will be held at the Senior Center from 11:30 a.m. until 1 p.m. Lunch tickets double as raffle tickets. Filled Green Up 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 choice of a Leicester cap or visor. The state of Vermont is attempting to achieve a Guinness World Record by gathering at least 5,000 pledges to help clean up trash. You can sign up at the Town Office to be part of the effort. For more information, or to volunteer to clean a particular segment of road, contact Diane Benware at 802-247-3786. Volunteers are needed for Lake Dunmore Road, Hooker Road and portions of the Leicester Whiting Road.

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ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT

Reader Comments

Here's what one reader has to say about us!

A subscriber from Burlington writes:

"Enjoy local news. Photos and editorials are good, also community events. Thanks."

Quotes are taken from reader comments submitted with subscription renewals.

ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT

april 25 THURSDAY

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@portermidical.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.

Storytelling slam workshop in Vergennes. Thursday, April 25, 5:30-7 p.m., Bixby Memorial Library. Need a little help crafting your story? Don't even know where to start? Come and workshop a five-minute tale with storytelling teacher and local legend Chris Wyckoff, who will instruct us on what makes a good story and how to take that story from your mind to the stage.

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.lawrencecelibraryvt.org/events. Zoom link will be sent 24 hours before the event.

april 26 FRIDAY

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 provide 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.

april 27 SATURDAY

World Tai Chi and Qigong Day in Bristol. Saturday, April 27, 9:30 a.m.-noon, Holley Hall, 1 South St. Celebrate our local Tai Chi forms, demonstrate and practice your form, learn about other forms, styles and practices. Sun, Yang 24, Tung Family, Cheng Man-Ch'ing Qigong and more. More info contact Jerry@skyrivertaichi.com.

Va-et-vient in Vergennes. Saturday, April 27, 12:30-2 p.m., Bixby Memorial Library, 253 Main St. These Addison County musicians 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.

april 28 SUNDAY

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.

april 30 TUESDAY

"Keys Bags Names Words" on screen in Middlebury. Tuesday, April 30, 4:30 p.m., Ilsley Public Library, 75 Main St. Eileen Lawson will be on hand to share this inspiring documentary film addressing dementia, how to reduce the risk of developing it, and how to meaningfully connect with loved ones living with it.

may 1 WEDNESDAY

Carolyn Kuebler book launch celebration in Middlebury. Wednesday, May 1, 6 p.m., Vermont Book Shop, 38 Main St. A casual reading from and celebration of *New England Review* editor Carolyn Kuebler's debut novel, "Liquid, Fragile, Perishable." Set in a small Vermont town, the novel is many things. At its core, though, it's a tender homage to the actual lives behind the stereotypes we keep of the flatlander, the lonely recluse, the village gossip, the troubled trailer-dwellers.



Spring stars

TAKE A WALK and see the first flowers of spring on Sunday, April 28, from noon to 2 p.m., at Mt. Independence State Historic Site. Amy Olmsted of Rocky Dale Gardens in Bristol will show you early wildflowers, how to identify them, and discuss their habitat.

Independent file photo

may 2 THURSDAY

Thursdays on the TAM in Middlebury. Thursday, May 2, 8:30 a.m., Means Woods, Seminary St. Ext. Help MALT clean up the trails in advance of the busy summer season. MALT Trails & Volunteer Manager Liam Hickey will be at the trailhead in the mornings with doughnuts, coffee and tea for volunteers. Enjoy a warm drink and chat, then get to work. Hike the section of trail yourself and return tools on the way back, or wait until 9:30 a.m. to hike as a group. Work includes clearing dead branches and small fallen trees, pruning new growth, and picking up trash. Free. Email Liam@maltvt.org to let him know you're interested.

Ladies Aid Industria spring rummage sale in Lincoln. Thursday, May 2, 1-7 p.m., Burnham Hall, 52 E. River Rd. Donations will be accepted on the lower level of the hall on Wednesday, May 1, from 1-7 p.m. Donations should be spring and summer items in clean, undamaged condition. Helmets, electronics, car seats and teeter totters cannot be accepted.

"Hunting and Fishing: A Case Study in Cultural Continuity" virtual lecture. Thursday, May 2, 6:30 p.m., ZOOM. American Abenaki people in Vermont were and are culturally competent in many types of Indigenous hunting and trapping techniques as well as the use of traditional hunting spirituality. Wiseman presents abundant evidence of these activities in the form of objects, tools, historic photographs, family stories and distinctive skills passed down through generations of Abenaki families all with good documented historical Vermont provenance. Free, but donations are appreciated. Register at tinyurl.com/Hunting-Fishing-Abenaki.

Book reading and discussion in Lincoln. Thursday, May 2, 7 p.m., Lincoln Library, River Rd. 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." Vivid and suspenseful, gut-wrenching and insightful, "Gaslight" 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.

may 3 FRIDAY

Ladies Aid Industria spring rummage sale in Lincoln. Friday, May 3, 8 a.m.-6 p.m., Burnham Hall, 52 E. River Rd. See May 2 listing.

Rummage sale in Salisbury. Friday, May 3, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Salisbury Church, Maple St. Most items will be available for a free-will donation and all monies raised will be used to support area food shelves. If you have items to donate, bring them to the church between 10 a.m. and noon on Sunday, April 28, or from 9 a.m.-noon Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday, April 29-May 1. Organizers ask that donations be clean and in good condition. Please no large furniture or appliances.

may 4 SATURDAY

Green Up Day across Vermont. Details at greenupvermont.org.

Ladies Aid Industria spring rummage sale in Lincoln. Saturday, May 4, 8-10:30 a.m., Burnham Hall, 52 E. River Rd. See May 2 listing.

Rummage sale in Salisbury. Saturday, May 4, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Salisbury Church, Maple St. See May 3 listing.

Bike swap in Middlebury. Saturday, May 4, 9 a.m.-noon, Cannon Park, near Frog Hollow Bikes. People turn in bikes they no longer want to "swap" and buy a different used or new bike. You can just sell or buy a bike at the swap. Drop off your bikes before noon on May 3 and indicate if you want sale proceeds to go to you or be donated to Middlebury Safe Routes. A percentage goes to Frog Hollow Bikes.

Friends of the Ilsley Book sale in Middlebury. Saturday, May 4, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Town Offices Plaza, weather permitting. In case of rain, it will be in the Community Room at Ilsley.

"For the Good of the King's Service" in Ticonderoga, N.Y. Saturday, May 4, Fort Ticonderoga. Join Fort Ticonderoga for a lively two-day living history event with a full-scale recreation of its British Garrison, 250 years to the day back in 1774. Discover daily life for British soldiers and their families in 1774, with activities including gardening, shoemaking, tailoring and boatbuilding. More info at forticonderoga.org. Continues Sunday, May 5.

Off the trail guided history walk in Orwell. Saturday, May 4, noon to 4 p.m., Mount Independence, 497 Mt. Independence Rd. Learn about and see remains of the Revolutionary War defenses at the Mount Independence. Go off trail and explore before all the leaves come out. Meet in front of the museum for orientation. Cost \$5 adults/\$1/ages 6 to 14/free children under 6 and

Mount Independence Coalition members. Wear sturdy boots, be prepared for off-trail walking, and dress for the weather. Bring your lunch to enjoy ahead of time and water.

Youth Ministry Bingo in Vergennes. Saturday, May 4, 5 p.m., St. Peter's Parish Hall, 85 South Maple St. Doors open at 5 p.m., Bingo starts at 6 p.m. This is a family friendly event. All cash prizes, 50/50 raffle. Refreshments sold. This event is sponsored by St. Ambrose and St. Peter's Youth Ministry to benefit the on-going program costs.

Derby Day in Middlebury. Saturday, May 4, 5-7:30 p.m., Kirk Alumni Center, Golf Course Rd. Come watch the most exciting two minutes in sports, the Kentucky Derby. Live music, dancing, specialty cocktails, ample hors d'oeuvres and prizes. Proceeds support Porter Hospital. Award given to the most festive attire. Dress to impress. Purchase raffle tickets, \$10 each, to win a Vermont handcrafted cherry wood desk from Woodware or one of several wonderful prizes. Tickets \$66, drink ticket included, available at townhalltheater.org. More info contact David Rose at 802-343-1475.

may 5 SUNDAY

"For the Good of the King's Service" in Ticonderoga, N.Y. Sunday, May 5, Fort Ticonderoga. See May 4 listing.

Sib2Sib Fun in the Sun in Middlebury. Sunday, May 5, 1-4 p.m., Center for Community Engagement/Chellis House, Hillcrest Rd. From 1-2 p.m. Middlebury College's Sib2Sib and the Center for Community Engagement invites families and children from the Community Friends Program to introduce younger kids to Sib2Sib. Outdoor games and lunch for everyone. Current Sib2Sib kids can meet and have fun with future Sib2Sib members. From 2-4 p.m., outdoor activities such as water balloon fights, tie dyeing, sports, bean boozled and more will take place behind Chellis House. More info at and register at sistertostister@middlebury.edu. Register at go.middlebury.edu/sib2sib.

may 7 TUESDAY

The Art of Translation: Literature to Film by Michael Katz and Chris Keathley in Middlebury. Tuesday, May 7, 5:30-7 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. The second installment of "Up for Discussion," a free series created by Vermont Book Shop and Town Hall Theater designed to spark community conversation and featuring local experts in their fields sharing timely topics that span literature, art, film and contemporary issues. The 30-minute presentation will be followed by a roundtable discussion and sharing of thoughts and ideas. Free, but registration required at townhalltheater.org.

may 8 WEDNESDAY

"How to Build Neural Pathways and Decrease Group Polarization" in Middlebury. Wednesday, May 8, 6 p.m., Ilsley Public Library, 75 Main St. Join Meg Mott for this presentation on deliberation. It is the practice that holds our democracy together, but does it always lead to better decisions? This Vermont Humanities Council presentation gives participants a chance to find new ways to think about a contentious issue by increasing the argument pool. Instead of carving out one's (predictable) position in the culture wars, we'll look at the best arguments on an issue from progressives, conservatives and libertarians.

Julia Alvarez in conversation with Carolyn Kuebler in Middlebury. Wednesday, May 8, 7 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. National Medal of Arts recipient and Weybridge resident Julia Alvarez will appear in conversation with New England Review's Carolyn Kuebler to present Alvarez's new novel, "The Cemetery of Untold Stories." Sponsored by Vermont Book Shop.

may 9 THURSDAY

Spring Fling in Vergennes. Thursday, May 9, 5-8 p.m., downtown Vergennes. The shops in the Little City are brimming with the latest in spring and summer fashions. Gifts for moms, grads and more. They'll leave the lights on late for you to shop, sip and dine. Vergennes Partnership invites you to shop local and support Vergennes businesses.

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County kids take home ribbons in 4-H Quiz Bowl

BURLINGTON — Several local 4-H horse members took home ribbons from the 2024 State 4-H Horse Quiz Bowl held at UVM on April 7.

The annual contest is designed to test their equine knowledge through a series of buzzer rounds where points were scored for knowing answers to questions on anatomy, feeds, coat colors, gaits, tack and other topics. The top 10 finishers in each age group received a rosette ribbon with the first-place winners also awarded a 4-H backpack.

Addison County participants to place included:

Seniors (14-18): Bella Shimel, Bridport (fifth); Hannah Gendreau,

Shoreham (seventh); and Randy Cameron, Shoreham (twelfth)

Juniors (12-13): Tessa Buskey, North Ferrisburgh (third).

Juniors (8-9): Aliyah Bradford, Addison (third).

In addition to the competition, many of the participants demonstrated their culinary skills by baking and decorating cakes and cupcakes for a silent auction. The proceeds will be used to purchase prizes for the raffle at the Vermont 4-H Horse Show in July.

Alexa Buskey of North Ferrisburgh and Shyanne Wedge of Shoreham were among the volunteers who helped with scoring, registration and other tasks.

Mt. Independence to offer springtime history walk

ORWELL — Enjoy a spring guided history walk to learn about and see remains of the Revolutionary War defenses at the Mount Independence State Historic Site in Orwell on Saturday, May 4, from noon to 4 p.m. This is the perfect time of year to go off trail and explore before all the leaves come out.

Revolutionary War expert Mike Barbieri, Mount Independence Coalition

Friday, May 24.

Meet in front of the museum for orientation; restrooms will be available at the start of the program. The fee is \$5 for adults, \$1 for ages 6 to 14, and free for children under 6 and Mount Independence Coalition members. Wear sturdy boots, be prepared for off-trail walking, and dress for the weather. Bring your lunch to enjoy ahead of time if you like, and bring water. Co-sponsored by the Mount Independence Coalition.

The focus will be features normally not seen, including along the southern gun batteries.

and president Stephen Zeoli, and site administrator Elsa Gilbertson lead the walk on and off the trails to explore this fascinating site. The focus will be features normally not seen, including along the southern gun batteries. It's a special opportunity before the site opens for the 2024 season on

bring water. Co-sponsored by the Mount Independence Coalition.

This is one of many programs planned for the year. The site and museum will be open from May 24 through Oct. 20. Regular hours will be daily, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call 802-759-2412 for information about the hike.



CELEBRATE OUR NATURAL surroundings and enjoy a forest experience on a path at Spirit In Nature in Ripton. The organization will mark its 25th anniversary at its annual meeting on May 12 at the Ripton Community House.

Photo by Heather Pask, SpIN board member

SpIN to celebrate 25 years with a walk, talks

RIPTON — At its annual meeting on Sunday, May 12, the Spirit In Nature Interfaith Paths will celebrate a milestone: the 25th Anniversary of the founding of SpIN. This year's meeting, which will take place at the Ripton Community House from 2 to 4 p.m., will feature the presentation of this year's Eco-Spirit Awards followed by a symposium at which former Eco-Spirit Award winners will discuss reasons for hope in our world today.

Preceding the events at the Ripton Community House,

naturalist Craig Zondag will lead a 45-minute guided walk on some of the SpIN paths, starting at 1 p.m. Join in by meeting at the SpIN parking lot.

Members of the public are invited to attend any or all of the events.

Fran Putnam, Bethany Barry, and Brett Gilman will be honored as the SpIN Eco-Spirit Awardees for 2024. Putnam, Barry and Gilman are the co-founders of Pollinator Pathway of Addison County, which promotes pesticide-free corridors of native plants

that provide nutrition and habitat for pollinating insects and birds. Their local service in community organizing on this vital topic truly "leads us to a path of hope for all life and nature on earth," part of the hallmark of this award.

SpIN preserves a network of walking paths just off the Goshen Road in Ripton, on forested land that SpIN maintains under a license agreement with Middlebury College. Its founding was inspired by the Dalai Lama's visit to Middlebury in 1994, and the first paths were opened in 1999.

Each path has quotations from a particular faith-based spiritual/religious tradition related to the natural world. The paths are open to the public during daylight hours, free of charge.

For more information about Spirit In Nature, including the Zoom link for the May 12 meeting, see the SpIN website spiritinnature.org or e-mail spiritinnature.vermont@gmail.com. SpIN is a 501(c)3 non-profit; the paths, bridges, and signs are all maintained by volunteers, and supported by donations from community members.

Lincoln

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

NEWS

LINCOLN — Green Up Day will be held on Saturday, May 4. The Lincoln Conservation Commission will have a table at the firehouse from 8 a.m. to noon where you can pick up bags and gloves. You'll receive a raffle ticket for each bag you drop off at the firehouse during the 8-noon

time slot. Raffle prizes include gift cards for local businesses. The drawing will be at noon, so get an early start! There will be a special prize for the person or family that brings the most roadside trash.

There will be a dumpster at the firehouse from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. for Green Up trash only. Household

trash will not be accepted. Tires must obviously be ones that were found in ditches. Please collect returnable cans and bottles in a separate Green Up bag.

If you won't be in town on Saturday, you can do your trash pickup early and arrange with a neighbor to bring it to the firehouse

for you on Green Up Day. Please don't leave your full bags by the side of the road as there isn't a pickup service. Bags will be available starting Saturday, April 27, at the General Store, library, and town office, so you can get a head start. Every bag you fill makes Lincoln more beautiful and earns you more raffle tickets.

While you are at the firehouse for Green Up Day festivities, check out the volunteer fair from 10 a.m. to noon. Community organizations will have tables set up with information about who they are, what they do and how you can get involved. The hope is for this day to be a win-win for Green Up Day and raising awareness and volunteerism in the community.

Bring the kids for a community fun night outside at the Lincoln Church on Saturday, May 3, from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Enjoy roasting hot dogs and marshmallows and playing games. In case of rain, this event will be held indoors. Stop by for some fun family time. For questions, email ucol@gmavt.net attention CEB.

REMINDER

The Ladies Aid Industria spring rummage sale will be held at Burnham Hall on Thursday, May 2 from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m.; Friday, May 3, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Saturday, May 4, from 8 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Donations will be accepted on Wednesday, May 1, from 1 to 7 p.m.

Until next time ... It's A Good Day To Be Happy. Smile, Because Life Is Too Short To Be Unhappy. Create Your Own Kind Of Happy.

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Middlebury Union High School

Silas Taylor

Silas Taylor, the son of Anna Benvenuto and Jeffrey Taylor of Cornwall, is Middlebury Union High School's latest Student of the Week. His younger sister, Adelaide, is in eighth grade at MUMS. The family has two golden retrievers, Lucky and a puppy named Daphne. Silas states that he "loves school and is grateful to his teachers for their time and attention." He is excited about graduation but finds it hard to believe that his four years in high school are drawing to a close.

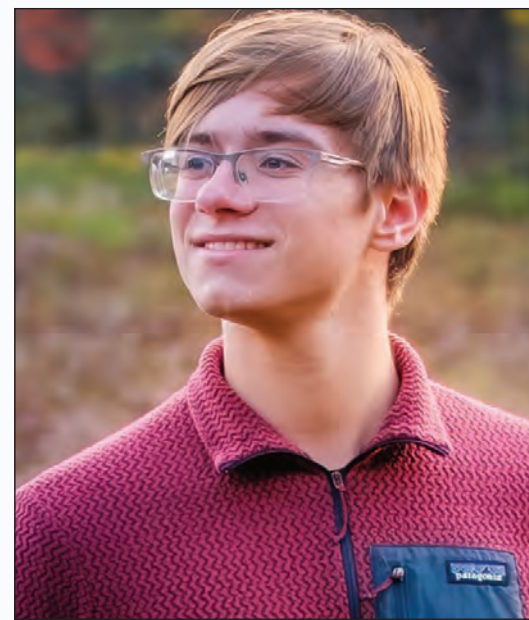
Silas has pursued the most challenging program available at MUHS. He has enjoyed the IB curriculum and said it has provided rigor and challenge and has prompted him to think more critically. Further, he believes it has firmed up his time management skills and that has allowed him to balance his academics with his extracurricular activities in a healthy way.

He has especially enjoyed his coursework in science and mathematics, and he thanks Mr. Harrington and Mr. Livesay for their engaging teaching style. Silas says all his teachers have been "amazing" and have promoted his love of learning. After high school, Silas plans to enroll at

Northeastern University, where he will pursue a degree in Mechanical and Biomedical Engineering. He will leave in mid-September to spend the fall term in Greece with other first-year students from Northeastern. He's excited about the opportunity to explore the Mediterranean and to immerse himself in a completely different culture.

Music and theater are two special interests for Silas. He's been active both on and off the stage in school productions. He credits Ms. LeBeau for her enthusiastic support and encouragement throughout his high school years. He played the role of the UPS driver in the senior musical, "Legally Blonde," and was the stage manager for "Frozen." Silas is also a member of the school choir. An avid skier, he coaches young skiers at the Middlebury Snow Bowl and helped resurrect the Middlebury UHS alpine ski team, competing in several races this winter while representing the Tigers. He's also an active member of the school's ski club and is a member of the varsity tennis team.

In a few short weeks Silas will graduate from MUHS. We know that a bright future awaits him and we wish him well.



Silas Taylor
MUHS

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Middlebury

Students of the Week from all area high schools are entered into a raffle to win a \$100 gift card to The Vermont Book Shop. The winner will be chosen at the end of the school year. Students of the Week are chosen by school teachers and administration

Best of luck to all Addison County students!

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

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CLASSIFIEDS

Public Meetings

AL-ANON OFFERS HELP and hope to anyone who has been affected by a loved one's drinking. Middlebury hosts an online meeting Sunday night 7:15pm and a face to face one Wednesday at 1:30pm at CVUUS (2 Duane Court Middlebury near the high school) that you can also access by Zoom. Visit 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://aaavt.org/> or call the 24 hour hotline at 802-802-AAVT (2288).

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

Public Meetings

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

Public Meetings

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

Services

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.

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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.

Free

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

Free

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.

Opportunities

BONSAI WORKSHOP - "Creating Living Sculpture with Trees". Sunday, June 2nd, Horsford Nursery's "Art in the Garden". Info at 978-263-8646 or twinviewbarn@gmail.com.

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.

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 contact Jennifer Murdoch at Community Associates/Counseling Service of Addison County. (802)388-4021

Help Wanted

Help Wanted ads can be found on Pages 9B and 10B.

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:
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14818 Route 116
Hinesburg, VT 05461

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

TOWN OF LINCOLN - OPEN POSITIONS

The Town of Lincoln is seeking qualified and motivated candidates for the following positions:

Highway Supervisor - An experienced leader who will shape our growing highway department to maintain road safety, ensure effective operations, and use tax dollars wisely. FT salary of up to \$76,000/yr. based on experience, plus competitive benefits.

Town Administrator - A thoughtful collaborator who will be responsible for planning, organizing, and coordinating the affairs of the town in support of the Selectboard. FT salary of up to \$87,000/yr. based on experience, plus competitive benefits.

Highway Maintenance Worker - A dedicated professional and CDL holder who can support our highway operations. We are willing to mentor and train. FT salary of up to \$62,000/yr. based on experience, plus competitive benefits.

Visit lincolnvermont.org/job for detailed position descriptions and information on how to apply.

Opportunities

Opportunities

Opportunities

Opportunities

Opportunities

Opportunities

Join RSVP's Summer Postcard Program

Write cheerful messages in the comfort of your own home and when finished, drop off the cards in the drop box at our office. We supply the cards. These cards will go to isolated and military/veteran individuals.

Interested in joining?
Call us at 802-379-9512!

AmeriCorps Seniors

EARLY HEAD START TODDLER TEACHER
OTTER CREEK CHILD CENTER - MIDDLEBURY

Head Start is a federally-funded, national child and family development program which provides comprehensive services for pregnant women, children from birth to age five, and their families. Services for children promote school readiness, and include early education, health, nutrition, mental health, and services for children with special needs. Services for parents promote family engagement, and include parent leadership and social service supports.

As an Early Head Start Toddler Teacher, you will serve as co-teacher in an outcomes-oriented, team environment, and provide safe, healthy, friendly, and developmentally appropriate environments and experiences for infants and toddlers. Motivated Head Start teachers improve the trajectory of children's lives, including children's learning outcomes, living standards, and later academic and professional success. If you want to make a difference in the lives of young children and their families, consider joining the Head Start community.

REQUIREMENTS: Bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education or related education field; Infant toddler specific education and experience that meets or exceeds the requirements for an Infant

Toddler CDA Credential; knowledge and experience in developmentally appropriate early childhood practice, child outcome assessment, child behavior management, and curriculum planning, development and implementation; a commitment to social justice and to working with families with limited financial resources; excellent verbal and written communication (bilingual abilities a plus!), documentation, and record-keeping skills; valid driver's license, clean driving record and access to reliable transportation; physical ability to carry out required tasks.

32 hours/week, 52 weeks/year.
Starting wage upon completion of 60-working day period: \$21.49-\$25.67/hour, depending on qualifications.
Health plan and excellent benefits.

Please submit cover letter, resume, and three work references to: hdstjobs@cvceo.org. No phone calls, please. CVCEO/Head Start is interested in candidates who can contribute to our diversity and excellence. Applicants are encouraged to include in their cover letter information about how they will further this goal.

CHAMPLAIN VALLEY Head Start **cvceo**

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MIDDLEBURY NEW FILMMAKERS FESTIVAL

The Middlebury New Filmmakers Festival [MNFF], celebrating its 10th Anniversary this year, is seeking a new Executive Director to guide the Festival into its second decade.

Our goal is to hire a new Executive Director by August 1 or sooner, with his/her/their duties commencing in September 2024, following an introduction at the Festival in late August. The MNFF is a highly successful and selective regional film festival buttressed by robust community support.

The position of **Executive Director** is a full-time, year-round job, with significant emphasis on the five-month period of peak responsibility between April 15 and September 15, during which time the Executive Director must be in residence in the greater Middlebury area. The ideal candidate for this position must have extensive experience managing or holding a leadership position in a non-profit arts or cultural organization (6 – 8 years); be able to juggle myriad organizing, scheduling and recruiting tasks; exhibit strong interpersonal skills for engaging the community, Festival sponsors and stakeholders; offer clear evidence of fundraising ability; and demonstrate a love and appreciation for films and the art of filmmaking.

For a more complete job description, salary range and a full list of duties, please visit <https://middfilmfest.org/employment-opportunities/>

Addison Independent **CLASSIFIED ORDER FORM**

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 - Public Meetings**
 - For Rent
 - Want to Rent
 - Wood Heat
 - Real Estate
 - Animals
 - Att. Farmers
 - Motorcycles
 - Cars
 - Trucks
 - SUVs
 - Snowmobiles
 - Boats
 - Wanted
 - Real Estate Wanted
 - Vacation Rentals
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- ** no charge for these ads Spotlight with large ✓ \$2

PLEASE PRINT YOUR AD...

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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.

RATES

DEADLINE: Monday at 5 p.m.

- 25¢ per word • minimum \$2.50 per ad
- \$2 internet listing for up to 4 issues • minimum 2 insertions

Addison Independent CLASSIFIEDS

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.

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GARDEN TILLING large and small. Brush Hogging, lawn mowing. Reasonable rates. Contact Wayne 802-382-7465.

For Rent

5,000 SQUARE FEET available. Exchange Street, Middlebury, VT. 802-349-8544.

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

For Rent

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.

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

LIGHT INDUSTRIAL/RETAIL. 1,250 sq.ft. Exchange Street, Middlebury. 802-388-4831.

MIDDLEBURY, OFF CAMPUS HOUSING available. 802-388-4831, AJ Neri Property Rentals.

For Rent

VERGENNES VALLEY VIEW APARTMENTS is currently taking wait list applications. Occupants must be 62+ years of age. No smoking/ No pets. Income limits apply - Rent based on income. Equal Housing Opportunity. 802-247-0165 TTY: 800-253-0191 www.SummitPMG.com.

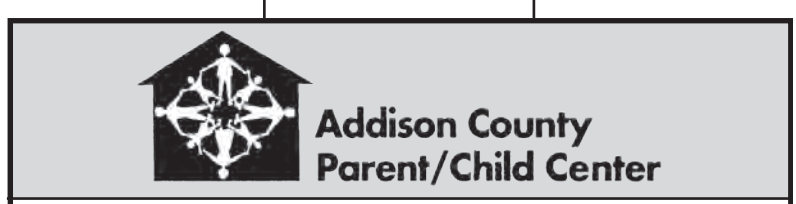
Help Wanted



4087 States Prison Hollow Rd. Monkton Ridge, VT 05469 • (802) 453-3562 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!

Help Wanted



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**

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

Wood Heat

DRY OR GREEN firewood for sale. Delivery available. 802-349-4212.


Att. Farmers

HORSE BLANKET WASH and repair. Accepting non-leather (for now) horsewear of all kinds for cleaning and repairing at my Weybridge location. Call or text Sue Miller at 802-377-5945 or email svdwmiller@icloud.com with "horse" in the subject line for more information.

WHITNEY'S CUSTOM FARM WORK Pond agitating, liquid manure hauling, drag line aerating. Call for price. 462-2755, John Whitney.

Wanted

BASKETBALL HOOP with movable stand. 10 feet high. Free or reasonable price. Call Paul 388-2812.



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.



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 or fill out an application at **Middlebury Agway, 338 Exchange Street, Middlebury VT.** **Please no phone calls.**
Middlebury Agway 338 Exchange St. - Middlebury, VT.



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**



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ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT



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Call 388-4944



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



GREAT WORK!
You found your dream job...
We're HIRING!
Marketing & Advertising Account Manager
Join us as we pursue excellence in local media!
The Addison Independent is hiring a dynamic individual with boundless creative energy and an optimistic desire to help local businesses.
A successful candidate would have:
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• A tenacious drive to support and grow sales.
• An outgoing personality eager to meet and help develop effective marketing plans for area businesses.
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• Exceptional organization skills and the capacity to help clients navigate the field of options effectively.
Full time position with great earning potential, a flexible schedule and room for self-direction, as well as the opportunity to join a cheerful, family-owned company in Middlebury.
If this is you, let Christy know!
Christy Lynn, Director of Sales
58 Maple St. Middlebury, VT 05753
christy@addisonindependent.com
ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT
Learn more about us at addisonindependent.com

Public Notices Index

Public Notices for the following can be found in this **ADDISON INDEPENDENT** on Pages 10B, 11B and 12B.

Addison County Courthouse (1)	Leicester (1)
Addison Northwest School District (2)	Middlebury (2)
Cornwall (1)	Monkton (1)
Cornwall Central Cemetery (1)	Naylor & Breen (1)
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (1)	New Haven (1)
Ferrisburgh (4)	Prospect Cemetery Association (1)
Hancock (2)	Salisbury (1)
Hannaford Career Center (1)	State of Vermont (1)
Lakeview Cemetery (1)	Vergennes (1)
	Vermont Agency of Transportation (1)

COMMUNITY CHILDREN'S CENTER EXPANSION PROJECT

REQUEST FOR BIDS FROM QUALIFIED SUBCONTRACTORS AND SUPPLIERS

Minority- and Women-Owned Businesses and Section 3 businesses are encouraged to bid.

On behalf of the Otter Creek Child Center, Naylor & Breen is requesting subcontractor proposals from qualified firms for the Community Children's Center Expansion Project. Located at 150 Weybridge Street in Middlebury, Vermont, the project involves all divisions of work for the renovations to the existing historic 5,500+/-s.f. structure, the construction of a new 14,000+/- sqft, 3-story addition, and associated site improvements including landscaping and parking. Construction is anticipated to start in August 2024. All bidders must be able to provide references upon request for similar size and type of project to demonstrate the bidder is qualified to perform or provide the work being bid. Contract security in a form acceptable to the Owner and Construction Manager may be required and potential bidders shall demonstrate the ability to provide such security. Contract security is also required for this bid package. The cost of such security shall be itemized separately on the bid form. Plans, specifications and bid packages will be made available for review and/or purchase on Monday, April 15th, 2024. Bidders may observe the site from the highway in preparation for their bid, however property access is not permitted. Bid submission deadline to Naylor & Breen: Tuesday, May 7th, 2024 at 2:00 PM. The project is tax-exempt. All proposals shall be sent electronically to mkrans@naylorbreen.com. Questions and proposals should be directed in writing to Miles Krans at mkrans@naylorbreen.com. Last day for questions is Friday, April 26th, at 5:00 p.m.

For Rent

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 as amended which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, national origin, sexual orientation, or persons receiving public assistance, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertisement for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination, call HUD Toll-free at 1-800-424-8590. For the Washington, DC area please call HUD at 426-3500.



Public Notices can be found in this
ADDISON INDEPENDENT on Pages 10B, 11B and 12B.

CORNWALL CENTRAL CEMETERY

Annual Meeting 7pm on Friday,
 May 10th at the Town Hall.
 For info call 802-324-9499.

TOWN OF HANCOCK REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Seeking bids for 775 linear feet of ditch work on Windigo Rd.
 Bidding information:
 hancockvt.org / 802-431-5158

SELL IT
 classifieds @ addisonindependent.com

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.

TOWN OF HANCOCK REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Seeking bids for the delivery of 1,000 cubic yards of Road Sand.
 Bidding information:
 hancockvt.org / 802-431-5158

TOWN OF MONKTON DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD VACANCY

The Town of Monkton is seeking applicants to fill a vacancy on the Development Review Board. Candidates should send a letter of interest to the Selectboard at Selectboard@monktonvt.com, speak to any member of the Selectboard, or call 802-452-3800. Candidates do not need to be Monkton residents. Applications accepted until May 7, 2024.

THE TOWN OF ADDISON AND THE CITY OF VERGENNES 2024 PUBLIC NOTICE HERBICIDE SPRAYING

The above-mentioned municipalities have requested from the Secretary of the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets a permit to apply the following herbicides: Oust Extra (Sulfometuron) and Rodeo (Glyphosate) to control unwanted vegetation along town and city owned highways. Selective spray operations will start approximately May 1st. The applications will be made by certified pesticide applicators using mechanically controlled equipment and hand control methods. Residents along the right-of-way are encouraged to protect sensitive environmental areas, organic farmland, and water supplies from spray. It is the resident's responsibility to notify the town of the existence of these situations adjacent to the town right-of-way. Citizens wishing to inform the town are urged to contact the contact person for their town or city as follows: Addison-Bryan Nolan 759-2570. Vergennes- Matt Crowley 877-3585

The appropriate place to contact with comments, other than the town is the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets, Agriculture Resource Management and Environmental Stewardship, 116 State Street, Montpelier, VT 05602, Telephone 802-828-2431. Their Web page that would describe the town's spray permit request can be found at www.VermontAgriculture.com.

TOWN OF FERRISBURGH NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT MAY 1ST, 2024

A public hearing before the Zoning Board of Adjustment of the Town of Ferrisburgh will be held at the Town Clerk's Office on Wednesday, May 1st, 2024, to consider the following:

7:00 PM Call to order and approval of minutes from the April 3rd meeting.

- Application No. 24-032 (Mr. D. Dolan) Waiver of Lot Frontage Requirement; property ID#: 14/02/48; 328 Old Hollow Road; North Ferrisburgh Village District (NFVD) district**
- Application No. 24-033 (Mr. W. Wilson) Home Addition; property ID#: 21/20/07;493 Mile Point Road; Shoreland (SD-2) district; conditional use**
- Application No. 24-033 (Mr. Todd Hardie) Expansion of Current Conditional Use - Champlain Valley Grain Center; 114 Park Lane; Industrial (IND-2) district; conditional use**

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

TOWN OF FERRISBURGH REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Town of Ferrisburgh, Vermont is soliciting bids for the purchase of the former Ferrisburgh Center Methodist Church on Route 7 immediately north of the Ferrisburgh Town Hall. Proposals will be evaluated based on three areas: community benefits from the proposed use, historic preservation commitments by the proposed user, and price to be paid to the Town of Ferrisburgh.

Substantial data has been collected on the property and is available during normal business hours at the Ferrisburgh Town Hall. Interested parties can see the interior of the church by appointment through Michael (Red) Muir, Chair, Buildings and Maintenance Committee, at 1-802-338-2946.

Proposals are due in the Ferrisburgh Town Hall by 4 PM May 3, 2024. Questions regarding proposal submission may be directed to Town Clerk Pam Cousino at 802-877-3429.

If a proposal is accepted by the Town, then the proposed conveyance will be subject to the provisions of 24 V.S.A. § 1061, including public notice and potential voter approval.

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 15th, 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. 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.

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

TOWN OF FERRISBURGH, VERMONT NOTICE APRIL 16, 2024

The legal voters of the Town of Ferrisburgh, Vermont are hereby NOTIFIED and WARNED that the Ferrisburgh Select Board intends to sell the former Methodist Church located at 3323 US Route 7, Ferrisburgh.

State law requires the Selectboard to give notice of the terms of any proposed conveyance by three public postings and notice in the newspaper at least 30 days prior to the date of the proposed conveyance. The conveyance will be made unless a petition signed by five percent of the legal voters of the town is presented to the Town Clerk within 30 days of the date of this notice. If a petition is received, the question of whether the town shall convey the real estate shall be considered at a special town meeting called for that purpose.

Dated at Ferrisburgh, Vermont this 16th day of April, 2024.

TOWN OF LEICESTER NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING PRELIMINARY PLAN APPLICATION

The Leicester Development Review Board will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, May 14, 2024, at the Leicester Town Office at 6:00 p.m. to consider the following applications:

(03-24 DRB), Jane L. Dessureault Family Trust, Section 6.1.1 Preliminary Plan Application for a nine lot sub-division of a 123.7 acre parcel of land at the intersection of Shackett and Fern Lake Roads in Leicester, VT in accordance with the Leicester Unified Regulations. Parcel ID #030032.01, Rural Agricultural (RA) District, submitted by Barnard & Gervais, LLC, dated February 28, 2024.

Applications are available for inspection at the Town Clerk's Office, 44 Schoolhouse Rd., Leicester, VT during regularly scheduled hours.

Participation in this proceeding is a prerequisite to the right to take any subsequent appeal.

Jeff McDonough
 DRB Chairman
 03/ 21 /2024

REACH THE COUNTY, PLACE YOUR AD HERE. CALL 388-4944

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, Panton, 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
Panton	7:00 A.M. - 7:00 P.M.	Panton 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

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.

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.

TOWN OF SALISBURY PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Salisbury Development Review Board (DRB) will hold Public Hearings in the Town Office (25 Schoolhouse Road) at 6:00 PM on Wednesday, May 15, 2024, to consider the following:

Application 2024-05

This proceeding involves review of an application for a Waiver submitted by Property Owner and Applicants, Jeffrey & Lynn Scornavacca, (Parcel ID #1504181-G), located at 740 West Shore Road, in connection with a proposed permit to construct a 12ft x 11ft addition with two sets of stairs to a preexisting non-conforming residential structure located at the above referenced location. This property is located within the Lake Shore District 2 (LS2) District. This application requires DRB approval under §2.4.4E of the Salisbury Uniform Development Regulations.

This application is pursuant to §2.4.4 D & E, §3.71-§3.7.5, and §4.0.5, of the Salisbury Unified Development Regulations.

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

These hearings will be conducted with in-person and remote access. Those wishing to participate remotely must obtain the necessary remote access codes. Access codes (for on-line or phone) are available by contacting the Salisbury Town Clerk during regular business hours prior to 3:00 PM on May 14, 2024. The Salisbury Town Office is open on Tuesdays from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM and Thursdays from 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM.

Application materials are available for inspection in the Town Office during regular business hours.

Anna Scheck
 DRB Clerk

TOWN OF FERRISBURGH, VERMONT NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE REGULATING LIVESTOCK RUNNING AT LARGE

On April 16, 2024, the Ferrisburgh Selectboard adopted an Ordinance Regulating Livestock Running at Large. This ordinance is adopted to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the Town of Ferrisburgh.

This Ordinance will take effect on June 15, 2024, unless a petition for a vote at a special meeting on the question of disapproving the Ordinance, signed by not less than 5 percent of the qualified voters of Ferrisburgh, is presented to the Selectboard or the Clerk of the municipality within 44 days of the date of the adoption, all in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §1973.

Any question relating to the adoption of this Ordinance may be directed toward Pam Cousino, Town Clerk, Town of Ferrisburgh, 3279 Route 7, Ferrisburgh, VT 05456 (802-877-3429) or townclerk@ferrisburghvt.org.

The purpose and authority of the Ordinance Regulating Livestock Running at Large can be found below. The full text of the Ordinance may be examined at the Ferrisburgh Town Offices, Monday-Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., or on the Ferrisburgh Town website www.ferrisburghvt.org.

TOWN OF FERRISBURGH, VERMONT ORDINANCE REGULATING LIVESTOCK RUNNING AT LARGE 1. Purpose and Authority

The Selectboard of the Town of Ferrisburgh finds that Livestock Running at Large causes damage to private property and presents a significant danger to motorists traveling on Town and State highways. Livestock Running at Large may also transmit communicable diseases to Livestock that is properly fenced and contained. Accordingly, the Ferrisburgh Selectboard finds Livestock Running at Large in the Town of Ferrisburgh to be a public nuisance.

The purpose of this Ordinance is to abate and remove this public nuisance by establishing reasonable regulations for impoundment of Livestock Running at Large and to thereby protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public and the quiet enjoyment of Ferrisburgh residents' homes and property. This Ordinance is adopted by the Ferrisburgh Selectboard under the authority of 24 V.S.A. §2291(14) and (15). This Ordinance shall constitute a civil ordinance within the meaning of 24 V.S.A. Chapter 59.

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).

Rule 3.300 Disconnection of Residential Gas, Electric, and Water Service.

Vermont Proposed Rule: 24P016

AGENCY: Public Utility Commission

CONCISE SUMMARY: The proposed amendments bring the Public Utility Commission's disconnection rules into alignment with Act 47 to allow for remote disconnections and require utilities to contact owners of rental properties when conducting a disconnection. Disconnections governed by this rule relate to the non-voluntary termination of utility service because of delinquency or non-payment. The rule amendments also modernize the disconnection notification process by allowing utilities to contact affected customers with SMS text messages and emails instead of only telephone calls.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT: Daniel C. Burke, Esq., Vermont Public Utility Commission 112 State Street, 4th Floor, Montpelier, VT 05602 Tel: 802-828-1173 Fax: 802-828-3352 Email: dan.burke@vermont.gov URL: <https://epuc.vermont.gov/?q=node/64/127248>.

FOR COPIES: Ann Bishop, Vermont Public Utility Commission 112 State Street, 4th Floor, Montpelier, VT 05602 Tel: 802-828-2358 Fax: 802-828-3352 Email: ann.bishop@vermont.gov.

Rule 3.400 Disconnection of Cable Television Service and Non-Residential Electric, Gas, and Water Service.

Vermont Proposed Rule: 24P017

AGENCY: Public Utility Commission

CONCISE SUMMARY: The proposed amendments bring the Public Utility Commission's disconnection rules into alignment with Act 47 to allow for remote disconnections and require utilities to contact owners of rental properties when conducting a disconnection. Disconnections governed by this rule relate to the non-voluntary termination of utility service because of delinquency or non-payment. The rule amendments also modernize the disconnection notification process by allowing utilities to contact affected customers with SMS text messages and emails instead of only telephone calls.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT: Daniel C. Burke, Esq., Vermont Public Utility Commission 112 State Street, 4th Floor, Montpelier, VT 05602 Tel: 802-828-1173 Fax: 802-828-3352 Email: dan.burke@vermont.gov URL: <https://epuc.vermont.gov/?q=node/64/127248>.

FOR COPIES: Ann Bishop, Vermont Public Utility Commission 112 State Street, 4th Floor, Montpelier, VT 05602 Tel: 802-828-2358 Fax: 802-828-3352 Email: ann.bishop@vermont.gov.

Public Notices

can be found in this
ADDISON INDEPENDENT on Pages 10B, 11B and 12B.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS TOWN OF MIDDLEBURY MIDDLEBURY, VERMONT HALLADAY ROAD CULVERT REPLACEMENT

General Notice

Town of Middlebury (Owner) is requesting Bids for the construction of the following Project:
Halladay Road Culvert Replacement
 Bids for the construction of the Project will be received at the **Middlebury Department of Public Works located at 1020 Route 7 South, Middlebury, VT 05753 until 2:00 P.M. local time on Monday May 13, 2024.** At that time the Bids received will be publicly opened and read.
 The Project includes the following Work:
The replacement of an existing 5-foot corrugated metal culvert with a precast concrete box culvert with internal dimensions of 6-foot wide by 5-foot tall and 39-foot long. The installation of this culvert will also require realignment of an existing sewer force main and gravity sewer system within the project limits and all associated appurtenances.

Bids are requested for the following Contract: **Halladay Road Culvert Replacement**
 The Issuing Office for the Bidding Documents is: **Otter Creek Engineering, Inc. located at 404 East Main Street, East Middlebury, VT 05740**

Prospective Bidders may examine the Bidding Documents at the Issuing Office on Mondays through Fridays between the hours of 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Please call the Issuing Office to make an appointment. Bidders may obtain copies of the Bidding Documents from the Issuing Office as described below. Bidding Documents also may be examined at Otter Creek Engineering, Inc., 110 Merchants Row, 4th Floor, Suite 15, by appointment only; contact the Issuing Office to schedule a viewing. Electronic copies of the Bidding Documents may be obtained from the issuing office by paying \$100.00. Printed copies of the Bidding Documents may be obtained from the Issuing Office upon request by paying \$150 for each set by mail. Make checks for Bidding Documents payable to "Otter Creek Engineering, Inc." mailing address: P.O. Box 712, East Middlebury, VT 05740.

Bidding Documents may be purchased from the Issuing Office during the hours indicated above. The date that the Bidding Documents are transmitted by the Issuing Office will be considered the Bidder's date of receipt of the Bidding Documents. Partial sets of Bidding Documents will not be available from the Issuing Office. Neither Owner nor Engineer will be responsible for full or partial sets of Bidding Documents, including Addenda if any, obtained from sources other than the Issuing Office. **Neither Owner nor Engineer will be responsible for issuing Addenda if any, to parties obtaining Bidding Documents from sources other than the Issuing Office.**

Pre-bid Conference

A pre-bid conference for the Project will be held on **Wednesday, May 1, 2024 at 2:00 P.M. Local time at the Middlebury Department of Public Works located at 1020 US Route 7 South, Middlebury, VT 05753.** Attendance at the pre-bid conference is encouraged but not required.

ANWSD BOARD MEETING NOTICES FOR MAY 2024

Monday, May 13	4:50 PM	Facilities Committee Meeting VUMHS Library
	6:00 PM	ANWSD Board Meeting VUMHS Library
Wednesday, May 15	5:30 PM	Community Engagement Committee Meeting VUMHS Library
Monday, May 20	3:50 PM	Policy Committee Meeting VUMHS Library
	4:50 PM	Finance Committee Meeting VUMHS Library
	6:00 PM	ANWSD Board Meeting VUMHS Library

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

County teachers graduate from leadership institute

ADDISON COUNTY — Seven local childcare providers graduated from the Snelling Center for Government's Early Childhood Leadership Institute. The Class of 2024 celebrated with family members, colleagues, and friends in attendance at graduation on April 13, 2024 at Burke

Mountain Resort. Those who graduated include: Vergennes' Evergreen Preschool director Ashley Bessette of New Haven, Hinesburg's First Roots-Wild Roots director Maeg Booska of Bristol, Shelburne's Heartworks director Tara Brooks of Vergennes, Middlebury's Red Clover founding director Tessa Dearborn of Starksboro. Middlebury's Mary Johnson Children's Center director Kristen Dunne of Benson, Orwell's Mary Johnson Children's Center site director Brianna Heller of Fair Haven and Middlebury's Aurora Preschool director Susan Vigne. The seven joined 21 other leaders from around the state for a unique series of six overnight sessions designed to foster meaningful relationships and explore some of the most important issues facing early childhood care and education in Vermont. With session themes including personal leadership adaptation, complex systems thinking, public policy



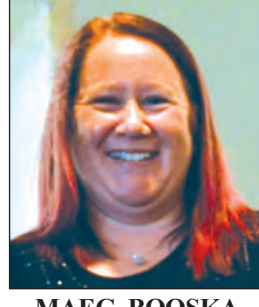
BRIANNA HELLER



ASHLEY BESSETTE



KRISTEN DUNNE



MAEG BOOSKA



SUSAN VIGNE



TARA BROOKS

and advocacy, and use of data, the program challenges and supports participants to develop self-awareness and acquire knowledge and skills that result in strong, effective leadership and thoughtful action.



TESSA DEARBORN

With graduation as the culmination of the ECLI journey, this year's keynote address was delivered by Jubilee

McGill, legislator from Addison County. McGill reflected on the landscape of early childhood care in Vermont and the importance of this profession and leadership in the field. She thanked the cohort for their work and leadership.

The class of 2024 is the 6th graduating class and the group now joins a professional network of over 1,000 Vermont Leadership Network Alumni, including more than 150 ECLI graduates who are positively influencing Vermont's future for children and families.

FULL PASSPORT SERVICE

The Addison County Clerk located in the **Frank Mahady Courthouse in Middlebury** is available to accept passport applications and provide passport photos.
REGULAR HOURS
 Monday - 8:30am to 4:00pm
 Tuesday - 9:00am to 12:30pm
 Wednesday - **Closed**
 Thursday - 12:30pm to 4:00pm
 Friday - 9:00am to 12:30pm
APPOINTMENTS REQUIRED
 For appointment, go to www.addisoncountyclerkvt.com or call 802-388-1966.

INVITATION TO BID CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICES

The Patricia A. Hannaford Regional Technical School District of Middlebury, Vermont, wishes to contract for Cleaning, Painting and Epoxy Flooring Finish for several areas at its Main Campus, 51 Charles Ave, Middlebury VT.
 Details may be obtained by contacting Rebecca Goulet at 802-802-382-1050 / 802-233-7466 or by email at rgoulet@pahcc.org.
 A pre-bid walk will happen on Monday April 29, 2024 at 1:00pm.
 Bids are due by May 8, 2024 at 2:00pm to rgoulet@pahcc.org
 EOE

TOWN OF NEW HAVEN REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

78 North Street, New Haven, VT 05472

The Town of New Haven is seeking the services of a qualified consultant to create/update the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan for the Town of New Haven. A formal bid RFP will be posted on the Town's website at www.newhavenvt.com. Proposals will be due no later than 3:00 PM on May 8, 2024. Proposals can be sent via email at newhaventownclerk@gmavt.net. Hard copies can be mailed to: The New Haven Town Clerk, 78 North St., New Haven, VT. 05472. The Town of New Haven, VT reserves the right to reject any or all responses. The Town of New Haven is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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 FEROnlineSupport@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.

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

MARKET REPORT ADDISON COUNTY COMMISSION SALES

RT. 125 • EAST MIDDLEBURY, VT
 Sales for 4/18/24 & 4/22/24

		COST		
BEEF	LBS.	/LB	\$	
Woodnotch	1480	1.60	(#)	\$2368.00
Nea-Tocht	1655	1.51	(#)	\$2499.05
Nop Bros	1380	1.40	(#)	\$1932.00
Vorsteveld	1780	1.22		\$2171.60
Sunderland	820	1.17		\$2129.40
Gosluga Farm	1815	1.15		\$2087.25
Blue Spruce	1750	1.05		\$1837.50

		COST		
CALVES	LBS.	/LB	\$	
A. Brisson	88	10.00		\$880.00
Sunderland	98	9.30		\$911.40
Ethan Allen	93	9.25		\$860.25
Barnes Bros.	87	9.00		\$783.00
Vorsteveld	100	8.00		\$800.00

Total Beef - 137 Total Calves - 161
 We value our faithful customers.
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SATURDAY MAY 11TH - 10 AM
 HELD AT
ADDISON COUNTY COMMISSION SALES BARN
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www.acscattle.com



Auction

Wednesday, May 1, 2024 11:00 AM

Complete Dispersal Simplicity Farm
905 Main St. (Rte. 100), Waitsfield, Vt. 05673

Krone F-130 Bellima round baler with net wrap, Kuhn DC243TG disc mower, Gehl 865 chopper with 2 corn heads, Badger BN1050 forage wagon, 2 Gehl 980 forage wagons (1 needs work), 2 Gehl Hi-Throw blowers, NH 256 rake, NH 165 manure spreader 4 years old, Kverneland 4 bottom plows, MF 520 disc harrows 10", JD spring tooth harrows, AC 4 row cultivator, 4 wheel round bale wagon, skid steer hitch bale grabber, 3ph seeder, Brillion 10' seeder with wheels, 1983 Int farm dump truck, 2 round bale feeders, 16' Jamesway Volumatic ring drive silo unloader, Jamesway 16' surface drive silo unloader, Jamesway CCW gutter cleaner, Patz CW gutter cleaner, gutter grates for 40 cows, 40+ rubber mats 5 years old, Surge pipeline milker with 9 units-washer-sink, tankless propane water heater, variable speed vac pump with computer controls, milk house signs, old grain bin, 4" trash pump, 40+ water bowls, wall fans, 2 large floor fans, barn tools, wheelbarrows, carts, 700 fence post, fencing supplies, MVE XC20 semen tank, breeding kit, molasses tank & hose, neck chains & collars, dehorners, calf jackets, 2 chainsaws, tool boxes, new tractor seat, old sled, snow shoes, antique tools, old cupboard, plus many more items.

Terms: Cash or Good Check Sale Day
No Buyer's Premium Lunch

Owners: Joe & Brandi Turner
 Auctioneers: Lussier Auction Service Lyndonville, Vt.
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www.lussierauction.com for pictures & mailing list

ARTS & LEISURE

The Addison In

April 25, 2024



Quebecois trio Genticorum performs at Burnham Hall in Lincoln on Saturday, May 4, showcasing their acclaimed traditional music prowess. This event marks the final concert of the series until September.

PHOTO / DYLAN LADDS

BURNHAM PRESENTS WRAPS UP INAUGURAL SEASON WITH QUEBECOIS TRIO GENTICORUM

What can you expect from nine live performances over nine months at the intimate Burnham Hall in Lincoln? "Full houses and amazing music," said organizer Beth Duquette, who together with her partner Mark Mulqueen launched the new music series Burnham Presents last September.

BY **ELSIE LYNN PARINI**

"It's been so gratifying," Duquette summed up. "I don't take any of this for granted and am just so happy people keep coming back to experience the music and be with their friends. Many of our performers are completely new

to people, but I think the audience trusts that they are going to hear something that's fun but also performed at a high level. I'm glad they are taking a chance with us."

The series began with Bon Débarras, followed by Caitlin Canty (Oct. 7), The Ladles (Nov. 4), The Vermont Mandolin Trio (Dec. 2), Freeway Clyde (Jan. 6), March Lights (Feb. 10), Larry & Joe (March 2) and Rani Arbor & daisy mayhem (April 4). The final concert of the series will be held on Saturday, May 4, featuring the award-winning Quebecois trio Genticorum.

With nominations for Juno and ADISQ awards, as well as five Canadian Folk Music Awards, Genticorum stands out as one of the premier groups in Quebec's traditional music scene. The trio skillfully intertwines intricate fiddle,

flute and accordion melodies with beautiful vocal harmonies, subtle guitar tones, and lively foot percussion. The joy that these musicians derive from creating and performing together is palpable, both in the studio and on the stage.

Yes, this will be the last concert for this first season, but don't fret. Duquette assures us that this won't be the final concert for Burnham Presents.

"The series will return in September with a full season lineup of great new music," she said. "The upcoming roster of artists will be announced sometime in late June."

"I love Burnham Hall," said Mulqueen, who

SEE MUSIC ON PAGE 2

MUSIC

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

engineers the sound and helps organize the series and with Duquette as well as the Burnham Foundation.

"The Burnham committee has been so supportive, and they've really worked to make it a great place to bring audiences and musicians together. The people in Lincoln and beyond have welcomed the series and it's fun to be able to do this right where we live."

"We have a great core of volunteers and everyone is instrumental in creating a warm and welcoming environment for our artists and audience," Duquette noted.

And musicians agree:

"We consider ourselves fortunate to have this gem of a listening room in our state," said Will Patton of the Vermont Mandolin Trio. "It's the closest thing to playing in your living room with a 100 or so of your best friends. This season has been remarkable for the breadth and high quality of the performers. Vermont is richer culturally for Burnham Presents at Burnham Hall."

"Burnham Presents is the Lincoln Center of center Lincoln!" praised Michael Chorney, Tony Award-winning composer and bandleader of Freeway Clyde. "First class sound, hospitality and promotion leads to a first class audience of eager attentive listeners. I have lived here more than 30 years and to have such an exceptional series developed here in our little town by Beth and Mark is the essence of a thriving community."

"What an extraordinary weekend," commented Rani Arbo of Rani Arbo & daisy mayhem. "It felt like such a gift to play for your community, and Burnham Hall felt so deeply like a community, so

"BURNHAM PRESENTS IS THE LINCOLN CENTER OF CENTER LINCOLN! **FIRST CLASS SOUND, HOSPITALITY AND PROMOTION LEADS TO A FIRST CLASS AUDIENCE OF EAGER ATTENTIVE LISTENERS** ... TO HAVE SUCH AN EXCEPTIONAL SERIES DEVELOPED HERE IN OUR LITTLE TOWN BY BETH AND MARK IS THE ESSENCE OF A THRIVING COMMUNITY."

— Michael Chorney



The first year of the Burnham Presents monthly music series in Lincoln will conclude on Saturday, May 4, with Quebecois trio Genticorum. The series will be back in September for a second season... stay tuned!

PHOTO / DYLAN LADDS

alive and together."

Simply put, "It's a gift to be able to do this in our hometown," said Duquette.

She and Mulqueen are working now to fill the calendar for the second season, which will begin on Saturday, Sept. 7, and continue through May on the first Saturday of the month at Burnham Hall in Lincoln.

But let's not get too far ahead of ourselves. First, let's conclude this first season of Burnham Presents with a packed house for Genticorum on May 4. The doors will open at 7 p.m., with music starting at 7:30 p.m. Genticorum will play two sets. Homemade refreshments will be available. Admission is \$15 for general, \$20 for preferred seating, and \$25 for VIP. Tickets and additional details can be found at burnhampresents.org. For more information about Genticorum, visit genticorum.com.

"A charming and heartfelt homage to Cindy Pierce's parents"

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A Solo Show

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Town Hall Theater
Middlebury, Vt.

Saturday
April 27 at 7 PM

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cindy-pierce.com



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Performance fuels fundraising efforts for Vergennes Opera House

PROCEEDS FROM KRUGER BROTHERS CONCERT TO BENEFIT THE "ALL ACCESS PROJECT" ON ON FRIDAY, MAY 3

Get ready for an electrifying night as The Kruger Brothers make their Addison County debut. Catch them live on Friday, May 3, at 7:30 p.m., at the historic Vergennes Opera House. This performance marks the finale of the theater's 2023-2024 season.

Well over a year ago, when the Friends of the Vergennes Opera House (FVOH) Programming Team was mapping out the 2023-2024 season, they received a very generous offer. An anonymous donor, approached the FVOH and offered to donate the Kruger Brothers Concert for the 2023-2024 season in order to help raise funds for the non-profit's All Access Project.

"When this offer came to us, I was blown away and moved to tears," said Gerianne Smart, President of the FVOH. "This is generosity beyond measure where two people wanted to simultaneously gift the community with the opportunity to hear the Kruger Brothers, but also wanting to significantly contribute to the fundraising effort of our \$1.6M All Access Project."

"We heard the Kruger Brothers play several years ago and several times over the years and we thought it would be wonderful to bring them to Vergennes," said the anonymous donor. "We not only wanted people to hear their incredible music and musicianship, but we wanted the Kruger Brothers themselves to experience the acoustic richness of the Vergennes Opera House and the warmth of the little city of Vergennes. It does our heart good to know that 100% of the proceeds go directly toward the All Access Project."

Brothers Jens and Uwe Kruger were born and raised in a family in Switzerland where music was an important part of life. They started singing and playing instruments at a very young age and were exposed to a wide diversity of musical influences. By the time the brothers were eleven and twelve years old, they were performing regularly and in 1979 they began their professional career. Jens' and Uwe's first public performances were as a duo, and in



Head to the Vergennes Opera House on Friday, May 3, for the final show in the 2023-2024 season. The Kruger Brothers will take the stage to raise funds for the Vergennes Opera House's All Access Project.

COURTESY PHOTO

SEE BROTHERS ON PAGE 8

Experience the whimsy and depth of 'Orlando' at Wright Memorial Theater

The Middlebury College Department of Theatre will present "Orlando," Sarah Ruhl's adaptation of Virginia Woolf's famous novel, directed by Cláudio Medeiros, on May 2, 3 and 4.

Orlando, a wealthy young English nobleman, joins the court of Queen Elizabeth I as her lover.

However, quickly tired of the pleasures of court life, Orlando embarks on a journey to discover himself as a poet and lover. While in Constantinople, he falls asleep for an entire week and wakes up as a woman. Her new gender demands a new relationship with society. Her quest for happiness is far from over. Across five centuries, Orlando attempts to sort out her existence and find the true meaning of her magnificent life.

Woolf wrote "Orlando" as a tribute to her lesbian lover, Vita Sackville-West, who was the inspiration for the title character. Described as "the longest and most charming love letter in literature," the novel is a delightful, poignant, and often hilarious examination of



The Middlebury College Department of Theatre will present "Orlando," Sarah Ruhl's adaptation of Virginia Woolf's famous novel, directed by Cláudio Medeiros, on May 2, 3 and 4, at 7:30 p.m., in Wright Memorial Theater. Pictured: Lisandra Tusen, Ryan Ulen, Cole Newman, Elsa Marrian, Zeph Santiago, Norah Santoni de Castro, Jamie Schwartz, and Arthur Lyu

PHOTO / COURTNEY SMITH

the timelessness and complexity of gender, and the fluidity of gender preferences. Sarah

Ruhl deftly maintains the joyful and whimsical nature of the novel, while giving appropriate weight to its deeper moments. "Orlando" was first produced at Classic Stage Company in 2010. Since then, Ruhl's adaptation has been produced around the world. It is currently playing at Signature Theatre in New York City.

"Orlando" will be performed on Thursday, May 2, Friday, May 3 and Saturday, May 4 at 7:30 p.m., in Wright Memorial Theatre in Middlebury. Join a lively post-show talk back and discussion following the Friday evening performance. The performance runs approximately 130 minutes with an intermission.

Tickets are \$15 for the general public; \$10 for Middlebury College faculty, staff, alumni, emeriti, and other ID card holders; \$8 for youth under 21 from the general public; and \$5 for Middlebury College students. For tickets or information, call 802-443-MIDD (6433) or visit middlebury.edu/college/box-office. Wright Memorial Theatre is located at 96 Chateau Road in Middlebury, with free parking available just off Shannon Street.

'The Janes' takes center stage at Middlebury's Town Hall Theater

Experience "The Janes," a captivating documentary by directors Emma Pildes and Tia Lessin, premiering in Vermont at the Town Hall Theater in Middlebury on Thursday, May 9, at 7 p.m. This timely film delves into the clandestine world of a group of women who risked everything to provide safe and affordable abortions in the face of legal and societal opposition. Don't miss the chance to engage with Pildes during a live Zoom Q&A session following the screening.

In the spring of 1972, police raided an apartment on the South Side of Chicago where seven women who were part of a clandestine network were arrested and charged. Using code names, fronts, and safe houses to protect themselves and their work, the accused had built an underground service for women seeking safe, affordable, illegal abortions. They called themselves Jane.

Directed by Oscar nominee Tia Lessin and Emmy nominee Emma Pildes, "The Janes" offers first-hand accounts from the women at the center of the group, many speaking on the record for the first time. The Janes tells the story of a group of unlikely outlaws. Defying the state legislature that outlawed abortion, the Catholic Church that condemned it, and the Chicago Mob that was profiting from it, the members of Jane risked it all to save women's lives. Before the Roe v. Wade ruling — a time



See the Vermont premiere of "The Janes" at Town Hall Theater in Middlebury, featuring a live Q&A with director Emma Pildes on Thursday, May 9, at 7 p.m.

COURTESY PHOTO

when abortion was a crime in most states and even circulating information about abortion was a felony in Illinois — the Janes provided low-cost and free abortions to an estimated 11,000 women.

In the wake of the recent Arizona Supreme Court ruling resurrecting an 1864 edict promulgating a near-total ban on abortion as

the current law of the state, it would be hard to overestimate the timeliness of this film.

This is the final film in the Middlebury New Filmmakers Festival Selects series, which ran October 2023 through May 2024. Tickets for Thursday's screening are \$14 in advance, \$16 day of, and are available at townhalltheater.org. For more information visit the middfilmfest.org.

ART ON EXHIBIT

ART ON MAIN

25 Main Street, Bristol

For more info visit 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 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 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, call (802) 458-0098 or email 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, call (802) 989.7419 or email 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 14



ARIES: March 21/April 20. Aries, your friends have stepped up to support you, and it is time to get together and enjoy one another's company. Think about an activity that everyone can get behind.

TAURUS: April 21/May 21. Taurus, the people around you may work more slowly than you, so you will likely need to be patient this week while working on a particular project. Eventually things will work out.

GEMINI: May 22/June 21. Gemini, exercise caution when dealing with people who promise big returns on your investments right now. Avoid financial dealings with anyone you have not fully vetted.

CANCER: June 22/July 22. Cancer, some people around you would like to use flattery to get you to do what they want. However, you are too savvy to fall for people who may be guiding you in the wrong direction.

LEO: July 23/Aug. 23. Loved ones and friends in your life deserve your time and energy right now, Leo. Figure out a way to cut down on hours spent on the job this week.

VIRGO: Aug. 24/Sept. 22. Virgo, things going on in your life right now may be a bit more confusing than you anticipated. It can be stressful, but with some assistance from others you will get through the situation.

LIBRA: Sept. 23/Oct. 23. Someone in your life who has not always been on your side has been changing his or her ways lately, Libra. You may want to reevaluate the relationship soon.

SCORPIO: Oct. 24/Nov. 22. Scorpio, you have been working hard to avoid conflict with someone close to you, but it could start to feel like more effort than you can care to keep up.

SAGITTARIUS: Nov. 23/Dec. 21. An interesting travel opportunity is coming your way, Sagittarius. When the news arrives, take advantage of it and start planning your itinerary.

CAPRICORN: Dec. 22/Jan. 20. Capricorn, is your schedule flexible right now? Try to rearrange things to take advantage of some last-minute recreational opportunities. You deserve to have more fun.

AQUARIUS: Jan. 21/Feb. 18. Aquarius, you may be feeling moody and introspective right now. Take time to evaluate your dreams and the thoughts going through your head. There may be common threads.

PISCES: Feb. 19/March 20. Don't let some ambiguous feedback adversely affect your mood, Pisces. You will never be able to please everyone, so focus on those people who are on your side.

Celebrate Local Yarn Store Day April 27th - Big Sales and more!

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Fri 11-7pm, Sat 10am-5pm
Sun 12-4pm
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FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

APRIL 26 — Ma Rainey, musician (d)
APRIL 27 — Lizzo, musician (36)
APRIL 28 — Terry Pratchett, novelist (d)

APRIL 29 — Daniel Day Lewis, actor (67)
APRIL 30 — Willie Nelson, musician (91)
MAY 1 — Wes Anderson, film director (55)
MAY 2 — David Beckham, soccer player (49)

CALENDAR

APRIL 25-MAY 7
2024



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.

STORYTELLING SLAM WORKSHOP IN VERGENNES. Thursday, April 25, 5:30-7 p.m., Bixby Memorial Library. Need a little help crafting your story? Don't even know where to start? Come and workshop a five-minute tale with storytelling teacher and local legend Chris Wyckoff, who will instruct us on what makes a good story and how to take that story from your mind to the stage.

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 provide 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.

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE CHOIR CONCERT IN MIDDLEBURY. Friday, April 26, 7:30-9:30 p.m., Robison Hall, Mahaney Arts Center, 72 Porter Field Rd. Free. More info at middlebury.edu/events/event/college-choir-concert-0.

MIDDLEBURY COMMUNITY WIND ENSEMBLE: FROM BATMAN TO BACH IN BRISTOL. Friday, April 26, 7:30 p.m., Mt. Abraham Union High School, Airport Dr. The ensemble's spring concert combines works for the full 40-musician band, and features its brass, woodwind and percussion sections as separate ensembles within the whole. The program includes music inspired by both hobbits and Batman, with "The Lord of The Rings" and an arrangement from "The Dark Night Rises" alongside popular Classical pieces and a rousing finale with P.D.Q. Bach's "Grand Serenade for an Awful Lot of Winds and Percussion." Free.

SATURDAY, APRIL 27

GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB BIRD WALK

IN ADDISON. Saturday, April 27, 7 a.m., *RESCHEDULED TO MAY 4*, Dead Creek Wildlife Management Area. More at gmcbreadloaf.org.

WORLD TAI CHI AND QIGONG DAY IN BRISTOL. Saturday, April 27, 9:30 a.m.-noon, Holley Hall, 1 South St. Celebrate our local Tai Chi forms, demonstrate and practice your form. Learn about other forms, styles and practices. Sun, Yang 24, Tung Family, Cheng Man-Ch'ing Qigong and more. More info contact Jerry at skyrivertaichi.com.

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. Repeats on Sunday.

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.

MIDDLEBURY COMMUNITY WIND ENSEMBLE: FROM BATMAN TO BACH IN MIDDLEBURY. Saturday, April 27, 7:30 p.m., Robison Hall, Mahaney Arts Center, Porter Field Rd. See April 26 listing. Free.

SUNDAY, APRIL 28

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

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

MCTV SCHEDULE Channels 1071 & 1091		MIDDLEBURY COMMUNITY TELEVISION: P.O. Box 785, Middlebury, Vt. 05753	
<p>Channel 1071 Friday, April 26 Overnight: State House, Public Affairs 5 a.m. Press Conferences 7:30 a.m. Congregational Church Service 10 a.m. Selectboard 4 p.m. Memorial Baptist Church Service 5:30 p.m. Vote for Vermont 6:30 p.m. Energy Week 7:30 p.m. Vermont Drug Policy Panel Saturday, April 27 Overnight: Public Affairs 5 a.m. Vote for Vermont 6 a.m. VT Drug Policy Panel 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. Selectboard, Vote for Vermont Sunday, April 28 Overnight: State House, 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 4 p.m. Congregational Service 6:30 p.m. Eckankar</p>		<p>Thursday, May 2 Overnight: Public Affairs 5 a.m. Press Conferences 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. Vote for Vermont Channel 1091 Friday, April 26 8 a.m. All Things LGBTQ 9 a.m. Yestermorrow 2024: Building Affordability 10:02 a.m. Building Affordability Case Study 11:22 a.m. Preservation Burlington 12 p.m. School Board Meeting/s 5 p.m. All Brains Belong Club 06 p.m. Ilsley 100 Project Info Meeting 7:30 p.m. Julie Ruppert - Womens Collegiate Athletics 9 p.m. Green Mountain Film Festival 10:30 p.m. Julie Ruppert Saturday, April 27 7 a.m. Chair Yoga 8 a.m. Word Time With Miss Markee 8:35 a.m. Tai Chi 9 a.m. Tracking Wildlife 9:52 a.m. Moccasin Tracks 10:57 a.m. Team Yap The Pokemon</p>	
<p>7 p.m. Catholic Mass 7:30 p.m. Energy Week 8:30 p.m. VT Drug Policy Panel Monday, April 29 Overnight: State House, Public Affairs 5:30 a.m. Eckankar 6 a.m. Press Conf., Public Affairs 9 a.m. Energy Week 10 a.m. Selectboard, State House 8 p.m. The Juxtaposition 8:30 p.m. What's going On? 9 p.m. Vote for Vermont 10 p.m. Dr. John Campbell Tuesday, April 30 Overnight: State House, Public Affairs 7 a.m. Press Conf., Public Affairs 9:30 a.m. Eckankar 10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 4 p.m. Congregational Services 7 p.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 11 p.m. Energy Week Wednesday, May 1 Overnight: State House, Public Affairs 5:15 a.m. VT Drug Policy Panel 6:30 a.m. Energy Week 7:30 a.m. Memorial Baptist Service 9:30 a.m. Catholic Mass 10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 4:45 p.m. Vermont Drug Policy Panel 6 p.m. Vote for Vermont 7 p.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs</p>		<p>Podcast Ep. 1 12 p.m. State Board of Education 1:17 p.m. St. J Academy in a New World 4 p.m. All Brains Belong Club 5 p.m. All Things LGBTQ 6 p.m. America's Snake 7:21 p.m. Ilsley 100 Project Info Mtg 9 p.m. Team Yap Ep. 2 10:30 p.m. Songwriters Notebook Sunday, April 28 5 a.m. Nature and Science Programs 7:05 a.m. Tai Chi 7:30 a.m. All Things LGBTQ 8:30 a.m. Ilsley 100 Project Info Mtg 10 ap.m. Nature and Science Programs 12:30 p.m. School Board Meeting/s 6 p.m. All Things LGBTQ 7 p.m. Building Affordability 8:30 p.m. Ilsley 100 Project Info Mtg 10 p.m. Author Talk - Angela Saini - Monday, April 29 5 a.m. Nature and Science Programs 7 a.m. Tai Chi 7:25 a.m. Nature and Science Programs 12 p.m. School Board Meeting/s 6 p.m. Ohavi Zedek - Preserving and Sharing Yiddish Culture 7:07 p.m. Julie Ruppert 8:32 p.m. Angela Saini Tuesday, April 30 7 a.m. Chair Yoga</p>	
<p>8 a.m. Word Time With Miss Markee 8:35 a.m. Tai Chi 9 a.m. School Board Meeting/s 4 p.m. Julie Ruppert 5:30 p.m. All Brains Belong Club 6 p.m. All Brains Belong Club 8 p.m. Building Affordability 9:02 p.m. Building Affordability Case Study 10:22 p.m. Preservation Burlington Wednesday, May 1 5 a.m. Place Based Building in Central America 6 a.m. All Things LGBTQ 7 a.m. Tai Chi 7:30 a.m. School Board Meeting/s 4 p.m. All Brains Belong Club 8 p.m. Julie Ruppert 9:30 p.m. Green Mtn Film Festival Thursday, May 2 5 a.m. Yestermorrow 7 a.m. Tai Chi 7:25 a.m. Kids Yoga 8 a.m. Chair Yoga 9 a.m. School Board Meeting/s 4:15 p.m. Moccasin Tracks 5 p.m. All Things LGBTQ 6 p.m. Green Mtn Film Festival Conversations 7 p.m. Author Talk - Angela Saini</p>		<p>Please see the MCTV website, www.middleburycommunitytv.org, for changes in the schedule; MCTV events, classes and news; and to view many programs online. Submit listings to the above address, or call 388-3062.</p>	

and members.

HEATH QUARTET IN MIDDLEBURY. Sunday, April 28, 2 p.m., Robison Hall, Mahaney Arts Center, 72 Porter Field Rd. The dynamic and charismatic Heath Quartet is one of the most exciting British chamber ensembles of the moment, steadily building a reputation for their upbeat and integrated sound. Free, both in person and streaming. Register at go.middlebury.edu/tickets or 802-443-MIDD (6433).

MONDAY, APRIL 29

"STORYTELLING IN CHINESE MUSIC FROM THE ANCIENT PAST THROUGH MODERN TIMES" IN MIDDLEBURY. Monday, April 29, 7-8:30 p.m., Robison Hall, Mahaney Arts Center, 72 Porter Field Rd. Explore the storytelling magic of Chinese music through the ages with master pipa player Gao Hong. Experience traditional Pudong pipa pieces, minority music, and modern compositions that breathe new life into this ancient instrument. Free. More info tinyurl.com/GaoHongAtMidd.

TUESDAY, APRIL 30

"KEYS BAGS NAMES WORDS" ON SCREEN IN MIDDLEBURY. Tuesday, April 30, 4:30 p.m., Ilsley Public Library, 75 Main St. Eileen Lawson will be on hand to share this inspiring documentary film addressing dementia, how to reduce the risk of developing it, and how to meaningfully connect with loved ones living with it.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 1

GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB HIKE IN SALISBURY. Wednesday, May 1, Mt. Moosalamoo from Goshen Rd. Wildflower hike of 5.8 miles roundtrip, with 1,125 feet elevation change, starting from Moosalamoo Campground. Contact Ruth Penfield at ruthpenfield@gmail.com or 802-458-1116 for more information. More at gmcbreadloaf.org.

CAROLYN KUEBLER BOOK LAUNCH CELEBRATION IN MIDDLEBURY. Wednesday, May 1, 6 p.m., Vermont Book Shop, 38 Main St. A casual reading from and celebration of New England Review editor Carolyn Kuebler's debut novel: "Liquid, Fragile, Perishable." Set in a small Vermont town, the novel is many things. At its core, though, is tender homage to the actual lives behind the stereotypes we keep of the flatlander, the lonely recluse, the village gossip, the troubled trailer-dwellers.

THURSDAY, MAY 2

STORYTELLING SLAM AND WORKSHOP IN VERGENNES. Tuesday, May 2, 5:30-7 p.m., Bixby Memorial Library, 258 Main St. Everyone has a story worth telling. Share yours at the Bixby Library's noncompetitive Storytelling Slam! If you need a little help bringing your story to the stage, come to workshop a five-minute story the week before the Slam.

"HUNTING AND FISHING: A CASE STUDY IN CULTURAL CONTINUITY" VIRTUAL LECTURE. Thursday, May 2, 6:30 p.m., ZOOM. American Abenaki people in Vermont were and are culturally competent in many types

of Indigenous hunting and trapping techniques as well as the use of traditional hunting spirituality. Wiseman presents abundant evidence of these activities in the form of objects, tools, historic photographs, family stories and distinctive skills passed down through generations of Abenaki families all with good documented historical Vermont provenance. Free, but donations are appreciated. Register at tinyurl.com/Hunting-Fishing-Abenaki.

BOOK READING AND DISCUSSION IN LINCOLN. Thursday, May 2, 7 p.m., Lincoln Library, River Rd. 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." Vivid and suspenseful, gut-wrenching and insightful, "Gaslight" 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.

"MAMBAR PIERRETTE" ON SCREEN IN MIDDLEBURY. Thursday, May 2, 7 p.m., Dana Auditorium, 356 College St. Experience "Mambar Pierrette," a Cameroonian film exploring a seamstress's fight against poverty and patriarchy in Douala. Join us outside Dana to celebrate with pizza and popcorn at 6:30 p.m. Free. A Hirschfield series offering.

"ORLANDO" ON STAGE IN MIDDLEBURY. Thursday, May 2, 7:30 p.m., Wright Memorial Theater, 96 Chateau Rd. Sarah Ruhl's adaptation of Virginia Woolf's famous novel about Orlando, a wealthy young English nobleman whose quest for happiness spans five centuries. Tickets \$15/\$10/\$8/\$5, available at www.middlebury.edu/college/box-office. Repeats May 3 & 4.

ROCHESTER LIGHT & POWER IN ROCHESTER. Thursday, May 2, 7:30 p.m., Rochester School Auditorium, 222 S. Main St. Rochester Light & Power is a musical set in 1901 at The Rochester House hotel. It follows four "kept-women" and their married beaux from White River Jct., culminating in a grand celebration as the hotel introduces electric lights. Directed by Ethan Bowen, it humorously explores women's empowerment. Tickets available at WRVP.org.

FRIDAY, MAY 3

PHOTOGRAPHY OPENING RECEPTION IN MIDDLEBURY. Friday, May 3, 4 p.m., PhotoPlace Gallery, 3 Park St. Opening reception for "Portrait: Self and Others," which highlights portraits, self- or otherwise, that go beyond the surface to explore a deeper vision of the subject and draw an emotional response from the viewer. More info at photoplacegallery.com.

THE KRUGER BROTHERS IN VERGENNES. Friday, May 3, 7:30 p.m., Vergennes Opera House, 120 Main St. In their ever-expanding body of work, the Kruger Brothers personify the spirit of exploration and innovation that forms the core of the American musical tradition. Their original music is crafted around their discerning taste, and the result is unpretentious, cultivated

and delightfully fresh. Tickets \$35 advance/\$40 at the door. More info at vergenennesoperahouse.org.

TINA & FRIENDS COMEDY NIGHT IN MIDDLEBURY. Friday, May 3, 7:30 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. Fresh off of her appearance on NBC's "The Tonight Show," New York City-based standup comedian Tina Friml returns to her hometown, with her favorite fellow comics in tow. Using animated optimism on her own physical disability, yet fearless honesty about the social assumptions that come with it, Tina befriends audiences of all sorts with her eccentric style, off-beat mind, and unexpected philosophy acquired through her unique circumstances. Free. Space is limited and registration is required.

"ORLANDO" ON STAGE IN MIDDLEBURY. Friday, May 3, 7:30 p.m., Wright Memorial Theater, 96 Chateau Rd. See May 2 listing. Post show talk-back and discussion following Friday performance.

ROCHESTER LIGHT & POWER IN ROCHESTER. Thursday, Friday, May 3, 7:30 p.m., Rochester School Auditorium, 222 S Main St. See May 2 listing.

SATURDAY, MAY 4

GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB BIRD WALK IN ADDISON. Saturday, May 4, *RESCHEDULED FROM 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.

GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB WALK IN FERRISBURGH. Saturday, May 4, Kingsland Bay. Wildflower walk at Kingsland Bay with David Andrews. The walk will be at an easy pace with stops to look and take pictures. About 2 miles with little elevation gain. Trillium should be out and more. Contact David for at 802-388-4894 or vtrevda@yahoo.com for details. More at gmcbreadloaf.org.

OFF THE TRAILS HISTORY HIKE IN ORWELL. Saturday, May 4, noon-4 p.m., Mt. Independence State Historic Site, 497 Mount Independence Rd.

GENTICORUM IN LINCOLN. Saturday, May 4, 7:30 p.m., Burnham Hall, 52 E. River Rd. With multiple Canadian Folk Music Awards, as well as Juno and ADISQ nominations, Genticorum have earned a reputation as a leading voice in the evolution of Québécois traditional music. For over 20 years, the trio has earned a place of privilege on world, traditional, folk and Celtic music stages. Doors open at 7 p.m., music begins at 7:30 p.m. A Burnham Presents concert. Tickets, general to generous \$15/\$20/\$25. All funds after expenses go directly to the performers. Refreshments available during the break.

DERBY DAY IN MIDDLEBURY. Saturday, May 4, 5-7:30 p.m., Kirk Alumni Center, Golf Course Rd. Come watch the most exciting two minutes in sports, the Kentucky Derby. Live music, dancing,

specialty cocktails, ample hors d'oeuvres and prizes. Proceeds support Porter Hospital. Award given to the most festive attire. Dress to impress. Purchase raffle tickets, \$10 each, to win a Vermont handcrafted cherry wood desk from Woodware or one of several wonderful prizes. Tickets \$66, drink ticket included, available at townhallthater.org. More info contact David Rose at 802-343-1475.

THE GRIFT FEATURING THE ADDISON COUNTY YOUTH ALL STARS IN MIDDLEBURY. Saturday, May 4, 7 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. The Grift will play an hour-long set, and then feature a curated second set of talented young musicians already making major waves in the music world. Featured youth all-stars include Evan Jennison and Sam Bierman, both regulars at THT's immersive rock 'n' roll program. Tickets \$5 for kids under 12/student \$10/adults \$25, available at townhalltheater.org.

THE SOUND INVESTMENT JAZZ TENTET IN MIDDLEBURY. Saturday, May 4, 7:30 p.m., Robison Hall, Mahaney Arts Center, Porter Field Rd. Swing into a century of jazz brilliance with the Sound Investment Jazz Tentet. Experience iconic arrangements that defined an era. A must for jazz aficionados. Free. More info at tinyurl.com/MiddJazzTentet.

"ORLANDO" ON STAGE IN MIDDLEBURY. Saturday, May 4, 7:30 p.m., Wright Memorial Theater, 96 Chateau Rd. See May 2 listing.

ROCHESTER LIGHT & POWER IN ROCHESTER. Saturday, May 4, 7:30 p.m., Rochester School Auditorium, 222 S Main St. See May 2 listing.

SUNDAY, MAY 5

"27 BREATHS" IN MIDDLEBURY. Sunday, May 5, 2 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Maple St. "27 Breaths" is a live music and movement piece created by composer Mathew Evan Taylor and choreographer Laurel Jenkins. It is the first interdisciplinary piece created using Matthew Evan Taylor's compositional system, AfroPneumaism: a system where time and action are determined by the breath. Ultimately, this performance invites the audience to breathe with us. Free. Register at townhalltheater.org.

ROCHESTER LIGHT & POWER IN ROCHESTER. Sunday, May 5, 2 p.m., Rochester School Auditorium, 222 S Main St. See May 2 listing.

TUESDAY, MAY 7

THE ART OF TRANSLATION: LITERATURE TO FILM BY MICHAEL KATZ AND CHRIS KEATHLEY IN MIDDLEBURY. Tuesday, May 7, 5:30-7 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. The second installment of "Up for Discussion," a free series created by Vermont Book Shop and Town Hall Theater designed to spark community conversation and featuring local experts in their fields sharing timely topics that span literature, art, film and contemporary issues. The 30-minute presentation will be followed by a roundtable discussion and sharing of thoughts and ideas. Free, but registration required at townhalltheater.org.

UPCOMING MUSIC

The Grift rocks Middlebury with next-gen talent

Vermont's premiere party band, The Grift, are well known on the live performance circuit for their dazzling musicianship and impressive range of original and cover songs that span generations and genres. Grift members Clint Bierman, Peter Day, and Jeff Vallone are also music instructors with Town Hall Theater's RockIt Science program where they train and mentor the next generation of rockers. On Saturday, May 4, The Grift will play an hour-long set, and then feature a curated second set of talented young musicians already making major waves in the music world.

Featured youth all-stars include Evan Jennison and Sam Bierman, both regulars at THT's immersive rock n' roll program. Jennison's live performances are heightened by his strong stage presence and undeniable connection between him and the members of the Grift, who mentored him from an early age as a student. Today, Jennison is known for captivating lyrics, signature flatpicking, and timeless harmonies inspired by his surroundings and background raised in the Green Mountains. Jennison recently shared the stage with Marcus Rezak, Russ Lawton,



members of TAB, members of Twiddle and more.

Clint Bierman's 11-year-old son Sam has been attracting attention as a music prodigy. Sam's distinctive sound, voice, lyrics, and keyboard playing led to a collaboration with Twiddle's Mihali. The Saturday, May 4 show also marks the release of the extraordinary new song "Smile," a single created by Sam, Mihali, and Clint. Sam played his first public solo show in February at Middlebury's 51 Main to standing room crowds.

"At Sam's debut show, a happy horde of kids were beyond excited — dancing, cheering, even squealing. It honestly felt a bit like Beatlemania," said THT Executive Director Lisa Mitchell. "Don't miss this one-of-a-kind opportunity to see The Grift and exceptional young talent cultivated by their band."

Tickets for The Grift + Addison County Youth All Stars are available at townhalltheater.org or by calling 802-382-9222. THT's Cady Fund offers ticket subsidies to ensure cost is not a barrier to access.



Get ready for a night of musical excellence. Join Vermont's premiere party band, The Grift (pictured left), alongside talented young stars Evan Jennison and Sam Bierman (pictured above), for an unforgettable performance at Town Hall Theater on Saturday, May 4, at 7 p.m.

COURTESY PHOTOS

BROTHERS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

just a few years they were busking on the streets of cities throughout eastern and western Europe.

CBS Records

contracted with Jens and Uwe when Jens was just 17 years old, and shortly thereafter, the Krugers hosted a radio show on SRG SSR, the Swiss Public broadcast group. Several years later, the brothers teamed up with bass player Joel Landsberg, a native of New York City who also had a very extensive musical upbringing in classical and jazz music (studying with jazz

great Milt Hinton), thus forming a trio that has been playing professionally together since 1995. Together, they established the incomparable sound that The Kruger Brothers are known for today. The trio moved to the United States in 2002 and is based in Wilkesboro, N.C.

The Kruger Brothers are a fixture within the world of acoustic music with their unique ability to infuse classical music into folk music. They are known for their remarkable discipline, creativity, and honesty of their writing, which has since become a hallmark of the trio's work.

In their ever-expanding body of work — Jens

Kruger (banjo and vocals), Uwe Kruger (guitar and lead vocals), and Joel Landsberg, (bass and vocals) — The Kruger Brothers personify the spirit of exploration and innovation that forms the core of the American musical tradition. Their original music is crafted around their discerning taste, and the result is unpretentious, cultivated, and delightfully fresh.

Tickets are \$35 in advance and \$40 at the door. Doors and cash bar open at 6:30 p.m.; show starts at 7:30 p.m. General seating. Visit VergennesOperaHouse.org or call 802-877-6737 for tickets and information.

PUZZLES

sponsored by **SPARROW ART SUPPLY**

ACROSS

1. Excessively theatrical actors
5. Footwear
10. A way to disfigure
14. Exchange rate
15. Hawaiian wreaths
16. North-central Indian city
17. Bungle
18. Extremely angry
19. A short note of what's owed
20. Criminal organization
22. Mimic
23. Try to grab
24. U.S.-born individuals
27. Some are covert
30. Order of the British Empire
31. Don't know when

yet

32. Payment (abbr.)
35. Winged angelic being
37. Variety of Chinese
38. A way to be anxious
39. Famed wrestler Hulk
40. Partner to cheese
41. Slang for sergeant
42. Canadian flyers
43. Actress Ryan
44. Highly unpleasant vapor
45. Body part
46. Halfway
47. Cool!
48. Consume
49. Salts
52. Upper bract of a floret of grass
55. Housepet
56. Cavalry-sword

60. Symbol of a nation

61. Frocks
63. Used to carry food
64. Portuguese folk song
65. Sharp mountain ridge
66. Ireland
67. Where golfers begin
68. Greek mythological sorceress
69. Fluid suspensions

DOWN

1. "Mad Men" leading man
2. Water (Spanish)
3. Annoy
4. Bulgarian capital
5. Japanese title
6. Capital of Zimbabwe
7. Giraffe

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14					15						16			
17					18						19			
20				21		22				23				
			24		25				26					
27	28	29		30				31			32	33	34	
35			36				37				38			
39						40				41				
42					43				44					
45				46				47				48		
			49					50			51			
52	53	54				55				56		57	58	59
60						61				62		63		
64						65						66		
67						68						69		

		8						
	5			1	3			
			5			8		2
2					7		8	
		4						7
				6		4		5
	6				9			
			3	7		2		
8		3					7	4

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

8. A mixture of substances
9. Midway between south and southeast
10. Staffs
11. Turkish title
12. Type of acid
13. Thin, flat strip of wood
21. Russian river
23. Ribonucleic acid
25. Partner to flow
26. Airborne (abbr.)
27. Earthy pigment
28. Genus of earless seals

29. "Key to the Highway" bluesman
32. By or in itself
33. Hot fluid below the earth's surface
34. Partner to trick
36. British Air Aces
37. Ammunition
38. Supervises flying
40. Health care for the aged
41. Flanks
43. Millimeters
44. Where wrestlers perform
46. Not around

47. Flightless bird
49. Bell-shaped flowers of the lily family
50. Expressed concern for
51. Satisfies
52. Flew off!
53. Wings
54. Load a ship
57. Vigor
58. British title
59. Whiskeys
61. __ Adams: founding father
62. Body of wate

This week's puzzle solutions can be found on Page 13.



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ASK A MASTER GARDENER



Andrea Knepper is a UVM Extension Master Gardener from Bolton.

WHAT ARE SEED LIBRARIES?

Communities around the world are cultivating seed libraries. A surge in new gardeners and struggling supply chains during the pandemic caused the rise of seed libraries.

For many, gardening was a failsafe during these stressful times. People generously shared seeds to support their neighbors and the

larger community.

A seed library is a collection of seeds held at a public library or other entity for the purpose of distributing them to local community members. Members can “borrow” seeds to plant in their gardens and return surplus seeds, including those they purchased or open-pollinated seeds they saved from their own gardens.

may have different cultures, seed libraries aim to increase access to seeds for local gardeners.

These seed resources can add to local food security efforts by providing affordable (often free) seeds among neighbors. In addition, they offer a great way to try a new vegetable commonly grown by some of our diverse communities in Vermont.

Post-pandemic, people are continuing to garden, finding joy and resilience in the practice. Sharing seeds continues to be a way to bring people together to share resources, knowledge and nourishment.

Seed libraries are located throughout the state, often in public libraries or shared community spaces. While they

Beginning gardeners are welcome and encouraged at many seed libraries. When you first visit your local seed library, make sure to look for borrowing information.

The posted information will advise how many seeds borrowers may take. When using seeds that have been saved from a home garden, you will likely need to start two to three seeds

SEE GARDEN ON PAGE 11

AGWAY Think of Agway when you think of your pets!

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Seed libraries, which are located in public libraries and other venues throughout the state, have seeds “to borrow” for a variety of vegetables and herbs, and sometimes flowers.

GARDEN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

per plant desired. Germination rates of home-saved seed are generally lower than what you can expect from a commercial supplier.

Cataloging methods will vary in method and formality, but it is not uncommon for seed libraries to label seeds that are ideal for those new to gardening. Beginners also will appreciate being able to try a small number of seeds rather than investing in several varieties that may be challenging to grow or need special conditions to thrive.

Membership information may be required to take and share seeds. You also may be asked to maintain a seed record to document what seeds you borrow and any you share back with the library.

Seed libraries generally do not require borrowers to share seed in return. However, to keep your local seed library going, consider donating extra purchased seeds or learn to save seeds yourself to give back to your community.

After you have planted and harvested some of your seeds, you can try saving some of your own seeds. You will likely have enough to save for next year and some to share with your seed library. To get started, visit extension.psu.edu/

seed-saving-basics for basic instructions.

Take good notes on the plants you save seeds from. Other borrowers will enjoy reading about germination times, days to maturity, flavor, storage and any other information you have to share. If you know the variety name, be sure to share that, too.

An internet search will help you locate a seed library in your area. Stop by and see what is available. Borrow and plant some seeds. Save some seeds to help sustain your local seed library and the self-sufficiency of your community.



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Pets In Need

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Addison County's Humane Society

Bob and Bruno

Bob and Bruno are a loveable and playful brother duo. They are a little over 1.5 years old and are ready for their forever home. Bob (brown and white) is more playful and eagerly affectionate while his brother Bruno (grey and white) is more independent but equally friendly. They get along well with cats but have no



experience with dogs. They are very high energy and have previously been indoor/outdoor cats and may like to explore the great outdoors once they are settled into their new home. Bob and Bruno are a bonded pair and must be adopted together.

Larry

Larry is the handsomest of all seniors! This 12-year-old Casanova has so much love and affection to give and is just waiting for his family to walk through the door and fall in love with him. He gets along with other cats. We don't know his history with dogs, but he is such a mellow guy that he would most likely do okay with dogs if given a slow introduction. Larry has a history of occasional brief seizures. Since being on seizure medication, he has not had any seizures. Larry is diabetic and on a special diet.

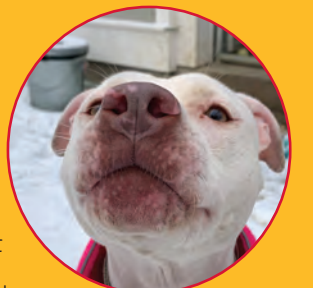


Phantom

Phantom is a sweet and independent 6-year-old boy. He is very snuggly and also enjoys napping in his cat beds. Temptations treats are the key to his heart, and he is working on target training. Phantom was surrendered because the dog in the home wanted him as a snack! He is understandably weary of dogs and does not get along well with cats. He was previously an indoor/outdoor cat and may like to explore going outside once he is acclimated to his new home.

Delilah

Delilah is a medium-sized 1-year-old pit bull mix who weighs 44 pounds. She is timid at first, but very sweet once she warms up. Delilah loves to go out for walks with our volunteers and enjoys quiet time. We are unsure if she can live with dogs or young children. Delilah has a strong prey drive and likes to chase after critters.



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THE HOME

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Walk right in to this turn-key home

This exceptionally-maintained 3 bedroom, 2 bath, single level home offers stunning Adirondack Views sited on more than 12 acres. The spacious kitchen features maple cabinetry and granite countertops. Maple flooring offers a seamless flow to the dining/living areas, and continues down the hall to a full bath, office, and 3 pine-floored bedrooms including the primary with an ensuite bathroom. The grounds include a patio off the three-season porch, fenced-in garden, beautiful landscaping, fruit trees/berry bushes, and many interconnecting trails. Owned solar panels, two heat pumps, detached shed, and two-car heated garage are only a few of the additional features of this property.



This week's property is managed by The Real Estate Company of Vermont. More info at therealestatecompanyvt.com.





CHARLOTTE NEW LISTING!
488 GUINEA ROAD

MLS #4992259 | \$2,849,000
4 BD | 5 BA | 5161 SF | 20.38 AC

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BRIDPORT NEW LISTING!
1367 TOWN LINE ROAD

MLS #4992289 | \$379,000
2 BD | 1 BA | 1860 SF | 10.14 AC

Additional 384SF heated outbuilding provides a studio/retreat. 3-car garage with one bay that is heated and insulated. Solar. Views of Snake Mountain, and within 20 minutes to both Middlebury and Vergennes.



VERGENNES NEW LISTING!
7 BOMBARD PLACE

MLS #4991848 | \$225,000
3 BD | 2 BA | 1032 SF | 0.30 AC

Tucked in behind Main Street on a dead-end road, this farmhouse is ready for your vision! Detached one-car garage, a level lot, newer roof and electrical panel, and possibilities!



BRANDON NEW LISTING!
6 SUNSET DRIVE

MLS #4991716 | \$59,000
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EXHIBITS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

JACKSON GALLERY

68 S Pleasant St, Middlebury
Visit 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." On view April 12-June 8

PHOTOPLACE GALLERY

3 Park Street, Middlebury
For more info visit 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 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. The exhibit will be on view through May 11

TOURTERELLE RESTAURANT & INN

3629 Ethan Allen Hwy, New Haven
For more information visit JanetFredericksStudio.com or 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.

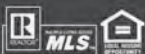
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Engage with authors, community, music and movement

CHECK OUT THIS FREE PROGRAMMING AT TOWN HALL THEATER IN MIDDLEBURY, MAY 5, 7 AND 8

Middlebury's Town Hall Theater will host three free programs next month that you don't want to miss. Composer Mathew Evan Taylor and choreographer Laurel Jenkins will present "27 Breaths," a live music and movement piece on Sunday, May 5; former dean of the Middlebury Language Schools and Professor Emeritus of Russian and east European studies Michael Katz joins Professor of Film and Media Culture Chris Keathly for a discussion about "Reimagining Stories: Translation and Adaptation," on Tuesday, May 7; and Julia Alvarez will chat with Carolyn Kuebler about her new novel "The Cemetery of Untold Stories" on Wednesday, May 8.

These programs will be held at the Middlebury theater, and are free and open to all. Registration is required. For more info and to register visit townhalltheater.org.

MORE DETAILS

SUNDAY, MAY 5

Mathew Evan Taylor & Laurel Jenkins present '27 Breaths'

Come experience "27 Breaths," a live music and movement piece created by composer Mathew Evan Taylor and choreographer Laurel Jenkins. The show will be performed at Town Hall Theater on Sunday, May 5, at 2 p.m. It is the first interdisciplinary piece created using Taylor's compositional system AfroPneumaism: a system where time and action are determined by the breath. Ultimately, this performance invites the audience to breathe with us.

Composer and improviser Taylor's music has been performed across the United States and Europe by such ensembles as the Cleveland Orchestra, the Detroit Symphony, and Metropolis Ensemble. As a performer, Taylor has collaborated with such creators as musician Elliott Sharp, visual artist Dannielle Tegeder, and dancer Sara Shelton. Taylor's music is sparked by his curiosity about the surrounding world and the inherent social bonds built through music. Whether he is addressing issues about the nature of time or the bounds of the human breath on musical performance, Taylor writes music that is engaging, surprising, and unmistakably human. His aesthetic is typified by vibrant instrumental colors, mercurial juxtapositions, and an affinity for groove. Taylor serves as a member of the music faculty at Middlebury



Mathew Evan Taylor and Laurel Jenkins will present "27 Breaths" on Sunday, May 5, 2 p.m., at Town Hall Theater in Middlebury. Free with suggested donation, and registration required.

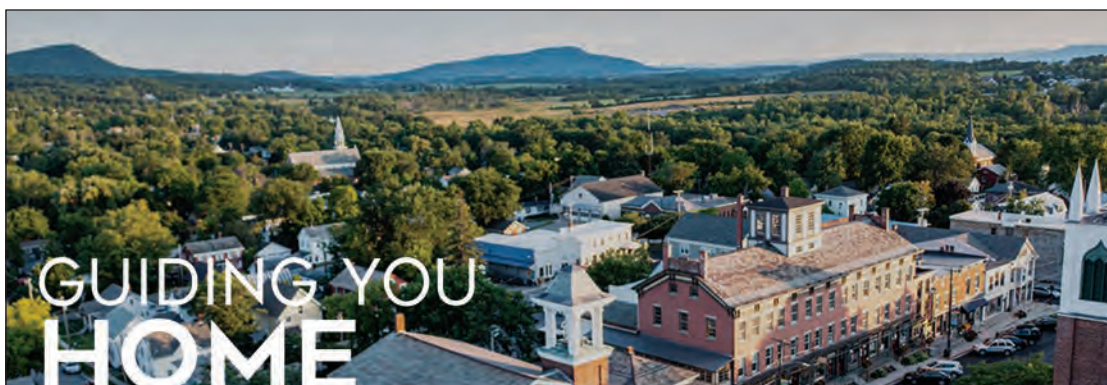
COURTESY PHOTO

College — where he is Assistant Professor of Music — and the composition faculty at the Longy School of Music of Bard College.

Laurel Jenkins is a dancer, choreographer, educator, and mother. Jenkins' work has been presented by Lincoln Center, Disney Hall, REDCAT, Automata, the Getty Center, Show Box LA, Danspace, Berlin's Performing Presence Festival, Tokyo's Sezane Gallery,

and Paris' Cité Internationale des Arts. She choreographed Bernstein's MASS with the LA Phil and the Mostly Mozart Festival Orchestra. In addition, she has choreographed for LA Contemporary Dance Company, The Wooden Floor, and many universities including UNL. Jenkins was a member of the Trisha Brown Dance Company from 2007-2012 and has danced in works by Vicky Shick and Sara

SEE FREE ON PAGE 16



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FREE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

Rudner, Jenkins performed in the opera Oedipus Rex/Symphony of Psalms by Peter Sellars

and solos by Merce Cunningham in the Night of 100 Solos: A Centennial Event. Jenkins is the recipient of a Vermont Arts Council Grant, an Asian Cultural Council Grant, a French Institute Fellowship, holds a BA from Sarah Lawrence, an MFA from UCLA's Department of World Arts and Cultures/Dance, and is certified to teach the Skinner Releasing Technique. She teaches in the Dance Department at Middlebury College in Vermont.

Visit townhalltheater.org or call 802-382-9222 to reserve your spot. Suggested donation \$5-10.

TUESDAY, MAY 7

Up for Discussion

Thanks to a grant from Vermont Humanities, Vermont Book Shop (VBS) and Town Hall Theater (THT) are proud to present "Up for Discussion" — a free, quarterly series designed to spark community conversation. "Up for Discussion" features local experts in their fields, many of whom are Middlebury College professors, sharing timely topics that span literature, art, film, and contemporary issues.

On May 7, from 5:30-7 p.m., the second installment of this salon-style series focuses on "Reimagining Stories: Translation and Adaptation," with a talk led by former dean of the Middlebury Language Schools and Professor Emeritus of Russian and east European studies Michael Katz joins Professor of Film and Media Culture Chris Keathly.

Next up, join the conversation on:

- June 11: Youth Sports in Society by Alex Wolff & Erin Quinn
- Oct. 8: Living Deliberately: What Thoreau Means Today by Dan Brayton & Rebecca Gould

Each 30-minute presentation will be followed by a roundtable discussion and sharing of thoughts and ideas.

Visit townhalltheater.org or call 802-382-9222 to reserve your spot.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 8

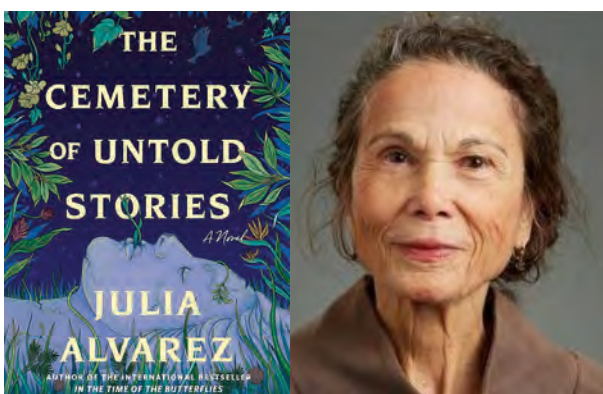
Julia Alvarez discusses new novel with Carolyn Kuebler

On Wednesday, May 8, at 7 p.m., Vermont Book Shop presents Julia Alvarez on stage in conversation with Carolyn Kuebler, editor of the literary journal based in Middlebury, New England Review. This event celebrates Alvarez's book tour for her new release "The Cemetery of Untold Stories." The Vermont Book Shop will have Alvarez's books for sale and post-event signing.

Alma Cruz, the celebrated writer at the heart of "The Cemetery of Untold Stories," doesn't want to end up like her friend, a novelist who fought so long and hard to finish a book that it threatened her sanity. So when Alma inherits a small plot of land in the Dominican Republic, her homeland, she has the beautiful idea of turning it into a place to bury her untold stories — literally. She creates a graveyard for the manuscript drafts and the characters whose lives she tried and failed to bring to life and who still haunt her.

Alma wants her characters to rest in peace. But they have other ideas and soon begin to defy their author: they talk back to her and talk to one another behind her back, rewriting and revising themselves. Filomena, a local woman hired as the groundskeeper, becomes a sympathetic listener to the secret tales unspooled by Alma's characters. Among them, Bienvenida, dictator Rafael Trujillo's abandoned wife who was erased from the official history, and Manuel Cruz, a doctor who fought in the Dominican underground and escaped to the United States.

"The Cemetery of Untold Stories" asks: Whose stories get to be told, and whose buried? Finally, Alma finds the meaning she and her characters yearn for in the everlasting vitality of stories. Alvarez reminds us that the stories of our lives



COMING SOON

WEDNESDAY, MAY 1
VERMONT BOOK SHOP, MIDDLEBURY

Catch Carolyn Kuebler on Wednesday, May 1, at 6 p.m., when she'll be discussing her debut novel: "Liquid, Fragile, Perishable." Vermont Book Shop, 38 Main St., in Middlebury will host a casual reading and celebration. Set in a small Vermont town, the novel is many things... At its core, though, is tender homage to the actual lives behind the stereotypes we keep of the flatlander, the lonely recluse, the village gossip, the troubled trailer-dwellers. Kuebler is the editor of the *New England Review*.



are never truly finished, even at the end.

About Julia Alvarez

Alvarez left the Dominican Republic for the United States in 1960 at the age of 10. She is the author of six novels, three books of nonfiction, three collections of poetry, and 11 books for children and young adults. She has taught and mentored writers in schools and communities across America and, until her retirement in 2016, was a writer in residence at Middlebury College. Her work has garnered wide recognition, including a Latina Leader Award in Literature from the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute, the Hispanic Heritage Award in Literature, the Woman of the Year by Latina magazine, and inclusion in the New York Public Library's program "The Hand of the Poet: Original Manuscripts by 100 Masters, from John Donne to Julia Alvarez." "In the Time of the Butterflies," with over one million copies in print, was selected by the National Endowment for the Arts for its national Big Read program. In 2013, President Obama awarded Alvarez the National Medal of Arts in recognition of her extraordinary storytelling. She lives in Weybridge.

Visit townhalltheater.org or call 802-382-9222 to reserve your spot for this free event.

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National VOLUNTEER WEEK



Volunteers find fulfillment with Addison County's emergency services

Ripton's Mark Nelson and Bridport's Paul Miller, along with 10 others, play key roles in helping MREMS run smoothly

By JOHN S. McCRIGHT
MIDDLEBURY — Many people rightly think of Middlebury Regional Emergency Medical Resources as a professional organization that provides the highest level of first-response medical care to people across 10 towns in the heart of Addison County. But before the organization was called MREMS, it was founded in 1970 as Middlebury Volunteer Ambulance Association, or MVAA.

The 21 MVAA charter members included a collection of pharmacists, schoolteachers, foresters, butchers, college professors and others. Regular people who gave 12 hours a week and one weekend a month to help out their neighbors.

Today, MREMS has 49 dedicated members — paramedics, emergency medical technicians (EMTs), heavy rescue operators and other emergency medical responders — most of whom are hired on a professional basis. But a dozen MREMS staffers are volunteers. And they still play a key role in making Middlebury's ambulance service run.

"While volunteers make up a smaller portion of our first responders than when our agency was first established over 50 years ago, they still lead and inspire our organization with their dedication to service," said Kate Rothwell, executive director of MREMS.

Two of those volunteers are Paul Miller and Mark Nelson.

Paul Miller of Bridport had been volunteering in Emergency Medical Services since 2011. But his interest in helping people — particularly in the medical field — dates back to 1970, when he was a field medic in the Army National Guard in New York. Also, his father was devoted to public service as a career firefighter in New York.

For eight years he was also a volunteer on the Bridport Planning Commission.

"I like helping people," Miller said. "I was an Army National Guard medic, I enjoyed doing it, when I moved to Vermont and my son was grown I found it's hard to meet people."

"Volunteering I got to meet people and help them."

After a career as the founder and head of a computer systems consulting company, and then

a pharmaceutical consulting company, he retired. But it sounds like he wasn't ready to slow down too much.

"I lived on the road (working) for almost 10 years, so I retired in 2007," Miller recalls. "I went to EMT school, and then A-EMT school, then paramedic school. I'm currently pursuing a Critical Care Paramedic certification."

He initially used his skills as a volunteer EMT for Town Line First Response, which serves Addison and Bridport. Through his EMT training, Miller learned to do things like hook patients up to intravenous medication. He likes to be useful in that way, but found that the opportunities to use those skills were not very frequent.

"On Town Line I did one IV in six months," Miller recalled. "People (with whom I did my EMT training) said come over to Middlebury (Regional EMS) and you'll get a lot of IVs every day."

So he did add first response hours at MREMS, in addition to Town Line first response. Now he does a weekly 24-hour shift at MREMS — Friday 7 a.m. to Saturday 7 a.m. He gets a stipend for the hours he works at MREMS but is considered volunteer because of the limited number of hours and terms of service.

He found that the hours he put toward emergency response became even more valuable — and more appreciated — when the COVID pandemic struck in 2020.

"I knew we were going to be really busy," he recalls thinking.

He helped out where he could. Miller ended up giving a lot of COVID vaccinations.

"I never had people so happy to get vaccinations in their life," he said. Some gave him hugs.

With his 76th birthday coming up next month, Miller is one of the oldest paramedics working in Vermont — probably the oldest. And he understands that at some point he will not be able to keep up this pace. For now, his service continues.

"There's a lot of self-satisfaction," Miller said. "I really enjoy being with people and helping them."

"That's my motivation."

VOLUNTEERING IN RIPTON

Mark Nelson of Ripton has been volunteering in EMS since

2015 and currently volunteers for MREMS as an Advanced EMT two days a week (between 22 and 24 hours). He is the volunteer captain and head service for Ripton First Response. In Ripton he gets to use his skills as a Wilderness EMT and firefighter, as well.

Nelson said he volunteers so that he can help people, and do so for an emergency medical services agency allows him to serve people who have an immediate need — from dealing with minor medical problems to major trauma.

"Pre-hospital emergency medicine is very interesting and challenging," he said. "EMS agencies are short staffed across the state and can use more people interested in learning about pre-

hospital emergency medicine and helping their neighbors in a time of need."

He got into EMS after responding with his first aid knowledge to an accident involving injured cyclists on Route 116 shortly after moving to the area.

"I started volunteering at MREMS when I got my EMR (Emergency Medical Responder certification) and have stayed there as I progressed in my training," Nelson said. "MREMS was the closest full-time advanced life support and transport agency and they were welcoming to volunteers. We don't get very many EMS calls in Ripton and volunteering at MREMS affords me the opportunity to practice and learn more about pre-hospital

emergency medicine."

Nelson is a retired financial services executive who retired early to commit his time and energy to conservation, environmental, and social work.

Outside of EMS, he has a passion for forest protection and conservation and has been volunteering in this area for nearly 20 years. The chair for the Vermont Sierra Club Executive Committee from 2014 to 2018, Nelson currently chairs the non-profit Standing Trees board of directors; he is also a board member for the Association of Vermont Conservation Commissions.

Like Miller, Nelson is also an active person in town activities. He chairs the Ripton Conservation Commission.

You can also find Nelson spending time with his spouse, Barbara, hiking, biking in the forest, kayaking or taking part in any number of other outdoor activities.

Nelson and Miller are considered volunteers at MREMS, but they have the same responsibilities as the paid employees.

Rothwell, the MREMS chief, really appreciates the skills and perspectives that her organization's volunteers bring.

"Volunteers like Paul Miller and Mark Nelson bring with them decades of experience from outside EMS to our organization and with it share their different perspectives and skills with their patients and their colleagues," she said.



RIPTON'S MARK NELSON, left, and Bridport's Paul Miller are two of the 12 volunteers providing first response care at Middlebury Regional EMS. The two men get a lot of satisfaction out of helping people.

Photo courtesy of Spencer Chumbley

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Local farms get a boost from ACORN volunteers

By MARIN HOWELL

ADDISON COUNTY — Addison County residents need not look far for ways to support local farmers this spring.

Community members are invited to take part in several "working bee" brigades organized by the Addison County Relocalization Network in April and May. The volunteer groups will help tackle various projects on area farms, from onion planting to sheep shearing.

The events are part of an ongoing series of working bees, a program that kicked off in February as part of ACORN's new Farmer Climate Network.

So far, ACORN's working bees have helped farmers at Ferrisburgh's Boundbrook

Farm process soybeans and assisted with tomato planting at Singing Cedars Farmstead in Orwell.

"ACORN's two spring Working Bee Brigades have kicked off the project with a bang," said Lilah Krugman, ACORN's programs and outreach coordinator. "Our events at Boundbrook Farm and Singing Cedars Farmstead were filled with excitement, energy, and, of course, good food. The turnout and feedback from these events have been inspiring. We are excited to see where the project will go from here!"

The working bee brigades are inspired by similar farm work initiatives in South and Central America. Through the program, participants volunteer their time to complete

needed tasks on local farms.

The workshops typically last around seven hours and are open to local farmers, food producers and interested community members. Krugman said the first couple working bees brigades each attracted 8-15 volunteers.

"We have been delighted by the interest and excitement for our events. What a gift to live and work in a community that responds to a call for help so quickly and energetically," she said. "We are still trying to figure out what days and times work best to get farmers and farm workers more engaged with the events. As we plan for our next three events, we are trying to remain dynamic and flexible

(See ACORN, Page 2C)

ACORN

(Continued from Page 1C)
to the needs and interests of the participating farmers and food producers.”

In addition to giving local food producers a hand, the working bee groups are intended to encourage peer-to-peer learning and help more community members get out onto area farms.

“The Working Bee Brigades are a good opportunity for residents to get their hands dirty and work side-by-side with the climate heroes that are growing your food through mindful, ecologically-centered methods,” Krugman said. “Through helping farmers with essential tasks or projects, volunteers can foster a deeper connection with and understanding of where our food comes from.”

Krugman noted the ACORN team is grateful for the volunteers who have participated in the program thus far.

“It warmed our hearts to see folks, young and old, enjoying the work,” she said. “Your interest in and commitment to engaging yourself with the local

food system makes a difference, and we’re grateful for each and every one of you!”

Community members have three more opportunities to take part in working bee brigades this spring. Upcoming sessions will tackle:

- Onion planting at New Leaf Organics in Monkton from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. on April 28.

- Flower planting, sheep shearing and wool skirting at Stone’s Throw Farmstead in Shrewsbury from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. on May 5.

- Prepping a high tunnel at Frog Hollow Farmstead in Hubbardton from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. on May 19.

More information about upcoming working bees can be found at tinyurl.com/workingbees.

And community members can stay tuned for more working bee opportunities. The ACORN team plans to pause the workshops during the busy summer months but is hoping to continue using the working bee model to help area growers tackle on-farm projects moving forward.



ACORN'S WORKING BEE brigades are intended to help area farmers tackle various tasks with support from a team of volunteers. Here, participants at a March working bee event plant tomatoes at Singing Cedars Farmstead in Orwell.

Photo courtesy of Lilah Krugman



VOLUNTEERS OF ALL ages helped plant tomatoes and prep garden beds during an ACORN Working Bee at Singing Cedars Farmstead in Orwell last month. ACORN will host three more of the on-farm workshops this spring to help local food producers complete needed projects.

Photo courtesy of Lilah Krugman

“Through helping farmers with essential tasks or projects, volunteers can foster a deeper connection with and understanding of where our food comes from.”

— Lilah Krugman



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VOLUNTEER WEEK



MIDDLEBURY YOUNGSTERS Innis Hohenschau, left, and Autumn Spritzer hold bags of trash they had cleared from along the Otter Creek on Green Up Day 2023 as part of their Grade 5 project at Mary Hogan Elementary School.

Independent file photo/Steve James

Green Up Day is on its way

Want to go for a walk on May 4 and help make Vermont an even more beautiful place?

Pick up some trash along the roads and streams of the Green Mountain State that Saturday and join your neighbors in a Vermont tradition: Green Up Day!

Every year thousands of Vermonters in towns throughout the state volunteer their time to making our world a nicer and better place. Since 1970, Vermonters have greened up 13,000 miles of roadside in the nation's largest and oldest statewide green up event.

"This annual effort demonstrates our commitment to keeping our state and natural resources clean and as litter-free as possible," Gov. Phil Scott said before he geared up for a recent Green Up Day. "I want to encourage all Vermonters to get involved in Green Up Day — it makes a real difference and it's an important part of who we are as Vermonters."

Green Up Vermont's mission is to keep environmental stewardship exciting and rewarding for all. This year's theme is teamwork.

"We are introducing some special campaigns this year that focus on big teams and working together. In addition to all city and town efforts we are running a special VT Top to Bottom Green Up campaign that runs from the

Canadian border to Massachusetts along the Route 100 Scenic Byway. With volunteers placed at every mile it is essentially a 208-person relay team." Green Up Vermont Executive Director Kate Alberghini said in a recent press release. "Everyone will start at 10 a.m. and have Vermont Route 100 cleaned in approximately an hour."

Additionally, Green Up Vermont has announced it will attempt to earn a Guinness World Records in the category "The Most Pledges Received for Trash Clean Up in 24 Hours."

"The goal is to include all Vermonters and visitors who want to make the pledge," Alberghini said. "We have timed it around Green Up Day so that people will act on their pledge and be inspired to clean up some litter. We want the world to see how mighty our little state of Vermont can be. We are making history here."

Anyone can join the Green Up Day efforts by spending some time in their neighborhood or by getting involved with the VT Top to Bottom team and pledge to be a part of the Guinness World Record attempt by visiting greenupvermont.org.

Alberghini recently offered these "litter" statistics to spur on volunteers:

• Litter clean-up costs the U.S. more than \$11.5 billion each year.

• 55% of realtors believe litter reduces property values by 9%.

• Plastics in the litter stream have increased by more than 165% over the past 40 years.

• Tobacco products comprise about 38% of all roadway litter followed by paper (22%) and plastic (19%).

• 85% of littering is the result of individual attitudes.

• A strong contributor to littering is the prevalence of existing litter.

• Communities that have ongoing clean-up efforts have lower rates of littering behavior.

• Changing a few simple habits can reduce our waste and our carbon footprint.

"For all of you who participate in Green Up Day and who live the Green Up way every day, the impact you are making for Vermont and our planet is great," Alberghini said. "Your influence on changing the mindsets of others is so important to our next generation. If you have never joined in on Green Up Day, please grab a green bag and participate — it's easy and extremely fulfilling. We need you."

You can download the Green Up Vermont app from the Apple App Store and Google Play. For more information, visit greenupvermont.org.



WHILE CLEANING UP downtown Middlebury on Green Up Day 2022, Eliana Canas Parra found this five-dollar bill. Volunteering pays off in mysterious ways.

Independent file photo/Steve James



Volunteer to Green Up Vermont on Saturday, May 4

Local Green Up Day details for all Addison County towns

TOWN	COORDINATOR	PHONE	EMAIL
Addison	Starr Phillips	759-2421	sandtphillips@gmavt.net
Call Starr beforehand to pick up bags. Drop off full bags behind the Addison Baptist Church, where a Town dump truck will be parked Friday evening to Monday early morning.			
Bridport	Julie Howlett	758-2483	bridporttown@gmavt.net
Bags available at the Town Clerk's Office. Please bring full bags back to the trucks parked at clerk's office.			
Bristol	Carolyn Dash	881-7341	thecarolynash@gmail.com
Pick-up bags during the week before at the Town Office or on the Town Green the morning of Green-Up Day. Please leave your full green bags along roadsides no later than dusk on Sunday for the road crew.			
Cornwall	Sue Johnson, Kristin Bolton	462-2775	cornwallvt@shoreham.net
Bring full Green Up bags and other roadside trash to the Cornwall School, where town trucks will be parked Friday evening to Sunday midday. Do not leave bags along roads.			
Ferrisburgh	Deb Healey	475-2944	lumiere@gmavt.net
Bags available at Town Clerk's Office prior to and at the Ferrisburgh Central School 9-10 a.m. on Green Up Day. Drop off bags across from the Town Garage 10 a.m.-4 p.m. on Green Up Day only. Drop off site will be monitored.			
Goshen	Dave Sabatini	247-6350	dwsabatini1@gmail.com
Green Up Day BBQ for all volunteers 12 noon-2 p.m. Leave bags along roadsides for pickup.			
Granville	Cheryl Sargeant	767-4403	granvilletown@gmavt.net
Volunteers should check-in at the Moss Glen Grange Hall. Bring bags and items collected to the same location for collection by our local solid waste contractor.			
Hancock	Stacey Peters	770-0727	termagant@enivrez.com
Green Up Day bags and gloves will be ready for pickup at 8 a.m. in front of Town Hall.			
Leicester	Diane Benware	247-3786	dianembenware@gmail.com
We encourage pellet stove owners to reuse their pellet bags for Green Up Day. Leave bags on roadsides or bring to Town Garage on Fern Lake Rd. Cookout and raffle with prizes.			
Lincoln	Town Clerk		clerk@lincolnvermont.org
Bags available starting April 27 at the General Store, library and town office. Pick up bags & gloves at the firehouse 8 a.m.-noon; get a raffle ticket for each bag you drop off there by noon. Dumpster at the firehouse 7 a.m.-5 p.m. for Green Up trash only; don't leave full bags on the roadside.			
Middlebury	Liam Hickey, Jackson Moody, Elizabeth White	477-3247	liam@maltvt.org jacksonwmoody@gmail.com elizabeth@maltvt.org
Bags available at the Town Clerk's office. Filled bags can be dropped off 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at the town trucks located at 1) "New" park across from Twilight; 2) Town Public Works building on Route 7 South.			
Monkton	Deb Gaynor	425-2178	townclerk@monktonvt.com spilcher@monktonvt.com
Pick up bags at the Town Hall and Library the week before Green Up Day, and at the Town Hall 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. Leave green bags along roads or drop off at the Town Garage.			
New Haven	Suzy Roorda	453-5978	skroorda27@gmail.com
Pick up bags at Town Office/Library 9 a.m.-12 noon. Leave full bags along roads for the town crew to pick up Monday after Green Up Day.			
Orwell	Cindy Watrous Barbara Young	948-2751 948-2537	sawatfarm@gmail.com byoung@shoreham.net
Pick up bags at the Town Clerk's office, Buxton's and Orwell Gas & Co. prior to Green Up Day. Town crew will go around and pick full bags up on roadsides.			
Panton	Louise Giovannella Paula Moore	349-0347 989-4632	louise@gmavt.net pmmoorevt@gmail.com
Pick up bags at 1480 Hopkins Road. Bring full bags to the Town Garage or leave at the roadside in a place that is safe for pickup by road crew.			
Ripton	Steve Zwicky	388-2301	stevenzwicky@yahoo.com
Pick up bags at Town Office, Ripton Country Store, or the town shed on Green Up Day. Drop off bags through the following Saturday at town shed. Food at Town Shed on Green Up Day 11 a.m.-12 noon.			
Salisbury	Christine Turner	352-4778	geojewel@yahoo.com
Bags and pick up routes will be distributed to early bird email list beginning April 19. Remaining routes and bags distributed on Green Up Day, May 4, at Kampersville Store, Route 53, 8-10 a.m. Leave filled Green Up bags on main roads to be picked up Green Up Day by 3 p.m. by volunteer truck drivers. All bags will be counted and deposited in a town truck at the Town Highway Shed on Upper Plains Rd, not the Transfer Station. If bags are brought in by residents a tally slip must be filled out.			
Shoreham	Pauline Stevens	897-7031	greenupshoreham@gmail.com
Pick up bags during normal business hours at the Halfway House Restaurant, Platt Memorial Library, Shoreham Elementary School, Golden Russet Farm, Champlain Orchards, the Shoreham Post Office, town clerk's office, and Saturday morning at recycling. Drop off filled bags at the fire station May 4-10. Volunteers will be available from 8 a.m.-noon on Green Up Day to help you unload your bags and give out coupons for goodies donated by local businesses. Please do not leave bags on the roads! Refreshments and energy committee info available at the church in the morning.			
Starksboro	Becky Trombley	453-7350 H 377-0787 C	trombh@accessvt.com
Bags and gloves available the week before Green Up Day at the Town Clerk's Office, Starksboro Public Library, and the Jerusalem Store. On May 4, Green Up Day trash may be dropped off at the Town Garage between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m.			
Vergennes	Lowell Bertrand	458-1052	lowell.bertrand@utas.utc.com
Bags available a few days before Green Up Day at City Hall or on Green Up Day 7 a.m.-noon at City Park. Volunteers asked to leave bags near intersections of city streets.			
Waltham	Waltham Town Office, Linda Devino, Cookie Steponaitis	877-3641	walthamvtOfficers@gmail.com
Bags available at the Town Hall. Please bring full bags back to Town Hall.			
Weybridge	Peggy Lyons	545-5966	snowywool@gmail.com
Green Up bags, sign up map and information available at Town Recycling Center before Green Up Day. Leave collected items on roads to be picked up by the road crew.			
Whiting	Rebecca Bertrand	349-9468	whitingaries@yahoo.com
Bags available at the town hall. Call me (349-9468) with questions and route assignments. Leave full bags along roadsides. Ice cream social after at the town hall at 1 p.m. on Green Up Day.			



4-H Leaders Who Are Shaping Our Future

If you see them say Thank You!



The University of Vermont Extension wants to thank our 4-H leaders, volunteers and Addison 4-H Foundation directors who dedicate hours of time and energy to the 4-H Youth Program in Addison County. These volunteers are the core of the 4-H Youth Program: the very reason for over 100 years of success!

- | | | | | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Becky Allen | Kelsey Bradford | Scott Gordon | Laura Lalumiere | Becky Plouffe | Shelly Smith |
| Joe Allen | John Chamberlin | Melanie Harrison | Heather Layn | Michael Plouffe | Wendy Smith |
| Janelle Ashley | Jacqueline Chase | Jeanette Hill | Bailee Layn-Gordon | Susan Quesnel | Samantha |
| Ashley Audet | Kylie Chittenden | Kendra Hutchins | Jeff Lester | Abby Reen | Sturtevant |
| Nancy Audet | Makayla Davis | Jake Jacobs | Dawn Livingston | Kristina Reen | Siri Swanson |
| Courtney Banach | AnneMarie Deering | Brian Kayhart | Karissa Livingston | Patrick Reen | Wendy Swanson |
| Sonya Barber | Elaine Desforges | Cindy Kayhart | Sadie Moulton | Abby Roleau | Brittany Trudo |
| Tara Barber | Tina Evens-Wright | Cassandra Kennett | Kathy Nisun | Martha Seifert | Jill Wade |
| Laurie Bertrand | Lise Fifield | Jennifer Kennett | Diane Norris | Robin Severy | Kristy Whipple |
| Victor Bolduc | Tricia Foster | Kathy Kennett | Barbara Palmer | Ashley | Cady White |
| Louise Bowdish | Pam Gevry | Renee LaCoss | Rebekah Parent | Severy-Audet | Maureen Whitney |
| | | | Sharlena Payne | Colin Siegmund | Stephanie Wilbur |
| | | | Michelle Perlee | Melinda Siel | Anna Willenbaker |
| | | | Janet Piper | Karri Smith | |



THE UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT
EXTENSION

VOLUNTEER WEEK



VOLUNTEERS ARE THE GLUE THAT KEEP US TOGETHER

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Lenore Morse

Suzanne Chornyak

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Sarah O'Donnell

Maggie Catillaz

Sabrina Warner



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Erica Andrus Addison County Readers

Erica Andrus, a resident of Ferrisburgh, has dedicated a year to volunteering with Addison County Readers, the local Dolly Parton's Imagination Library affiliate. Her role involves promoting the Imagination Library by collaborating with local preschools, libraries, town offices, and other organizations. She also assists in organizing events such as book readings by local children's authors like Ashley Wolff to encourage children to sign up for the program, which provides free books to Addison County



children monthly until they reach five years old. Having experienced the joy of the program with her own children, Erica finds fulfillment in giving back to her community and nurturing a love for reading among its children. Additionally, she has served on the ANWSD school board for two years.

Elizabeth Arms & Jerry Henderson Age Well

Ferrisburgh residents Elizabeth Arms and Jerry Henderson have been Age Well Tai Chi Instructors and Respite Volunteers for 10 and 7 years, respectively. When asked what they most enjoy about their volunteer roles, they responded "Without a question what we most



enjoy about volunteering is meeting new people and making new friends!"

Norman Beerman Porter Medical Center

Norman Beerman, a resident of Salisbury, has been volunteering at Porter Medical Center for 5 years. His volunteer role primarily involves working in the mailroom, where he assists in sorting mail and resolving any issues with addresses. Additionally, Norman occasionally helps out as a part-time greeter and takes on various odd jobs around the facility. He finds great enjoyment in volunteering, particularly in the satisfaction of



helping others and interacting with a variety of people. Norman's background as a retired postal worker allows him to bring valuable expertise to his role, aiding the Porter staff.

Bobbie Jean Booth Porter Medical Center

Manchester Center's Bobbie Jean Booth and her therapy dog, Calvin, have been volunteering at Porter Medical Center as part of the Pet Therapy program for 2 months. In their role, they visit with patients, staff, and hospital visitors, providing comfort and companionship with Calvin, who is a certified therapy dog. Bobbie Jean finds great joy in volunteering, particularly in witnessing Calvin bring smiles to people's faces.



In addition to her work at Porter Medical Center, Bobbie Jean also volunteers for Therapy Dogs of Vermont (6 months) and at Vermont Center for Ecostudies (10 years).

Sid Bosworth Age Well

Sid Bosworth, a resident of Vergennes, has volunteered with Age Well as a Meals On Wheels Volunteer for 2 years. He delivers meals each week on one of the routes out of Vergennes and occasionally substitutes for other drivers. Since retiring in 2020, Sid has found volunteering to be a way to become more engaged with his community. He has met wonderful people, both fellow volunteers and the constituents he serves.



Sid believes that "Addison County has many great folks that really care about their community". He has also volunteered with the Vergennes Food Shelf and Bixby Memorial Free Library for 3 years.

Wylie Cate HOPE

Wylie Cate, of Salisbury, has been volunteering with HOPE as an Egg Delivery Driver for 3 years. In her role, she picks up 60 dozen donated eggs from Maple Meadows Farm and delivers them to HOPE once a week. Wylie loves interacting with the staff and volunteers at both HOPE and Maple Meadows. Additionally, she



volunteers for events at her children's schools and organizations whenever possible.

Karri Crossman Evergreen Preschool

Karri Crossman, of Vergennes, has served on the Evergreen Preschool Board of Directors for 5 years. "As a member of the Evergreen Board of Directors, Karri has gone above and beyond to support and move the school forward", says Program Director Ashley Bessette. Karri has served as the diligent secretary, been the lead on many



successful fundraising events, and supported much of the public relations for the preschool during her time.

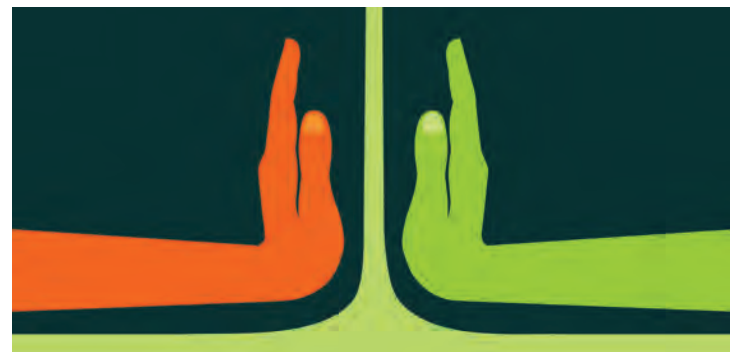
Glenna Densman Porter Medical Center

Glenna Densman, a resident of Vergennes, has been volunteering at Porter Medical Center as a Greeter for 1 year. In her role, Glenna warmly welcomes individuals entering the hospital, directs them to the Registration desk, and addresses any questions they may have. She finds great joy in volunteering, describing it as her "happy place". Glenna



loves interacting with people and finds everyone to be pleasant, enjoying the opportunity to talk with them.





VOLUNTEER WEEK

Maria Farnsworth Porter Medical Center

Maria Farnsworth, of Middlebury, has been volunteering at Porter Medical Center as a Greeter for 1 year. She enjoys the opportunity to chat with people and assist them with their needs, aiming to be a calming presence and a friendly face. In addition to her work at Porter Medical Center, Maria volunteers at Homeward Bound, where she offers Reiki to the animals, assists with



events, and serves as the Secretary on the Board of Directors. She has been volunteering at Homeward Bound for 7.5 years, with 2.5 years spent in her current role as Secretary.

Alem Hadzic Porter Medical Center

Alem Hadzic, a resident of Middlebury, has been volunteering at Porter Medical Center as a Care Support for the Emergency Department for 7 months. In his role, Alem provides emotional support and care to patients, families, and loved ones in the emergency department, especially during stressful circumstances. Additionally, he assists with tasks such as making beds, running blood work to the laboratory, and organizing and restocking supplies. He shares, "It is



truly a privilege to be able to positively impact the lives of so many different people and help make their experiences in the hospital easier." Alem also finds fulfillment in witnessing patients leave the emergency department in improved health.

Ellen Flight HomeShare Vermont

Middlebury's Ellen Flight has been a Staff Volunteer with HomeShare Vermont for 1 year. In her role, she interviews potential home-share hosts and guests, facilitating introductions and matches. Ellen says, "I like meeting new people, both hosts and guests, and helping arrange a positive experience for each person. It feels good knowing that I am helping someone and that we are doing our part to help with the housing situation in



Addison County." Ellen also volunteers at the Champlain Valley Unitarian Universalist Society by serving on several ministries, a commitment she has maintained for more than 25 years.

Edwina Ho HOPE

Edwina Ho, a resident of Shoreham, has volunteered with HOPE for 6 years as a Produce Grower and Gleaner. She grows produce for the food shelf, provides organic eggs when available, and participates in gleaning at local farms. Edwina finds fulfillment in meeting like-minded individuals and making a difference



by providing nutrient-rich foods for the underserved population.

Jill Fraga Bristol Family Center

Lincoln's Jill Fraga has been the Board Treasurer for Bristol Family Center for 8 years. She loves being part of something so important to the community.



Fred Hoff Porter Medical Center

Fred Hoff, of Bristol, has been volunteering at Porter Medical Center as a Greeter for 6 years. In his role, Fred welcomes people entering the hospital, chats with them, and assists them in finding their way to their destinations. Additionally, he takes on tasks such as wiping down the front desk and wheelchairs. Fred enjoys interacting with a



diverse range of people as they enter the hospital.

Donald Guptill Porter Medical Center

Cornwall's Donald Guptill has been volunteering at Porter Medical Center and Helen Porter for 1.5 years. In his role as a Patient Companion, Donald spends time visiting with residents at Helen Porter. Additionally, he serves as a Greeter at Porter Medical Center, where he welcomes and offers guidance to patients and visitors. Donald enjoys volunteering because it allows him to interact with a variety of people, including



those he knows or has worked with. He believes that a friendly greeting can significantly reduce any anxiety patients may have during their hospital experience.

Mary Anne Hoff Porter Medical Center

Bristol resident Mary Anne Hoff has been volunteering at Porter Medical Center as a Greeter for 6 years. Mary Anne welcomes individuals entering the hospital, engages in conversation with them, and assists them in finding their way to their destinations. Mary Anne shares, "I like interfacing with patients and employees as they enter the hospital,



maybe put a smile on their faces when they may need it".

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HEROES

are ALL who give their time and energy to helping others and the community around them.



We are especially thankful for our board members and for our agency volunteers who visit our patients and provide warmth and comfort.

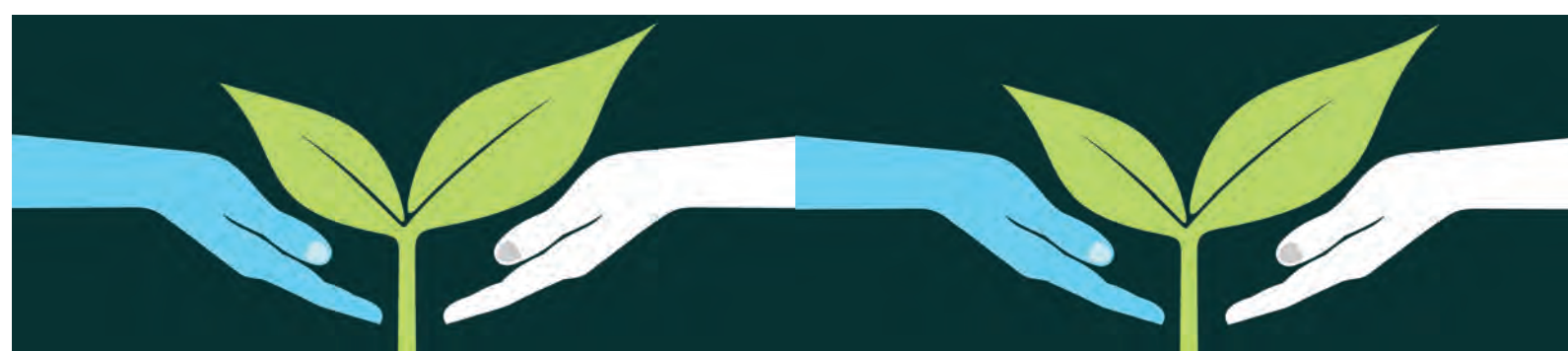
Want to join our community of volunteers?

Our in-depth comprehensive volunteer training is remote, online, and self-paced. If you are a trained volunteer or a new volunteer, we would love to meet you!

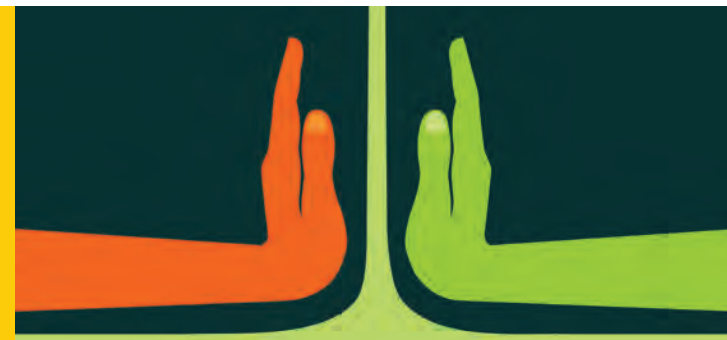
To learn more about our growing volunteer program please contact Kristen Wilson, Human Resources Director and Volunteer Coordinator at kwilson@achhh.org.



254 Ethan Allen Highway, New Haven (Rte 7) | ACHHH.org



VOLUNTEER WEEK



THANK YOU TO THESE LOCAL VOLUNTEERS

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Becky Allen
Joe Allen
Greta, Jessica, & Jeff
Allen-Buettner
Courtney Allenson
Amy Alvrado
Pat Anderson
Glenn Andres
David Andrews
Kris Andrews
Erica Andrus
Peter Antos Ketcham
Mary Apgar
Jackie Arel
Jeannette Armell
Sydney Armor
Brad Armstrong
Jenesis Artis
Sarah Ashe
Janelle Ashley
David Atkinson
Ashley Audet
Nancy Audet
Charlie Ayers

Dan Bagley
Dinah Bain
Priscilla Baker
Martha Baldwin
Megan Balparda
Anita Bamert
Courtney Banach
Ray Bapp
Marilyn Barbato
Sonya Barber
Tara Barber
Ellen Barbera
Janet Bark
Charlotte Barrett
Ted Barrett
Dana Barrow
Carrie Barrows
Bethany Barry
John Barstow
Kristen & Caleb Bartlett
Stacy Bartlett
Wendy Beach
David Bearor
Eileen Bearor
Karly Beavers
Ruth Beecher

Margie Bekoff
Beth Bemis
Sandy Bemis
Dick Bemis
David Bennett
Will Benson
Erin Bent
Art Berenbaum
Jennifer Bergevin
John Berninghausen
Laurie Bertrand
Debra Bessette
Taylor Betourney
Anna Betz
Michole Biancosino
Deb Bird
David Bishop
Robert Black
Cameron Blais
Beverly Blakeney
Gail Blasius
Ed Blechner
Victoria Blewer
Thomas Blum
Lynne Boie
Victor Bolduc
Gail Bordan
Dan Borden
Renee & Rafaela Botti
Clement Bourgon
Louise Bowdish
Shelbey Brace
Kelsey Bradford
Megan Brakeley
Kate Brewer
Kendra & Whitney
Bristol
Steve Brodeur
Pieter Broucke
Margo Brown
Stacey Brown
Mei Mei Brown
Betty Brown
Linda Brown
Nicole Brown
Steven Brown
Lisa Brunet
Wendy Bruso
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Arabella & Amelie Bull-Stewart
Susan Buonincontro
Sheila Burlock
Jamaica Burns
Julie Bushey
Diana Butler
Jake Butler-Jancose
Katy Butterly
Ken Button
Carol Buzby
Sue Byers
Bruce Byers
Kim Callahan
KC Carr
Cindy Carswell
Joanna Carter
Erica & Finn Castle
Wylie Cate
Holly Catlin

Nick Causton
Laurie Celik
John Chamberlin
Natasha Chang
Emily Chaplin
Randall (Randy)
Charboneau
Charlotte Chase
Jacqueline Chase
Tricia Chatary
Martha Chesley
Ronnie Chirnoff
Caleb Chisamore
Kylie Chittenden
Andrew Christensen
David Clark
Margaret Clerkin
Lynn Coale
Lucinda Cockrell
Tia Colangelo
Maria Collette
Rick Collins
Brandy Companion
Bella Conety
Sue Conley
Mary Conlon
Peter Conlon
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Maureen Conrad
JoAnne Conroy
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Elaine Coon
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Wendy Covey
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Vanda Crook
Rebekah Crossman
Kelsey Cummings
Tammy Curler
Elizabeth, Richard, & Helen Curran
Ceaira Cutsinger
Dan D'avignon
Karen Danyow
Beverly Darling
Scott Darling
Polly Darnell
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Carolyn Davis
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Craig Davis
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Suzanne Douglas
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Frankie Dunleavy Yeaton
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Nancie Dunn
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Emilio
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Barry Estabrook
Deb Evans
Tina Evens-Wright
John Fallon
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Delsie Farnsworth
Lillian Feldhusen
Irina, Victor, & Sole
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Frank Finnerty
Peggy Fischel
Martin & Annika Fjeld
Michele Fleming
Randy Fleming
Kelly Flynn
Ned Flynn
Sandy Fogg
Barbara Foote-Hennessy
Nancy Foster
Tricia Foster
Ellery Foutch
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Lee Francis
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Janet Franklin
Aven Frankovic
Chris Frappier
Janet Fredericks
Suki Fredericks
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Robin Huestis
Jenna Hunsinger
Patti Hunt
Rachel Hunter
Gale Hurd
Lynda Hutchins
Kendra H. Hutchins
Maude Irwin
Nancy Iwanicki
David, Marek, & Amanda
Jablonski
Summer Jack
Ingrid Jackson

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| Jake Jacobs | Liam Liberty | Patricia New | Ophelia, Owen, & Chloe | Carolyn Siccama | Lance Thompson |
| Melissa Jarmel | Sue Liberty | Sadie Nezin | Ralph | Ben Siegfried | Carly Thomsen |
| Mark Jensen | Maddy Lieblein | Tom Nicholson | Truett Ramsey | Colin Siegmund | Val Tilford |
| Mary Jerome | Eliza Ligon | Helena Nicolay | Yvonne Rathbun | Melinda Siel | Lorraine Tobias |
| Lorri Jerry | Cheryl Liu | Kathy Nisun | David Rathburn | Joey Siesholtz | Jim Tobin |
| Bill Jesdale | Dawn Livingston | MaryHeather Noble | Melanie Redel | Chloe Silverman | Barbara Tomb |
| Marie Jewett | Karissa Livingston | Jeffrey Noel | Abby Reen | Doug Sinclair | Kathryn Torres |
| Brenda Jimmo | Melissa Lourie | Marcia Nop | Kristina Reen | Julie Skarha | Richard Tremblay |
| Shelbey Jimmo | Linda Lucia | Diane Norris | Patrick Reen | Kristie Skor | Brittany Trudo |
| Carol "Skilty" Johnson | Ted Lylis | Dave, Camila, & Natalia | Steve Reigle | Gerry Slager | Walter Vaillancourt |
| Carol Johnson Collins | Jeff Mack | Nulsen | Alice Reynolds | Mike Small | Josh Valentine |
| Christina Johnston | Paula Mack | Donna Oliver | Sheila Rheame | Paul Smith | Amanda & Hazel Van |
| Susan Jones | Kathy Mackey | Ginie Olson | Gabriela Rhodes | Tom Smith | Dellen |
| Jennifer Jurasen | Neil Mackey | Isabel Olson | Llyn Rice | Laura, Aaron & Zeld | Cynsy Van Santen |
| Dan Kane | Sue Mackey | Deina & Elliot Olstad | Dennille & Rowan | Smith | Jeremy Van Santen |
| Ellen Kavanagh | Jill Madden | Rebecca & Elizabeth | Richard | Greg Smith | Carolyn Van Vleck |
| Brian Kayhart | Larry Maier | Otey | Pearl Riney | Jerry Smith | Ginny VanHazinga |
| Cindy Kayhart | Mariah Malloy | PAHCC Construction | Joanie Roberge | Tom Smith | Carolyn Vanty |
| David Kearns | Dorothy Mammen | Technology Class | Amy Roberts | Karri Smith | Stephanie Volk |
| Maggie Keith Gerakos | Joyce Mao | Barbara Palmer | Liz Robinson | Shelly Smith | Midd Volunteers |
| Mandy & William Keller | Donn Marcus | Ashley Paquette | Chanda Rochon | Wendy Smith | Jill Wade |
| Crystal, Michael, & | Conor Marrinan | Chelsey Paquin | Abby Roleau | Pam Spatafora | Christina Wadsworth |
| Kaitlyn Kelley | Rux Martin | Janet Paquin | Nancy Rooney | Tristan Spaulding Joseph | Connie Wagner |
| Carolyn Kelley | Donna Masterson | Rebekah Parent | David Rosenberg | Nancy Spears | Kim Walker |
| Linda Kelton | Nancy Maxwell | Elsie & Ida Parini | James Ross | Paula Spellacy | Anne Wallace |
| Judith Kennedy | Chip Mayer | Faith Parkins | Middlebury Rotary Club | Sue Spitzner | Delores Walton |
| Cassandra Kennett | Erin Mazur | Linda Paskiewicz | Marielle Rousseau | Cynthia Stacey | Nancy Ward |
| Jennifer Kennett | Virginia Mazzoni | Sharlena Payne | Nancy Rowe | Randall Stacey | Sarah, Noah, & Silas |
| Kathy Kennett | Stuart McAninch | Jim Peabody | Ron Rucker | Heather Stafford | Warner |
| Buzz Kernan | Patty McCormick | Nancy Pecca | Nancy Rucker | Sarah Stahl | Judy Werner |
| Darren Kerr | Darci McDonald | Joanna Peckham | Paige Russell | David Stameshkin | Eliza West |
| Mary Ann Kittinger | Steve McElroy | Sarah Peluso | Elaine Russell | Beth Stanway | Deborah Wetmore |
| Iris Knowles | Amy McGill | Sue Perine | Amey Ryan | Darlene Stark | Kristy Whipple |
| Linda Knutson | Sarah McGrath | Michelle Perlee | Rebecca Ryan | Susan Stasny | Owen White |
| Barb Kohler | Ed McGuire | Bruce Perreault | Cheryl Ryder | Rebecca Stearns | Cady White |
| Jenny Koopman | Richard McKerr | Merrie Perron | Janice Sabatt | Will Stenzel | Edgar Whitney |
| Jill Kopler | Candy McLaughlin | Wells Peterson | Louise Sandberg | Judy Stevens | Maureen Whitney |
| Mike Korkuc | John Melanson | Carl Petri | David Sandler | Pauline Stevens | Richard Wien |
| Max Kraus | Lucy Menard | Pam Pezzulo | Lena Sandler | Pat Stevenson | Stephanie Wilbur |
| Cate Kreutzen | Gardner Merriam | Terri Phelps | Santo Santoriello | Sara Stevers | Mark Wilch |
| Sonia & Liam Kulhowick | Barbara Merz | Peggy Phelps | Gary Sarachan | Amy Stockman | Tracey Wilhelm |
| Sarah Kurtz | John Metcalfe | Lance Phelps | Lisa Sargent | Robie Stoner | Anna Willenbaker |
| Renee LaCoss | Rick Miller | Annette Picher | Mary Saudade | Victoria Stowell | Rhonda & Jing Williams |
| Jeffrey Ladd | Adam Miller | Lorraine Pierce | Molly Saunders | Walt Stowell | Kate Williams |
| Ernest LaFramboise | Cece Mills | Heather Pierce Post | Chris Schaner | Karen Straim | Allen Wilson |
| Laura Lalumiere | Ethan Mitchell | Stephen Pilcher | Monica Schaner | Samantha Sturtevant | Nancy Wilson |
| Evelyn Landis | Cathy Molloy | Deb Pinkerton | Lilo Scheeler | Willa Sullivan | Paula Wilson |
| Margaret Lane | Chris Monje | Shawn Pinsley | Peter Schenck | Christie Sumner | Wendy Wilson |
| Erica Langston | Ron Monroe | Janet Piper | Ted Scheu | Cindy Sumner | Mimi Wlodarczyk |
| Edna LaPerle | Ellyn Montgomery | Penny Ploof | Marita Schine | Peter Sutherland | Arlette Woods |
| Yvette LaPete | Essa Moodie | Nikhil Plouffe | Kathryn Schloff | Siri Swanson | Jaclynne Wootten |
| Kati Larocque | David Moore | Becky Plouffe | Jaime Schneider | Wendy Swanson | Lauren Wright |
| Erin & Ella LaRose | Sophie Moore | Michael Plouffe | Richard Schneider | Stephanie Sweeney | Vijaya Wunnava |
| Gina Larrow | Alan Moore | Bob Poirier | Addison Schnoor | Rose & Lily Swinton | Beth Wyer |
| Nancy Larrow | Emmet Moseley | Tosha, Ella, & Case Pope | James Scott | Elizabeth, Jude, Franklin, | Skip Wyer |
| Tulip Larson | Janet Mosurick | Sarah Pope | Hileia Seeger | & Hendrix Sylvia | Max Xia |
| NC Lathrop | Sadie Moulton | Chuck Post | Jon Seeley | Adele Szilardi | Dana Yeaton |
| Matt LaValley | Gayle Muenchow | Heather Post | Martha Seifert | Nikky Sztachelski | Bruce Yelton |
| Sarah & Hazel Lawrence | Jennifer Murphy | Suzanne Potente | Kerry & Kiera Sell | "T" Tall | Amy Young |
| Larry Lawson | Marie Murphy | Ben Powers | Jazzlynn Senecal | Libby TenBarge | Deborah Young |
| Dianne Lawson | Jan Murray | Linda Punderson | Abi Sessions | Alex&Travis | John Zahn |
| Heather Layn | Caitlin Myers | Spence Putnam | William Sessions | Tenenbaum-Pigman | Pat Zeliff |
| Bailee Layn-Gordon | Scott Myrick | Will Pyle | Robin Severy | John Tenney | Kai Zhang |
| Candie Leavitt | Anne Myrick | David Quesnel | Ashley Severy-Audet | Bern Terry | Lance Zimmerman |
| Irene Lederer LaCroix | Mike Nason | Susan Quesnel | Maggi Shadroui | Marie Theberge | |
| Michelle Leftheris | Marilyn Needham | Diane Quiet | Pam Shafer | Andie Thompson | |
| Susie Leonard | Ruby Neustadt | Justine & Vivienne | Linda Shandrow | Karisa & Myla Thompson | |
| Jeff Lester | Marybeth Nevins | Rafferty | Bobbie Shinehouse | Casey Sue Thompson | |



VOLUNTEER WEEK

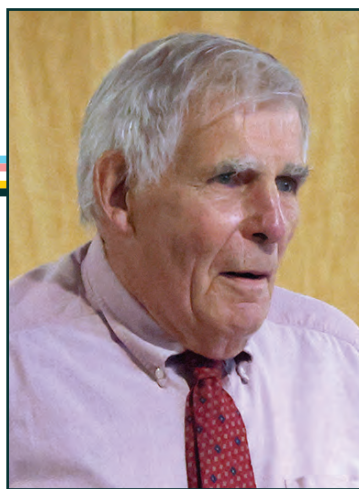


Thank you, volunteers,
for helping to keep
the wheels turning!

www.hope-vt.org

Bill Jesdale Vermont Adult Learning

Lincoln's **Bill Jesdale** has devoted 10 years to volunteering as a Math Tutor with Vermont Adult Learning. Bill works with students on mathematics one morning each week. Each student is working toward his or her high school diploma or a GED. He not only focuses on math content but also assists students with test-taking skills. He finds joy in volunteering because it allows him to work with unique individuals, helping them succeed and gain confidence. Bill emphasizes, "My challenge



is to understand what each person understands, how he or she understands it, and how best to help each student gain new insights and confidence." Apart from Vermont Adult Learning, he has also volunteered at the Lincoln Community School and provided assistance to individual students in the five-town area.

Marie Lennon Porter Medical Center

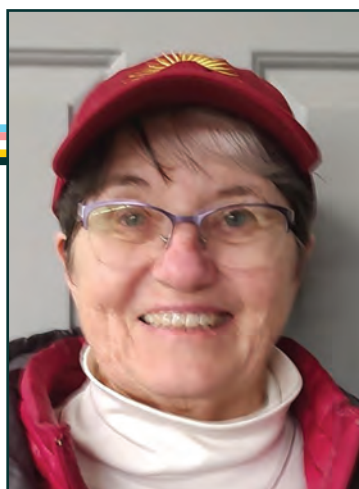
Marie Lennon, a resident of Middlebury, has been volunteering at Porter Medical Center as a Greeter for 1 year. Marie warmly welcomes individuals entering through the Emergency Department, directing them to various departments within the hospital. She finds fulfillment in volunteering, expressing, "I was a nurse for 22 years and I really missed it. Seeing everyone that comes into Porter Medical Center and helping them kind of gives that



back to me. I wish I had started volunteering a lot sooner. Also, when I am able to make someone smile, it makes my day!". Apart from her work at Porter Medical Center, Marie has also volunteered at the Charter House Coalition.

Linda Kelton HOPE

Middlebury's **Linda Kelton** has volunteered at HOPE as a textile mender for a little over a year. She sews on missing buttons and does minor mending to donated textiles. Linda says, "I like volunteering at HOPE, mending clothes for their Resale Shop. There are great people there to work with and I get a lot of



satisfaction helping them and in turn, helping our community."

Anne Lindert Porter Medical Center

Anne Lindert, of Vergennes, has been volunteering at Porter Medical Center as a Greeter for 1 year. In her role, Anne's primary responsibilities include greeting people and offering assistance as needed while maintaining awareness of those present. Reflecting on her volunteer experience, Anne



shares, "Meeting people – I enjoy the patients and the co-volunteers! I have made beautiful friendships!"

Rosie Kemp Porter Medical Center

Middlebury's **Rosie Kemp** has been volunteering at Porter Medical Center as a Greeter for two decades! Rosie's duties include greeting people, assisting with meal deliveries for staff, escorting patients to appointments, mailing projects, and handling various odd jobs as needed. Rosie finds great enjoyment in volunteering, especially



being able to socialize with both familiar and new people while helping those in need.

Jake Lyons Porter Medical Center

Middlebury's **Jake Lyons** has been volunteering at Porter Medical Center for 1 year as a Greeter and Med/Surg Care Assistant.

In his role as a greeter, Jake assists individuals around the hospital, provides companionship to family members awaiting procedures, runs errands for hospital staff, and offers a friendly presence at the front. As a Care Assistant, he helps streamline operations for the staff by stocking gowns, preparing patient bags, and maintaining patient comfort.

Jake's most rewarding aspect of volunteering is helping individuals navigate the often challenging circumstances encountered



in a hospital setting. He shares, "The most rewarding part of the job is helping people cope with the often-difficult scenarios faced by patients in a hospital." Jake believes that simple acts of kindness, such as conversing with patients, listening to their stories, and assisting with basic needs, greatly enhance the patient experience by providing a human touch during stressful times.

Connie Kenna HomeShare Vermont

Middlebury's **Connie Kenna** has been a HomeShare Vermont Staff Volunteer for an impressive 19 years! Connie interviews potential home-share hosts and guests, facilitates introductions and matches, and provides ongoing support. She loves hearing the life stories of so many different types of people, getting to know Addison County, and contributing in a small way to the current



and ongoing housing crisis. Connie has volunteered extensively over the years but currently HomeShare Vermont is her focus.

Kathy Mackey HOPE

Middlebury's **Kathy Mackey** has volunteered in HOPE's warehouse for 9 years. She assists in pricing the items donated by the community for resale. She loves working with the HOPE employees and sharing a common purpose of assisting others. Kathy also



volunteers as a guardian ad litem.



We are grateful
for all volunteers
who help our
community grow strong!



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VOLUNTEER WEEK

Chip Mayer Porter Medical Center

Chip Mayer, a resident of Middlebury, has been volunteering at Porter Medical Center for 13 years as a Care Support Volunteer in the Emergency Department.

Chip provides extra care and attention to patients and their loved ones, offering comfort through actions such as providing blankets, lending a listening ear, and ensuring they feel remembered amidst the busyness of the emergency department. Chip also acts as a communication bridge between patients and medical staff. "Knowing that my caring presence can turn



a fearful event into a less stressful experience", she states.

Chip also volunteers with Wellspring, a singing group providing music for Palliative and Hospice patients, for about 16 years, and at Homeward Bound, providing Animal Reiki for shelter cats, for about 6 years.

Reyna Morgan-Richer Porter Medical Center

Middlebury's **Reyna Morgan-Richer** has been volunteering as a Bereavement Companion with Porter Medical Center's Palliative Support Services for two years. In her role, she co-facilitates Death Café discussions, provides companionship to individuals experiencing grief, is involved in an 8-week grief support group, and visits patients in palliative care at the hospital and Helen Porter. Additionally, she participates in bi-weekly meditation sessions for volunteers over Zoom.

Reyna finds the discussions surrounding dying, death, and the



grief process to be deeply meaningful. "Grief and death are undeniably a part of life, and oftentimes it is hard to find words to express the feelings, emotions, and thoughts many of us have around this topic," she claims. Reyna's goal is to create a safe space for these conversations, break the stigma around discussing death, and normalize the topic within the community.

Elizabeth T. Oettinger Porter Medical Center

Elizabeth T. Oettinger, of Middlebury, has dedicated 14 years of service as a palliative support volunteer and a member of the Wellspring Singers at Palliative Support Services at Porter Medical Center. In her role, she sits vigil with patients in their final moments and lends her voice to the Wellspring Singers, providing comforting music to those nearing



the end of life. To further support her community, Elizabeth also extends her volunteer efforts to Addison County Restorative Justice and St. Stephen's Church.

Autumn Rakowitz Homeward Bound

Shelburne's **Autumn Rakowitz** has been providing a foster home for cats and kittens through Homeward Bound for 1 year. She opens her home to these animals, providing them with care, love, cuddles, and playtime. Autumn finds joy in watching them thrive, grow, and develop confidence, as



well as the laughter and love they bring into her life.

Steve Reigle HOPE

Weybridge resident **Steve Reigle** has helped with HOPE's food delivery services for 8 years. He delivers monthly food boxes to folks who cannot go to HOPE and pick them up. Steve's favorite aspect of volunteering is visiting with the people when he drops



off their delivery.

Sadie Sadler Page One Literacy

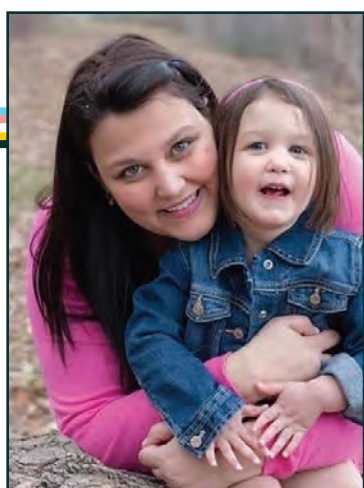
Sadie Sadler, from Middlebury, currently serves as the president of Middlebury College's Page One Literacy Project and Middlebury College's Sibling to Sibling Program, where she has been involved for 2 years. In her role, she coordinates volunteer opportunities and events with community partners, oversees groups of Middlebury College student volunteers, and engages with children in Addison County. This involves activities such as reading books with children weekly at elementary schools (Page One) or leading



identity summits with middle school students (Sibling to Sibling). Sadie finds joy in being around children and assisting them in their learning process. Building close relationships with them and witnessing their growth is particularly rewarding for her, aligning with her passion for working with children as a future teacher.

Jena Santa Maria Evergreen Preschool

Jena Santa Maria, of Vergennes, has volunteered on the Evergreen Preschool Board of Directors for 6 years. Jena's ambition and foresight have been a valued quality of her work as a Board member at Evergreen Preschool. With a law background, Jena's education and experience have been most valuable, especially during the pandemic. She has spent



endless hours reviewing documents, helping with fundraising efforts, and moving the preschool through its strategic planning process.




The Middlebury Knights of Columbus Council 642 contributes/volunteers at a significant level for its parishes needs and causes. Additionally, the Knights have made the worthy causes of the greater Middlebury community a central focus of its volunteerism and financial contributions on a regular basis. These include Addison County Special Olympics, HOPE food shelf, Charter House daily and Friday night meals and cold month shelter for those in need, student scholarship grants, Bishop's Fund, Camp Takumta, Christain Service committee, family and youth ministry, Middlebury Amateur Hockey, The Yellow House and The Women's Center.

We extend our sincere thanks to all of you who contribute to and support our fundraisers in order that we can continue our mission of charitable efforts in the greater community.

MIDDLEBURY KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
FATHER DALEY COUNCIL 642



Thank you,
Addison County
Volunteers
for working so hard
for our community!

United Way  United Way
of Addison County

UnitedWayAddisonCounty.org
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Homeward Bound Addison County's Humane Society

Homeward Bound wants all our volunteers – our board members, our dedicated dog walkers and cat socializers, our dynamic community outreach ambassadors, our tireless foster care families, our clerical and customer service folks, and everyone in the community who steps up when asked for help – to know how very grateful we are for your support and commitment!



Homeward Bound Addison County's Humane Society



Please visit our website
www.homewardboundanimals.org
for information on our
volunteer and foster programs.

236 Boardman St. • Middlebury • 388-1100



VOLUNTEER WEEK




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Vermont Adult Learning extends a heartfelt thank you to our dedicated volunteers in Addison County.


Your support is invaluable to our staff and students. We couldn't do it without you!



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Please visit www.vtadullearning.org or call (802) 388-4392 to learn more.



A big THANK YOU to all the volunteers who contribute so much to the quality of so many lives.



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Molly Saunders Homeward Bound

Molly Saunders, a volunteer at Homeward Bound, has been dedicating her time to Cat Land for 6 months, along with some additional time before Covid. Her primary role involves socializing cats and small animals by giving them attention. She particularly enjoys spending time with shy and fearful animals, believing that one person's effort can help them feel safe and start trusting people. Molly also assists with feeding and cleaning when needed and aims to train as a dog volunteer in the future. Molly shares, "My favorite part of volunteering at Homeward Bound is watching the animals progress from the time they come in to the time they



are adopted." She notes the transformation some animals undergo, from being traumatized and scared to finding loving homes. Molly expresses a desire to spend all her time at Homeward Bound and speaks highly of the staff, whom she describes as "a really special group of people". Molly has previously volunteered at Neat Repeats, United Way of Addison County, Art from the Heart, Camp Daybreak, and the DREAM program.

Darla Senecal Bristol Family Center

Darla Senecal, a Bristol resident, has been a Board Member of the Bristol Family Center for 5 years. Her role involves supporting the BFC Director, participating in decision-making, and ensuring adherence to written policies. Darla finds satisfaction in contributing to high-quality early care and learning opportunities for children and families in the town, guiding and supporting leadership to create a nurturing environment. She loves



helping create a caring and exciting place for children to learn about the world around them. Darla has also volunteered with the Early Care and Learning Partnership for 5 years. She just completed two 2-year terms on the Bristol Selectboard.

Abigail Sessions HomeShare Vermont

Abigail Sessions, a resident of Weybridge, has volunteered with HomeShare Vermont as a Staff Volunteer for 1 year. In her role, she interviews potential home-share hosts and guests, facilitates introductions and matches, and offers ongoing support. Abigail says, "What I enjoy is helping to make a small dent in the housing shortage and seeing people who really appreciate the



companionship of living together." Additionally, she volunteers at Gather and through the Champlain Valley Unitarian Universalist Society.



Kristin Swartzentruber Beeman Elementary

New Haven's Kristin Swartzentruber has been a Four Winds Nature Institute School Coordinator and School Garden Educator at Beeman Elementary for 6 years.



Kristin's love for the natural world helped her find a pathway into Beeman Elementary where she is supporting and teaching nature-based learning for all children grades K-6. Kristin started as a Four Winds Science Teacher through the school's volunteer program and then moved in to take over full coordination of the program.

Additionally, Kristin has moved into the 'Garden Queen' role at Beeman. During garden season, she comes to recess weekly and invites children to work in the school garden with

her to plant, prune, and harvest food that is used in the cafeteria. She also helps children maintain the school's pollinator garden. Kristin is an active member of Bee Friends (Beeman PTO) where she is instrumental in fundraising, community building, and helping to bring fun learning experiences to the school.

Beeman is grateful to Kristin for bringing access to the natural world to all of its children and staff. Kristin is also a New Haven Town Library Trustee (Vice Chair).

Val Tilford HOPE

Val Tilford, a Middlebury resident, has volunteered as a receptionist at HOPE for 6 years. In her role, she meets clients, records visits, and answers the phone. When asked what she most enjoys about her position Val responded, "Everything! Meeting, helping, and working".



Susan Torncello Evergreen Preschool

Shelburne's Susan Torncello has served on the Evergreen Preschool Board of Directors for 10 years. Susan was a co-founder of Evergreen in the early 80s and has held the school close to her heart ever since! After taking a hiatus, she decided to join the Board of Directors and has been instrumental in the preschool's work around mission, vision, and strategic planning over the



last decade. Susan's deep understanding of early childhood and commitment to quality have made Evergreen the amazing place it is today.

Steve Webb Porter Medical Center

Steve Webb, a resident of Middlebury, has been volunteering at Porter Medical Center as a Greeter for a whopping 22 years. In his role, he warmly welcomes individuals at the upstairs entrance and offers assistance as required. Steve expresses his enjoyment of volunteering, stating, "The people - patients, visitors,



and staff. It is a pleasure to provide support however it is helpful!"



VOLUNTEER WEEK

Wellspring Singers Palliative Support Services at Porter Medical Center



Addison County's **Wellspring Singers** have volunteered with Palliative Support Services at Porter Medical Center for over two decades.

The Wellspring Singers offer music to patients,

family members, caregivers, and friends of those associated with Palliative Support Services and beyond. They say the most enjoyable piece of volunteering in this way is offering music to comfort

the soul, build connections, invite reflection, rekindle memories, and promote overall well-being. "We sing from our hearts, bringing to bedsides, and elsewhere, the gift of music to soothe and comfort."

The Wellspring Singers volunteer in this capacity throughout Addison County; including Porter Medical Center, local Residential Care Facilities, and in people's homes.

Deborah Wetmore Vermont Adult Learning



Middlebury's **Deborah Wetmore** has been a tutor with Vermont Adult Learning for 2.5 years. Her volunteer role at VAL is to work one-on-one with a student who wishes to improve their academic skills to complete a high school graduation program, acquire a GED, or master information that will be helpful in their employment.

Deborah says, "Meeting the students where they are and working together to plan what will be most useful and helpful is satisfying and fun. For instance, a chance to enjoy books together like *The Old Man and the Sea* or *A River Runs Through It* and know the possibilities are limitless is a joy".

Deborah values the diverse strengths, goals, and stories of the Vermont Adult Learners she works

with. She fondly recalls the collective satisfaction of a Waterbury participant achieving her GED. Before relocating to Middlebury, Deborah volunteered for many years at the Warren Library, where she appreciated collaborating with the directors, engaging in various programs, and serving a diverse audience. It was "the best portrait of a community at work and play". She also volunteered at Warren Elementary School, cherishing the community connections. On volunteering, Deborah says, "The prize is the people".

Barbara Whitney Porter Medical Center



Barbara Whitney, from North Ferrisburgh, has volunteered at Porter Medical Center as a Greeter for an impressive 19 years. In her role, she greets patients and assists them by directing and escorting them to various appointments within the hospital. Barbara finds great joy in volunteering, stating, "Meeting old friends and

patients, and developing new friendships with other volunteers. It is a great experience! Wonderful memories!"



Porter is a great option for those wanting to help Volunteer support is particularly meaningful to end of life patients

MIDDLEBURY — Porter Medical Center in Middlebury welcomes all volunteers who dedicate their time serving Porter's patients and residents. Your work is meaningful to our community.

There are many ways to volunteer, both at the hospital and/or from your own home.

If you do choose to volunteer onsite, please make sure you are comfortable volunteering with a mask, in accordance with our current COVID-19 restrictions. You can read Porter's welcoming policy online at tinyurl.com/PorterWelcome to learn more about current visitor restrictions.

Volunteers at Porter provide support in a variety of ways, including as:

- Greeters
- Wayfinders
- Companionship to patients
- Clerical support
- Vigil sitters

Porter would love to talk to you about volunteer opportunities. Call or email Kelly Walters, manager of Porter's volunteer & student services, at PMC-Volunteers@portermmedical.org or 802-382-3444.

Download and submit an application to be a Porter volunteer by going online to tinyurl.com/PorterVolApp. Student volunteers have a different application: tinyurl.com/PorterStudentVol.

Email your completed application to PMC-Volunteers@portermmedical.org.

END OF LIFE VOLUNTEERS

Palliative Support Services at Porter welcomes all volunteers who dedicate their time serving Porter Medical Center's patients and residents. Your work is meaningful to our community and we are grateful for your support.

Porter's Palliative Support Services has over 200 trained volunteers that provide practical and emotional support to hospice patients and their families facing the last year of life. Volunteers complete a 10-week, 30-hour training and become certified for hospice patient care. End of Life Services volunteers respond to a wide variety of requests for assistance and become an important part of the circle of care for patients and caregivers.

If you are considering becoming

a Palliative Support Services volunteer, reach out at 802-388-4701.

Palliative Support volunteers provide support in a variety of ways, such as vigil sitting, bereavement support, Wellspring Singers, musicians and spiritual care.

Porter's Wellspring Singers is a particularly rewarding opportunity for the right volunteer. Wellspring is a group of singers who offer music to patients, family members, caregivers and friends of those nearing the end of their lives.

With a diverse repertoire of songs, they strive to offer music that is meaningful to each person for whom they sing. In addition to singing a-cappella, they also offer instrumental accompaniment on harp, recorder, piano, guitar and flute.

These volunteers believe in the power of music to comfort the soul, build connections among people, invite reflection, kindle memories and promote a sense of wellbeing. Understanding that every person has different needs and responds to different types of music we personalize each singing experience

to the people in the room with us.

Music can have a profound effect. Among its many benefits, music promotes a sense of relaxation and inner calm, decreases anxiety and fearfulness, reduces pain and general discomfort and provides a sense of community and connectedness through a shared experience.

Wellspring volunteers are not professional performers but community members who sing from their hearts, bringing to bedsides, and elsewhere, the gift of music to soothe and comfort. They hope and believe it stimulates communication among patient, family and friends.

Porter Palliative Support Services Manager Louella Richer is at 802-388-4744 or lricher@portermmedical.org.



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Christine Fraioli, Realtor | 802.989.2234
cfvt@gmavt.net

WE APPRECIATE OUR VOLUNTEERS!

Atria Collective would like to thank our 60 dedicated volunteers who donated 6,817 hours of their time during the 2023 fiscal year by:

- Staffing our 24/7 hotline
- Assisting people in court
- Co-facilitating support groups
- Performing administrative tasks
- Serving on our Board of Directors

Atria Collective could not do our work without the dedication and commitment of our volunteers. Advocacy, education, & social change to end gender-based violence

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THANK YOU, VOLUNTEERS!

RSVP wishes to thank all the volunteers who contribute to the quality of our lives in Addison County. We are inspired by the many ways you support our community.

RSVP of Addison County
79 Court Street, Suite 7 Middlebury, Vermont 05753
802.388.7044 | volunteersinvt.org



Page One Literacy Project volunteers join Middlebury's Spooktacular every October, dressing up and handing out books and candy to kids in the local community.

THANK YOU!

Students, Faculty, Staff, and Community Partners for your continued dedication to strengthening communities around the globe.

-The Center for Community Engagement

Middlebury College

VOLUNTEER WEEK



Want to volunteer? The Red Cross needs you

BURLINGTON — It's National Volunteer Week (April 21-27) and the American Red Cross of Northern New England is recognizing the work of the selfless individuals here in Vermont who generously give their valuable time to support people in need.

Across the country, more than 275,000 Red Cross volunteers serve their communities by responding to disasters of all sizes; supporting the collection of blood to help patients receive the critical care they need; supporting members of the military and their families; helping communities prepare for emergencies around the globe and much more.

In 2022, Red Cross volunteers in Vermont responded to 142 local disasters and assisted 481 Vermonters who faced emergency situations. That same year, they

trained 6,662 people in lifesaving skills, installed 342 free smoke alarms and provided 664 services to military members, veterans and their families.

In July 2023, flooding devastated Vermont and hundreds of homes were destroyed. Red Cross deployed 300 to support those affected. Together with partners, the agency and many of its volunteers delivered 28,000 meals, 34,000 relief items and provided 986 overnight stays for 200 residents in 4 shelter.

"National Volunteer Week is time to honor these community heroes for their constant service and support," said Eric Gagnon, Regional Volunteer Services Officer, Northern New England Region. "They are the true heart of the Red Cross."

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteers are more critical than ever as the climate crisis worsens and the need for shelter, hot meals, health services, emotional support grows. The Red Cross is now launching nearly twice as many relief operations for major disasters than it did a decade ago, and with hurricane and wildfire seasons on the horizon, there's a critical need to fill volunteer positions.

Disaster Action Team Member: As a Disaster Action Team volunteer, be a source of refuge and support when it's needed most. From home fires to storms, unexpected emergencies happen every day, but you can help as a Red Cross volunteer.

Shelter Services: Support the day-to-day activities within an emergency shelter by helping with reception, registration, feeding, dormitory,

information or other areas within a shelter. Free online training will be provided.

Disaster Health Services: Use your professional skills as licensed healthcare providers to deliver hands-on care to people in shelters. There is also a need for Mental Health Services volunteers.

Visit redcross.org/VolunteerNNE to get started today. Training is free, but the hope you provide as a Red Cross volunteer to people in need is priceless.

The Red Cross also invites the public to sign up to become a volunteer blood or platelet donor. To schedule an appointment to donate blood or platelets, people can download the free Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit redcrossblood.org or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).



CAMILA BLANCO, a 2023 Middlebury Union High School graduate, was a recipient of a United Way of Addison County scholarship for high schoolers who volunteer. The organization is seeking applicants for this year's Live United Volunteer Scholarship. *Independent file photo*

Volunteer News Briefs

Helping amphibians draws a crowd

SALISBURY — 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. It's the annual amphibian escort night!

This spring the first one was in March, and there was another on Friday, April 12. Herpetologist Jim Andrews operated 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 eph — then sent us off into the night to find more.

In early March, volunteers counted 900 amphibians in one evening.

According to Andrews, the April event drew 74 volunteers of all ages, who tallied 575 amphibians of nine species over the course of two and a half hours. Many, if not most, of the citizens who ventured out on this damp evening agreed they'll be back next spring.

4-H volunteers essential to Quiz Bowls

VERMONT — The 4-H organization accomplishes a lot with kids thanks in large part to volunteers.

When 4-H horse members from throughout the state traveled to the University of Vermont in Burlington on April 7 for the 2024 State 4-H Horse Quiz Bowl, many volunteers worked hard to make the day a success.

The annual contest is designed to test their equine knowledge through a series of buzzer rounds where points were scored for knowing answers to questions on anatomy, feeds, coat colors, gaits, tack and other topics. The top 10 finishers in each age group received a rosette ribbon with the first-place winners also awarded a 4-H backpack.

Wendy Sorrell, the UVM Extension 4-H livestock educator who organized the event, was assisted by a number of volunteers from throughout Vermont. Volunteers who helped with scoring, registration and other tasks included Alexa Buskey of North Ferrisburgh and Shyanne Wedge of Shoreham.

Go on a 'Workcation' for VTF&W

VERMONT — The Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department is looking for volunteers to join them for fun-filled weekends to get two state-run Green Mountain Conservation Camps ready for the 2024 season. This year, the GMCC Kehoe "workcation" weekend will be May 11-12, and the GMCC Buck Lake workcation weekend will be May 18-19.

"We look forward to workcation weekend all winter long," said Education Specialist Hannah Phelps. "With the help of local volunteers, we spruce up both camps in preparation for the summer and enjoy being

outdoors knowing it's for a good cause — environmental education for today's youth."

Volunteers can participate for as long as they are able to — one hour, one day, or both days. They are welcome to stay overnight in onsite cabins or they can bring their own tents. Lunch and dinner will be provided.

The Buck Lake camp is in Woodbury, and the Kehoe camp is on Lake Bomoseen in Castleton. This is an excellent community service opportunity for Boy Scout and Girl Scout groups, as well as high school and college clubs. The Conservation Camps are looking for help with general repairs, construction, landscaping, painting, cleaning, firewood, and gardening. Participants are encouraged to bring their own tools, but the camps will have some available.

For more information and to register as a volunteer for one of these weekends, please email Hannah.Phelps@vermont.gov or call 802-249-4199.

Vermont's conservation camp program is unique because it is sponsored and directed by the Fish and Wildlife Department professionals who conserve Vermont's fish and wildlife species. Working biologists, foresters, wardens, and conservation educators teach young people about their role with Vermont's forests, wetlands, wildlife, and fish through interactive activities.

Take a break for a volunteer fair

LINCOLN — While folks are at the Lincoln firehouse for Green Up Day festivities on May 4, they are invited to check out the volunteer fair from 10 a.m. to noon. Community organizations will have tables set up with information about who they are, what they do and how you can get involved.

The hope is for this day to be a win-win for Green Up Day and raising awareness and volunteerism in the community.

Volunteer for a grant-funded project

ADDISON COUNTY — Through its Small Grant Program, Addison County Regional Planning Commission supports local municipal volunteers with in-state training opportunities. In the past few months the agency has provided \$60,000 through this program to support planning projects across the region.

These towns will receive this funding to support their volunteer planners:

- Cornwall: \$10,000 towards the Cornwall Outdoor Recreation Area (CORA) project.
- Orwell: \$10,000 towards updating zoning regulations.
- Pantton & Vergennes: \$10,000 to each towards surveying town boundaries.
- Ripton: \$10,000 towards a capital improvement plan.
- Monkton: \$10,000 towards the new town forest.
- Ferrisburgh: \$10,000 towards water system capacity planning.

United Way offers scholarships for teen volunteers

ADDISON COUNTY — United Way of Addison County fosters community service in all community members, especially our youth. On behalf of a generous donor, one Addison County student will be chosen annually for the Youth Volunteer Scholarship, recognizing a student who volunteers in their community and is interested in advancing their education.

This scholarship comes with a \$3,000 cash award for post-graduation education (college, trade school, Adult Education, etc.).

Last year, the LIVE UNITED Volunteer Scholarship Award was bestowed on Camila Blanco of Salisbury. Fluent in both Spanish and English, Blanco served as a volunteer at Open Door Clinic as their receptionist. She said it was a privilege to be a friendly face that welcomed patients into the clinic and communicated with them in a way that put them at ease in an unfamiliar setting.

Blanco graduated from Middlebury Union High School in June 2023. Julia Doucet, Outreach Nurse and Case Manager at Open Door Clinic, said that Blanco's presence at the clinic brightened many of their patients' days.

"At the end of a long work day, showing up to a warm welcome and a familiar accent is like a warm blanket," Doucet said. "Camila would engage in brief conversations with each patient, knowing the cultural expectation of asking about their families. She is a valuable member of our clinic team."

United Way of Addison County is seeking a high school volunteer to recognize this spring. The organization is now accepting applications for the 2023-2024 school year. Applications for the 2023 LIVE UNITED Volunteer Scholarship Award can be submitted to United Way of Addison County if the nominee meets the following criteria:

1. Senior in high school or equivalent.
2. 21 years old or younger.
3. Has volunteered in Addison County anytime within their high school years (grades 9-12).
4. The volunteer service has made an impact on the community, and their own personal learning.
5. Must be applying to or enrolled in an accredited post-graduation site (minimum 6-credit semester or the equivalent).
6. Participation in this scholarship award shall be on a voluntary basis.
7. Applicant must not be employed by UWAC or be a dependent of UWAC staff or board members.

Requirements

1. Completed Scholarship Application, which includes answers to the "Questions for Student" document.
2. A student resume of all applicable high school activities (sports, student government, activities, jobs, etc.).
3. Letter of reference from the organization or individual impacted by your service that answers the "Questions for Reference."
4. The scholarship funds will be made available to the educational institution in which the student is enrolled.
5. Payment will be issued by United Way of Addison County.

Interested students can go to the UWAC website to apply for this scholarship, or head online to unitedwayaddisoncounty.org/youth-volunteer-scholarship. Applicants must fill out and submit the application there or send it along with the "questions for students," student resume and letter of reference to: amyh@unitedwayaddisoncounty.org or via U.S. Mail to: Amy Hoekstra, United Way of Addison County, PO Box 555, Middlebury, VT 05753.

All application documents are due to United Way of Addison County by May 6. Winners will be notified later in the month.

Download an application online at tinyurl.com/ScholarshipVol.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED IN ADDISON COUNTY

Give back to those who once took care of us!
Your older neighbors need your help.
Join as volunteer today as an individual or business.

Volunteers needed across Addison County to deliver Meals on Wheels and be Friendly Visitors!

Contact the Volunteer Department:
802-662-5249 or volunteer@agewellvt.org



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Helpline: 1-800-642-5119

To learn more visit agewellvt.org



Programs, Athletics and Special Events
for Adults, Youth and Families

Summer Activity Guide

New Registration Site: middleburyvt.myrec.com

Middlebury Parks & Recreation Department • townofmiddlebury.org • May - August 2024

45th
Annual
Middlebury

Festival on-the- Green

July 7-13
2024

**Free, family-friendly music series
on the Village Green in Middlebury, VT**

Sunday, July 7, 2024

7:00 Twisted Pine: *Jazzy bluegrass, poppy indie-folk, & funky grooves band (two sets!)*

Monday, July 8, 2024

12:00: Magician Tom Verner

7:00 Samirah Evans: *Soulful jazz and blues vocalist*

8:30 Durham County Poets: *Canadian band offering blues, folk, soul, country, gospel & New Orleans swing*

Tuesday, July 9, 2024

12:00: Troubadour Jon Gailmor

7:00 Bread & Bones: *Harmony-driven acoustics trio with a strong traditional roots foundation*

8:30 Le Winston Band: *Montreal-based ensemble that blends French-Canadian roots with Zydeco & Cajun music*

Wednesday, July 10, 2024

12:00: No Strings Marionette Company

7:00 Bon DÉBarras: *Trio offering songs & rhythmic sounds with unambiguous Québec flavor (two sets!)*

Thursday, July 11, 2024

12:00: Stephen Gratto

7:00 Matt Larocca & Friends: *Styles that bridge jazz, folk, classical, & improvisation with musical surprises*

8:30 Myra Flynn: *Singer-songwriter & lyrical story teller offering a repertoire of original indie/soul songs*

Friday, July 12, 2024

12:00: Zili Misik

7:00 Zili Misik: *All-female group performing an acoustic & electronic fusion of roots music of the African diaspora*

8:30 The Krishna Guthrie Band: *Musical tapestry of roots, rock, blues, and modern influences*

Saturday, July 13, 2024

7:00 Vermont Jazz Ensemble Street Dance: *Big band sounds welcome you to boogie & jive!*

The Festival is supported by community donations and volunteers. Join us!

Support this year's festival at the "donate" link on our website or by mailing a donation to: Festival on-the-Green, PO Box 451, Middlebury, VT 05753

Check our website prior to shows for schedule changes.

Info: 802-239-1976 | festivalonthegreen.org



General Information

Mission Statement

The Middlebury Parks & Recreation Department (MPR) shall provide lands, facilities, and services for community members of all ages and all income levels. It shall provide programs for both sport and leisure. The department shall serve as instructor, facilitator, and partner in efforts to promote and improve quality of life for participants. MPR will work with an involved public and business community to provide a healthy and aesthetically pleasing environment with opportunities for cultural growth.

The department should be flexible enough to meet the changing needs and tastes of the community, while finding creative ways to deliver recreation programs and facilities that are affordable to the residents of Middlebury.

Contact Us

Office Hours: Monday – Friday, 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

(Office will close from 11:30-1:30 during summer months to allow us to serve free lunch)

Physical Address: 154 Creek Road **Mailing Address:** 77 Main St Middlebury, VT 05753

Other Contact Info: Phone: 802-458-8014/15

Facebook- Town of Middlebury Parks and Recreation

Middlebury Parks & Recreation Committee

Greg Boglioli –Chair and East Middlebury Representative

Tricia Allen – Ilsley Library Representative

Bill Ford- Memorial Sports Center Representative

Ethan Murphy- Middlebury At-Large

Melissa Kin- Middlebury At-Large

Mark Wilch- Middlebury At-Large

Megan Curran- Middlebury At-Large

Isabel Gogarty- Middlebury At-Large

Karen Duguay - ACSD Representative

Virginia Silvey - Alternate

STAFF OF MIDDLEBURY PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Scott Bourne - Superintendent

802-458-8015

sbourne@townofmiddlebury.org

Amber Power - Program Coordinator

802-458-8014

apower@townofmiddlebury.org

Brian Keil - Grounds & Maintenance | 802-388-8100 ext 219 | MiddRecMaintenance@townofmiddlebury.org

Important Registration Information

We are pleased to announce that we are switching our registration software to Myrec.com. The software is much more user-friendly and will provide a better experience for all involved. Because of this, everyone will need to visit the new site and create a family account before being able to register. The address of the new site is middleburyvt.myrec.com

ADVERTISING

The Addison Independent prints and distributes this publication four times per year. We welcome your advertisement for a business, program or event in our publication for a fee; please contact us for more specific information: ads@addisonindependent.com or 388-4944.

RESERVATIONS- Facilities and Sports Fields

Middlebury Parks & Recreation Department requests that all groups planning to use our facilities or fields please notify us in advance by making a reservation. Anyone wishing to make a reservation must complete a facility use application, available in our offices or online at the Town website. Facility Use Request Forms are considered on a first come, first serve basis, depending on availability. Rental fees may apply. For additional information regarding availability, rates, and reservations, contact the MPR offices at (802) 458-8014.



General Information

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

Programs may be canceled in the event of severe weather or power outages. MPR encourages you to do the following if you have any questions:

Call: MPR Offices, 802-458-8015

Check: Facebook - Town of Middlebury Parks & Recreation

REFUND POLICY

If you need to cancel your registration before the second session of the program, we will refund you a pro-rated registration fee, minus a 10% processing fee. After attending the second session eligibility for a refund is void.

- Please be aware that refund requests may take up to 30 days to process.
- Every effort is made to ensure that the information in this guide is accurate. We reserve the right to add, withdraw, or revise programs or events as needed. For more updated information, please visit our website often.

ACCESSIBILITY

Individuals with or without disabilities may register for all programs offered by MPR provided program safety can be met. The Department provides reasonable accommodation for people with disabilities. Contact MPR offices in advance of the program start date to discuss accommodation on a case-by-case basis.

NON-RESIDENT POLICY

Non-Residents of Middlebury are allowed to register for all Parks and Recreation programs. Non-Residents will be charged an additional fee of 15% for each program registered for. A Non-Resident is defined as someone who does not live in Middlebury or pay property taxes to the Town of Middlebury.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Middlebury Parks and Recreation is pleased to be able to offer scholarships to participate in all our programs. The scholarship guidelines are based on the free and reduced lunch guidelines within the schools. If you would like to apply for a scholarship or more information, please contact our office.



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MAY - AUGUST 2024 Important Summer Dates

MAY

- 2nd:** Swim Lesson, Tennis, Golf, Basketball, and Soccer Registrations Open (9:30am)
- 3rd:** Gymnastics Camp Registration Opens (5:30pm)
- 4th:** Middlebury Bike Swap
- 12th:** Vermont Sun Run Half Marathon

JUNE

- 4th:** Beginner Swing Dance Session 1, Level 2 Swing Dance Session 1
- 10th:** Swim Team Practices Begin
- 17th:** Town Pool Opens, Camp Kookamunga Week 1 – Blast Off to Summer, MiddNourishes Free Lunch Program Begins, Challenger Sports Soccer Camp - Session 1, Gymnastics Camp Ages 5-7 Session 1
- 23rd:** Vermont Sun Triathlon, Lake Dunmore Triathlon
- 24th:** Camp Kookamunga Week 2 – Need for Speed, Swim Lessons Session 1, Tennis Session 1, Vermont Voltage Soccer Camp, Beginner Session RMGC Junior Golf Camp, Gymnastics Camp Ages 8-11 Session 1
- 25th:** Intro to Filmmaking Camp, EC Hoop Camp Session 1

JULY

- 1st:** Camp Kookamunga Week 3 – Get Some Air, Tennis Camp - Session 2 (No class July 4th), Middlebury Skateboard Park Session
- 8th:** Camp Kookamunga Week 4 – Staycation, Swim Lessons Session 2, Tennis Session 3, Intermediate Session RMGC Junior Golf Camp, Gymnastics Camp Ages 5-7 Session 2, Middlebury Ultimate Frisbee Camp
- 8th:** Middlebury Ultimate Frisbee Camp
- 9th:** Beginner Swing Dance Session 2, Level 2 Swing Dance Session 2
- 12th:** EC Hoop Camp Session 2

- 15th:** Camp Kookamunga Week 5–Sliding through Summer, Tennis Session 4, Monarch SC Summer Camp, Middlebury Mayhem Youth Basketball Camp, Gymnastics Camp ages 8-11 Session 2
- 16th:** Advanced Filmmaking Camp
- 21st:** Vermont Sun Triathlon & Branbury Classic
- 22nd:** Camp Kookamunga Week 6 – Kookamunga Olympics, Swim Lessons Session 3- Evening Session, Middlebury Mayhem Youth Basketball Camp, Tennis Session 5, Gymnastics Camp Ages 5-7 Session 3
- 23rd:** Female Filmmakers Camp
- 29th:** Camp Kookamunga Week 7- Spirit Week, Tennis Session 6

AUGUST

- 2nd:** EC Hoop Camp Session 3
- 5th:** Camp Kookamunga Week 8 - Farm Days, Duncan Hoops Basketball Camp, Gymnastics Camp Ages 8-11 Session 3
- 6th:** Beginner Swing Dance Session 3, Level 2 Swing Dance Session 3
- 12th:** Camp Kookamunga Week 9 – Rolling Out of Summer, Challenger Sports Soccer Camp- Session 2, Advanced Session RMGC Junior Golf Camp, Gymnastics Camp Ages 5-7 Session 4
- 13th:** Lego Robotics Camp
- 18th:** Vermont Sun Triathlon & Lake Dunmore Triathlon
- 19th:** Camp Kookamunga Week 10 – That’s a Wrap, Gymnastics Camp Ages 8-11 Session 4
- 22nd:** Fall Activity Guide Released
- 23rd:** Town Pool Closes (Tentative), MiddNourishes Free Lunch Program Ends

SEPTEMBER

- 7th:** Woofstock
- 9th:** Fall Programs Begin

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MIDDLEBURY NOURISHES- FREE SUMMER MEALS FOR KIDS 2-18!

WHEN: Monday through Friday • 12-1pm • Starting June 17th and ending August 16th

WHERE: Mary Hogan School and Middlebury Union Middlebury Middle School

WHO: Anyone between the ages of 2 through 18, No Registration. Just come! Lunch is free and open to all children and youth who want to have lunch. Middlebury Nourishes does not discriminate based on race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, or marital or family status.



IMPORTANT REGISTRATION INFORMATION

We are pleased to announce that we have switched our registration software to Myrec.com. The software is much more user-friendly and will provide a better experience for all involved. Because of this, everyone will need to visit the new site and create a new family account before being able to register. The address of the new site is middleburyvt.myrec.com.

REGISTRATION OPENING DATES

Thursday, May 2 at 9:30am -

Swim Lessons, Swim Team, Tennis, Golf, Basketball, Skateboarding, and Soccer Camps

Friday, May 3 at 5:30pm - Gymnastics Camps

QR CODE
SCAN ME

MIDDLEBURY AREA LAND TRUST
21st Annual
TAM TREK
19mi | 10k | 5k TRAIL RUN/HIKE
2mi FUN RUN/WALK
SEP 15 2024

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Kick Back this summer with TaeKwonDo KICKS



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Increase Confidence
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Accepting new students anytime • First Class is Free to Try Out

"I have been training with my daughters for four and a half years, and in that time I have seen them grow as independent and strong young women. We have had the opportunity to support each other and share a special bond through TaeKwonDo that we might have otherwise missed!" – Meagan




Classes are available for preschool-age through grandparents in 4 locations: Middlebury, Vergennes, Hinesburg, and Orwell.
The first class is free to try out! Call 802-377-0476 or email tkdkicks101@yahoo.com for information.



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AQUATICS 2024

OPERATING SCHEDULE: JUNE 17th- AUGUST 23rd
 (schedule subject to change)

Monday-Friday

- 12:15pm-1:00pm Adult lap swim
- 1:00pm-4:00pm Camp/ Open swim
- 4:00pm-5:00pm Adult lap swim
- 5:00pm-6:30pm Open swim

Saturday/Sunday

- 12:00pm-1:00pm Adult lap swim
- 1:00pm-5:00pm Open swim

DAILY FEES:

- Youth (15 and younger) - \$5.00
- Adults (16+) - \$7.00
- Senior Citizens (55+) - \$4.00

SEASON PASSES:

- Youth \$70 (Non-Resident \$80.50)
- Adult \$85 (Non-Resident \$97.75)
- Family - Up to 6 people \$140.00 (Non-Resident \$161.00)
- Senior Citizens (55+) \$45 (Non-Resident \$51.75)



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LESSON SCHEDULE:

Session I: June 24th - July 5th (2 Weeks)

No class on July 4th

Sec A: Level 1	11:30-12:00
Sec B: Level 2	11:00-11:30
Sec C: Level 3	10:30-11:00
Sec D: Level 4	11:00-11:30
Sec E: Level 5	10:30-11:00
Sec F: Parent & Child	11:30-12:00
Sec G: Pre-School Level 1	10:30-11:00
Sec H: Pre-School Level 2	11:00-11:30

Session II: July 8th - July 19th (2 Weeks)

Sec A: Level 1	11:30-12:00
Sec B: Level 2	11:00-11:30
Sec C: Level 3	10:30-11:00
Sec D: Level 4	11:00-11:30
Sec E: Level 5	10:30-11:00
Sec F: Parent & Child	11:30-12:00
Sec G: Pre-School Level 1	10:30-11:00
Sec H: Pre-School Level 2	11:00-11:30
Sec I: Pre-School Level 3	11:30-12:00

Session III: July 22nd - August 2nd (2 Weeks)

** Evening Sessions**

Sec A: Level 1	6:30-7:00pm
Sec B: Level 2	6:00-6:30pm
Sec C: Level 3	5:30-6:00pm
Sec D: Level 4	6:00-6:30pm
Sec E: Level 5	5:30-6:00pm
Sec F: Parent & Child	6:30-7:00pm
Sec G: Pre-School Level 1	5:30-6:00pm
Sec H: Pre-School Level 2	6:00-6:30pm
Sec I: Pre-School Level 3	6:30-7:00pm

Registration opens Thursday, May 2nd at 9:30am. Lessons are held Monday-Thursday. No class July 4th, class on Friday the 5th instead. Fridays are reserved as a make-up day for cancellations due to weather.

PRIVATE LESSONS:

Private and semi-private lessons are available upon request. Arrangements are made through pool staff.

Fees: \$80.00 Resident \$92.00 Non-Resident

Parent and Child

Ages 6 months to 36 months (must be accompanied by an adult).

This class will teach your child to become more comfortable in water, so they are willing and ready to learn to swim. Basic skills taught

Continued on Page 10



Caring for Our Community

Mountain Community Health has been providing affordable, comprehensive health services to people since 1986, regardless of their ability to pay.

We offer a sliding fee discount program for eligible patients and are a Patient-Centered Medical Home that provides coordinated and comprehensive healthcare.

Our Services include: Family Planning, Newborn and Pediatric Care, Adult Medicine, Behavioral Health Services, Nutrition Therapy, Substance Use Disorder Treatment, Pediatric Dentistry, Adult Dentistry, and MORE!



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MIDDLEBURY INDOOR TENNIS

Continued from Page 9

include adjusting to water environment, comfort holding a front or back position in water and demonstrating breath control (blowing bubbles. Etc.)

Preschool Aquatics (3 Levels)

Ages 3 and up. Designed to give children a positive developmentally appropriate aquatic learning experience. Level 1 helps orient young preschool children to aquatic environment and gain basic skills. Level 2 helps children gain greater independence in the water using basic skills, Level 3 helps children start to gain basic swimming propulsive skills to be comfortable in and around water. Each level must be completed before advancing to next.

Learn-To-Swim (Levels 1 and 2)

Ages 6 and up. Instructors will teach to swimmers' ability and confidence. Level 1 focuses on skills such as water entry and exit, bobbing, blowing bubbles through nose and mouth, opening eyes underwater and retrieving objects. Level 1 must be passed to move to next level. Level 2 participants must be able to perform kicks, basic arm strokes and be comfortable with face in water. This level focuses on jumping feet first into the water, fully submerging and holding breath, floating face down in the water, back float, changing direction while swimming on front and back and continued work on swimming on front and back. Level 2 must be completed before advancing to Level 3.

Stroke Development (Level 3)

Level 3 builds on previously learned skills by providing additional practice. Participants learn the survival float, front crawl with rotary breath and elementary backstroke. Headfirst entry into water is introduced and treading skills are improved with scissor and dolphin kicks. Level 3 must be passed before advancing to Level 4.

Stroke Improvement (Level 4)

Level 4 develops participants' confidence in the strokes learned in Level 3 and improves other aquatic skills. In level 4 participants improve their skills and increase their endurance by swimming familiar strokes (front crawl, elementary backstroke) for greater distances. Participants also learn the back crawl, breaststroke and butterfly and the basics of turning at a wall. Level 4 must be completed to advance to Level 5.

Stroke Refinement (Level 5)

In Level 5 participants refine their performance of all strokes and increase their distances. Flip turns on the front and back are also introduced. Diving is refined. Level 5 must be completed to advance to Level 6.

Swimming and Skill Proficiency (Level 6)

The objectives of this level, the final level of the American Red Cross learn-to-swim program, are to refine the strokes so participants can swim them with ease, efficiency, power, and smoothness while going greater distances.

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MIDDLEBURY SWIM TEAM

Coaches: Coulter Morrill, Aidan Chance and Carina Bellmann
Contact Information: middleburyswimteam@gmail.com
Dates and Times:



June 10th – June 13th, *Monday-Thursday:* (Preseason)

Mini Marlins: 4:00pm-4:30pm **Marlins Group:** 4:30pm-5:15pm
Super Marlins: 5:15pm-6:15pm

June 17th – August 5th, Practice M-F For Supers & Marlins (Regular Season) **Super Marlins:** 7:15am-8:45am **Marlins Group:** 8:45am-9:45am **Mini Marlins:** 9:45am-10:15am

Location: Middlebury Town Pool
Fees: Super Marlins: \$230 Resident \$264.50 Non-Resident
Marlins: \$215 Resident \$247.25 Non-Resident **Mini Marlins:** \$175 Resident \$201.25 Non-Resident
 Scholarships are available - for more scholarship information please call 802-458-8014.

Dual-meets (two-team competitions) are held on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from the end of June until the end of July. Meets start at 6pm and last around two hours.

****A distance meet is held midseason to provide swimmers the opportunity to qualify for distance events at the State Championship meet. All swimmers are encouraged to attend.** Qualifying swim team members may choose to compete at The Champlain Valley Swim League Championship Meet on July 26th & 27th in Winooski; the Vermont State Championship is on August 3rd & 4th at UVAC in White River Junction.

Looking for a fun way to meet great families, develop a lifelong sport, be a part of a team, and make the most of your summer? Come join the Middlebury Swim Team! The team is divided into skill-level practice groups so each swimmer can develop at a comfortable

pace. Not sure which practice group is right for your swimmer? Not to worry, MIDD coaches will help swimmers and their parents find their best fit! **Coaches will hold swim evaluations the first week of practice to determine the appropriate group for your swimmer.**


Mini Marlins: Swimmers ages 5-8 with a competitive spirit and the need for experience. They will continue to improve rhythmic breathing and competitive stroke skills. As skills improve, swimmers are encouraged to compete in meets. Swimmers who can swim 25 yards independently are welcome to join this group. **Swimmers who can swim 25 yards both freestyle and backstroke independently are welcome to join this group. If your swimming isn't quite there yet we encourage you to enroll in swimming lessons for another season prior to joining the swim team.**

Marlins: Experienced 8 & under, 9–10-year-old, and newer 11–12-year-old swimmers. Emphasis is placed on stroke development, correct technique, and building swimming endurance. Competitive preparation is introduced. Swimmers are expected to compete in meets.

Super Marlins: 13-year-old and older swimmers (10, 11 & 12-year-old at the coaches' discretion). Emphasis is placed on intensive water training with a continued focus on endurance, commitment, and competition. Stroke technique is reviewed as necessary and race strategy is reinforced. All Super Marlins serve as role models for younger teammates.

Apparel: Team suits are not required but may be purchased via this link: <https://qteamstore.com/collections/middlebury-marlins-24?ls=mlZnMN0dY79NfwyjtNLX> **Team caps are required** for meets; these will be available to purchase through team management at a future date. Team T-shirts will be given to all registered swimmers.

Parents: Parents will have the opportunity to try different jobs early in the season to match their talents to the many tasks needed to run a swim meet. From scorers to concessions, from timers to ribbons, there is something for everyone and a way for all to contribute to the fun and success of our team.



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DUNCAN HOOPS BASKETBALL CAMP

August 5th - August 9th

Grades 2-12

(We will keep grades 2-3, 4-5, 6-7, and 8+ together.)

Please help welcome Ernie Duncan and his team to Middlebury for their first camp here in Middlebury. A daily 3-hour camp for 5 days working on all aspects of the game of basketball.



Duncan Hoops and their training team are coming down for their first-ever camp in Middlebury. Led by Head Trainer and former Vermont Catamount Ernie Duncan, their staff is filled with experience. They train all ages from 2nd graders all the way to professional athletes!

You can see what they are all about by visiting Duncanhoops.com!

Children going into grades 2-5 will practice from 8am-11am daily.
Children going into grades 6-12 will practice from 1pm-4pm daily.

Cost: \$200.00

Registration: Online or in-person

MIDDLEBURY MAYHEM YOUTH BASKETBALL CAMP

July 15th - July 19th, Grades 3-9

If your child loves playing basketball and is interested in taking his or her game to the next level, then this is the perfect camp for them! Players will receive instruction from Coach Randy Stockwell with assistance from local players and coaches. We will focus



on perfecting the fundamental skills while giving your players the tools to be successful as they move up through the local basketball program. This camp will include specialized drills, fun games, and scrimmages every day. Campers will also receive a T-shirt on the last day of camp.

Children going into grades 3-6 will practice from 10am-12pm daily.

The cost for this age group is \$110 for Residents and \$120 for Non-Residents

Children going into grades 7-9 will practice from 1pm-4pm daily.

The cost for this age group is \$135 for Residents and \$150 for Non-Residents

Registration will begin Thursday, May 2nd.

For more information contact Amber Power 802-458-8014 or apower@townofmiddlebury.org



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Make music a part of your summer! Join us for private music lessons in your instrument of choice. We offer lessons in piano, guitar, clarinet, saxophone, drums, violin, trumpet, and more!

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Hours: Monday - Saturday 11:00 - 8:00

Closed Sundays

EC HOOPS CAMP

June 28th-30th, July 12th-14th & August 2nd-4th

Rising 5th-8th Grade: 9:00am-11:00am

Rising 9th-12th Grade: 12:00pm-2:00pm

EC Hoop Camp is the camp for young female basketball players looking to take their game to the next level.

Emma Carter attended Mount Abraham UHS, where she scored over 1600 points and led the Eagles to a state championship in 2018. Emma holds the record for the female with most points scored in a single game with 40-point game in 2017. Emma went on to play for 4 years at NCAA DII, Franklin Pierce where she scored 750 points in just 2.5 years due to an injury and the COVID-19 Pandemic. As a senior at Franklin Pierce, Emma averaged over 17 PPG, 5 RPG and 2 APG for the Ravens. For her final year of eligibility, Emma attended Northern Illinois University, an NCAA DI Program. Emma Started for the Huskies and played over 15 minutes per game and averaged approximately 6 PPG.

The Purpose: The purpose of EC Hoop camp is to develop young female basketball players of Addison County, Vermont and surrounding areas throughout the spring and summer months. With the expertise of our coaching staff, EC Hoop Camp prioritizes the individual development of our player while encouraging the importance of team culture, dynamic and playing style in a competitive environment.



Cost: \$125.00 ahead of time or \$150.00 at the door (per session)

Registration: Online or In-Person, starting May 2, 2024

** Please note, there will be a waiver that will need to be signed at drop off.**




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Find this year's categories at addisonindependent.com/contests!



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2024 CHALLENGER SPORTS SOCCER CAMP

Session 1: June 17th-21st

Session 2: Aug 12th-16th

Where: Middlebury Recreation Fields,
277 Mary Hogan Drive

Open to Children Ages 3-16

Challenger is excited to announce the return of British & Irish professional coaches again for summer 2023 to bring their high-quality coaching skills to Middlebury! The weeklong programs are conducted at local facilities, and each will contain Challenger's own brand of innovative practices, small-sided games, camp world cup, cultural education, character building, and FUN!

Tiny Tykes: Ages 3-5, Times: 8am-8:45am, Cost: \$110 (Early Bird Discount) or \$130.00

Half Day: Ages 5-14, Times: 9am-12pm, Cost: \$185 (Early Bird Special) or \$215.00

Full Day: Ages 6-14, Times: 9am-3pm, Cost: \$240 (Early Bird Special) or \$280.00

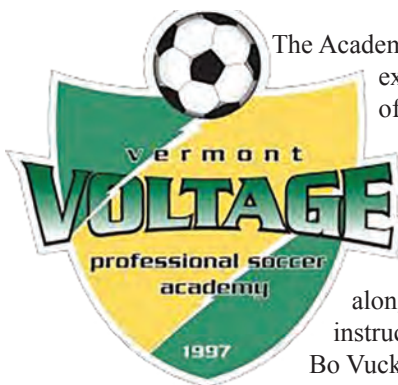
Register: challengersports.com/camp-search/ & enter zip code 05753

2024 VERMONT VOLTAGE SOCCER CAMP

June 24th - June 28th, 9am-12pm Daily

Middlebury Recreation Fields, 277 Mary Hogan Drive

Open to Children Ages 5-14



The Academy offers an opportunity to gain experience and enjoy many aspects of the game of soccer in a fun yet competitive environment. Fundamentals, as well as sophisticated techniques of soccer, will be taught on a personalized individual level along with various forms of group instruction provided by Camp Director Bo Vuckovic, a FIFA UEFA A Pro license holder, and the staff of the Vermont Voltage Soccer Academy who are all former professional soccer players. Emphasis is placed on the development, improvement, and refinement of basic playing skills.

Cost: \$200.00. Non-Residents will pay a 15% Non-Resident fee per child. Each child will receive a camp T-shirt and soccer ball.

Register: Online or in person starting May 2nd

MIDDLEBURY SKATEPARK PROJECT SKATEBOARD SESSIONS

July 1st - July 5th

Description: These afternoon skateboard sessions are intended for all abilities and ages 6 and up. We'll temporarily transplant the skate elements from Harold Curtiss tennis courts to the Rec Center parking lot where we will have access to shade, water, and restrooms. We will also utilize the new mini ramp at Rec Park. Campers should bring a skateboard, helmet, pads, sneakers, a snack, sunscreen, and a water bottle. Skateboards, helmets, and pads will be provided if needed.

Where: Recreation Gym (Creek Road)

Cost: \$125.00

When: July 1st – July 5th, 4pm-6pm

Max # of Registrants: 12

Min # to Run the Camp: 8

Contact Info for Questions:

middleburyskatepark@gmail.com

Registration: Thursday, May 2nd



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MONARCH SOCCER CLUB CAMP

July 15th – July 19th

Grades 1-2: 9am-12pm Daily, Grades 3-6: 9am-3pm Daily
Middlebury Recreation Fields,
277 Mary Hogan Drive



Join Coach Chris George, the Monarch SC coaching staff, and Middlebury Tiger players for the most fun week of soccer in Addison County. The Monarch Way incorporates age-appropriate coaching methodologies with a focus on teamwork and leadership, while teaching energetic and creative soccer to players of all ages. Our Monarch Summer Camp Series focuses on foundational technical skills and small sided games in a fun and safe environment. Come experience the Monarch SC difference! About Monarch Soccer Club: Monarch SC was founded in 2020 and is based in Middlebury, VT. At Monarch SC, we're focused on teaching creative soccer in a high-quality team environment while building local soccer.

Cost: \$175.00 Grades 1-2, \$250.00 Grades 3-6. Each child will receive a camp T-shirt and soccer ball.

Registration: Online or in person.



2024 RMGC JUNIOR GOLF CAMP

At Ralph Myhre, we are committed to promoting and growing the game with junior golfers. We are adding more instructors than in past years, so that each child not only learns the structure of the game, but also the fundamentals of the physical golf swing. We will stress the importance of etiquette, respect, sportsmanship, the rules of the game and how to have fun outside in a group setting. We will have hats and ball hand out gifts this year for all, and prizes for individual and team competitions. Instructions will take place at the driving range, the putting green, and our short new game practice area. Also, we will be spending more time on the golf course in the later days of camp each week (weather permitting).

We are offering 3 sessions this year, for 3 levels of golf to target improvement at each level. Camps are 3 hours long from 9-12 (Friday this year, Camp will run until 1 pm where we will have lunch at noon and hand out certificates). Snacks will again be provided daily and Junior Golfers will also receive a 5 round punch card to use for the rest of the golf season.

Cost: Per junior golfer \$275 Resident \$316.25 Non-Resident. Sign-up closes week prior to the camp chosen.

Beginner Session (Never golfed, been to the range): June 24-28

Intermediate Session (Range and Course play): July 8-12

Advanced Session (At the course multiple days a week): August 12-16

Course Information: www.ralphmyhregolfcourse.com

Registration: May 2, 9:30am



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District Transfer Station Hours:
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SAT: 8 AM to 1 PM

HazWaste Center Hours:
M-F: 8 AM to 2 PM
SAT: 8 AM to 1 PM

GYMNASTICS CAMPS

Instructor: Terri Phelps

Registration for Gymnastics Camps Opens Friday, May 3rd at 5:30pm

Phone: (802) 236-1315 **Email:** terriphelps@ymail.com - please only call or email with questions about classes. For registration questions please email apower@townofmiddlebury.org.

Session 1: June 17th-June 21st

9:00AM-12:00PM Ages 5-7 \$200 (\$230 Non-Res)

Session 1: June 24th- June 28th

9:00AM-12:00PM Ages 8-11 \$200 (\$230 Non-Res)

Session 2: July 8th- July 12th

9:00AM-12:00PM Ages 5-7 \$200 (\$230 Non-Res)

Session 2: July 15th-July 19th

9:00AM-12:00PM Ages 8-11 \$200 (\$230 Non-Res)

Session 3: July 22nd-July 26th

9:00AM-12:00PM Ages 5-7 \$200 (\$230 Non-Res)

Session 3: August 5th-August 9th

9:00AM-12:00PM Ages 8-11 \$200 (\$230 Non-Res)

Session 4: August 12th-August 16th

9:00AM-12:00PM Ages 5-7 \$200 (\$230 Non-Res)

Session 4: August 19th-August 23rd

9:00AM-12:00PM Ages 8-11 \$200 (\$230 Non-Res)

Students will work to improve strength, flexibility, and coordination, as well as skill development in a safe and fun environment.

Instruction will be included on uneven bars, beam, floor exercise, springboard, parallel bars, and vault.



Monarch Soccer Club Summer Camp 2024

Register Now at Middlebury Parks & Rec!



July 15–19th

Mary Hogan Fields

Grades 1–2 – 9:00–12:00 – \$175

Grades 3–5 – 9:00–3:00 – \$250

Registration includes a T-shirt & Ball

For more information visit:
www.monarchsoccervt.org/camps
chris@monarchsoccervt.org

Join Coach Chirs George, the Monarch SC Coaching Staff, and Middlebury Tigers Soccer Players.

Monarch SC teaches energetic and creative soccer.

Our camps focus on foundational technical skills and small sided games in a fun and safe environment.



WEST COAST SWING DANCING

INSTRUCTOR: Karen Graham **EMAIL:** vtwestiebest@gmail.com

PHONE: 802-558-1870

PROGRAM: West Coast Swing is a versatile partner dance, danced to a wide range of popular music from blues to pop, slow swing, and R&B. A cousin of traditional swing dances like the Lindy Hop and East Coast Swing, West Coast Swing is constantly evolving. Today, it combines swing connection and rhythms with independent movement inspired by influences from nearly every other dance style, as well as contemporary music. It is a smooth, cool, laid-back dance that can be funky, groovy, or lyrical, depending on the music and your personal style. It's extremely popular in the U.S.A. and is the official state dance of California. No partner is required to take class.

LOCATION/TIME: Level 1: 5:30 – 6:30pm (Beginner)

Level 2: 6:30-7:30pm

Session 1: Tuesdays from June 4th-June 25th

Session 2: Tuesdays from July 9th-July 30th

Session 3: Tuesdays from August 6th-August 27th

Middlebury Parks & Recreation Facility: 154 Creek Road, Middlebury. Multipurpose Room.

REGISTRATION: Payment is due at time of registration or the first day via Middlebury Parks & Rec registration website: middleburyvt.myrec.com Sorry, no refunds unless the class is canceled.

Preregistration is required. **Drop ins are welcome for the first class only.** \$60.00 per session or \$15.00 per class.



Middlebury Ultimate Frisbee Camp

Coed Entering Grades 5th through 9th

Cost: \$80, July 8th to July 12th, 9am to 12pm

Learn to play one of the fastest-growing field sports in America. The Middlebury Ultimate Frisbee Camp is for both experienced players and youth athletes new to the sport. Ultimate is a fast-moving sport that combines elements of football, soccer and basketball and is played with a flying disc. Join us for a fun filled week of games, drills, strategy, conditioning and instruction for kids of all abilities. Our focus is on throwing and catching techniques, learning the rules, becoming an impact player, as well as Spirit of the Game – a truly unique and defining part of Ultimate is that players are required to know the rules and make their own calls, without the help of a neutral official. Participants develop conflict resolution skills, build character and self-confidence.

The camp will be led by Drew McDowell, MUHS Varsity Ultimate coach and Nathaniel McVeigh, MUHS assistant.

Nathaniel played for Vermont Equinox and represented the state at the Youth Club Championships in 2021-2022. Drew is a former national and world champion as a member of Death or Glory. Questions? Contact Drew McDowell, drumcd@gmail.com, 802-451-8925

Middlebury Ultimate Thursday Night Pick-up Games

Coed Teens & Adults

Thursdays, June 20th – August 15th, 8 weeks, no pick-up July 4th

FREE

6pm to 8pm

Teen and adult Ultimate Frisbee pick-up games. Experienced and new to the game welcome. Spirited play with a focus on fun, getting out on a warm summer night and love of the game. Be ready to play hard and also help newcomers to the sport learn the game. Questions? Contact Drew McDowell, drumcd@gmail.com



Mary Johnson Children's Center Summer Camp will operate out of Mary Hogan Elementary School.

Mary Johnson
School Age

We are planning seven full weeks of programming from June 19 - August 9. Camp will run from 8 am to 5 pm every day. We currently have availability for 10-12 year-olds. Kids enjoy a summer full of enrichment activities and opportunities!

For more information please contact our school age director, Aly, at (802)388-0522 or visit our website at mjccvt.org



MIDDLEBURY INDOOR TENNIS

TENNIS CAMPS

Middlebury Indoor Tennis and the Addison Community Athletics Foundation are sponsoring a variety of outdoor tennis opportunities for kids ages 5 to 14. Sessions are designed for beginning and intermediate players.

Sessions run Monday-Thursday, with Friday reserved as a rain back-up day if needed. All sessions will be held at the Middlebury Recreation Park Courts.

9:00 – 9:30 am: Tiny Swingers: Red Ball Tennis (ages 5-6)

(\$60/session non-resident; \$50/session resident)

9:00 – 10:00 am: Little Aces: Red Ball Tennis (ages 7-9)

(\$80/session non-resident; \$70/session resident)

10:00 – 11:30 am: Hot Shots: Orange/Yellow-Dot Ball Tennis (ages 10-14)

(\$120/session non-resident; \$110/session resident)

Session 1: June 24-28

Session 2: July 1 – July 5 (No Class July 4)

Session 3: July 8 – 12



Session 4: July 15 – 19

Session 5: July 22 – 26

Session 6: July 29 – August 2

Experienced players (ages 13-16) can enroll in advanced yellow ball sessions that are held indoors at Middlebury Indoor Tennis on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. Private lessons and clinics are available for children and adults of all ages and abilities! Please contact Franz Collas, Tennis Director at Middlebury Indoor Tennis, for more information: franz@middleburytennis.com or (802) 388-3733.



THE TEEN CENTER

The Teen Center, located at 77 Mary Hogan Drive, is open all summer, for teens entering 7th - 12th grades. Summer programs will include 3-day camps, drop-in hours, and field trips. All programming is offered as free or pay-what-you-can. Teens can register themselves for drop-in but will need to pre-register for camp days and field trips. Learn more at teencentervt.org.



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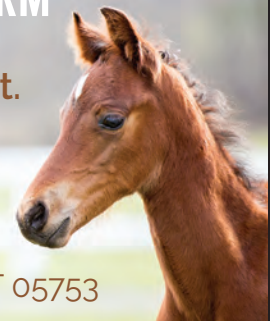
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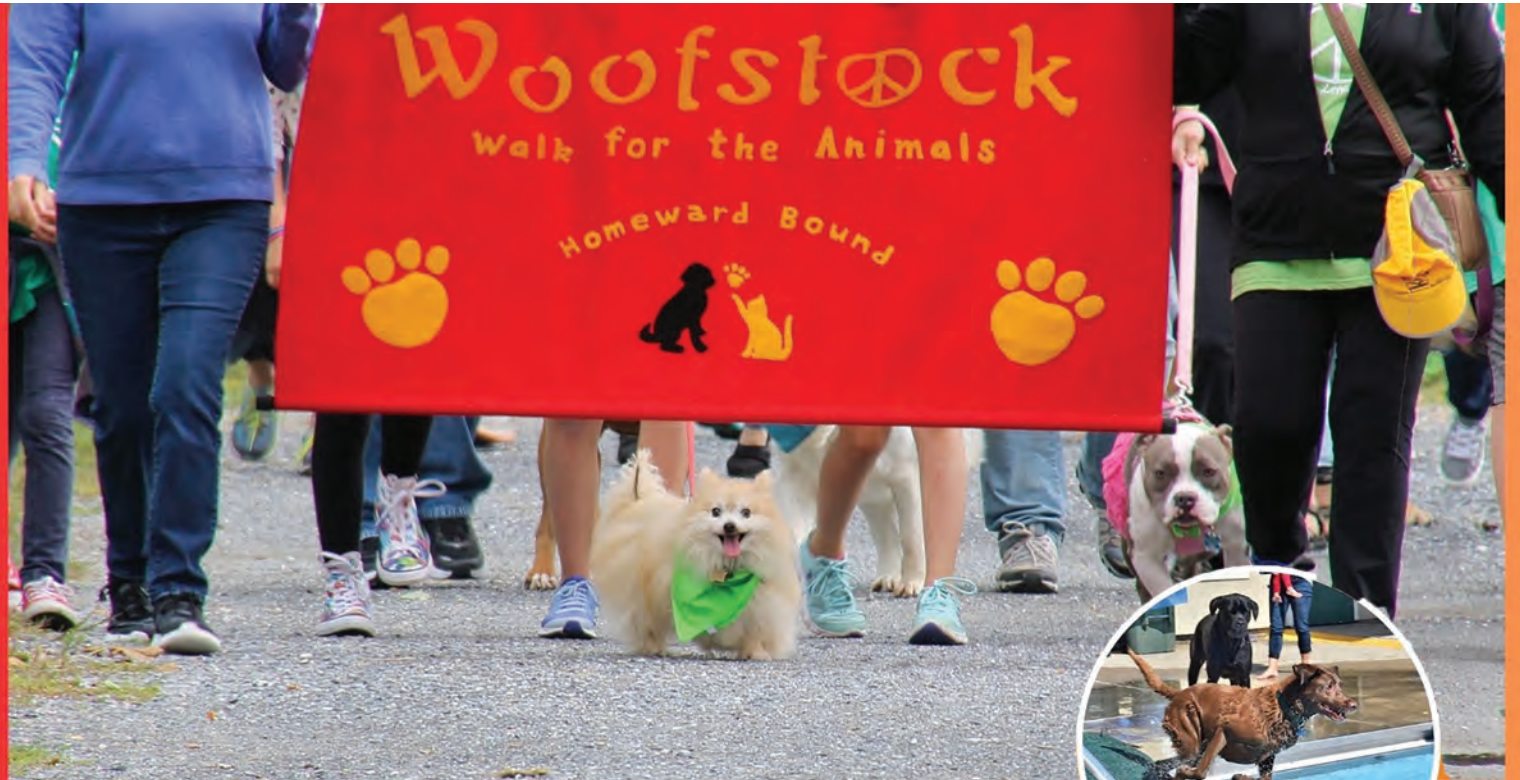
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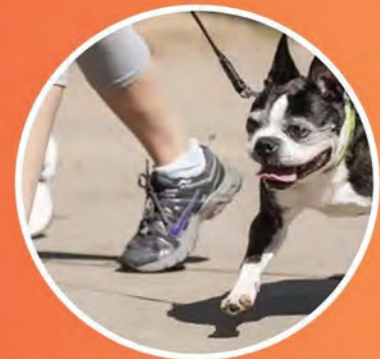


WOOFSTOCK:

Walk for the Animals

Saturday, September 7

Join us for a 1 mile walk around Middlebury followed by music, prizes, food, and our ever-popular pool party for dogs in the Middlebury Town Pool!



homewardboundanimals.org

All proceeds benefit Homeward Bound, Addison County's Humane Society.



SUMMER AT ILSLEY PUBLIC LIBRARY



Ilsley Public Library Summer Programs

Summer Storytime for Babies, Toddlers, and Preschoolers

Bounce, play and read with Miss Tricia on Wednesday mornings, 9-9:45am. Summer Sessions: June 19th & 26th July 10th- Aug 14th.

June 25-28 Intro to Filmmaking Camp: Learn how to use cameras, tripods, and computers to make short, live-action movies. No experience required.

July 16-19 Advanced Filmmaking Camp: Work on a film you and your fellow campers decide on, whether live-action or animation. Prior camp or Youth Media Lab experience required.

July 23-26 Female Filmmakers Camp: Make films with a group of your peers. For female-identifying filmmakers entering grades 4+. No experience necessary. *See note below.

August 13-16 Lego Robotics Camp: Build robot Lego vehicles and learn to program them to complete various challenges on a game table, like following a path, picking up and delivering objects to various places, and navigating obstacles. This is not really a Lego building camp, but a robotics/programming camp. Registration priority will be given to those who were unable to register for the spring session.

All camps meet Tuesday through Friday, 9 AM to Noon. For students entering grades 4+. Most camps are led by Kurt Broderson, Executive Director of Middlebury Community Television and Technology Coordinator of Ilsley Public Library. *Female Filmmakers Camp will be led by an Ilsley Library intern from Middlebury College, along with older teen mentors.

VERMONT SUN TRIATHLON SERIES

2024 will be our 39th year! Over 200 events and over 38,000 participants. The Hare Family directs the races with co-directors Ruth Bullock and Karen Meyer.

Register for any of our triathlons during our early bird special pricing and be entered to win a free night's stay at the beautiful Middlebury Inn the night before your race.

Look for Vermont Sun events' extensive photo coverage at Pat Hendrick Photography and our triathlon video found under the athlete section.

Nestled against the Green Mountains, just below Rattlesnake Point is Branbury State Park. The lake region is a most spectacular and pristine place to swim, bike and run. Novice and advanced athletes alike marvel at the beauty of our courses and enjoy the mountains, lakes, and streams of Central Vermont. All events take place at Lake Dunmore, Vermont

Visit www.vermontsuntriathlonseries.com to register.

Vermont Sun Run Half Marathon, 5K, 10k May 12, 2024

Vermont Sun Triathlon

June 23 (USAT State Championship Race), July 21 (VT Senior Games), and August 18, 2024 - Races are open to everyone.
600-yard Swim | 14-mile Bike | 3.1-mile Run



Lake Dunmore Olympic Triathlon

June 23 (USAT State Championship Race) and August 18, 2024 - Races are open to everyone.
.9 Mile Swim | 28-mile Bike | 6.2-mile Run

Branbury Classic

July 21, 2024
1.5-mile Paddle | 14-mile Bike | 3.1-mile Run

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DROP IN PROGRAMS

Pickleball: 2 dedicated courts located at Middlebury Recreation Park (77 Mary Hogan Drive). Cost is \$4.00 per drop-in or buy punch cards to save money (indoor play only).

Adult Co-ed Volleyball: Mondays, 6:45-9:00pm at Middlebury Rec. Center Gym
Advanced beginner to intermediate volleyball. Players aim for good ball handling skills, trying for bump, set, spike on most plays. Teams are formed each week depending on who attends to keep the skill levels balanced on both sides and fun for all.

For more information, please contact Sue Richardson at suerichardson@gmavt.net or 802-557-2724. \$4.00 per drop-in or buy a \$20 punch card for 7 visits.

Adult Co-ed 30+ Basketball: Wednesdays, 6:30-9:00 at Middlebury Rec. Center Gym. For more information, please contact KC Bullock at 802-989-0374.

Yoga with Vanessa Dunleavy: Fridays, 9:30-10:30am in the Middlebury Rec Center Multipurpose Room. Come revitalize your body and relax your mind with Yoga asanas and breath work. With a focus on alignment and awareness, we will work on strength, balance, and flexibility, all while honoring our body's intuition and individual needs. Learn more about Vanessa at www.vanessadunleavy.com. Drop-ins welcome, \$15 per class. Last class: June 28th, 2024. Questions? Email dunleavy.vanessa@gmail.com.



WALKING AND BIKING UPDATES

Get ready for the **Middlebury Bike Swap**. Frog Hollow Bikes (FHB) and Middlebury Safe Routes host this annual event in Cannon Park. If you have a bike that's not being used, but still in decent shape, this is a chance to pass it on to another cyclist. It's also your chance to find a great deal on a 'new-to-you' bike. Save the date: **Saturday, May 4th from 9am to 12pm.**

From kid's bikes to road bikes, full suspension bikes, maybe even fat tire or e-bikes, it's all here waiting for you. Our staff and volunteers will be on hand to answer questions and guide you to the bike best suited for you. The swap is hosted by Frog Hollow Bikes and Middlebury Safe Routes with support from the Town of Middlebury. Drop off bikes for the swap at FHB between Monday, April 29th and Friday, May 3rd between the hours of 10am and 5pm. Indicate if you want sale proceeds to go to you or be donated to Middlebury Safe Routes. A percentage goes to FHB.

Middlebury E-Bike Rentals: Ilesley Public Library is partnering with Frog Hollow Bikes to loan out three e-bikes this summer. E-bikes have an electric assist that helps riders get around with less effort and scale hills that previously seemed impossible. For complete details, loan rules, and descriptions of the bikes please visit: <https://www.ilesleypubliclibrary.org/find-it/library-of-things-e-bike> To reserve a bike, call the library front desk at 802.388.4098.

Middlebury Safe Routes: hosts "Walk and Roll to School Day" on the first Wednesday of each month at Mary Hogan School. They also monitor traffic patterns and student travel behavior, plans activities to teach bike skills and rules of the road, and recommend improvements to roads, parking lots, drop-offs, sidewalks, crosswalks, traffic lights, signage, bus routes, bike routes, bike racks, and more. Contact Erik Remsen at erik.remsen@gmail.com to help or offer input.

The Walk/Bike Council of Addison County: is a county-wide, citizen-led advisory group that meets quarterly. The Council seeks to build momentum and capacity for safer walking and biking in our towns and villages. Council members work with state and regional

agencies, municipal staff, schools, and other interested community partners. Anyone interested should visit www.walkbikeaddison.org.

This summer, be sure to check out the **Middlebury Bike Pump Track!** This new feature is located in Middlebury Rec Park. Pump Tracks are small, confined loops consisting of banked corners and rollers that are spaced and shaped to enable riders to generate momentum by "pumping" the bike through the rollers. Pump tracks are fun, and develop bike-handling skills for riders of all ages.

Middlebury Ultimate Frisbee Camp Coed Entering Grades 5th through 9th Cost: \$80 July 8th to July 12th 9am to 12pm Learn to play one of the fastest-growing field sports in America. The Middlebury Ultimate Frisbee Camp is for both experienced players and youth athletes new to the sport. Ultimate is a fast-moving sport that combines elements of football, soccer and basketball and is played with a flying disc. Join us for a fun filled week of games, drills, strategy, conditioning and instruction for kids of all abilities. Our focus is on throwing and catching techniques, learning the rules, becoming an impact player, as well as Spirit of the Game – a truly unique and defining part of Ultimate is that players are required to know the rules and make their own calls, without the help of a neutral official. Participants develop conflict resolution skills, build character and self-confidence. The camp will be led by Drew McDowell, MUHS Varsity Ultimate coach and Nathaniel McVeigh, MUHS assistant. Nathaniel played for Vermont Equinox and represented the state at the Youth Club Championships in 2021-2022. Drew is a former national and world champion as a member of Death or Glory. Questions? Contact Drew McDowell, drumcd@gmail.com, 802-451-8925 Middlebury Ultimate Thursday Night Pick-up Games Coed Teens & Adults Thursdays, June 20th – August 15th, 8 weeks, no pick-up July 4th FREE 6pm to 8pm Teen and adult Ultimate Frisbee pick-up games. Experienced and new to the game welcome. Spirited play with a focus on fun, getting out on a warm summer night and love of the game. Be ready to play hard and also help newcomers to the sport learn the game. Questions? Contact Drew McDowell, drumcd@gmail.com, 802-451-8925



Summer at THT is HOT, HOT, HOT!



ROCK-IT SCIENCE

June 17-21 9:00am – 3:00pm

Ages 12 and Up

Tuition \$325



THE HAUNTING OF THT

July 22-24

9:00am – 12:00pm

Ages 8-11

Tuition \$145



BROADWAY BOOTCAMP

July 15-19

9:00am – 12:00pm

Ages 13-18

Tuition \$175



THINGS THAT FLY

July 25-26 9:00am – 12:00pm

Ages 8-11

Tuition \$120



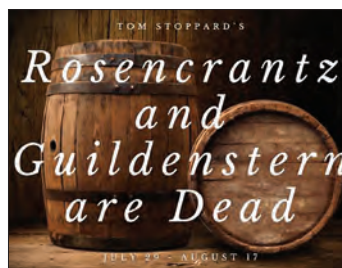
FAIRY TALE THEATER

August 14-16 10:00am –

11:30am

Ages 5-7

Tuition \$115



ROSENCRANTZ & GUILDENSTERN ARE DEAD

July 29-August 17

9:00am – 12:00pm

Ages 12-23

Tuition \$350



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