



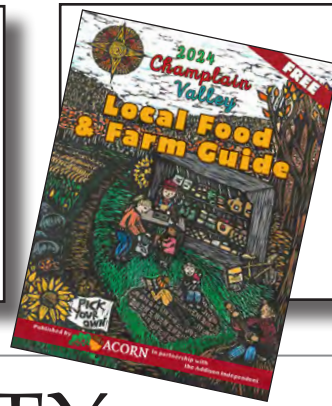
## New novels

Two award-winning local authors have just released works of fiction. Learn more in Arts + Leisure.



## On the move

The MUHS girls' lacrosse team improved to 2-0 with a decisive victory. See Sports, Page 1B.



## Eat local

Learn all about small farms & our rural economy in the 2024 Local Food and Farm Guide – inside!

# ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT

Vol. 78 No. 18

Middlebury, Vermont ♦ Thursday, May 2, 2024 ♦ 124 Pages

\$1.50

## ANWSD budget wins big on third attempt

### Turnout strong as plan backed by 400+ votes

By ANDY KIRKALDY

VERGENNES — In high turnout, residents of the Addison Northwest School District on Tuesday strongly backed the school board's third proposed budget of the spring.

They approved a \$27.25 million spending plan for the upcoming school year by a

1,346-932 margin, or 59-41%.

A total of 809 more voters showed up on Tuesday in Addison, Ferrisburgh, Panton, Vergennes and Waltham than did on March 26, when the ANWSD board's second budget proposal of \$27.5 million lost by 745-727.

(See ANWSD, Page 12A)

## OV school spending plan nixed again

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

They said, no thank you. And the percentage of voters who cast

ballots against the latest budget was just slightly higher than the percentage who defeated the original budget proposal on Town Meeting Day.

On Tuesday, residents of Brandon,

(See OVUHS, Page 12A)



ON THE MORNING of Tuesday's ANWSD budget vote about 15 VUHS students stood out on Monkton Road in front of the school to rally support for their school and teachers. Possibly it helped, as turnout was strong throughout the district. Photo courtesy of Sarah Stroup



THIS IS THE vision of the children's section of the Ilsley Library as presented by Wiemann-Lamphere Architects and the ReArch Company. It would be part of the nearly \$17 million makeover that Middlebury residents will vote upon this Tuesday, May 7.

## Middlebury to vote Tuesday on \$17M upgrade for Ilsley Library

### Taxpayers would shoulder \$4.4M

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — It all comes down to this.

Middlebury voters on Tuesday, May 7, will be asked to support an almost \$17 million makeover of the historic Ilsley Library at 75 Main St., a project that — thanks to grants, a Herculean fundraising effort and use of some of the town's local option tax surplus money — would only cost local taxpayers roughly \$4.4 million.

"I think what's made it easy for the community to be positive is the funding plan," said Ilsley

Library Director Dana Hart. "I think people understand that taxpayers are only on the hook for 25% of this project, and that's incredible. It's a unique moment in time when there's state grant funding available and the local philanthropic community has stepped up to support the project. I think that's given people a lot of confidence to vote 'yes.'"

If endorsed by voters, the low ceilings and support columns; has a poorly lit and undersized resources will be used to renovate

*"It is now our turn to invest in the fabric of our community by supporting the renovation and expansion of the library to ensure it will serve all of our citizens for the next 100 years."*

— Ken Perine

and expand the Ilsley, which now consists of a 100-year-old original structure onto which additions were built in 1977 and 1988.

The current building affords inadequate and poorly configured space that isn't meeting the community's service expectations, Ilsley leaders say. It has

(See Ilsley Library, Page 16A)

## MUHS grad wins \$212K business pitch award

### Dunn makes impact with painting venture

By JOHN FLOWERS

SALISBURY — When Salisbury's Zachary Dunn graduated from Middlebury Union High School in 2019, he wasn't sure what he wanted to do — other than attend the University of Vermont.

His major — "Undeclared" — was emblematic of the uncertainty surrounding his professional future at that time.

But five years, a pandemic and a big infusion of entrepreneurial spirit later, Dunn is the co-owner of a new business with such a sound footing that it recently won \$212,500 plus cash and in-kind services to take it to the next level.

The business is called "Painting With Purpose (PWP)," a residential and commercial painting company the recent UVM Business School grad launched with friend Jake Falanga. The company also embraces philanthropy; it donates a portion of its profits to organizations battling homelessness in Vermont.

Painting With Purpose has a crew of 11 workers headquartered in a Burlington-area home. Dunn and Falanga knew an infusion of capital could allow them to stabilize, then expand their business. And they

(See Dunn, Page 8A)

## Middlebury students join campus protests for Gaza

By MARIN HOWELL

MIDDLEBURY — Over 100 students at Middlebury College have formed an encampment on campus in solidarity with the people of Gaza, joining a nationwide student movement protesting Israel's war with Hamas.

Pro-Palestinian demonstrations have unfolded on college campuses throughout the country in recent weeks, highlighted by the arrests of dozens of

demonstrators at Columbia University in New York.

Students at Middlebury and other colleges and universities throughout the country are demanding that Israel end its military efforts in Gaza and that higher-ed institutions divest from holdings tied to Israel. Middlebury students are also asking that the college cut ties with Israeli institutions and seek a ceasefire in Gaza, among other demands.

"We're prepared to stay out here until those demands are met," said Oliver Patrick, a Middlebury student involved in the demonstration.

The recent wave of Pro-Palestinian protests on college campuses comes around six months after the start of the Israel-Hamas war.

In an Oct. 7 attack on Israel, Hamas killed an estimated 1,400 people and took around

(See Gaza protest, Page 11A)



MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE STUDENTS have joined the thousands throughout the country protesting the ongoing Israel-Hamas war through on-campus demonstrations. Students on Sunday set up an encampment on McCullough Lawn, where they're hosting educational programs and calling on college officials to take action in response to the war.

Independent photo/Steve James

## Vt. officials explain juvenile center plan

### Pledge public process, pluses to city

By ANDY KIRKALDY

VERGENNES — Two high-ranking state officials told the *Independent* last week there would be a thorough public process before a secure 14-bed facility to offer treatment to traumatized "justice-involved" juveniles would be built on Comfort Hill in Vergennes.

They also said the 8-acre locked facility would provide benefits to

its host community as well as to youths in need, and that it's to be a critical cog in the statewide effort to care for troubled young people.

"This is the most important thing I'm doing," said Chris Winters, commissioner of the Vermont Department For Children and Families (DCF).

Winters, joined during an

(See Center, Page 13A)

## THT fund drive nears the finish line

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — A \$7 million fund drive for the renovation and expansion of Middlebury's Town Theater (THT) is hitting the homestretch, with organizers announcing a generous donation-match offer, a buy-a-brick campaign and an upcoming auction as part of their strategy to bridge the final \$767,283 gap.

THT boosters are now working hard to get the general public involved after a successful silent phase of the campaign to bankroll a project that will primarily provide for a 7,000-square-foot, three-story addition onto the southwest end of historic, 1884 building at 68 South Pleasant St. The "Town Hall Theater Annex" will include studios for rehearsals, performances, receptions and arts

(See THT, Page 15A)



## By the way

Do you want to know what makes Lincoln tick? Want to give back to your community? Make new friends? Learn new things? Find your passion? (See By the way, Page 12A)

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# Mount Abe students rally around teachers amid budget struggles

By MARIN HOWELL

BRISTOL — In the wake of two failed budget votes, students in the Mount Abraham Unified School District are asking district officials to protect educators from potential cuts as they draft a third spending proposal to put before voters.

Around two dozen Mount Abraham Union Middle School students and community members gathered on the Bristol Town Green on Monday to protest potential layoffs and encourage voters to support district teachers by passing the next budget proposal.

“Our teachers are super important to us; they are the heart of our school and our education,” Trinity Croft, an eighth-grader at Mount Abe, told the *Independent*.

“There is no education without our educators and there is no school without our teachers. That’s what this was all about, the community and showing (teachers) that they are supported.”

Students’ pleas come after MAUSD voters twice shot down budget proposals this spring, rejecting a \$37 million spending plan by 228 votes on Town Meeting Day and defeating a \$35.9 million budget proposal by 57 votes on April 16.

*“The solutions that they’re proposing aren’t necessarily working, and the community voting them down so many times, I think is saying something. We need to think of a new perspective.”*

— 8th-grader Tinsae Deas

Without an approved budget for fiscal year 2025, district officials last month issued Reduction in Force (RIF) notices to 17 MAUSD teachers. The notices don’t necessarily mean those educators will lose their jobs, but rather reflect a “worst-case scenario” in which the district can’t pass a budget by July 1 and would be forced to operate with a budget equal to 87% of its current spending. The approved spending plan for the current year is \$33,868,900.

Tinsae Deas, an eighth-grader at Mount Abe, said she became concerned about potential staff cuts after learning the second budget proposal was defeated.

“The fact that we could lose our teachers is just horrifying for me,” she said. “I’m not the only one who has bonded with and felt very attached to some of these teachers.”

Deas said she discovered other students felt similarly and joined in on efforts to rally around district teachers after RIFs were issued. In addition to organizing Monday’s march, students have circulated a petition in support of teachers that’s garnered around 100 student signatures and spoken with Superintendent Patrick Reen and Mount Abe Principal Shannon

Warden about their concerns.

Deas added students hope to organize additional demonstrations in the district’s other member towns of New Haven, Starksboro and Monkton.

Participants at the protest on Monday waved signs reading “Save our education” and “Vote yes to pass the budget.” Their efforts were met with frequent honks of support from drivers passing by.

Students involved in the demonstration said they’d like district officials to listen to community members and avoid teacher layoffs when drafting the next budget proposal.

“The solutions that they’re proposing aren’t necessarily working, and the community voting them down so many times, I think is saying something,” Deas said. “We need to think of a new perspective.”

Deas added students are hoping more voters turn out for the next budget vote. She said administrators told students only 12% of eligible district voters weighed in on the most recent spending proposal.

“Some people think ‘I don’t have a kid, so it doesn’t matter,’ but we’re all people, we’re all going through this,” Deas said. “The students, the teachers, the board has to make decisions that they might struggle with the guilt. I wish people would see that these are peoples’ lives.”

Deas noted high school students at Mount Abe were organizing a walkout on Thursday, though



AROUND TWO DOZEN Mount Abraham Union Middle School students and community members rallied in Bristol on Monday to show their support for district teachers and encourage residents to support the next budget proposal. Participating students said they’d like to see the district avoid cuts to teachers when drafting a third spending plan to put before voters.

Independent photo/Marin Howell

middle schoolers were unable to take part in that effort.

Other district students have expressed discontent over the RIF notices in recent weeks. Ahead of the second budget vote, a group of Mount Abe students stood before the MAUSD school board at its April 2 meeting and voiced concern over potential cuts to the arts department or other programs at the high school.

“I speak from personal

experience about the arts department as someone who is very connected to that department itself,” one student told the board. “As someone who wants to go into the arts as a career, it’s been extremely important to my education, and I feel that cutting these opportunities for students is not the right way to go about budgeting.”

MAUSD officials last month provided some clarity on the RIF

notices in Front Porch Forum posts shared by Reen and the MAUSD Board. In their posts, district officials noted the notices take into account the worst-case scenario and that there are around \$500,000 worth of savings to achieve from other areas of the budget in that same scenario.

The MAUSD board discussed a new FY’25 budget target at its meeting on Tuesday (see related story).

# Orwell voters to field third SVUUSD budget on May 9

By JOHN FLOWERS

ORWELL — Orwell residents will join neighboring towns in Rutland County in making a trip to the polls on Thursday, May 9, to take a third crack at passing a fiscal year 2025 spending plan for the Slate Valley Unified Union School District (SVUUSD).

The SVUUSD provides preK-12 education for students at Orwell Village School, Benson Village School, Castleton Elementary School, Fair Haven Graded School and Fair Haven Union Middle High School. The district’s current preK-12 enrollment is 1,232, a number expected to decline slightly to 1,227 next year.

District voters on Town Meeting Day rejected an initial, \$31,021,635 budget proposal by a 1,468-1,004 margin.

School directors trimmed \$150,000 from that spending plan, representing three full-time instructional assistants, (\$120,000) and elementary school late buses (\$30,000). That revised budget of \$30,871,635 was put to voters on April 11, and failed again, this time

by 947-544.

The SVUUSD board convened after the second failed vote and — after hearing feedback from various stakeholders — reduced the spending proposal by another \$61,500, money that had been earmarked for a counseling position. The district in recent days was able to find grant money to subsidize the post.

So, on May 9, SVUUSD residents will field the newly revised spending plan of \$30,810,135. That’s \$211,500 less than the budget voters originally defeated on March 5.

Brooke Olsen-Farrell, SVUUSD superintendent, noted the \$30,810,135 request reflects a FY24-to-FY25 spending increase of around \$2.8 million, or approximately 10%. Proposed new investments include an additional classroom teacher in Benson Village School, which has seen an enrollment jump; additional social and emotional support for students, in the form of specialists and counselors; and an approximately \$125,000 investment in afterschool

and summer care in partnership with the Boys and Girls Club.

“These new investments have been widely endorsed by families and other community stakeholders,” SVUUSD Board Chair Pati Beaumont stated in a message to district constituents posts at [tinyurl.com/4atd8nta](https://tinyurl.com/4atd8nta).

Other factors driving the spending increase, according to Olsen-Farrell, include a 16.4% (\$540,000) bump in health insurance premiums; contracted wage/benefits increases for district employees; inflation; the impact of a new employer child care tax of 0.44% (\$73,000); the recent addition of long-term disability and life insurance for support staff (\$24,250); the sunset of federal pandemic assistance (creating an approximately \$200,000 revenue shortfall); increased building maintenance expenses; and growth in the number of students with mental health and behavioral needs.

### LOWER COST PER PUPIL

While the proposed budget-to-budget increase amounts to around 10%, the actual tax impact of the budget — excluding such factors as the Common Level Appraisal (CLA) — paints a very a different picture, according to SVUUSD officials.

Based on the latest state aid data, the proposed \$30.8 million spending plan would allocate \$11,294.83 per weighted pupil. That’s actually 0.03%, or \$3.45, less than Slate Valley’s current \$11,298.29 in spending per weighted pupil, according to district data.

That is lower than spending

per weighted pupil in most of the surrounding school districts, including Addison Central (\$16,099), Addison Northwest (\$15,306), Otter Valley (\$12,465), Rutland Town (\$13,666) and the statewide average — as of April 18 — of \$13,294.

“It’s been very challenging trying to explain this to the community,” she said of the budget’s funding nuances.

“It’s a statewide funding system. The fact that there are districts around us that spend more money

impacts the (tax) yield, which impacts our tax rate. We should be concerned about spending in all districts in the state. So, to just vote down our budget and say we need to cut, is really not going to save you on your tax rate. People largely don’t understand that, and are just angry about taxes as a whole.

“It’s challenging, because when people don’t understand, they don’t trust, and then they tend to vote ‘no,’” Olsen-Farrell added. “So our schools in Slate Valley continue to be under-resourced, yet (our taxpayers) expect better results. It just doesn’t work that way.”

### TAX RATE AND CLA

District officials tentatively calculate that the new FY’25 SVUUSD spending plan would create an estimated equalized

education tax rate of \$1.1471 per \$100 in property value — a 2.15% decrease compared to this year.

But the actual education tax rates in district-member towns are projected to be quite a bit higher than the \$1.1471 — due to the CLA factor.

CLAs are ratios of a town’s assessed values to actual fair market sales values. The CLA is used to equalize education property tax rates throughout the state. They’re expressed as a percentage: A 100% CLA means a community’s

property assessments — its grand list — on the average accurately represent fair market value.

When a CLA is above 100%, that means the community’s assessments are higher overall than fair market value, so the CLA is used to lower the school tax rate.

But when a CLA is below 100%, it means a community’s assessments are lower overall than fair market value. Then, the CLA is applied to increase school tax rates. The rate is divided by the CLA; for example, a pre-CLA rate of \$1.50 per \$100 of assessed value in a town with a CLA of 80% would then have a rate of \$1.875 (that’s \$1.50 divided by 0.8).

Orwell’s CLA currently stands at 89.14%, according to the Department of Taxes.

(See Orwell, Page 3A)

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 May 2 - May 8

# Stone will be the next Vermont Poet Laureate

MONTPELIER — Governor Phil Scott has named award-winning Brandon poet and teacher Bianca Stone the next Vermont Poet Laureate.

Stone is the author of five books, including the poetry collections, "What is Otherwise Infinite" (Tin House, 2022), winner of the 2022 Vermont Book Award; "The Möbius Strip Club of Grief" (Tin House, 2018); and "Someone Else's Wedding Vows" (Octopus Books and Tin House, 2014). She collaborated with Anne Carson on the illuminated version of "Antigonick" (New Directions, 2012). Her work has appeared in *The New Yorker*, *The Atlantic*, *Poets and Writers*, *The Nation* and elsewhere. She co-founded the poetry-based nonprofit Ruth Stone House, where she teaches classes on poetry and poetic study and hosts the Ode & Psyche Podcast, and is editor-at-large for *ITERANT* magazine.

The Poet Laureate serves as Vermont's ambassador for the art of poetry for a four-year term. Robert Frost was named the first Vermont Poet Laureate in 1961. In 1988, Governor Madeleine Kunin re-established the position. Galway Kinnell was the first Poet Laureate named for a term of four years. Since then, Louise Glück, Ellen Bryant Voigt, Grace Paley, Sydney Lea, and Chard deNiord have also held the position. Mary Ruefle is the most recent Poet Laureate. Ruth Stone, Bianca Stone's grandmother, was poet laureate from 2007-2011.

"Poetry has such an intricate relationship to place, and this appointment speaks to my love



BIANCA STONE

of the landscape and people here. I'm honored to stand with those laureates — including my grandmother — who have come before, continuing the work of cultivating a rich literary tradition in the Green Mountains," Stone said upon the appointment.

As Poet Laureate, Stone is interested in increasing awareness of the power of poetry. She would like to engage Vermont teachers, students, and librarians in the world of poetry, and reach people in other communities who don't necessarily engage with poetry through readings and in-depth discussions.

"Poetry brings the inner and outer world together and translates consciousness itself onto the page. It is not only relevant to our lives,

but crucial in exploring what it is to be in this world," Stone said. "It is perhaps one of the most playful and serious mediums we have. But it is often misunderstood."

Nominations for poet laureate were accepted from the public to the Vermont Arts Council and its partners, Vermont Humanities, Poetry Society of Vermont, and Sundog Poetry, beginning last summer. Over 200 nominations for 31 Vermont poets were reviewed by an external panel in several rounds. The Vermont Arts Council has managed the Vermont Poet Laureate selection process since its re-establishment in 1988.

A formal appointment ceremony with Gov. Scott is being planned for late spring.

# MAUSD delays budget decisions

By MARIN HOWELL

BRISTOL — The Mount Abraham Unified School District board on Tuesday determined it needs to gather more information and hear from the community before drafting a third budget proposal to put before district voters.

Residents in district-member towns Bristol, New Haven, Monkton and Starksboro have twice this spring shot down proposed spending plans for the upcoming fiscal year, first rejecting a \$37 million proposal on Town Meeting Day and then defeating a \$35.9 million budget proposal by 57 votes on April 16.

The MAUSD board was expected to set a new budget target for fiscal year 2025 and determine the next vote date at its Tuesday meeting. However, board members ultimately decided to table those decisions until they had a chance to solicit public input and hear from Superintendent Patrick Reen on a number of budget-related questions community members have raised.

Several board members said the district needs to listen to residents' concerns and spending priorities before developing another budget proposal.

"Maybe our community is fine with 10% (tax increases) but how we spend it is what we really need

to shift, and I don't feel like we can do that and manipulate dollars and cents until we understand that from our community," Board member Melissa Laurie said.

Board members on Tuesday first heard new information from Reen about additional savings the district could realize without acting on any Reduction in Force (RIF) notices. Those potential savings amounted to around \$576,914 and would be achieved largely by taking advantage of attrition and eliminating positions the district has not been able to fill. For example, the district could choose to not fill a 1.0 FTE (full-time equivalent) Math Instructional Coaching position and 0.6 FTE guidance counselor position being vacated, as well as 2.3 special educator positions being vacated or that have gone unfilled this school year.

Some board members expressed concerns over acting on the potential reductions, particularly

those involving student-facing positions.

"It makes me really nervous to see the positions of guidance and social work being decreased at this time," Board member Ashley Bessette said.

*"Maybe our community is fine with 10% (tax increases) but how we spend it is what we really need to shift, and I don't feel like we can do that and manipulate dollars and cents until we understand that from our community."*

— Melissa Laurie

"We're hearing our schools need more social emotional support, not of coaches but of people working with our kids and helping kids through crisis and tough times."

Other board members said they need to learn more about how current needs are being met in the district before moving forward with budget talks.

"What I need as a board member is to know from the administration, before we propose a budget, are we meeting the needs, because that's not what I'm hearing from anywhere in the community, that we are meeting the needs of the children and of the staff," Board member Kathi Apgar said.

Members of the board pointed to other spending concerns raised (See MAUSD Page 7A)

charcuterie, mustards, jams, chocolates, conservas and many more unique items from Vermont and beyond." Also, Gilfeather's does not offer catering services. We apologize for using incomplete and incorrect information.

mischaracterized the nature of the business. Co-owner Rick Benson described his business in an email to the *Independent* as "a specialty food market featuring restaurant quality prepared foods to go. We carry fine wines, craft beers, artisanal cheeses,

# Orwell

(Continued from Page 2A)

Based on tentative numbers crunched by SVUUSD, Orwell would be looking at an estimated homestead property tax rate of \$1.5176 with passage of the proposed FY'25 budget. That would represent a 20-cent bump from the current rate of \$1.3151, or a 15.3% increase. So a home in Orwell appraised at \$300,000 would see a tax increase of around \$558.

The CLA factor is entirely responsible for a projected FY'25 homestead education property tax rate impact of \$185.95 per \$100,000 in property value in Orwell, officials said. Absent the CLA influence, the budget would drive a \$25.15 decrease per \$100,000 in property value, according to district officials.

It should be noted, however, that many Orwell taxpayers pay based on the value of their homesite and their income, and would therefore pay less than the above.

Resident households earning less than \$135,000 a year can be eligible to receive property tax credits applied to their property tax bill. The education credit amount is equal to the difference between the house site (house and up to 2 acres) education property taxes for the prior year, and education taxes based on income. During the 2023 tax year, 69% of Orwell homeowners received an education tax credit through the state of Vermont, according to the Department of Taxes.

Meanwhile, 13% of Orwell homeowners in 2023 Homeowners

reported a household income of less than \$47,000, which qualified them for an additional, municipal tax credit.

Orwell Village School currently serves 119 children; the town has a total of 200 preK-12 children enrolled in the SVUUSD.

State law requires school boards to persist in getting a taxpayer-approved budget. If the district hasn't passed a budget by July 1, it can borrow up to 87% of its last passed budget in order to meet immediate financial obligations.

## NO RIF NOTICES

Unlike several other school districts, SVUUSD didn't send out Reduction In Force (RIF) notices to staff and educators to gird for potential layoffs.

"Quite honestly, we don't have staff we could RIF, unless people wanted class sizes of 30 students," Olsen-Farrell said.

At only 87% of FY-24 funding levels, the district would be left around \$6 million short of meeting basic needs, according to Olsen-Farrell.

"We wouldn't be doing any summer programming, no more athletics or any of that stuff until we have a budget on place," she said. "There wouldn't be any discretionary spending at all. We

wouldn't be purchasing supplies, no maintenance of our schools over the summer. We would just be focused on what we need to provide, in terms of basic education for students in the classroom.

"We wouldn't want to be in a position of running a deficit," she added.

Peter Stone is an Orwell representative to the SVUUSD board. He's hoping his neighbors get out to the polls on May 9. He personally believes that any further cuts to the proposed budget could substantially affect the programming.

"There's not a lot of leeway in our budget. If we start taking more stuff out, it starts hurting the children," he said.

"When it comes to taxes and paying for education, the first thing people want to do is cut education," Stone added. "They say they can't afford it. But we can't afford not to educate our kids."

An informational meeting on the budget is set for Tuesday, May 7, at 6:30 p.m. in the Fair Haven Union High School band room. Voting in Orwell will take place on May 9 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Orwell Town Clerk's office.

A complete overview of SVUUSD budget documents can be found at [tinyurl.com/nfbz58hk](http://tinyurl.com/nfbz58hk).

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

*"There's not a lot of leeway in our budget. If we start taking more stuff out, it starts hurting the children ... We can't afford not to educate our kids."*

— Peter Stone

# Students to examine Bristol housing

## Survey created to get input on the issue from residents

BRISTOL — A team of Middlebury College students is examining housing needs in Bristol and looking to hear from town residents to inform their research.

The students are enrolled in a qualitative methods course taught by Bristol resident and selectboard member Jessica Teets. Their work is focused particularly on collecting data on to the current state of housing in

Addison County.

Through their project, students are hoping to gather information that assesses the Bristol community's needs in regard to housing availability. Information collected through the project will be shared with town committees and the selectboard, as well as with the Addison County Regional Planning Commission to support the organization's larger project on affordable

housing in Addison County.

As part of the project, students have created a survey for Bristol residents with questions about their housing experiences, offering opportunities to give feedback.

The survey consists of 22 questions and takes around 10 minutes to complete. The questionnaire will close on Friday, May 3, and can be found at [tinyurl.com/5pm9ftvy](http://tinyurl.com/5pm9ftvy).

**CORRECTION:** The list of Addison County Green Up coordinators in the Volunteer section of last week's edition presented outdated information for the town of Shoreham. It should have said: "The Shoreham Green Up

Coordinator is Pauline Stevens, who can be reached at 989-5527. The bag pick up locations are during bus hours at the elementary school, Town Clerk's Office, Post Office, Platt Memorial Library, Halfway House Restaurant and Golden

Russet Farm. Bag drop-off is North of the Firehouse on Green Up Day from 9 a.m. until noon. There are no specials."

See a full list of Green Up coordinators and activities on Page 11A.



**MUHS Class of 1984**  
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# Editorials

## Vote yes, with thanks for an Ilsley project done well

It's not often that residents of any town can gladly approach a significant bond issue knowing all parties involved have excelled at crafting a \$16.99 million library renovation project down to a very manageable \$4.4 million payment for taxpayers to retire over the next 20 years. The effort involved in achieving this remarkable proposal should not be overlooked.

Two years ago, the town of Middlebury formed the Ilsley 100 Project Team which was to spearhead a transparent effort to assess what the 100-year-old library building needed to serve its patrons for the next few years or for the next century.

The team initially explored renovating the existing space and replacing decrepit facilities like the heating, air conditioning and ventilation systems, the elevator, and redoing much of the building's plumbing and electrical systems. They quickly discovered that just replacing the boiler, the ancient elevator and adding a secondary exit to the third floor (a necessary safety feature) would run close to \$3 million, and that didn't improve any of cramped, dark and dingy spaces inherent in a century-old building.

The committee then explored building new facilities at various sites in town, as well as renovating and expanding on the existing site.

Based on community feedback, the committee heeded the public's preference to keep the library at its current site and narrowed its focus to renovations. They commissioned three area architectural firms to design architectural drawings around a set of criteria, including a price-point that met the library board's needs for the next 100 years (as much as that can be done) as well as designing a project that would enhance the rest of the downtown.

The three architectural designs were presented this past August to the community amid much fanfare. The designs excited the community not only by re-imagining how the library could serve its patrons, but also by how such a project could enliven that area of the downtown.

Even with that excitement, the projected \$16.4 million cost was daunting and seemed out of reach.

But then the pieces started to fall in place. A fundraising campaign is on its way to raising \$6 million through private donations; \$2 million in state and federal grants were secured by library staff and \$552,064 achieved through tax credits and rebates. Those efforts brought the price tag to around \$8.5 million — doable, but still a sizable chunk for taxpayers to handle. That's when the idea of using \$4 million of the town's excess proceeds from its local option tax was hatched, reviewed and approved by the town selectboard. That leaves taxpayers to shoulder about 25% of the project's cost.

That brief summation, of course, overlooks the thousands of hours of volunteer and staff time over the past four years by dozens of committed residents, of whom long-time Ilsley board president Joe McVeigh (who is now a trustee with Meg Baker taking over as board president), deserves much credit, as does Ilsley Library Director Dana Hart, along with other members of the Ilsley 100 Project Team, which includes Amy Mincher, Dan Brown, Farhad Kahn, Barara Doyle-Wilch, Ken Perine and Judith Harris.

I offer these salutations before next Tuesday's vote (May 7, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the town office building at 77 Main) because the work ahead of this critical decision was done as it should be:

- it was carefully planned with numerous options considered;
- it has been well vetted by professionals at each level;
- the community was involved in numerous steps along the way and its feedback was heard and honored;
- and where there was a will key players found a way to make the project's cost manageable for taxpayers to handle.

It's still a chunk of change to pay off, but as a return on the taxpayers' investment few other projects will ever provide Middlebury residents such high value.

Vote yes on the library bond, with thanks to all those who made such a good investment possible.

Angelo Lynn

## SVUUSD faces double jeopardy

Residents of the Slate Valley Unified Union School District, which serves Orwell and the northwestern part of Rutland County, face tough sledding in getting its school budget passed on a third attempt next Thursday, May 9. Residents rejected the first budget, 1468-1,004, and the second attempt, 947-544. Both are decisive defeats.

At issue is a tight budget that's up by \$2.8 million or about 10% over the prior year, but with per pupil spending that is far below the state average. Based on the latest state aid data, the proposed \$30.8 million budget for SVUUSD allocates \$11,298.83 per weighted pupil. That's actually a fraction less than current spending, but more importantly, it pales against the state average of \$13,294, or of its neighboring districts: Otter Valley spends \$12,465 per weighted pupil; Addison Central spends \$16,099; Addison Northwest spends \$15,306 and Rutland Town, \$13,666.

That information informs SVUUSD taxpayers that its district school boards have held spending to a minimum throughout the years. To taxpayers intent on shaving pennies, that's good news. But it also means there's little excess to trim. Moreover, demanding the local school board cut its budget even further won't do much to reduce tax rates.

"It's a statewide funding system," SVUUSD Supt. Brooke Olsen-Farrell explained in a story in today's *Addison Independent*. "So just to vote down our budget and say we need to cut, is really not going to save you on your tax rate."

We understand taxpayers' frustration, and it's widespread. Otter Valley defeated its budget for the second time on Tuesday, and Mount Abe's district rejected theirs a few weeks prior. And even as the state Legislature tries to concoct a plan to lessen the burden, it's not likely to craft a satisfactory answer this year. Solutions won't come easily.

But we do know there is double jeopardy in slashing local budgets: district taxes are not lowered significantly, even as local students are disproportionately hurt. For now, the best strategy is to pass local budgets that are frugal, but viable, and work for bigger change in Montpelier.

Angelo Lynn



### Power move

**TIGER SPURTER JAZMYRN Hurley pulls away from a game, but overmatched, Fairfax runner on the anchor leg of the four-by-100 relay during Tuesday's track & field meet at Mount Abe. Hurley teamed up with Solstice Binder, Alexis Williams and Navah Glikman to win the event. Read more on Page 1B.**

Independent photo/Steve James

## Cultivating fixes for local problems

When I look at the world it's easy to feel heartbroken and paralyzed at the chaos. Granted, I'm a born pessimist, but I'm sure many of you share my despair about climate change, the war in Ukraine, the strife in Israel and Gaza, and the huge number of people displaced from their homes around the world because of one disaster or another.

The United States is facing a presidential election where one of the major candidates faces 91 indictments in four felony cases. That candidate has already promised to reject the result if he loses. Many of our fellow citizens believe in multiple absurd conspiracy theories and reflexively distrust the government.

In the richest country in the world, a shocking number of people are hungry and unhoused, and go without needed medical care because they can't afford it. Black and brown people live their lives with the generational trauma that is echoed in the barriers many still face.

You can probably add to the list; I know I could. So how do we get up every day, and do something meaningful, anything?

During the pandemic, Town Hall Theater streamed a wonderful production of *Candide*, a show I've always loved. *Candide* goes through banishment from his home, war, the Inquisition, and worse, trying to hold on to the teaching that "all is for the best in the best of all possible worlds." It's obvious to the audience that's not true, but it takes *Candide* the whole play, or in *Voltaire's* original, the whole book, to realize it.

And what does *Candide/Voltaire* tell us in the end? That "one must cultivate one's own garden."

I've pondered those words these last few months.

Does that mean I should turn inward, focusing on my literal garden, my family, my home, my friends? Give up on the world's problems, and look away from the news and the problems? I can't tell you how many times I've wanted to do that, and I'm sure many of you have felt the same. But though it eases a little of pain, it doesn't feel right. My parents were Jews who fled Nazi Europe. They couldn't ignore the evil, the chaos; it came for them. Can I ignore the chaos of our time? Wait until it comes for me? But what can I, a sixty-something woman living in tiny Vermont, do about climate change, racism, right wing fanaticism, the eroding of human rights, the threat to democracy?

I can take care of the garden that is right here, in our community, with the meager skills I have. I can use less plastic, grow fruit and vegetables in my garden, buy less and mend more, cook for Charter House, Gather and Abolition Kitchen, help the people I encounter who need meals, rides, money and a listening ear.

Several years ago I went to a talk by Bill McKibben at Middlebury College. One thing he said has stayed with me. When we are tempted to give in to despair, we should think about people during World War II. We, in our time, know that the war was won, but they didn't — to them it often looked as bleak as what we (See *Ways of Seeing*, Page 5A)

### Ways of Seeing

By Michele Lowy



## Lazy gardener lands new method

Over the winter, I heard about an intriguing vegetable-growing technique called "lazy gardening."

As far as I knew, that was the kind of gardening I'd been doing for two decades. And based on my results, it was not a method I'd recommend.

But the lazy gardening I do — heavy on half measures, flagging enthusiasm and growing neglect — isn't the same. This trendy version, also known as "no-dig gardening," relies on proactive steps to create beds that require less maintenance and produce higher yields.

Is "lazy gardening" just a PR term to trick people like me into thinking it's not a lot of work?

I'm about to find out.

I grow vegetables every year, but not well. Sometimes I water faithfully; other times I make the veggies fight for survival. Sometimes I spend many hours keeping the garden tidy; other times I throw a hoe into the bed and hope its mere presence will intimidate the weeds.

The other day at the garden center (a place they'll apparently let anyone go), a nice man asked me for some gardening advice. He had no way of knowing this was like asking a yellow Lab for advice on how to reformat a hard drive. Rather than be unmasked as an impostor, I said nothing and backed myself under a pile of bark mulch, where I cowered until he wandered off.

Maybe this lazy gardening thing is my chance to finally succeed.

Here's how it works: The first year, instead of tilling in your weeds in the spring and then spending the summer pulling them as they fight their way back to the surface — stronger than ever and out for revenge — you smother them with sheets of cardboard. You ignore their faint screams as you lay several inches of well-composted soil on top.

Weeks later, when the cardboard has disintegrated, most of the weeds will have died (in a satisfyingly slow and agonizing manner). Your plants, luxuriating in the rich, loose soil on top, will, for once, have time to establish themselves without being choked out.

Each subsequent year, instead of turning over the soil, you add a light layer of compost on top of the beds. There's science behind it, stuff about moisture retention and preserving the layers of organisms and fungi in the soil and so on. Whatever. I've spent years bending spades in Addison County clay; lazy gardening had me at "no dig."

I began by hoarding cardboard boxes and then took an unprecedented step: I paid for dirt. Yup. Last weekend I had a few yards of compost and soil dumped at the edge of the garden. I don't want to say it was the most (See *Jessie*, Page 5A)



### Around the bend

By Jessie Raymond

## Letters to the Editor

### Ilsley needs a new addition

We need the new addition to Ilsley Public Library. I know because I worked in the building for 18 years. I will vote to support the bond on May 7. If you live in Middlebury and are registered to vote, I hope you will do the same.

David Clark  
Middlebury

### Library project merits support

Please, Middlebury, say yes on May 7 to funding a renovated and expanded Ilsley Public Library! For years, despite the severe limitations of its current building, Ilsley has been among the most visited libraries in the state.

Why? Because its devoted staffers and the programs they offer keep the public coming. Why? Because youth programs have long attracted young readers and parents, despite the children's section's location in a leaky basement. Why? Because Ilsley welcomes all, of whatever means or background.

Think of what Ilsley brings to our community now ... and then multiply it tenfold, because that is what the new plans will bring about. With welcoming, accessible entrances; light-filled spaces; an open and highly flexible floorplan to allow adaptation to future needs; and a large, tech-equipped community meeting room. And all of this will be available to everyone, including technology and other services to underserved communities.

It is time to say yes to our grandchildren and their grandchildren — let's build a modern library for them.

Kate Gridley and  
John Barstow  
Middlebury

### Time to invest in town's fabric

There are a few organizations that are critical to the fabric of a community. The library is one of them. We have been blessed with the foresight and generosity of Col. and Mrs. Ilsley in funding the town's library building back in 1924. It has provided a solid base for learning for over 100 years. However, the needs of the adults, teens and children in our society have evolved and outgrown the original building and its dated additions.

Library use and programming has mushroomed to a level that taxes the current facilities. There is a need for more meeting rooms, better and more welcoming access, safer and more flexible spaces and an environmentally friendly building. And it is essential that we do this project now. Not only are the mechanical systems in the library in dire need of repair and replacement, significant public code violations need to be addressed immediately.

Furthermore, federal dollars that must be expended by 2026 will not be available again and are a key component of the funding plan for the project. It is now our turn to invest in the fabric of our community by supporting the renovation and expansion of the library to ensure it will serve all of our citizens for the next 100 years.

Ken Perine  
Middlebury

### Many benefit from the Ilsley

In 1989, the urban sociologist Ray Oldenburg published his book "The Great Good Place," which explores the concept of "third spaces" in our society. According to Oldenburg, and other sociologists, third spaces are those beyond our homes or workplaces that serve as community anchors, places that foster civic engagement and human connections. A "home away from home." Next week, Middlebury residents have the opportunity to vote in favor of uplifting one of our county's greatest third spaces, (See *Letter*, Page 5A)

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# Letters to the Editor

## Protester explains actions at Marvell Technology

On Monday, April 15, Tax Day!, I participated in a “disruption event” up in Burlington as part of a group of Vermonters who, in solidarity with Palestine, gathered at Burlington’s “Innovation Center” to protest Marvell Technology’s role in Israel’s ongoing occupation of Palestine and genocide in Gaza.

We were acting in concert with a national call to disrupt the economic flow between the United States and Israel. Since Oct. 7, the federal government has sent hundreds of millions of dollars in military aid to Israel. The taxes that we paid on the 15th are going to support genocide overseas instead of taking care of the desperate needs of Vermonters such as healthcare, housing and education. Many people in Vermont are surprised to learn that there are multiple companies that have direct contracts to supply the Israeli military with technology and weaponry.

We chose Marvell Technology because they design and develop custom processors and communications chips for weapons systems for the Israeli and U.S. militaries with the support of our tax dollars. In 2021 they received \$74.9 million in U.S. Department of Defense contracts. These integrated chips are used in small, first-person view drones, like the Matrice 600 and LANIUS, that fly with explosives, machine guns and AI technology. The Human Rights Monitor has confirmed dozens of civilian deaths from Israel’s “small killer drones,” built with integrated circuits, some made by Marvell Technology, and paid for by American taxpayers. They are also used in the “Where’s Daddy” Israeli operation that follows targeted individuals and then carries out bombing when they return to their family’s home. Marvell has its second-largest research and development

center — as well as numerous distributors and at least one sales office — in Israel.

We took this action to demand that Marvell Technology cuts its ties to Israel and stops supporting genocide.

Our plan was simple, disruptive, and not destructive — one group of protesters volunteered to go into the offices at Marvell, drop flyers about the apartheid government they are supporting, spray some silly string and fling red glitter around using tubes and balloons, then leave. The other group of us were to drop a banner reading “Genocide: Made in Vermont,” raise signs and chant. Important to note about the “Innovation Center,” is that it houses many other offices including the V.A., the Vermont IRS, and a pediatrician’s office. Our action was limited to the Marvell offices, leaving the other businesses out of the direct

(See Alavi, Page 7A)

## Letter

(Continued from Page 4A)  
a true anchor for many of us.

The bond vote for the Ilsley Public Library’s proposed improvements and redesign is one of the most important we can imagine, and it’s a shame that Middlebury must shoulder this responsibility alone when so many of us from other towns are loyal patrons and beneficiaries of the Ilsley (we would encourage non-Middlebury folks to donate privately to the Ilsley’s fundraising efforts, if you are able). We hope our neighbors will support this wise investment as research has found that for every \$1 invested in public libraries, communities realize \$5 in value. But it is harder to quantify the human impact of a place like the Ilsley.

When we moved to Addison County in the middle of a frigid winter with our young daughter,

the Ilsley’s children’s library became an immediate haven for us. Much of this is thanks to the warm and open librarians who immediately welcomed us and have come to feel like family, as well as for the inventive ways those librarians engage all children through stories, games and crafts. Over the years we have found that every time we go to the Ilsley, we are sure to run into a friend, whether they are behind the circulation desks, browsing the shelves, reading newspapers, meeting in community spaces, or chasing children through the famous Noon Years Eve party. It is hard to imagine a better definition of a “Great, Good Place” in Addison County than the Ilsley Public Library.

We are writing today with optimism and gratitude as Middlebury voters act to invest

in the future of the Ilsley. Many of the proposed improvements are essential to the basic functioning of the building, including replacing the troubled broiler system and ensuring reliable access for people with mobility challenges. And, the design thoughtfully builds on the Ilsley’s strengths by creating expanded and beautiful spaces for children, teenagers, community organizations, and library patrons of all ages.

This is a chance to provide the Ilsley with a building that reflects what the Ilsley has given back to Middlebury and Addison County for generations — a library building that will enrich and benefit all of us for years to come. We hope voters will agree next week.

Conor Stinson and  
Ellen Whelan-Wuest  
Cornwall

## Ways of Seeing

(Continued from Page 4A)  
face looks to us.

Last spring I went to Poland and toured ghettos and concentration camps. The guide repeated a kind of mantra to us — we always have a choice. The prisoners in Auschwitz couldn’t escape, or even be sure of surviving, but they had choices in how they faced

their fate and how they behaved in their daily circumstances.

As individuals we can’t fix the mess in the world, but we can make a difference in the piece of the world we can reach — our own community, our garden. Through our actions each of us can begin to heal the hurt we see around us, and at the same time, begin our

own healing.

We don’t know how our story ends.

We have choices.

We can cultivate the Garden.

Michele Lowy is a retired teacher living in Middlebury. She published her first novel, “A Small Door,” in 2023 and is working on a second one.

# Don’t stereotype the homeless

The writer of this piece, who wishes to remain anonymous, offers the column to show what it’s like to be without a place to call home.

I sat on a chair outside my teacher’s office, the classic institutional tile floors and endless painted cement block hallways stretched in either direction. My mother had been in there for 15 minutes, which was way too long and every minute she stayed mounted, exponentially, my feeling of doom. I was a good kid, I was bright and got good grades, I was compliant with teachers, and I made friends, many friends, easily. I knew people thought well of me, which exacerbated the growing dread.

The door opened amid some niceties that don’t really matter, basically whatever exit strategy the two women had nonverbally agreed to — cordial, respectful and of course superficial. My teacher held out her hand to give me something, I reached out, palm opened, and her hand unfurled three gumdrops, releasing them into my hand. Three gum drops, no words. This was a teacher usually flush with treats, so I knew they were what she scrounged up from her desk. They were gum drops, low on the scale of candy deliciousness. Three of them, scraps, no words.

As a child, I knew we were homeless, not houseless or unhoused but homeless. This was for a period of just under a year. We slept in basements, garages, on the floor, all of us on a single twin bed, chairs (recliners please), anywhere we could stay for any amount of time. Houseless or unhoused gives no respect for the experience or depth of pain of someone who lacks a stable, safe place to live. Homelessness was painful. I owned no more than what I could carry with me, let me carry my pain. As a child I knew we had places to sleep, but I knew

## Living Together

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Homelessness  
Task Force



we were homeless even though those words were never spoken. Homeless, unhoused, houseless aside, my teacher was easier on me and expected less of me than before. She treated me differently, and it made me different. I think it was antithetical to the result she wanted.

It was good intent, but it was really for her benefit. She felt better because she was being helpful but to me it said 1. you aren’t capable, 2. you’ll never get anywhere, 3. you are less than you were before. A lesson I’ve learned in my profession is it harms people more to have something taken away than to never have been given it. My home was taken, my things were taken, my security taken and now my teacher has taken back a part of who I was, what she gave to me. But I got three gumdrops, they were leftovers, and no words. I was the same, but she made me different.

I don’t want to procure your sympathy or pity. I’m not interested in trying to increase your empathy; you either have it or you don’t. I’ve been increasingly involved in Addison County and the meetings and discussions regarding homelessness. I considered writing a piece that reflected on my profession, that connected the work and values that I uphold in my field of expertise to what is happening with homelessness and our response. Frankly, I found it boring and likely something that people have heard before. “According to these statistics...” but realistically

I don’t see it changing the lens through which people look at homelessness. I don’t know the answers on how to change the lens, but I do know what it needs to look like, and I hope, if you are reading this, you take a moment to convey what you think it would look like.

• When you see people living under the bridge, your shock and disbelief is because you are reminded of the invisible number of children, families and vulnerable adults in shelters that vastly outnumber what you see on the streets.

• You believe that the human condition is marked by our ability to transcend adversity and you are drawn to appreciate and hold in regard the strength of people who struggle.

• We make investments that are meaningful and impactful. Housing that is safe and affordable, food that is as nutritious as it is joyful to eat, clothing that is clean and intact, personal connections that are genuine and reciprocal because people can’t rebound from homelessness on less than it takes for you to survive in the same community.

• That you don’t see me differently because of my experience of being homeless. Until then, I’ll remain anonymous because, at least today, people will try to see if there are remnants of the pain behind my otherwise ordinary, “normal” and upstanding exterior; squinting as if you could look harder or more closely, then you’ll see homelessness somehow carved into my being, like those memes where squinting at a picture of three girls eating pizza turns into Nicolas Cage. I work and live with you, but my experience stays in the shadows of my life.

Editor’s note: The picture accompanying this was created by Charter House Coalition Board member Jackie Lore.

## Jessie

(Continued from Page 4A)  
exciting thing that’s happened to me in 2024, but I did hug the delivery driver.

So far, as expected, I’m finding that lazy gardening isn’t all that lazy. I’ve spent hours laying cardboard on the ground and shoveling fancy new soil and compost on top. But I can already see a benefit: Unlike the native soil on our property, this stuff is movable.

When seed-planting instructions say, “Cover seeds with a fine layer of soil,” I can do that now. In the past, I would just lob brick-sized clumps of clay onto the bed and

hope for the best.

As with most ideas that grab me, however, I’ve allowed myself to be sucked in by well-produced YouTube videos on the subject. I’m currently fascinated with a British man named Charles Dowding — the Bob Ross of no-dig gardening. His gentle voice radiates peace, nothing like the emotions I’ve always associated with gardening — mostly frustration and disappointment.

His gardens are neat and beautiful and free of weeds, and when I watch his videos, I imagine I too could have 1.3 acres of orderly no-dig goodness where the vegetables

practically grow themselves.

Of course, I ignore that Dowding has deep knowledge, a complex composting system and a full-time staff who work tirelessly off-camera. If I had those three things — plus a decent attention span — I could have bountiful gardens, too.

I don’t know whether my interest in the garden will, for once, last as long as the growing season. But at the moment, this new version of lazy gardening has me hooked.

Now I’m looking into whether there’s some version of “lazy cleaning” that might work for me too.

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# Obituaries

## Jacob Verburg, 92, of Vergennes

VERGENNES — Jacob Verburg quietly passed away into eternity into the presence of his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on April 19, 2024, in his temporary home at Gazebo Senior Living in South Burlington.

He was born on June 17, 1931, the second of four siblings, to Adrianus and Wijntje (de Haan) Verburg in Nederhorst den Berg, The Netherlands. After a full life he is now away from the body and at home with the Lord (2 Cor. 5:8) and awaiting a new body sown in weakness and raised in power (1 Cor. 15:43).

He was predeceased by his beloved wife, Harmke Smedes Verburg, and son, Sander. The family he helped to raise is his legacy. He will be remembered in love by his children: Adriaan and Shari Verburg, Sjabbo and Joann Verburg, Wynic and Lou Vorstevel, Anje and Harold DeGraaf, Elisabeth and Mark Angier, and Case and Betty



JACOB VERBURG

Verburg. He was also blessed with numerous grandchildren and great grandchildren: Josh and Joni, Adri, Kara, Kylie; Luke and Kristen, Daniel, Michael; Laura and Kevin, Ada; Tessa and Tell, Jonah, Zeke, Steve, Caroline; Heather; Jake and Ellen; James and Katie; Maria and Ben, Gerrit,

Joanna, Katherine, Caleb; Ethan and Barb, Evelyn, Oscar, Caroline; David and Sarah, Henry, Theodore, Beatrice; Victoria; Troy; Robert and Madison; Geneva and Jared; Anton and Cassie, Lucy, Johannah, Maxwell; Jacklyn and David, Matthias, Willem, Peter, Abram; Hans; Jessica and Jamie, Aries, Artemis, Iris; Nicholas; Michael; Tristan; Renae; Derrick and Sarah, Vivian; Hillary and Satyaject; Theresa and Oliver; Jeanine; Hannah and Alex, Elliana, Samuel, Gabriel; Reuben; Avery; Seth; and Lynnea.

A service of Thanksgiving in his memory will be held Tuesday, May 28, 2024, D.V., at 11 a.m. at the Champlain Valley Christian Reformed Church in Vergennes. Visiting hours will also be at the CVCRC on May 28, starting at 10 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in his name may be sent to CVCRC, 73 Church St., Vergennes, VT 05491. ◊

## Thomas F. Sweeney, 87, of North Ferrisburgh

NORTH FERRISBURGH — Thomas Francis Sweeney, 87, of North Ferrisburgh, Vt., passed away peacefully on April 23, 2024, at home in the company of his family.

Tom was born in 1937 in Waterbury, Conn., and graduated from the University of Vermont in 1959. He worked for 30 years in management for New England Telephone/NYNEX until retiring early to enjoy life.

Tom was an active person and enjoyed all manners of outdoor life in Vermont. He particularly enjoyed duck hunting, fishing and boating on Lake Champlain, and cross-country skiing most often at Trapp Family Lodge in Stowe.

Tom is survived by his wife, Karen; his children, Kerry and her husband Brian Ashburner, Tom (TP) and his wife Kim Vincent, and Megeen and her partner Newt Scatchard; as well as his five grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.



THOMAS F. SWEENEY

The family would like to thank Addison County Home Health Hospice for their care and support through the last few weeks of Tom's life.

A funeral service will be held at 11:30 a.m. on Friday, May 3, at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church, located at 2894 Spear Street in Charlotte, Vt. ◊



DEANNA LYN ROBAIR

## Deanna Lyn Robair, 74, of Middlebury

MIDDLEBURY — Deanna Lyn Robair, also known as DeeDee, passed away on April 6, 2024, in Burlington at the age of 74.

Deanna was predeceased by her mother, Lenore Shewell; father, Ernie Shewell; and Jeffrey Crossman.

She loved crafts, from painting to diamond art. She was a lively funny person and very social.

She is survived by her cousins, Patty Squires and Annette Sausville of Bennington; her special friends, Marcia Pokrant, Jody Jarvis, and Shirin Poquette; and her beloved cat Joshie.

Any contributions in her memory can be made to Homeward Bound, Boardman Street, in Middlebury. ◊

## Margaret A. Gardner, 91, of Bennington

BENNINGTON — Margaret A. Gardner, 91, passed away surrounded by her loving family on April 26, 2024. Born on July 3, 1932, in Pittsfield, Mass., she was the daughter of the late Thomas and Ruth (Walton) Daniels. Margaret was predeceased by her husband, Milton A. Gardner, whom she married on March 18, 1951.

Margaret received her education in the Pittsfield public schools and was employed at a bank and Carr Hardware during her younger years. Margaret and her husband, Milton, then came to own and operate the DugOut Luncheonette in Williamstown, Mass., from 1962 until the mid 70s and then the DugOut Motel and Restaurant in Adams, Mass., until their retirement. Margaret also worked at Eddy's supermarket for a short time in Williamstown during this time.

When Margaret was not working



MARGARET A. GARDNER

hard for the family businesses, she was spending time at their cabin on Lake Champlain, doting on her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, playing BINGO and Rummikub, building jigsaw

puzzles, and eating ice cream whenever possible.

She is survived by her daughters, Margaret Blake of Williamstown, Mass.; Marcia Gardner of Bennington, Vt. and Bangor, Maine, and Melissa Pratt of Bennington, Vt.; her sons Milton Gardner Jr. of Bennington, Vt., and Mark Gardner of Arlington, Vt. She is also survived by 11 grandchildren; many great-grandchildren; her brother, George Daniels of Hinsdale, Mass.; her sisters, Mary Adams of Pittsfield, Mass. and Jeanne Musgrove of Pensacola, Fla.; and many nieces and nephews.

A private burial will take place at the family lot in the East Lawn Cemetery in Williamstown, Mass., at a later date.

If desired, the family requests that donations be made to the American Diabetes Association. ◊

## Edward Kwiatkowski, 61, of Bristol

BRISTOL — Edward Kwiatkowski, 61, passed away Tuesday, April 23, 2024, at his home in Bristol.

He was born Jan. 21, 1963 in Brooklyn, N.Y., the son of Zbigniew and Stanislaw Fityma Kwiatkowski.

Eddie had many hobbies, but was most passionate when it came to hunting, fishing, and tinkering out in the garage with his brother, Rob. He was a free-spirited, headstrong and very dependable man.

Eddie was a loving, and devoted father to his two daughters, Holly Kwiatkowski and Sofia Kwiatkowski. He is also survived by two older brothers, Henry Kwiatkowski and Robert Kwiatkowski, and younger



EDWARD KWIAWKOWSKI

sister, Barbara Doolen; as well as numerous cousins, nieces and nephews. ◊

## Caren June Farnsworth, 87, of Bristol

BRISTOL — Caren June Farnsworth, 87, passed away Tuesday, Jan. 16, 2024, at Helen Porter Healthcare & Rehabilitation Center in Middlebury.

She was born Feb. 25, 1936, in Shoreham, Vt., the daughter of Fayette and Maxine (White) Hutchins.

She was a member of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in Middlebury.

Caren is survived by her three children, Deborah Jones and her husband Eslie, Randall Farnsworth, and Cindy Cloutier and her husband Roger; a brother, Carl and wife Janet Hutchins; half brother and sister; grandchildren, Melissa, Eslie, Rosemary, April, and Heather Cloutier and her fiancé Jordan; great-grandchildren, Ethan, Jacob, Brennan, Deston, Alysa and Haley; and several nieces and nephews.

She was predeceased by her husband, Lucien Farnsworth and two children, Loriann and Lynn.

Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. on Saturday, May 11, 2024,



CAREN JUNE FARNSWORTH

at Brown-McClay Funeral Home in Bristol. Interment will be at Greenwood Cemetery in Bristol. In lieu of flowers contributions may be made to Helen Porter Healthcare & Rehabilitation Center, 30 Porter Drive, Middlebury, VT 05753.

To send online condolences to her family visit [www.brownmcclayfuneralhomes.com](http://www.brownmcclayfuneralhomes.com). ◊



GERARD "GERRY" J. GAGNON

## Gerard 'Gerry' J. Gagnon celebration of life

friends are respectfully invited to attend the graveside service for Gerard "Gerry" Gagnon, who died Aug. 24, 2023, at St. Mary's Cemetery, Ridgeline Rd., in Middlebury, on Saturday, May 18, at 1 p.m. A celebration of life will follow at the Gagnon home, 711 Route 7, Salisbury. ◊

## Shirley M. Douglas, 87, of Cornwall

CORNWALL — Shirley M. Douglas, 87, of Cornwall, passed away in Phoenix, Ariz., following a long battle with kidney disease. She was born June 14, 1936, in Salisbury, Vt., the daughter of Rollin and Birdella (Bigelow) English.

Shirley attended Salisbury School and graduated from Middlebury High School in 1954.

She was a lifelong member of the VFW auxiliary, Post 7823.

Shirley enjoyed spending quality time with her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. One of her favorite things was to travel, which she and her husband did often.

Shirley enjoyed gardening and loved to cook. She is best known for her macaroni and cheese and potato salad by both family and friends.

Shirley retired from Standard



SHIRLEY M. DOUGLAS

Register Co. in Middlebury, Vt., in June 1998 after 32 years of employment.

She is survived by her daughters, Sheryl (Michael) Paquette of Cornwall, Vt., and Theresa (John) Flood, of

Glendale, Ariz., and stepsons Pat Douglas of Leicester, Vt., and Chris Douglas of Georgia, Vt.

Shirley is also survived by her grandsons, Daniel Paquette, Brian Paquette, Tyler Paquette, Levi Flood and Caleb Flood.; her seven great-grandchildren, Dixie, Lyra, Thompson, Torrin, Dillon, Nikolai, and Nadia; her brother Gary English; and sisters Etta Ball and Phyllis Gero.

In addition to her parents, Shirley was predeceased by her husband, David (Mike) Douglas; her son Robert Newton, her stepson David Douglas Jr., her brother Rollin English Jr., her sister Annabelle Warner, and Richard Newton, father of her children.

There will be a celebration of Shirley's life at a later date following a private burial service in the East Middlebury cemetery. ◊

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### Obituary Guidelines

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

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

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EDWIN C. JAMES

## Edwin C. James celebration of life

SHOREHAM — A celebration of life for Edwin C. James, who died Feb. 14, 2024, will be held Saturday, May 4, at 11 a.m., at the Shoreham Congregational Church, 28 School St. There will be refreshments following the service downstairs. ◊

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## Jeffrey Walter Kennedy, 64, of Vergennes

VERGENNES — Jeff Kennedy passed away at home surrounded by his family on April 26 after a battle with lung cancer. He was born on April 15, 1960, in Manchester, Conn., the third child of James and Jean (Howe) Kennedy. Growing up, Jeff never failed to surprise and entertain his family with his various pursuits, such as turning the backyard into a mini farm in order to raise sheep, angora rabbits and one chicken, learning to play the drums, and incubating and hatching quail eggs and creating a quail habitat, also in the backyard. Jeff spent most of his childhood in Connecticut, eventually moving to Windsor, Vt., where he graduated high school. Jeff attended Johnson and Wales Culinary Institute in Providence, R.I., graduating with a degree in culinary arts.



JEFFREY WALTER KENNEDY

Middlebury College and finally at The Terraces in Shelburne. He truly found a community among his fellow staff and the residents there, who he considered to be good friends.

Jeff was a rock to his family, always consistent, hardworking, and concerned for the welfare of those around him. He showed his love by taking care of the small things that often go unnoticed. He enjoyed working around the yard, mowing, gardening, and outsmarting the squirrels who

were after the birdfeeder. Jeff loved to take daily walks around Vergennes, hiking with his family, and kayaking. He was also an avid reader. We will miss his sense of humor and wry observations.

Jeff is predeceased by his parents, James and Jean Kennedy. He is survived by his loving wife, Denise; their children, Jim, Hugh and Margaret who, with her husband Dylan Teer, is expecting a son, Desmond Jeffrey. Jeff also leaves behind sisters, Lynn Kennedy and Judi D'Amico; nieces Ashley Ponce and Amanda Kimball; and many other family members and friends who will all miss him dearly.

Jeff's family would like to thank the Addison County Home Health & Hospice for their help, our neighbors Mike and Karen Quigley for all they have done, Jeff's friends at The Terraces for the love and support, Saint Peter's Church community, and everyone else who has prayed and kept us in their thoughts during this difficult time.

The family will honor Jeff with a private burial and host a celebration of life in the summer. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to Addison County Home Health & Hospice. ◊

## Madelyn 'Maggie' LaFountain, 79, of Bridport

BRIDPORT - Madelyn "Maggie" (Fitzgerald) LaFountain, 79, passed away April 23, 2024, at her home.

Madelyn was born on March 25, 1945, to Evelyn and Earl Fitzgerald of Rutland, VT.

She married Wilfred (Willy) LaFountain on April 28, 1962, and they raised their five children together until he passed away on Nov. 30, 1998. They always enjoyed many trips to Las Vegas during their 36 years of marriage. She also enjoyed her weekly bowling nights and her weekends spent visiting local garage sales.

In addition to her husband, she is predeceased by her grandson, Joshua LaFountain.

She is survived by her five children: Linda LaFountain of Vergennes, Vt.; Minda Brown of Bridport, Vt.; Wilfred LaFountain, Jr. (Boomer) of Middlebury, Vt.; Brenda Sampson of Middlebury, Vt.; and Andrea LaFountain of Bridport, Vt.; as well 12 grandchildren, and 23 great-grandchildren.

Despite her health challenges, she enjoyed her many animals over the



MADELYN 'MAGGIE' LAFOUNTAIN

years and watching her favorite cop TV shows. Most importantly, she enjoyed visits from her children and grandchildren.

A funeral service will be held at Sanderson Funeral Home, 117 S. Main Street, Middlebury, Vt., on Friday, May 3, at 11 a.m. Calling hours will precede the service beginning at 10 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. ◊

## Alavi

(Continued from Page 5A) fray. We weren't banking on the extreme fear of glitter from people who design instrument of death, and sleep well at night.

Things were going smoothly outside, aside from the building manager who came outside, irate, demanding that we leave his property. Which we did — by walking two steps backward to the public sidewalk — then setting up the protest. He however, proceeded to call the Burlington Police Department. Inside however, things were taking an unexpected, and hyperbolic, turn. Within two minutes of the inside crew walking into the offices, a Marvell employee pulled the fire alarm, triggering a building wide evacuation. Thus, disrupting the entire building.

When we got into the office, glitter was thrown, flyers were dropped, silly string was sprayed, and panic ensued. The protesters were met with aggressive physical responses. Video taken indoors shows one protester holding a banner reading "Marvell makes Gaza Hell," was repeatedly pushed as they stood unmoving, chanting along with the rest of the protester, "Marvell do tell, who dies at the hands of your Intel?" Another protester had their personal speaker pulled straight from their hands, and most shockingly, the walking cane of an octogenarian de-escalator was pulled away from him. As the protesters were leaving the office, a Marvell employee

picked up the phone, called the building security office and stated that they were being "invaded and bombed," by people throwing "hazardous substances (you know eco glitter and silly string)," asking "should we pull the fire alarm?" (Yes, we all caught the irony of a company providing bombs for an occupying force terrified over visitors throwing glitter "bombs" around their safe office thousands of miles away from the physical conflict.) Moments later, the fire alarm pealed throughout the entire building. We exited the building along with the employees to sounds of the chanting coming from the loudspeaker that the outside crew had set up.

The police immediately detained a number of the inside protesters, corralling them in the rain along the curb, being held on the premise of needing to check the security footage to ascertain which of us had pulled the alarm. One of the police officers confiscated a glitter bomb to see how it functioned, and here let me advise any reader not to put the opening of the tube pointed at your face. Unless you'd like a glitter facial.

I won't judge, if that's what you want.

Once it was ascertained that it was in fact a Marvell employee who had pulled the alarm, tickets for trespassing were handed out, and questions from the detained protester over pursuing fines and charges against the person who did pull the alarm — illegal in the

state of Vermont if no fire is present — were ignored by the police, the protesters were released.

At the end of the day, at the end of any protest of this ilk, I feel comradery, and I feel sadness.

At least 50,000 deaths (official numbers haven't been released since late January because all the record keepers have been killed, and no outside observers have been allowed in by the Israeli government), the fact that groups of people have to stand outside with signs, walk into offices, and take to the streets all across the world to say, "Hey, genocide is wrong," is disheartening. It's disheartening not because we have needed to speak-up, but because we've been ignored at every turn by the people who have been voted into office ostensibly to amplify the voice of the people.

The fact that as child, growing up in a Quaker community, we whispered "Palestine," and now as an adult we are shouting it from all corners of the world is wondrous sea change.

I will continue to do the very least that I can do to combat the use of my money, my resources, and the wellness of my soul. I will speak out, I will help organize, and will recognize that the struggle for liberation, from the Congo to Iran to Chile to etc. is bound together. As always "Woman, Life, Freedom. As in, Free Palestine."

Sepi Alavi Weybridge

## MAUSD

(Continued from Page 3A) by the community in need of addressing.

"We hear a lot of conversation, too, from the community about us being top-heavy, we hear this all the time," Bessette said. "I'm not sure if that's the thread that is preventing us from moving forward in this, but it's something we hear a lot. I'm not sure how to tackle that, but it's definitely the elephant in the room."

Board members acknowledged the tight timeline they face in working to both address community members' concerns and get a budget passed before the end of the fiscal year. If the district can't pass a budget by July 1, it

would be forced to operate with a budget equal to 87% of its current spending, per state statute.

MAUSD Business Manager Floyd Davison noted 87% of the current year's budget, around \$33.8 million, would amount to approximately \$29 million. That's around \$8 million less than the \$37 million level-service budget the district originally pitched to voters in March.

After more than an hour of discussion, board members decided on a list of budget-related topics they'd like Reen to provide more information on during the weeks ahead. Those topics include:

- General budget questions, particularly regarding where

large amounts of money like the construction service line are stored.

- Delineation of the district's central office staff and their salaries.

- RIF notices, particularly where they are and where they could be.
- New attrition and what that does to the budget.

Reen will share that information with the board ahead of its May 13 meeting.

The board also decided it'd like to host community forums in each of the district's member towns to gather more feedback ahead of the next budget proposal. Board members are set to discuss the details of those events at a May 7 meeting.

## The Mentor

One day, a young first year student comes up to me and says, "Yo, brotha Hector, why can't you take me under your wing?" He said it just like that at the end of one of our final classes of the semester. He reached over with his right hand and placed it in mine and swung his left arm over and embraced me.

"Yeah, brotha Hector. Mentor me," he insisted softly. "Mentor me. Why don't you mentor me? Yeah, I'm serious. Take me under your wing," he said with a pleasant, endearing grin.

Mentor — having the form of an agent. Latin, monitor — to remember, think, counsel. The name of the Ithacan noble whose disguise the goddess Athena assumed in order to act as the guide and adviser of the young Telemachus; allusively, one who fulfills the office which the supposed Mentor fulfilled towards Telemachus — hence a common noun: An experienced and trusted counselor.

I've been grappling with this word, mentor, ever since I first heard it in conjunction with my name.

My grandfather's name is Héctor, as is my father's and mine. There is also the Hector of Greek mythology (without

the Spanish accent), the Trojan prince and the greatest fighter for Troy in the Trojan War; first born son of King Priam and Queen Hecuba, descendant of Dardanus and Tros, the founder of Troy. During the European Middle Ages, Hector figures as one of the Nine Worthies noted by Jacques de Longuyon, known not only by his courage but also for his noble and courtly nature. Homer places Hector as peace-loving, thoughtful as well as bold, a good son, husband and father. A difficult model to follow.

Was my father my mentor? How would he be me in this instance? What of him would I transmit to this innocent student? Did those that mentored my father also mentor me — and I don't even know? Is this how it works: we are guided and advised by those that came before, the long line that can date back hundreds of years? I think this is true; it may be what we reflect — our long histories of having been taught by unseen hands.

What's in your name? Hector is slain in a brutal fight with Achilles, who slits his heels, and passes the girdle that Ajax had given Hector through the slits. Achilles fastens the girdle to his chariot and drives his fallen



HECTOR VILA

enemy through the dust of the Danaan camp.

Kids don't know the weight of their questions, the weight of words. The most difficult challenge for me has been taking jurisdiction over myself and moving my entire being — my sense of self — into feeling that I fit in, anywhere, any time and under any circumstance.

Why don't you take me under your wing? clung to my conscience, a hallowed white wing, outstretched, soft, protective. And I'm looking down on it, spread out over the student's head, carefully drawing him in, just a wing, an allusive one at that, referencing something implied, as in a life, your life, the student's life. So, we learn to

(See Vila, Page 8A)

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# Dunn

(Continued from Page 1A) saw a potential triumph in the first-ever Joy and Jerry Meyers Cup competition as a key financial steppingstone.

The Meyers Cup was announced last April as a first-of-its-kind initiative to fund and support UVM students launching their business ideas and growing them into successful enterprises in Vermont. This business launch competition is open to undergraduate seniors at UVM from any degree program who are actively starting new ventures in Vermont, preferably with strong social impact.

Each year for 10 years, one grand prize winner will receive \$212,500, along with in-kind services to help grow their organization in the

Green Mountain State following graduation.

Chip and Louise Meyers, representing the Meyers Family Trust, made the donation to the Grossman School of Business to fund the competition in honor of Chip's parents, who met as undergraduate students at the University of Vermont.

Teams vying for this year's inaugural cup needed to include at least one UVM undergrad scheduled to matriculate this spring. Those vying submitted draft ideas, drew feedback from the competition's business partners en route to a final application that was due this past Jan. 27. UVM's corporate partners for this year's Cup included Dinse P.C.; Fresh

Tracks Capital; Fuse; Gallagher, Flynn & Company; Hula Lakeside; and Vermont Center for Emerging Technologies.

Competing teams were whittled down to three finalists around two months ago, and MUHS was well represented among the top trip that delivered their final presentations to Meyers Cup judges at UVM on Thursday, April 25. In addition to Dunn, Taylor Moulton (MUHS class of 2020) was in the hunt on a team representing a business concept called "Sew Up."

PWP finished on top. "You're confident, nervous and excited, all at once," Dunn said of his emotions last Thursday. "I felt confident because we had run (See Meyers Cup, Page 9A)

# Elderly Services launches campaign

MIDDLEBURY — Elderly Services Inc. (ESI) is set to launch a special fund drive to support an approximately \$3 million capital project to address sorely needed upgrades to the roof, insulation, mechanical systems and other elements of its nearly 20-year-old building at 112 Exchange St. in Middlebury.

Ron Hallman, ESI spokesman, said the nonprofit has begun reaching out to some of its larger potential donors, while assembling a 700-piece mailing that will be sent to anyone who's donated during the past few years.

Elderly Services is home to the Project Independence adult day program, which helps people age in place with activities, nursing, social work support, home cooked meals, and strong social connections.

According to ESI Executive Director Kristin Bolton, key goals of the project include making the building more energy efficient, improving air quality for program participants and

significantly reducing operating expenses over time.

"Our organization has been blessed by generous community support for years, and we are hoping that many of our long-term friends, as well some of our newer friends, will be excited to help us accomplish our ambitious goals," she said.

The project has several interconnected parts including insulation of the attic space and sides of the building, replacing the roof and siding, replacing the aging air conditioning unit and propane boilers with a geothermal heat pump, and adding solar panels to the roof to generate additional electricity needs.

Hallman said the goal is to complete the project by the end of this year.

Elderly Services has been awarded a grant of \$1,785,000 by the Vermont Agency of Human Services Home and Community Based Services Grant Program. The grant falls within the Infrastructure Improvement category and will fund a project

entitled "Revitalizing Project Independence Adult Day Center for the next 20 years — improving air quality, comfort and financial stability."

The grant will cover the majority of the project expense, but ESI is planning to use some organizational funds and donations to close the gap. Hallman said ESI is hoping for at least \$200,000 in capital donations/pledges "above and beyond" what its local supporters give each year for the organization's current operations.

"At the end of this work, participants at Project Independence will experience greater comfort in the air quality as well as the temperature in the building. The frail people we serve are more sensitive to temperature fluctuations and air quality. This is an important factor in their quality of life and their health every day," Bolton said.

For more information about the project and everything ESI, go to [elderlyservices.org](http://elderlyservices.org).

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## Brandon town municipal budget sinks

BRANDON — The Otter Valley school budget wasn't the only spending plan defeated on Tuesday.

Brandon voters rejected a revised municipal budget, 478-403, on April 30, as well. It called for spending \$3,554,880, which was \$241,300 lower than the spending

plan that townspeople rejected on Town Meeting day by margin of 741-610.

Among other tweaks, the budget revision had lowered the amount of property-tax revenue allocated for paving to \$85,000. Plus it reduced the number of police

cruisers to be purchased from two to one, according to the *Brandon Reporter*.

The town selectboard will have to meet again and come up with another spending proposal before the start of the fiscal year on July 1.

## Vila

(Continued from Page 7A) adapt.

When we teach, students witness how we've adapted, how creative we've been in our identity-forming journey. How creative we've been with influences.

Why don't you take me under your wing?

Is this the right question, my

brother student?

For me to enter the I that is you, we need to be in each other's hands, spreading our wings together. This is adaptation.

Was it a vision, or a waking dream? We ultimately ask ourselves along with Keats. "Fled is that music: — Do I wake or sleep?"

I've matured into a very different kind of teacher, mentor, empathizer — one who is willing to walk with students wherever they are.

We have to walk together. It's the only learning I know. This is arduous; there is an art to all this: the very movement of incorporation, as Jacques Derrida says, is artful.



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**Phase I - 2014**  
 For a long time I had been thinking of going solar, but had not pursued it until I talked with a neighbor who just had hers installed. I contracted with her installer and soon had panels on the roof that supplied all of my household electricity, with some extra capacity to supply an on-demand electric water heater I soon put in. I loved not hearing the propane boiler firing up in the summer to keep domestic water hot for the shower I'd be taking 16 hours later. Thrilled with the installation and not having an electric bill. I even splurged and bought my first ever noisy window A/C.

**Phase II - 2016**  
 While my primary heat source has been a woodstove and later a pellet stove, the propane boiler served as my backup. On a December road trip to PEI, I discovered the 25+ year old propane boiler died on me. I'm lucky to have had a monitoring system to notice this and awesome neighbors to feed pellets until I got back. Rather than buy another fossil fuel burning device, I decided to have heat pumps installed. At the time Bristol Electronics didn't install those, but they were very competitive as I shopped around for additional solar capacity. So in February 2016 they were on the roof installing panels that would provide enough electricity year round to supply my heating needs. And, since the heat pump also cools the house quietly on the hottest days, I sold the window unit. Maybe I'm just getting older, but there seems to be more and more of those hot days.

**Phase III - 2019**  
 Since I commute from So. Lincoln to Burlington, I've always felt guilty about all of the CO2 I've been emitting to get to work. I still have 7-10 years before I can even think about retiring, so I decided to make the investment and buy an electric car. And part of that investment was to buy the additional solar capacity to power it. I didn't think twice about having Bristol Electronics do it. My roof was running out of space, and since it has a low pitch, snow coverage was an issue for the last two years. This time I worked with Chris, Stephen, Dave and Trevor to have a ground mount installed that will be easy to clear the snow off of. They did amazing work, despite weather issues, and were actually able to make some long overdue landscaping improvements during the process. I couldn't be happier with my experience with this team!

~ Paul Webb, Lincoln, VT



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# Meyers Cup

(Continued from Page 8A) through (our presentation) so many times. And my partner, Jake, was also dialed in; he knew what he was doing and we had done it so many times. I felt good about our chances, and I felt ready.”

Moulton and teammate Lucy Powell’s “Sew Up” venture would “provide community members with an opportunity to receive sewing lessons that are centered around sustainability, artistic expression and inclusion. Through customizable member packages, community members will have access to various class topics and modalities,” according to the company’s pitch. Sew Up also proposed to direct a portion of all sales back into a scholarship program, called the Sew Up Scholarship Fund, providing low-income community members the opportunity to receive technical sewing training, business development skills, “and a strengthened sense of community within Vermont.”

The *Independent* reached out to Moulton for input on this story but hadn’t received a response at press time.

Dunn recounted his foray thus far into the business world. His first entrepreneurial effort was Dunn Brothers Mobile Auto Detailing, which included his brother, Gabriel. It was at this early stage that he also embraced charitable causes, giving a

portion of profits to the Middlebury-area Rotary Club. Why? Because Rotary’s credo is “Servicer Above Self,” and the group had always generously supported the MUHS football team, of which Zach was a member.

His charitable target changed upon entering UVM as a freshman.

“There was definitely a presence of homelessness (in Burlington) that wasn’t as noticeable in Middlebury,” said Dunn, who’s particularly interested in efforts to help folks transition from homeless shelters to jobs and permanent housing.

“How are you going to scrounge up the money while you’re in a shelter to get into permanent housing?” he said. “You need that last bit of assistance.”

Dunn and Falanga launched Painting With Purpose a little over two years ago. The idea, according to Dunn, came through a college-level internship program that was recruiting students. Program leaders touted “the trades” as a particularly promising avenue for success. He decided to pursue the idea independent of the internship in order to preserve more of his profits, he explained.

Falanga and Dunn plan to use their Meyers Cup winnings to, among other things, purchase two or three work vans to ferry PWP workers to job sites, while also



TWO MIDDLEBURY UNION High School grads were among those competing last week in the University of Vermont’s inaugural Joy and Jerry Meyers Cup, an entrepreneurial competition involving new graduates of the institution’s Business School. A team including Zachary Dunn, co-owner of “Painting With Purpose,” won the competition and its coveted \$212,500 prize. Dunn is at the far left in this photo of the Cup finalists. Fellow MUHS alum Taylor Moulton — center of the photo in white sweater — was a runner-up.

Photo courtesy of Jill Dunn

relocating the business into rented commercial space.

It’s no stretch to imagine a PWP expansion in the near future. Dunn and his colleagues have more job offers than they can take on right now.

“(The jobs) are piling up and I’m afraid to check my email,” he said of the enviable problem of having too much to do. “But it’s important to stay on top of things, even if you

can’t get to the work. A response is necessary and appreciated by people.”

Dunn’s biggest fans include his parents, Pat and Jill Dunn. Both are UVM grads themselves. Pat graduated from the university’s School Natural Resources in 1991, while Jill — like her son — chose the institution’s Business School, from which she graduated in 1993.

“I couldn’t be more proud of

Zach,” Jill Dunn said. “We knew this competition was going to be a big deal when, at the finals, GSB Dean Sharma shared a video clip from Shark Tank billionaire Mark Cuban, wishing all the UVM contestants good luck. After the awards, talking with Chip Meyers, he indicated to me, he is not just excited to see how PWP will use this seed money to grow, but for Zach to return to UVM as an ambassador of

the Meyers Cup.”

“We all know lots of people who work very hard and never get to compete for a financial grant for their efforts,” she added. “With this awareness, it is with humble gratitude that Zach and his team accepted this honor from the Meyers family. We all are so excited to see how they grow.”

More info on the Meyers Cup can be found at [tinyurl.com/y38tvtdu](http://tinyurl.com/y38tvtdu).



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# River watch digs into tree plantings

**By MARIN HOWELL**  
**ADDISON COUNTY** — The Addison County River Watch Collaborative is gearing up for a couple of planting projects this month, and community members are invited to take part in the effort.

In the coming weeks, volunteers will plant trees and shrubs along waterways in New Haven and Bridport, with the goal of improving the health of local watersheds. The initiative is being organized in partnership with landowners and other partners, including the Addison County Regional Planning Commission.

The collaborative has for decades monitored and reported on the health of county rivers. The upcoming projects are part of the group's ramped-up efforts to address water quality concerns through riparian buffer plantings and community engagement.

Riparian, or riverside, buffers help keep watersheds healthy by providing key habitat for birds, fish and other species, and filtering run-off that flows into rivers from nearby farms and residential areas.

Volunteers will conduct plantings at two locations this spring. Matt Witten, director of the Addison County River Watch Collaborative, said hundreds of



**ADDISON COUNTY RIVER Watch Collaborative Outreach Coordinator Justin Lucas collects live stakes that volunteers will plant near county waterways later this spring. The planting projects are aimed at improving the health of local watersheds.**

Photos courtesy of Matt Witten

trees have been purchased and donated toward the effort. The group has also collected live stakes, or clippings from willow and dogwood trees that will grow into new trees after they're planted.

The first planting project is scheduled for May 3 and 5 at Longcloud Sheep Farm in Bridport. Primary goals for the project are to increase nutrient absorption, prevent erosion and provide shade and wind protection for grazing sheep.

A second planting project is scheduled for May 17-18 at Dog Team Falls on the New Haven River. The project is aimed at providing erosion control and bank stabilization in the area.

All planting dates are subject to change depending on weather and on-the-ground conditions.

Those interested in taking part in the projects or helping out with related tasks can contact the collaborative at [acrwcvt@gmail.com](mailto:acrwcvt@gmail.com) or visit [tinyurl.com/3cdbz3hp](http://tinyurl.com/3cdbz3hp).



**CARISSA FINNERTY, THE ECOAmeriCorps member at the Addison County Regional Planning Commission, loads up trees donated by Shelburne Farms. These trees and other plants will be used to create riparian, or riverside, buffers along county waterways later this month.**



**THIS SPOT ALONG the Dog Team Falls in New Haven is one of two sites the Addison County River Watch Collaborative will plant trees and shrubs at this spring.**

# ACSD Interim Super Tim Williams to leave early

**By JOHN FLOWERS**  
**MIDDLEBURY** — Addison Central School District Interim Superintendent Tim Williams will cede his position to his successor a month earlier than anticipated, he confirmed through an email to the ACSD colleagues last week.

Williams had been slated to turn over the ACSD reins to Wendy Baker on July 1. Baker, a veteran school administrator and former superintendent of the Orange East Supervisory Union, accepted the job this past November.

Williams, in his email, explained the superintendent transition plan is going well, to the extent he's made June 1 his new departure date. He'll return to his home state of Pennsylvania to enjoy retirement and a new grandchild.

"(Baker) has been able to engage with the board, our school community, and community partners in meaningful ways while I tended to the day-to-day operations of the district. Thank you for engaging with her over the past few months; those efforts will pay great dividends," Williams wrote to his colleagues.

"I recommended this new timetable to the board because it is best for the organization and for me, personally," he explained. "It



**TIM WILLIAMS**

has been a pleasure working with you and the ACSD community, and after 39 years in public education, it is now time to retire — I mean it this time. As I hold our new grandchild, I will watch from afar as the district writes its next chapter of success."

Williams proved an able provisional superintendent at both the ACSD (2023-2024) and at the Patricia Hannaford Career Center during the 2022-2023 academic year.

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

# Four cited for driving under the influence

**ADDISON COUNTY** — Vermont State Police issued a series of driving under the influence (DUI) citations in recent action, as well as sought the public's help in identifying burglars who stole merchandise from a Bristol store.

On April 24, troopers operating out of the New Haven barracks asked for the public's help in finding out who broke into and robbed the Bristol Country Store on Route 116 South in Bristol. Two people broke through a glass door at the store at around 4:21 a.m. on April 16, police reported, and stole approximately \$4,136 worth of vaping products. Video surveillance at the store captured two suspects entering the store and stealing items. Anyone with information about this incident is asked to contact state police at 802-388-4919 or submit an anonymous tip at [vsp.vermont.gov/tipssubmit](http://vsp.vermont.gov/tipssubmit).

The first of four DUI incidents occurred on April 24, when, at a quarter after 8 p.m., a trooper stopped a vehicle on Route 22A at Cross Road in Bridport for allegedly speeding 87 mph in a 50 mph zone. During the traffic stop, the officer observed signs of impairment on the operator, and cited Derrick A. Morin, 40, of Benson for DUI and driving with a suspended license.

Then state police issued three DUI citations on April 28. The first came just after 1:30 a.m., when troopers located a disabled

## Vt. State Police Log

vehicle on Route 7 in Leicester and discovered that the driver, later identified as 37-year-old Luis Chipantiza of Pittsford, was asleep in the driver's seat while the vehicle was running. Troopers observed signs of impairment and cited Chipantiza for DUI.

Later that morning, just before 10 a.m., officers responded to a report of a one-car rollover crash on North Street, north of Route 17 in New Haven. Police report that Janet Hood, 74, of New Haven was driving a 2016 Nissan Sentra southbound on North Street, struck a tree off the south bound lane, and overturned onto its side. While speaking with Hood, troopers detected indicators of drug impairment and cited her for driving under the influence of drugs and negligent driving.

The Bristol Rescue Squad took Hood to Porter Medical Center for treatment of suspected minor injuries.

Troopers were assisted by members of the Vergennes Police Department and the New Haven Fire Department.

Finally, at approximately 6:37 p.m. state police observed multiple motor vehicle violations on Route 116 near Meehan Road in Bristol and stopped the car. They identified the driver as Michael H. Ryan, 35, of Williston, and noted indicators of impairment. Police cited Ryan for DUI, third offense, refusal, and for driving a motor vehicle without an ignition interlock device.

In another incident on local road, troopers responded to a one-car crash on Boro Hill Road in Monkton on April 26 at around 2:21 a.m. Police report that a 16-year-old from New Haven was driving a 2009 Subaru Outback that rounded a corner headed south on Boro Hill Road and the teen lost control on the gravel shoulder. The Subaru rolled down a steep embankment, flipped, and came to rest on the passenger side against two trees. Both the driver and a 16-year-old Salisbury passenger were transported to Porter Medical Center for suspected moderate injuries. Neither was wearing seatbelt.

The Subaru was totaled. No court action was taken.

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# Gaza protests

*(Continued from Page 1A)*  
 240 hostages, according to Israeli officials. Israel has launched numerous airstrikes on Gaza and sent in ground forces since that attack. According to Gaza's health ministry, over 34,000 Palestinians have been killed since the start of the war.

Patrick said the rising death toll has weighed heavily on Middlebury students, who have looked for ways to respond to the war since it began.

"On campus there's been solid Palestinian activism since the outbreak of the war and subsequent genocidal campaign," Patrick said. "But I think that seeing other students rise up at other schools and the response that they were met with made us realize that there's a more active role the student movement can take in supporting Palestine."

Students at Middlebury launched the Gaza Solidarity Encampment this past Sunday by pitching tents on McCullough Lawn, the central campus area where Middlebury's commencement ceremony is set to take place later this month. The demonstration had grown to include 75 tents by Tuesday afternoon, with

around 150 students involved in the encampment in one way or another. Students at the University of Vermont also established a pro-Palestinian encampment on Sunday.

Demonstrators at Middlebury have compiled a list of five demands for college officials, building off of the Middlebury Energy2028 divestment campaign and mirroring the pleas of students across the country.

Students are calling on Middlebury College to:

- Divest its endowment from companies "that profit from or engage in Israel's ongoing military campaign, occupation, and apartheid policies" and commit to full transparency in all investments.
- Ensure freedom of expression and amnesty for protestors and supporters of Palestine liberation.
- Not associate with Israeli institutions and businesses.
- Create affiliations with Palestinian academic and cultural institutions.
- Release a public statement "calling for an immediate and permanent ceasefire in Gaza and condemning Israel's genocidal

campaign against the Palestinian people."

When the *Independent* spoke with students on Tuesday, demonstrators at the encampment had entered into conversations with college officials.

In a statement provided by Middlebury College Director of Media Relations Jon Reidel, college officials said their primary goal is "to support free expression and peaceful protest in a way that keeps our community safe, and we continue to monitor the situation."

"Right now, the students are peaceful and complying with protest policies and our focus is on dialogue and our educational mission," the statement reads. "As an educational institution, Middlebury values and encourages free expression and the peaceful exchange of ideas — including peaceful protest."

Students involved in the demonstration said the surrounding community has been supportive of their efforts.

"One of the most positive things about this encampment has been the outpouring of community

support," Patrick said. "We've received supplies and logistical support from people in town and from Addison County as a whole, which has been a great thing to see. It's really shown us the power of this community."

Hundreds of members of the campus and broader community have also turned out for various events hosted at the encampment, from religious ceremonies to teach-ins on topics like Palestinian history and Zionism's relation to Jewish identity.

Patrick noted that some professors are teaching classes at the encampment and a few student organizations have begun meeting at the site.

"Overall, it's been a highly open, free educational space, and that's

exactly the way we want it to be," he said. "We want to essentially teach about the ongoing situation to many people on this campus who might not be aware."

Students involved in the demonstration also want to ensure their efforts ultimately point back to the people of Gaza.

"The only ways that we have seen encampments fail internally, or things they could work on, is letting the press narrative take place that this is all about encampments in America and not about solidarity with Gaza," said Joshua Glucksman, a student involved in the encampment. "We feel that we've done a good job of not letting the campus politics and overbearing logistics of the encampment take any precedence

over letting people know that as we walk around, hang out with friends, study and get ready for graduation, there are thousands of people dying."

The demonstration has also offered students a way to put what they're learning on campus into action, Glucksman said.

"Despite what the media might think, this is not a fad or a bandwagon to hop on, nor students getting lazy and wanting to camp out," he said. "People are actually engaging more with their studies and putting it into action and finally understanding this liberal farce that studying means being in the classroom and not also putting all the concepts you learn about history into changing the future."



NEARLY 50 TENTS were erected on Middlebury College's McCullough Lawn on Sunday as part of a Gaza Solidarity Encampment. Middlebury students want their college to divest of investments that support Israel as it holds Palestinians under siege in the Gaza Strip. The Israeli military launched the siege after Hamas launched attacks on Israel this past Oct. 7.

Photo by Charlie Deichman-Caswell, Middlebury College class of 2024

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# ANWSD

(Continued from Page 1A)

The total vote count of 2,281 was about equal to that of the 2,294 who defeated the first ANWSD budget on Town Meeting Day, which doubled as a presidential primary day, 1,282-1,012.

Tuesday's additional votes from March 26 split by 619 for and 187 against the third budget, which offered about \$250,000 of reductions from the second.

The board also emphasized before Tuesday's vote that its third budget was almost a million dollars lower than the \$28.2 million plan that district residents defeated on Town Meeting Day.

The approved spending plan represented a decrease of 1.15% from the budget defeated on March 26, but still increased spending from the current fiscal year's level by about 7.65%. Officials said it preserves all educational

programs and jobs not previously reduced except that of one unidentified administrator.

According to school officials, the main drivers pushing expenses up faster than the rate of inflation (about 3.5%) include new contracts for both teachers and staff that bring their pay in line with neighboring districts, a 16% increase in the cost of providing health insurance, and a 10% increase in the cost of busing.

Board members also pointed out that the district's base tax rate would drop by about 2 cents, despite the higher spending. That's because of adjustments to

state financing laws and a rosier internal grant revenue picture.

Nevertheless, because of the impact of ANWSD communities' low Common Level of Appraisals, homestead tax rates are expected to rise by between 11 and 19% around the district, at least for homeowners who pay on the full assessed value of their homes and don't receive prebates.



*"I hope the community will stay engaged with the work of the schools. We still have lots of work to do."*

— ANWSD board chair John Stroup

School officials believe the positive vote reflects residents rallying around the schools and accepting the message the board had reduced as much as it could without cutting valued educational programs, personnel and extracurriculars, as well as the reduced spending.

ANWSD board chair John Stroup said painful cuts included the elimination of the Walden Project, the well-respected Vergennes Union High School alternative education program; the district's diversity, equity and inclusion coordinator; and a building-based administrator.

"I think the community recognized we heard them, and we did make some significant reductions in our costs," he said. "I also think the people who support schools, and the people who are out there advocating for their children and their families recognized they needed to speak up, start to engage with their neighbors and communities in support of schools. And so I think the combination of those two things resulted in a big turnout, and a clear mandate that this is the

budget to go forward with."

Teachers who received Reduction In Force (RIF) notices in the event the district could not pass a budget by this summer were getting contracts on Wednesday, and the district didn't have to send out RIF notices to support staff by a Wednesday deadline after the budget passed on Tuesday.

"Contracts are literally going to be going out today to many people who received Reduction in Force notices, and that is a wonderful thing," Stroup said on Wednesday morning.

Superintendent Sheila Soule parceled out thanks to residents and district employees in a community-wide message on Tuesday night.

"Your feedback and participation have been integral in crafting the various iterations of the budget and ensuring its approval," she wrote. "I am very grateful for the hard work of the school board and for the patience and tenacity of our faculty and staff in waiting out this period of uncertainty. This entire endeavor has shown how powerful we can be when we come together as a community."

Stroup concluded by saying grappling with school funding will not necessarily get easier, both locally and statewide.

"I hope the community will stay engaged with the work of the schools. We still have lots of work to do. And the entire state has some deep thinking we need to do on our school system, our school goals and the way that we fund them. And we're all going to have to participate in that."

Tuesday's turnout gave him hope.

"To see that really big turnout means the community as a whole was really talking about their schools, really thinking about what they want out of them," Stroup said. "That's a healthy sign."

# OVUHS

(Continued from Page 1A)

Leicester, Whiting, Goshen, Sudbury and Pittsford cast 1,019 no votes and 638 yeses on the proposed \$26,979,072 spending plan. That reflected around 61% against and nearly 39% in favor. The percentages were 60-40 on March 5.

Also on Tuesday, an updated spending plan for the Barstow Unified Union School District —

the smaller part of the Rutland Northeast Supervisory Union — was defeated. The tally there was 274 no, 214 yes.

RNESU Superintendent Kristin Hubert said it was unfortunate the budgets did not pass.

"Our boards will be meeting in the near future to determine next steps," she said in an email. "At this time I do not have more information to share; but, as more

information becomes available, I will communicate it with you all quickly. Thank you to everyone for your continued support of RNESU schools."

For this vote, the school board had cut \$268,751.13, or 1%, from the \$27 million spending proposal district voters defeated on Town Meeting Day.

## By the way

(Continued from Page 1A)

**Look no further: The Lincoln Volunteer Fair on Saturday, May 4, will make it fun and easy to learn what all of the local nonprofits do and how you can plug in. Organization members from the Lincoln Conservation Commission, Lincoln Fire Station, Lincoln Library, Lincoln Sports, Lincoln Historical Society, Weathervane, Lincoln Mentors, Lincoln Church and more will be there and ready to chat with you. The fair will take place in the Lincoln Fire Station parking lot from 10 a.m. to noon. Any questions? Call (802) 233-0243.**

The United Way of Addison County is now accepting applications for its annual Youth Volunteer Scholarship. On behalf of a generous donor, one Addison County youth is chosen annually for this 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.). Applications are due May 6. To apply, go to [unitedwayaddisoncounty.org/youth-volunteer-scholarship](http://unitedwayaddisoncounty.org/youth-volunteer-scholarship).

The Monkton Conservation Commission invites you to help remove invasive buckthorn from the woods/outdoor classroom behind Monkton Central School on Saturday, May 4, from 1-3 p.m. Available for use will be Uprooter tools funded by a grant to the Conservation Commission from the Association of Vermont Conservation Commissions.

**Other tools will also be available, and feel free to bring your own tools if you have them. Gloves and tick protection recommended. Dropping in for just part of the session is OK, too. Participants will meet if there are just occasional light showers, but in case of heavy rain the alternate date will be Sunday, May 5, also from 1-3 p.m.**

The Addison County Regional Planning Commission recently announced a list of communities that received money through its Small Grant Program. Receiving planning grants of \$10,000 were Cornwall, for its new Outdoor Recreation Area project; Orwell, toward updating its Zoning Regulations; Panton and Vergennes, which each received a \$10,000 grant to help pay for surveying their municipal boundaries; Ripton, to help pay for a capital improvement plan; Monkton, to assist its new town forest effort; and Ferrisburgh, for water system capacity planning.

**The deadline has been extended to May 15 for nominations for the 2024 Vermont Dairy Farm of the Year. The award, which has been presented annually since 1961 by University of Vermont Extension and the Vermont Dairy Industry Association (VDIA), honors an exemplary dairy farm each year. The recipient of this prestigious honor is a farm that has exhibited overall excellence in dairying as evidenced by its savvy farm management practices, high milk quality, attention to herd health, land stewardship and sustainable environmental practices, among other criteria. The winning farm will be featured on "Across the**

**Fence," UVM Extension's daily farm, home and community show airing on WCAX-TV, and honored at the annual VDMA annual banquet. The Vermont winner, along with the other New England state winners, also will be invited to attend a special awards banquet at Eastern States Exposition in West Springfield, Massachusetts. To nominate a farm for this award, visit [go.uvm.edu/vdfya](http://go.uvm.edu/vdfya). Details and profiles of past winners can be found at this link. To learn more or request a paper copy of the form, contact Peggy Manahan at (800) 639-2130 or [peggy.manahan@uvm.edu](mailto:peggy.manahan@uvm.edu).**

Middlebury Regional EMS will host a Pop-Up Market & First Aid training event on Saturday May 11. Shop for Mother's Day and learn how to save a life along the way. The pop-up market will feature local vendors offering a variety of items from flowers and plants for Mother's Day, to hand-crafted gifts and artisanal food items. After shopping, join MREMS staff for free community focused First Aid Training including CPR and the nationally recognized Stop the Bleed Course. Are you an avid animal lover? MREMS will offer a special a K9 First Aid Course to teach out how to care for your furry friends in the event of an emergency. Also, bring the kids: MREMS will be have one of its ambulances open for children and adults to tour. The market will open at 9 a.m., and Community First Aid classes will be held from 10:30 a.m. to noon. The K9 First Aid program will go from 12:30-1 p.m. Want to reserve a table for your business or organization? Contact Kate Rothwell at [krothwell@middleburyems.com](mailto:krothwell@middleburyems.com)

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## Lincoln

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

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NEWS

LINCOLN — The Town Wide Yard Sale to benefit Weathervane United, Inc. will be held on Saturday, May 25, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. rain or shine. There will be sales all around town, at the historical society and the library. Delicious homemade fries, sausage, hamburgers and hot dogs will be available at the firehouse. Please sign up at the Lincoln General Store if you would like to have a sale and get on the map.

The Lincoln Library will be participating in the town wide yard sale this year with their annual book and plant sale. If you have

plants you would like to donate, they can be dropped off at the library the week before the sale or they would be willing to come to your home to dig them up if that is helpful.

The Lincoln Historical Society will be participating in the Town Wide Yard Sale on Saturday, May 25. They would love to have any items that you have around the house or in storage that you don't need any more or would like to get rid of. Donations will be accepted at the Historical Society on Saturday, May 11, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Wednesday, May 15, from 1

to 5 p.m., and Wednesday, May 22, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Please make sure items are clean and in working order. Electronics and bicycle items cannot be accepted. All proceeds from the sale benefit the Lincoln Historical Society, preserving and bringing our unique history to future generations. Please email [lincolnvthistory@gmail.com](mailto:lincolnvthistory@gmail.com) with any questions.

**FROM THE TOWN**

Our town is run by a collaborative team of elected and appointed officials, many of whom  
*(See Lincoln, Page 13A)*

## EAST MIDDLEBURY'S 67<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL

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# Center

(Continued from Page 1A)

hourlong virtual interview by Jennifer Fitch, commissioner for the Vermont Department of Buildings and General Services (BGS), described himself as an advocate of government transparency.

"I'm looking forward to the strong, open community engagement process that is still to come," he said.

Fitch explained why there'd been no open discussion of the Comfort Hill proposal before an April 15 article in *Seven Days* broke the news, apparently after a leak from a non-government source.

The short answer, Fitch said, is the state had been involved in a competitive and confidential bidding process with the three finalists that had responded to a request for proposals that BGS had first sent to two dozen design/build teams around the state.

Essentially, Fitch said, those talks were the statewide equivalent of a local selectboard's executive session.

During ongoing negotiations with design/build firms, she said, "We (BGS) are not at liberty to share information until we have a signed contract or agreement."

The primary source for the *Seven Days* story appeared to be a losing bidder from South Burlington, although Fitch said, "We were trying to do some preliminary engagement with local representatives and senators," and "word got out a little faster than we were hoping."

By the April 15 publication, Fitch said BGS and DCF had "already had some very brief initial (confidential) conversations" with city officials, and a meeting was planned.

"We do have a robust public engagement that we have outlined and that we're working on," Fitch said.

Winters said if the project reaches the permitting process, it would of course be public. But state officials plan to add public forums to that minimum, probably within a month or two.

"We want to do more than that, and have a real conversation with the community. We're still at the beginning stages on how we're going to design and develop this, which will necessarily include community engagement. So we want to have conversations with neighbors, and, again, we're sorry we didn't get to some of the neighbors before the *Seven Days* article came out," Winters said.

**PROJECT DETAILS**  
Fitch said the Vergennes proposal proved the winner in that final round of three because of a rural setting that is still close to services, available workforce, and because it's on state-owned land, thus reducing development costs.

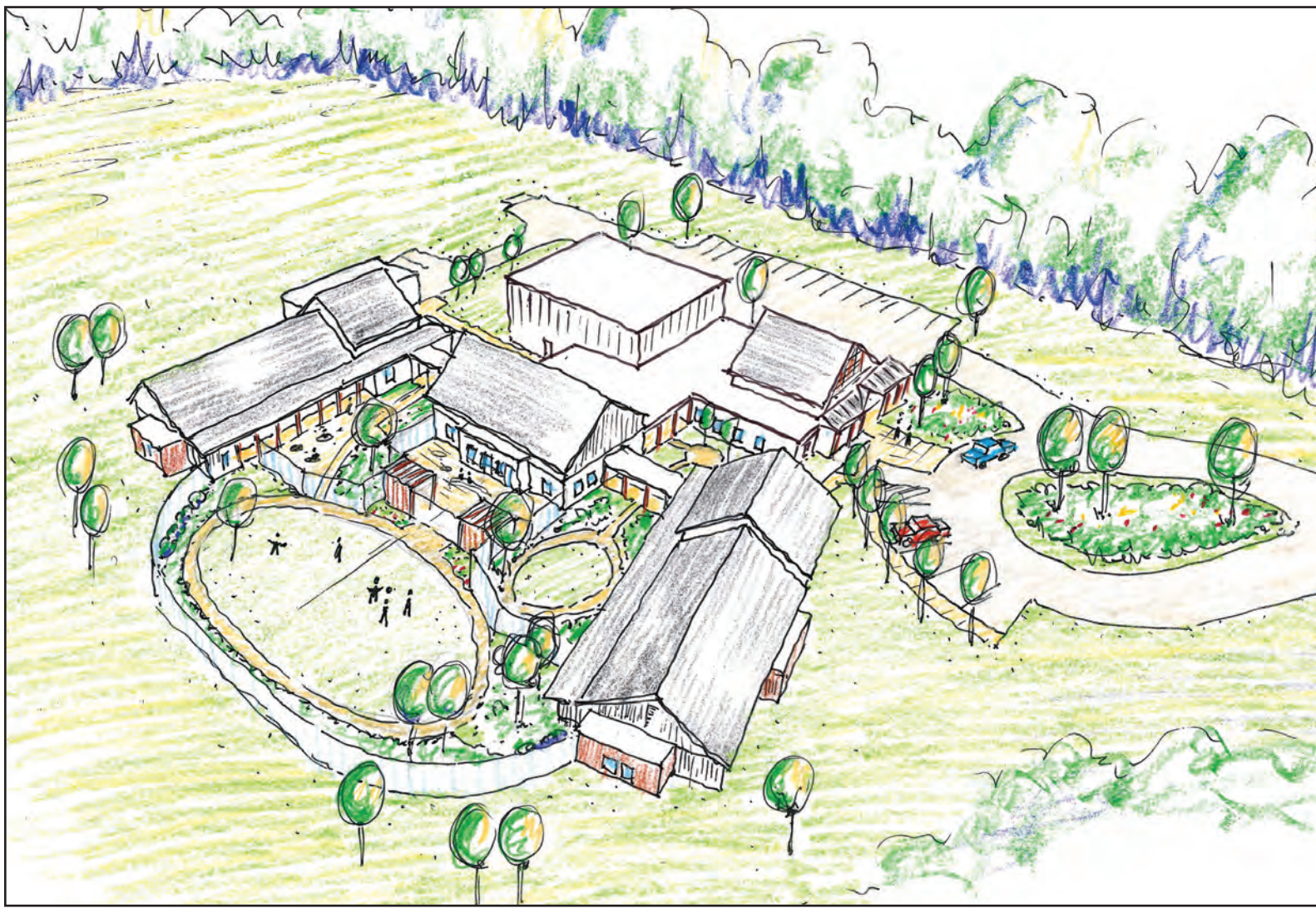
Planned is a 20,000-square-foot operation on the 8 acres, including a gym. The site is on the west side of Comfort Hill near an existing solar array. There would be fencing, mostly to the rear, but the buildings themselves would be aligned to provide much of the perimeter security. Fitch described the fencing as made of "no-climb" tightly woven wire-link material.

Why is this project so crucial? Both said the program will provide short-term stabilization counseling for traumatized youths with some law enforcement involvement to allow them to move on into existing programs.

"This is a secure youth-treatment center, which is a therapeutic treatment program. And it's for justice-involved youth. They may have been criminally charged. They may have a juvenile delinquency through family court," Winters said.

Currently, the potential clients to be served often must travel out of state to get help, to programs in New Hampshire, New York, Massachusetts, or even Florida or Arizona, she said.

Of the 14 beds proposed, eight would be designated for shorter-term crisis treatment, or in Winters' words, "trauma-responsive services for youth in crisis. These are kids who are having a crisis moment. They need ... short-term stabilization."



**THIS ROUGH PRELIMINARY sketch shows what a proposed locked treatment center for troubled juveniles on 8 acres off Comfort Hill, a road in northern Vergennes, could look like. State officials are pledging a "robust" public process to discuss what they are calling the minimal impacts to and potential benefits of the facility for its host community. They will also answer residents' questions and address their concerns.**  
Image courtesy of Department of Buildings & General Services

Those stays could last days or possibly weeks, and could result in stays in the facility's other six beds if necessary, or a move to other facilities around Vermont.

Stays in the other six beds could stretch into months, Winters said, because those slots "are for a little bit longer treatment in a secure setting. These are youths who may pose a danger to themselves or to others or to property, and they just need a safe, locked setting to be in while they receive treatment."

Winters called the program "a real advancement in the treatment of Vermont's youth," and Fitch added, "We're really missing this sort of keystone facility in that system of care ... It's going to open up more beds for more kids in Vermont. And we really need those beds right now."

No one will be released into the local community from the facility if it's ultimately built in Vergennes or, as appears less likely, elsewhere, Winters said.

"They are going into other programs. They're going back to their parents. They're going to their guardians. They might be in foster care. They're not being just dumped out into Vergennes when their treatment is done (there)," he said.

DCF will choose a third party facility operator by bid and evaluation of proposals, Winters said, and the DCF would closely supervise the operation.

"We would have a licensed provider with experience in treating youth (with an approach) that's trauma-responsive, that's evidence-based. We would oversee as a licenser," Winters said.

"There's also another additional level of accountability that's out there now with our office of Child and Youth Family Advocate. That's a new position and office in state government, and they're watching very closely what we do with these programs."

Fitch said the buildings would be designed to be comfortable, bright and airy, as is the new mental health facility that has just opened in Essex, and that good buildings can make a difference in people's outlook.

"It's lighter, brighter, (with) higher ceilings, a softer environment bringing nature into the facility. And that's because it impacts how you feel on a daily basis," Fitch said. "We are really excited to build a new facility."

Winters added, "Both the campus and the program ... (are) going to be informed by what we know currently about brain science and fostering a sense of belonging and connections for justice-involved youth. What you want to do is provide them with treatment and therapy while they're young, and hopefully get them to a place where they can be stable productive citizens, be on the right path."

**BENEFITS AND IMPACTS**

This is not a facility that will allow those lodged there to wander, Winters said.

"It's locked and secure. None of the youth there are going to be going outside it. And they'll have health care onsite ... so there would be minimal impact on ambulance calls," he said.

"From everything we know about similar facilities, the way this is designed, the way the program is that will be there, it's going to have minimal impact on services in Vergennes."

The commissioners foresee positive impacts on the city.

"What it could have is a very positive side economically," Winters said, citing the "30 good jobs" added to the area, either by employees relocating to the area or simply "spending money while they're there."

Fitch expanded on what she saw as potential benefits. There is more BGS can do when it sites buildings in communities, she said, noting if the facility is built, the state will either pay taxes or send funds to Vergennes through the state's Payment In Lieu Of Taxes program.

And Fitch said there are other ways BGS could help Vergennes,

offering an example.

"Sometimes, when we come in and build a building, we have to bring in infrastructure. In this case, we might have to extend the water and sewer lines. When we do those things we work with the community, and we say, 'Oh are you planning any type of future development where it may make sense to say are we sizing the water and sewer appropriately in case you decide you want to building future houses?'" Fitch said.

And, she added, that possibility has been discussed in Vergennes, particularly for its northwest quadrant, most of which is state-owned land.

"We know, for example, the city of Vergennes is really interested in building housing," Fitch said. "And we know we've got a little land there. And those are the types of discussions we really want to have."

Such details would be discussed with city officials, project neighbors and city residents in the months to come, the commissioners said.

"We want to talk to neighbors. We want to talk to other community members who are going to be part of this process," Winters said. "We'll have a public forum, at least one, probably multiple forums, at which we'll be there to provide information, answer questions, see what concerns there are and be responsive to those concerns."

# Lincoln

(Continued from Page 12A)

are volunteers. The selectboard will appoint the following roles in the coming weeks. Please consider getting involved! Email [townbk@lincolnvermont.org](mailto:townbk@lincolnvermont.org) with your interest and the best way to reach you.

One volunteer position available is that of a 250th Anniversary Liaison. This person will represent Lincoln on the Vermont 250th Anniversary Commission, a group created by Gov. Scott to plan, coordinate, and promote observances and activities that commemorate the historic events associated with the American Revolution in Vermont. In Nov. 2023, the selectboard signed a resolution pledging our town's participation. The liaison will serve as Lincoln's single point of contact for commission leaders and communicate needs/requests from the commission to the selectboard.

The town is also looking for an Addison County Regional Planning Commission (ACRPC) alternate. This person represents Lincoln on the ACRPC when our delegate isn't available for the monthly meeting. The commission is a gathering of 21 municipalities that promotes community development within the Addison Region.

The Energy Coordinator helps to establish and implement the community's energy goals and engages in regional energy planning. There is no commission or board to sit on, but opportunities to engage in countywide efforts would be shared with you. This largely self-directed role has been vacant for over a year and it would be great to see someone with experience in energy, planning, or policy step up.

The town is also looking for one more Fence Viewer volunteer. The Fence Viewers may be asked by the selectboard or any Lincoln resident to serve as a volunteer arbitrator in disputes or decision-making related to fences and property boundaries.

To learn about all the roles appointed by the selectboard, please visit [lincolnvermont.org/appointees](http://lincolnvermont.org/appointees).

**SAVE THE DATE**

The group removal of invasive wild chervil along town roads will occur on Saturday, June 1. Please assemble at the ball field pavilion at 9 a.m. Spades will be available for easy removal. Lunch with drinks and dessert from the Lincoln General Store will be served at noon.

Until next time ... Friends Are Angels Who Lift Us Up When Our Wings Forget How To Fly. Be The Reason Someone Believes In Good People. Whoever Is Happy Will Make Others Happy.

*"What it could have is a very positive side economically."*

— Chris Winters

*"We're really missing this sort of keystone facility in that system of care ... It's going to open up more beds for more kids in Vermont. And we really need those beds right now."*

— Jennifer Fitch

*"They are going into other programs. They're going back to their parents. They're going to their guardians. They might be in foster care. They're not being just dumped out into Vergennes when their treatment is done (there)."*

— Chris Winters

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### Kids & kittens

HOMEWARD BOUND, ADDISON County's Humane Society, on Saturday hosted its annual spring "Kitten Shower," where it raises much-needed supplies for the upcoming kitten season. Kids and kittens got to know each other. Shown with the little felines at the Middlebury shelter are, clockwise from top right, 4-year-old Theo Weston of Middlebury, 8-year-old Petra Weston of Middlebury, 6-year-old Allegra Ouellette of Bridport, and 7-year-old Wyatt Carter of Bridport with 8-week-old Misty.

Independent photos/Steve James



SNACKS

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CONVERSATION

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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 ALL-STAR** WATERBOTTLE, MUG, TOTE & MORE!



EVENT DETAILS   
@ADDISONINDEPENDENT

# THT

(Continued from Page 1A)  
 education. It will host a scene shop on the sub-level, an educational studio and gallery on the plaza level, and a rehearsal studio and gallery on the stage level. Plans also call for a new outdoor plaza to host performances, celebrations and to serve as an informal gathering spot for the community.

Lisa Mitchell and Doug Anderson — executive director and artistic director, respectively, of the THT — have been key cogs in the fundraising wheel. They shared the latest financial news last week as Bread Loaf Corp. workers continued to hammer, drill and hoist the addition into place. The upgrades are designed to transform THT from a community theater to a regional performing arts center.

“We couldn’t be more bullish on the future,” Mitchell said. “THT’s next stage will invigorate downtown, increase community engagement, and have positive, broad reaching impacts across our region — for generations to come.”

The THT’s donation harvest to date has been a testament to the facility’s popularity. It has welcomed more than 500,000 patrons since opening its doors in 2008, Anderson noted. Some of those patrons are investing heavily in the construction project. Among the biggest donors: Middlebury College, which last August gave \$1 million.

More than a venue to enjoy arts and entertainment, the expanded THT is expected to be an economic driver for the Middlebury area, officials said. The performing arts hub will drive an estimated \$1.4 million in economic impact, according to calculations based on recently released AEP6 audience survey data. This increased patron activity will increase spending at local restaurants, retailers and hotels and boost Middlebury’s downtown foot traffic, according to Mitchell.

Anderson and Mitchell would welcome additional large project

contributions, but realize smaller gifts are likely to play a lead role down the fundraising home stretch. And THT has two nice arrows in its quiver to encourage such donations:

- A generous, anonymous supporter is offering a 1:1 match up to \$150,000 for donations of all sizes.

- A “buy-a-brick” campaign, which invites individuals and businesses to have their names engraved on gray bricks that will form the future outdoor plaza. Mitchell said 200 bricks are being offered. They come in two sizes, priced at \$750 and \$2,000, and are now available for purchase via the THT website, by calling 802-388-1436 or emailing erin@townhalltheater.org to arrange a donation.

Mitchell said 37 bricks have been sold so far.

“What we’re finding is that sometimes, a family might want to crowdfund to have a brick under their family’s name. They might do it to honor someone who’s passed, or a business might want to be recognized (as a project supporter),” she said.

Bricks aren’t the only avenue through which THT contributors can see their support immortalized. An entire menu of other naming opportunities is available on request. Depending on the size of the check, you could see your name etched on the new THT wing, outdoor stage, balcony, windows, and more. Those interested should contact Mitchell directly at THT.

It was a winning recipe two decades ago during renovation of the current THT building, Anderson noted.

“Every one of the windows in the historic building was adopted,” he said. “There’s a name on every single window in this building.”

- The return of Town Hall Theater’s “Lights! Camera! Auction!” on June 15. It will feature both a live and silent auction with awesome items on



**TOWN HALL THEATER** boosters are working to close a \$767,283 gap in a \$7 million plan to renovate and expand Middlebury’s performing arts center at 68 South Pleasant St. Work has already begun on the project, which will include a 7,000-square-foot, three-story addition and an outdoor plaza (above). The addition will feature a number of attractive features, including a balcony (below) affording splendid views of the downtown and beyond.

Images courtesy of Town Hall Theater

which to bid. Bruce Baker will emcee the live auction, which will entertain bids for around nine items, including a private tour of the WhistlePig distillery in Shoreham that will include a meal and, of course, whiskey; a three-night stay at a Washington, D.C., penthouse; a multi-course dinner at Swift House Inn/Jessica’s; and a tour of the Vermont Statehouse — courtesy of former Vermont Gov. (and Middlebury resident) James Douglas.

“It’s as much of a party as it is an auction,” quipped Douglas, noting participants will also enjoy food, beverages and live music.

Watch for more details on “Lights! Camera! Auction!” during the coming weeks. Tickets went on sale May 1.

Those who attend the auction — and indeed performances at the theater — will be treated to an extra show: The physical transformation of THT.



“We are watching the walls go up around us,” Mitchell said. “We’re doing well on our timeline.”

As its founder, Anderson is also the keeper of THT’s institutional

memory. And he’s excited to see the next chapter of its history unfold.

“It’s terrific coming to work every day and seeing what they’ve

done, to see a huge cement wall that wasn’t there yesterday,” Anderson said. “I think we’re on schedule for a New Year’s Eve (completion). What a party that would be.”

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# Islesley Library

(Continued from Page 1A)

children's area that suffers from ground water leaks, mold and a broken wastewater system that causes offensive odors; needs better amenities for teens and 'tweens; and has areas and resources that aren't accessible to some folks who are physically challenged.

The town formed the Islesley 100 Project Team that in 2022 explored four potential scopes of work to address the library's woes, ranging from simply renovating the existing building and additions, to erecting a new structure on a different site.

The project team held several public feedback sessions, and ultimately landed on renovating and expanding the current library.

Last year, Islesley officials invited architectural teams to submit conceptual images on what an Islesley Library makeover could look like at its current site. Three architectural teams agreed to participate: gbA Architecture and Planning of Montpelier, Vermont Integrated Architecture (VIA) of Middlebury, and a collaboration of Wiemann-Lamphere Architects of Colchester and ReArch Company of South Burlington.

Wiemann-Lamphere and ReArch earned the nod to take the library project plans to final design.

Those plans call for the Islesley's '77 and '88 additions to be removed, with the 1924 building to be retained, restored and equipped with a new 8,000-square-foot, two-story addition on its northeast side.

The resulting 28,000-square-foot Islesley Library would possess double its current space for youth services, a new activity room, a new conference/flex room that would be accessible during and after library hours, a new early learning area, new spaces for high school- and middle-school-age youngsters, a new outdoor programming area,

two additional small meeting rooms; a larger community meeting room, and redesigned adult reading rooms and gathering spaces.

Plans also call for replacement of the building's HVAC, elevator, plumbing and electricity systems.

There would be no loss of library parking, according to current plans.

"I'm excited that this renovation and expansion project not only addresses the building's deficiencies but offers improvements that will help the library into its next 100 years and maintain the historic building," said Meg Baker, chair of the Islesley Library Board of Trustees.

"I'm thrilled that the next generation of Middlebury's children will have a light-filled,

*"Taxpayers are only on the hook for 25% of this project, and that's incredible. It's a unique moment in time when there's state grant funding available and the local philanthropic community has stepped up."*

— Dana Hart

expanded children's room with improved sightlines on key areas like entryways and restrooms," she continued. "Flexible programming spaces like the Early Learning Wiggle Room, Teen Room, and afterhours conference room will provide places to meet and gather for community and library events. Accessible and welcoming entrances will help all patrons access the library from either Main Street or the back parking lot."

Baker's 15-year-old son, Toby Baker-Rouse, provided this perspective on the renovated teen space.

"I've gone to the library my whole life and love it, but have always wished that the kids' space had more natural light and clean air," he said. "I think that an expansion in the teen section will be beneficial to expand the choices in books and offer space to hang out with friends. It will be nice to read in the outdoor programming space."

Ken Perine, a member of the Islesley 100 Project Team, said the current building has provided a "solid base for learning" during the past century. But he noted library use and programming has expanded beyond what the current facility is



MIDDLEBURY VOTERS WILL go to the polls on Tuesday, May 7, to cast ballots on a proposed \$17 million makeover of the Islesley Public Library at 75 Main St. This graphic from Wiemann-Lamphere Architects and the ReArch Company shows what is envisioned as the new main entryway for the library.

able to accommodate.

"It is now our turn to invest in the fabric of our community by supporting the renovation and expansion of the library to ensure it will serve all of our citizens for the next 100 years," he said.

Islesley officials are pleased with the project feedback they've been getting thus far. For example, Islesley Library Trustee Joe McVeigh, Hart and other library representatives staffed a project exhibit preceding Middlebury's annual town meeting back on March 4.

"It was universally positive response," McVeigh said of the feedback on that day.

### TEMPORARY SPACE

Adding to the good momentum, officials believe, is a generous offer by the National Bank of Middlebury to temporarily host basic library services — rent-free — within the first floor of its historic Duclos building, at the intersection of Main Street and Printer's Alley. This roughly 4,000-square-foot space would house a portion of the Islesley's collection (with the rest to be put into temporary storage); small spaces for youths, adults and teens to use library resources; and "a few" public access computers,

according to Hart.

"People can think of it as a 'mini library,'" Hart said of the interim location, which would remain in place through the estimated 15 months (April 2025-July 2026) of construction at 75 Main St.

If people needed access to library materials unavailable at the Duclos building, Islesley staff would help them get what they need through inter-library loans, Hart said. The Islesley is part of a cooperative lending program that includes, among other libraries, the Bixby in Vergennes and Lawrence Memorial in Bristol.

And Hart noted the Sarah Partridge Library in East Middlebury will remain open.

Here's the funding strategy for the total \$16,995,000 price tag, which is up from an earlier projection of \$16.4 million due to inflationary increases:

- \$6 million through private donations. Hart was pleased to report the harvest thus far of \$3.4 million in gifts, all since January.
- "We're off to a great start; we're so grateful to all the early donors who've stepped forward," Hart said. "It's a wonderful show of confidence in the library's mission

and in the transformative effect this project is going to have on Middlebury's downtown and our community."

### FUNDRAISING DRIVE

As is this case with the Town Hall Theater fund drive (see related story), there are naming opportunities for those making particularly generous donations — from \$5,000 to \$250,000 — to the Islesley project. More modest naming options — such as for bricks within the project — will be announced during the public phase of the campaign, according to Hart.

Anyone wishing to give to the project should approach Hart at [dana.hart@islesleypubliclibrary.org](mailto:dana.hart@islesleypubliclibrary.org). The library will launch the "public" phase of its campaign this fall.

- A municipal bond of \$4,387,936, to be paid off over 20 years. The estimated property tax impact would be around \$120 a year for a resident with a home assessed at \$300,000.
- \$4 million from the town of Middlebury's local option tax surplus fund.
- \$2 million through state and federal grants.
- \$552,064 in tax credits and rebates.

McVeigh and Hart want to reinforce that while folks will be asked to vote on the full cost of the project, they will only be responsible for \$4.4 million of the price tag.

What if Middlebury voters reject the proposed bond on May 7?

"We would pretty much have to immediately pursue replacing the boiler, the elevator, and adding a secondary egress to the third floor, for between \$2 million to \$3 million," Hart said. "That's not even a renovation; that's just stabilizing this building to make it another year."

### VOTE SET FOR MAY 7

A massive archive of information about the proposed Islesley Library project — including videos and schematics — can be found at [tinyurl.com/4nmdatr](http://tinyurl.com/4nmdatr).

There will be an informational public meeting about the bond vote on Monday, May 6, at 7 p.m., at the town offices at 77 Main St.

Australian ballot voting on the project will take place at the Middlebury town offices from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Tuesday, May 7. Middlebury voters can also vote early, during business hours, also at the town offices.



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# SPORTS

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- School News
- Classifieds
- Legal Notices
- Police Logs

## Only Eagles have good baseball week

**By ANDY KIRKALDY**  
ADDISON COUNTY — Mount Abraham broke into the win column behind a pitching gem to provide the only highlight for the area's high school baseball teams in recent action.

**EAGLES**  
On Tuesday, Mount Abe edged Spaulding, 3-1, as freshman pitcher Cameron Castillo carried a no-hit bid into the seventh inning before settling for a complete-game one-hitter, striking out 10. Evan Corrigan paced the attack with three hits, including a double, and an RBI, as the Eagles evened their record at 1-1.

The Eagles' April 25 home game vs. North Country was called off. No makeup date was immediately announced.

**OTTERS**  
On April 25 host Rutland held OV to four hits and took advantage of multiple Otter miscues to defeat the Otters, 11-2. The game was tied at 1-1 early on, but RHS pulled away from there.

**ISAIAH WOOD** took the pitching loss for OV. OV scored in the first on a hit batter and singles by Wood and **JACKSON HOWE**, and **LUCIANO FALCO** belted an RBI triple to score Wood in the fifth, but that was it for the Otters' offense.

The Otters' Tuesday game at Bellows Falls was postponed, leaving them with a 3-2 record.

**TIGERS**  
On Saturday visiting Colchester edged the Tigers, 8-7. Laker Colton Lefebvre poked two hits and delivered the winning run with a seventh-inning sacrifice fly. Zach Davis added three hits for CHS, which knocked out 10 hits.

**ALEX SPERRY** and **TIM WHITNEY** paced the Tigers' seven-hit attack with two hits apiece.



**JUNIOR MIDDIE ADA Weaber** races down the field in transition during the Tiger girls' lacrosse team's win over Rice on Monday. Independent photo/Steve James

## Tiger girls' lax moves to 2-0

**By ANDY KIRKALDY**  
MIDDLEBURY — The Middlebury Union High School girls' lacrosse team took charge in the first quarter against visiting Rice on Monday and cruised to a 14-4 victory.

Thanks to a series of weather-related postponements, the Tigers have yet to face any of the tougher Division I competition on their schedule, including one set for this Wednesday vs. South Burlington. But Monday's victory pushed their record to 2-0 — and that's already halfway to their win total from 2023.

On Monday, Rice goalie Lauren Wagner made three saves during the first few minutes, but the Tigers erupted for four goals between 5:42 and 3:49 of the first period to open the scoring and

take over the game. The first goal was also the first of sophomore attacker Kenyon Connors's four goals, and it was set up by the first of freshman attacker Alice Livesay's three assists. Livesay scooped a groundball behind the net and then fed the ball across the crease to Connors near the right post for the finish.

Sophomore midfielder Quinn Doria made it 2-0 a minute later after the Tigers won another draw — they claimed 12 of 19 overall. Doria bolted left-to-right through the fan and whipped the ball into the lower right corner. Next, freshman attacker Isabel Quinn took a similar path through the defense, but picked the lower left corner, and it was 3-0.

Junior midfielder Ada Weaber,

a major factor in winning the draws, then made it 4-0 by taking a feed from Connors from the top of the fan and beating Wagner from close range.

First-year Coach Jeff Weaber was pleased to see that balanced offense, which continued during the game with eight Tigers scoring goals, and was also a hallmark of the team's opening 8-1 victory over Stowe.

"We have a lot of girls contributing throughout the whole lineup, which is great," Weaber said. "A lot of times in lacrosse you see one or two players put all the goals in. And we're getting shots from between 11 and 14 girls a game."

The Tigers made it 5-0 early in the second period. Connors lofted a transition pass over a defender to Livesay on the left side, and she bolted into the fan and finished high into the net in the second minute.

Wagner then denied junior middle — and former two-year starting Tiger goalie — Ava Schneider twice in the next couple minutes. But Schneider persisted, bolting past the defense and hitting the right side of the net at 8:48 to make it 6-0.

Then Connors struck twice in less than a minute, burying a Sara Kent feed from the doorstep and next netting a Schneider assist at 6:43, and the rout was on.

Rice finally dented the Tiger defense and freshman goalie Ida Blackwell with 5:08 left in the half: Eden Roberts buried a nice behind-the-net feed from sister Sophie Roberts.

Less than a minute later, junior Pelagia Slater, off the left post, took a feed from Schneider and picked the far corner to make it 9-1, a lead that held at the half.

Green Knight Bella Walsh (See Lacrosse, Page 3B)



**FRESHMAN GOALIE IDA Blackwell** denies Green Knight Sophie Roberts for one of her 11 saves during the Tiger girls' lacrosse team's win over Rice on Monday. Independent photo/Steve James



**MUHS FRESHMAN SARAH Bevere** was one of several Tigers who came close to breaking up Laker pitcher Athanasia Boyer's perfect game on Saturday. Independent photo/Steve James

## MUHS softball splits first two

Laker hurler tosses perfect game; Tigers win next one

**By ANDY KIRKALDY**  
MIDDLEBURY — With junior pitcher Athanasia Boyer tossing a perfect game, visiting Division I contender Colchester put a damper on the Middlebury softball team's home opener on Saturday; the Lakers won, 12-0.

Tiger senior pitcher Emma Deering kept the D-II Tigers close, with help from several sparkling defensive plays, until the seventh inning. But then the Lakers erupted for a nine runs on nine hits combined off Deering and reliever Lexi Whitney.

The Tigers bounced back on Monday to edge another visiting D-I team, Champlain Valley, 4-2, as Whitney and Deering combined to toss a two-hitter. The Tigers carry a 1-1 record into road games at St. Albans

on Thursday and Montpelier on Saturday.

This past Saturday, Colchester's late nine-run offensive outburst was almost beside the point; the game belonged to Boyer, who threw hard and moved the ball around in the strike zone in tossing the rare perfect game.

The Tigers did challenge her several times. In the first inning, senior catcher Sienna Rubright and Deering each worked counts to 3-0, but Boyer induced both to ground out to first base.

In the fifth, freshman DH Sarah Bevere blooped a ball into short right center, but Laker second baseman Athalie Fane-Cushing ranged out onto the grass to make the catch.

In the seventh, the Lakers came up with two web gems to

preserve Boyer's masterpiece. Tiger sophomore first baseman Skyler Choiniere led off with a sharp ground ball past Boyer that looked ticketed for center field, but Fane-Cushing ranged to her left, backhanded the ball, and fired to first to nip Choiniere by half a step.

With two outs, junior center fielder and leadoff hitter Lily Dame lofted a ball down the right field line that looked like it might drop, but the outfielder made the running catch to end the game and clinch Boyer's gem.

MUHS Coach Timm Hanley tipped his hat to Boyer.

"She's outstanding. She's one of the best pitchers in the state. We've seen her before, and that's what we expected. We practiced

(See Softball, Page 4B)

## Eagle track hosts meet

**By ANDY KIRKALDY**  
BRISTOL — In a six-team Tuesday track and field meet at Mount Abraham at which teams from all three Addison County high schools competed, the host Eagle girls' and boys' teams fared best among the local contingent.

Both Mount Abe squads finished second, the Eagle boys behind first-place Missisquoi Valley, and the Eagle girls trailing only Fairfax.

The full boys' standings were MVU, 144; Mount Abe, 122; Randolph, 95; Vergennes, 52; Fairfax, 40; and Middlebury, 21.

The Eagle boys were paced by Joe Darling's two wins in throwing events, Truman Sawyer's victory in the triple jump, Garrett Duell's win in the pole vault, and a victory in the four-by-800-meter relay.

For Vergennes, Brody McGuire won at 800 meters and Grey Fearon took second in the 1,500. Sawyer Malzac placed in two sprints to lead the Tiger boys.

The girls' scores were Fairfax, 145.5; Mount Abe, 103.5; MUHS,

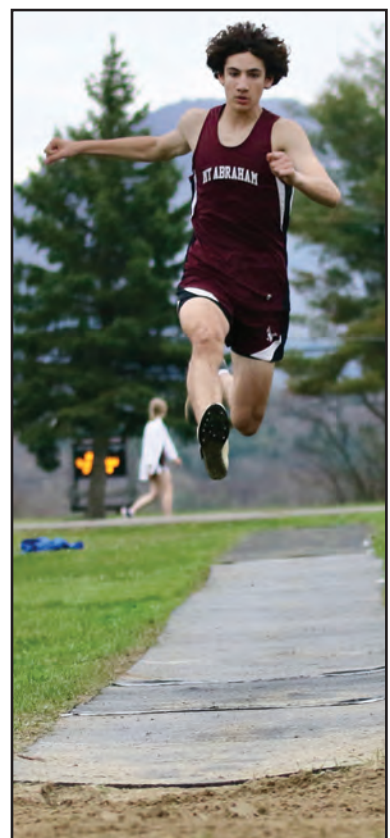
98; MVU, 94; VUHS, 43; and Randolph, 12.

Hazel Stoddard won three field events for the Eagle girls to help them edge the Tigers for second place, while Whitney Dykstra finished second behind Stoddard in two events.

Tiger girls won six events. Beth McIntosh prevailed at 800 and 1,500 meters, Laila Sunderland and Solstice Binder swept the hurdling races, Vivian Mott won the long jump, and Jazmyn Hurley's strong anchor leg powered the MUHS 4x100 relay team.

Tryphene Miguel won at 400 meters for the Commodore girls, and Ava Francis took a third and a fifth in the sprints. The Commodores were missing many athletes from both teams due to a travel issue on a return from a trip abroad.

**BOYS' RESULTS**  
The winners and the scoring finishers for the boys were:  
• 100 meters: 1. Joao Elias, MVU, 12.05; 4. Sawyer Malzac, MU, (See Track, Page 2B)



**EAGLE TRUMAN SAWYER** soars to victory in the triple jump during Tuesday's track & field meet at Mount Abe. Independent photo/Steve James



**IN A TIGHTLY** contested 100-meter heat during Tuesday's track & field meet at Mount Abe, Tiger Sawyer Malzac, center, is flanked by Eagles William McLeod, left, and Jackson LaMarche, right. Independent photo/Steve James

# Middlebury's Freddy Mosier has played baseball everywhere!

"I think my passion for baseball started when I was four or five and my dad gave me a baseball card — a card of Albert Belle (a star for the Cleveland Indians)," Freddy Mosier told me over a beer at Fire and Ice last Sunday evening.



**Sports (Mostly) KARL LINDHOLM**

That Albert Belle card initiated a baseball life for Freddy, which has included playing on the Middlebury College team in 2019, '22 and '23 (seasons '20 and '21 were lost to the pandemic). He graduated last spring and is the assistant baseball coach for the Middlebury nine this year, working mostly with the pitchers.

The Middlebury team is having a brilliant season, finishing first in the regular season in the West Division of the league, NESCAC (New England Small College Athletic Conference), with a 9-3 conference record. Their record overall is 25-9. They are 19-3 after starting the season 6-6.

The Panthers play Trinity in a tripleheader at home this weekend in the quarterfinals of the NESCAC tournament; winning two of three sends them off to the championship (semi-finals and finals) next weekend at Tufts with the winner getting an automatic bid to the NCAA tournament.

Freddy's card collection, that started with Albert Belle, was likely the best in the entire country — that is, the country of Russia!

Like so many baseball players, Freddy's baseball career started with t-ball, his dad as his coach, and then went on to Little League.

Unlike most baseball players, his introduction to the game took place in Russia!

Freddy's first 12 years of life were in Moscow with his family — dad, mom, and two younger siblings, where his dad was an investment banker. Russia is where his love of baseball was incubated.

He attended the American School of Moscow, 1,500 students, K-12. "When I was eight years old, I watched a men's league game at a baseball stadium at Moscow State University. I met the coach of one of the teams, and learned he also coached kids."

"I joined his team, all Russian kids. We spoke only Russian. We practiced year-round on Tuesday and Friday. We played games against the three other teams in the area and in 2011 came to the States for a two-week tournament in San Diego."

(Freddy describes his Russian now as "pretty good," and converses with Middlebury students who know the language.)

"We lived on the top floor of an 11-story apartment building in Moscow looking out over the Moscow River to the Kremlin," Freddy said. "For my 10th birthday, my dad 'netted' the entire roof-top balcony, so I could hit balls off a tee and throw a ball against the wall all I wanted."

That was heaven to a baseball obsessed 10-year-old in Moscow.

When Freddy was 12, his family moved to London, where they still reside. London offered

ample opportunities to pursue his baseball passion during his teen years. He played for both a club team, the London Mets, which had teams organized by age from Little League to adult, and played in the National Baseball League.

Freddy competed in six European championships for the Mets in places such as Ostrava, Czech Republic (2015); Gijon, Spain (2016); and Bratislava, Slovakia (2018). He was also selected to play and travel on the British National Team, at both the junior and senior level.

Middlebury was a natural college choice: his dad, Frank, was a graduate of the class of 1991. Freddy arrived at Middlebury just in time to bear the full brunt of the pandemic disruptions. He essentially had just two seasons of play, 2022 and 2023. He pitched in

24 games during those two years on Middlebury teams that qualified for the NCAA tournament.

Freddy described himself straightforwardly as "a slightly below-average college pitcher. I played everywhere on the field growing up — catcher, infielder, pitcher, but I wasn't a great hitter. I figured I had a better chance of playing if I pitched."

A highlight for Freddie was the Panthers' NESCAC Championship in '22, when he pitched three innings in the semi-finals game, a victory against Amherst.

After graduating from Middlebury last spring, Freddy headed back to London to play for both the London Mets and the British National Team last summer. The national team lost in the finals to Spain in Prague, Czech Republic.

Freddy had a particularly good semi-final outing against Germany. "I came in in the eighth with the bases loaded and no outs — and got the last six outs of the game. I got the save and we were on to the championship game."

Then, last fall, he contacted an Aussie friend and teammate from the 2016 British National team and asked him, "Can I come play for your team?" So, he traveled Down Under for three months, October to January, and played for the "Surfer Paradise Blue Waves" of the Greater Brisbane League.

"It was a fast league," he reported: "We had three guys who threw over 90. We were league champs."

His Middlebury coach, Mike Leonard, has this to say about Freddy: "We are so lucky to have Freddy on our staff this spring. He was an outstanding player and teammate during his time as a student, and in his short time here as a coach he has brought so much to our team."

"I think the wide range of experiences he has had gives him a unique perspective on the game."

What's next for Freddy? Well, more baseball. In a month he heads back to London to his club team, the London Mets, and will play in the tournament against other European club champions this year in Zurich, Switzerland.

Then he dashes back to the States to begin the rest of his life. He has a job for the summer with Synergy Sports, which, as he told me, "Builds a database of in-game video of college and pro players."

"I just set up the camera and video the games," he said. "I have



**FREDDY MOSIER FIRING a pitch homeward for the Panthers in 2023. In addition to Middlebury, Addison County, Vermont, USA, Freddy has played baseball games in Russia, England, Switzerland, Spain, Italy, Czech Republic, Poland, Croatia, Bulgaria, Slovakia, Germany and Australia.**



**FREDDY MOSIER, ASSISTANT Baseball Coach at Middlebury College this spring, pictured at eight years old (2007) with his Little League Russian teammates at a ballpark in Brateyevno, a town an hour outside of Moscow. Freddy is far right, first row.**

been assigned the Cape Cod League and am staying with the family of a Midd teammate in Yarmouth." The 100-year-old Cape League is generally acknowledged as the best of the collegiate summer leagues.

After that? "I'll follow my passion for baseball at the highest level I can."

*Karl Lindholm, Ph.D., is the Emeritus Dean of Advising and retired Assistant Professor of American Studies. He can be contacted at lindholm@middlebury.edu.*

## Track

(Continued from Page 1B)

13.52; 5. William McLeod, MA, 13.64; 7. Peter Maneen, VU, 14.11; 8. Jackson LaMarche, MA, 14.22.

• 200: 1. Chase Gardner, Randolph, 24.18; 4. T. Sawyer, MA, 26.87; 5. Elliot Senecal, MA, 27.31; 6. S. Malzac, MU, 27.64; 7. W. McLeod, MA, 28.86.

• 400: 1. Gardner, Randolph, 53.77; 2. W. McLeod, MA, 1:06.8.

• 800: 1. Brody McGuire, VU, 2:30.89; 2. Chance Koenig, VU, 2:33.48; 4. Gabe Schmitt, MU, 2:43.88.

• 1,500: 1. Gage Magnuson, Fairfax, 4:27.92; 2. Grey Fearon, VU, 4:31.7; 7. G. Schmitt, MU, 5:36.4.

• 3,000: 1. Nicholas Jumisko-Amidon, Randolph, 11:11.9; 3. Aaron Carr-Perlow, MU, 11:13.54; 5. B. McGuire, 12:10.94.

• 4x100 relay: 1. MVU, 51.12;



**LOCAL RUNNERS WERE tightly bunched at the start of the girls' 1,500 meter race during Tuesday's track & field meet at Mount Abe. Second from left is Eagle Isabella Shea, followed by Commodore Madeleine Stroup and Tigers Mary Harrington and eventual winner Beth McIntosh.**

Independent photo/Steve James

2. MA, 52.32 (Sawyer, LaMarche, Garrett Duell, J. Darling).

• 4X800: 1. MA, 11:38.3 (Ryan Cross, Teagan Obarski, James Mount, Bennett Eberhardy).

• Shot putt: 1. J. Darling, MA, 10.33 meters; 7. J. Mount, MA, 6.62M; 8. G. Duell, MA, 6.49.

• Discus: 1. J. Darling, MA, 113-2; 2. T. Obarski, MA, 80-2; 3. B. McGuire, VU, 78-2; 6. Finn Harris, MA, 61-4.

• Javelin: 1. Finn Perez, MVU, 105-2; 2. J. Darling, MA, 101-0; 3. P. Maneen, VU, 98-1; 6. G. Duell, MA, 81-6; 7. J. Mount, MA, 81-4.

• Pole vault: 1. G. Duell, MA, 6-0; 2. J. LaMarche, MA, 6-0.

• Long jump: 1. C. Gardner, Randolph, 19-3.5; 5. E. Senecal, MA, 14-6; 8. D. Newell, MA, 12-6.5.

• Triple jump: 1. T. Sawyer, MA, 15-7; 2. C. Koenig, V, 12-3.

### GIRLS' RESULTS

The winners and the scoring finishers for the girls were:

• 100 meters: 1. Molly Dearborn,

Fairfax, 14.3; 2. Solstice Binder, MU, 14.34; 5. A. Francis, VU, 14.89; 6. Eva Borah, VU, 15.03; 7. Alexis Williams, MU, 15.3.

• 200: 1. Logan Ferris, Fairfax, 29.23; 3. A. Francis, VU, 30.74; 6. Tie, Isabella Romond and T. Miguel VU, 31.55; 8. E. Borah, VU, 31.71.

• 400: 1. T. Miguel, VU, 1:11.99; 4. Emily Fritz, MA, 1:21.65; 5. Torrey Hanna, VU, 1:21.8.

• 800: 1. B. McIntosh, MU, 2:49.25; 2. Mary Harrington, 2:50.29; 3. Isabella Shea, MA, 3:01.54; 6. Quincy Sabick, VU, 3:27.6.

• 1,500: 1. B. McIntosh, MU, 5:33.02; 2. M. Harrington, 5:36.24; 3. I. Shea, MA, 6:10.24; 6. Madeleine Stroup, VU, 6:39.82.

• 100 hurdles: 1. Laila Sunderland, MU, 21.51.

• 300 hurdles: 1. S. Binder, MU, 58.22.

• 4x100 relay: 1. MU, 57.39 (S. Binder, Alexis Williams, Navah Glikman, Jazmyn Hurley); 4. MA, 1:02.88 (Ruby Connell, E.

Fritz, Whitney Dykstra, Rhiannon Andrews); 5. MU B, 1:04.88 (Maya Breckenridge, Vivian Mott, Grace Ritter, L. Sunderland.)

• 4x400: 1. Fairfax, 5:00.3; 2. MUHS, 5:05.86 (Sawyer Witscher, A. Williams, S. Binder, J. Hurley).

• High Jump: 1. Hazel Stoddard, MA, 4-4; 2. Whitney Dykstra, 4-2.

• Shot put: 1. Dora Gagne, MVU, 7.93M; 4. Nola Roberts, MA, 5.91M; 7. Ada Fisher, MA, 5.37M.

• Discus: 1. Gagne, MVU, 60-6; 4. N. Roberts, MA, 47-2; 5. A. Fisher, MA, 38-3; 7. Megan Bowers, MA, 27-10.

• Javelin: 1. H. Stoddard, MA, 65-3; 2. W. Dykstra, 56-7; 4. N. Roberts, MA, 45-85. A. Fisher, MA, 44-8; 8. M. Bowers, MA, 38-8.

• Pole vault: 1. Hazel Stoddard, MA, 6-0.

• Long jump: 1. V. Mott, MU, 12-2; 3. Kassi Garrow, MA, 12-0; 6. H. Torrey, VU, 11-5; 7. W. Dykstra, MA, 10-10.

## Score BOARD

### HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

#### Softball

4/25 Mt. Abe vs North Country ..... 13-4  
4/25 OV vs Rutland ..... 11-2

4/27 Colchester vs MUHS ..... 12-0

4/27 OV vs Fair Haven ..... 6-3

4/27 Missisquoi vs Mt. Abe ..... 3-0

4/29 MUHS vs CVU ..... 4-2

4/30 Mt. Abe vs Spaulding ..... 21-9

4/30 OV at Bellows Falls ..... Postponed

#### Baseball

4/25 North Country at Mt. Abe Postponed

4/25 Burlington vs VUHS ..... 23-3

4/25 Rutland vs OV ..... 13-3

4/27 Colchester vs MUHS ..... 8-7

4/29 CVU vs MUHS ..... 9-2

4/30 Mt. Abe vs Spaulding ..... 3-1

4/30 OV at Bellows Falls ..... Postponed

#### Boys' Lacrosse

4/25 MUHS vs Harwood ..... 16-9

4/27 Hartford at OV ..... 18-0

4/27 MUHS vs Woodstock ..... 15-6

4/29 Mt. Abe vs OV ..... 16-2

4/29 MUHS vs St. Albans ..... 11-3

5/1 Randolph at Mt. Abe ..... Late

5/1 MUHS at S. Burlington ..... Late

#### Girls' Lacrosse

4/27 MAV at St. Albans ..... Postponed

4/29 MUHS vs Rice ..... 14-4

4/29 MAV vs GMVS ..... 14-11

4/30 MAV vs Lamoille ..... 20-2

5/1 S. Burlington at MUHS ..... Late

#### Girls' Tennis

4/29 MUHS vs N. Country ..... 5-2

5/1 Rice at MUHS ..... Late

#### Boys' Tennis

4/29 MUHS vs S. Burlington ..... 6-1

5/1 MUHS at Rice ..... Late

#### Ultimate

5/1 S. Burlington at MUHS ..... Late

#### COLLEGE SPORTS

##### Women's Lacrosse

4/24 Midd vs Williams ..... 12-8

NESCAC Playoff Quarterfinal

4/27 #1 Midd vs #8 Amherst ..... 21-4

##### Men's Lacrosse

4/24 Williams vs Midd ..... 10-9 (3OT)

NESCAC Playoff Quarterfinal

4/27 #4 Midd vs #5 Amherst ..... 9-6

#### Baseball

4/26 Midd vs Wesleyan ..... 17-13

4/27 Midd vs Wesleyan ..... 8-0

4/27 Midd vs Wesleyan (2) ..... 7-2

4/29 Midd vs Union ..... 12-10

4/30 Midd vs Skidmore ..... 4-3 (11)

#### Softball

4/27 Midd vs Amherst ..... 9-1

4/27 Midd vs Amherst ..... 6-5

5/1 Union at Midd (2) ..... Late

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# Schedule

## Lacrosse

### HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

**Softball**

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.....	4:30 PM
5/4 VUHS at Oxbow .....	Canceled
5/6 Mt. Mansfield at MUHS.....	4:30 PM
5/7 Mt. Abe at BFA Fairfax.....	4:30 PM
5/4 VUHS at Oxbow .....	11 AM
5/7 VUHS at Twinfield .....	4:30 PM
5/7 Northfield at MUHS.....	4:30 PM
5/7 OV at White River.....	4:30 PM
5/9 OV at Hartford.....	4:30 PM
5/9 MUHS at Enosburg.....	4:30 PM
5/9 Milton at VUHS.....	4:30 PM
5/9 Rice at Mt. Abe.....	4:30 PM
5/11 Milton at Mt. Abe.....	11 AM
5/11 VUHS at Enosburg .....	11 AM
5/11 Rice at MUHS.....	11 AM

**Baseball**

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.....	4:30 PM
5/7 Mt. Abe at BFA Fairfax.....	4:30 PM
5/7 Fair Haven at MUHS.....	4:30 PM
5/9 MUHS at Enosburg.....	4:30 PM
5/9 Milton at VUHS.....	4:30 PM
5/9 Missisquoi at Mt. Abe.....	4:30 PM
5/9 Hartford at OV .....	4:30 PM
5/11 Windsor at OV .....	11 AM
5/11 Milton at Mt. Abe.....	11 AM
5/11 VUHS at Enosburg .....	11 AM
5/11 Missisquoi at MUHS .....	11 AM

**Boys' Lacrosse**

5/3 Lyndon at Mt. Abe.....	4:30 PM
5/3 GMVS at OV .....	4:30 PM
5/4 Essex at MUHS.....	4 PM
5/7 Mt Mansfield at MUHS.....	4:30 PM
5/8 OV at Randolph.....	4 PM
5/8 MAV at Burlington.....	4:30 PM
5/10 MUHS at Burr & Burton.....	4 PM
5/11 MAV at Milton.....	11 AM

**Girls' Lacrosse**

5/3 MAV at Lyndon .....	4:30 PM
5/4 MUHS at Essex .....	4 PM
5/7 MUHS at Mt. Mansfield.....	4:30 PM
5/8 Burlington at MAV.....	4:30 PM
5/9 MUHS at Colchester .....	4:30 PM
5/11 Milton at MAV.....	11 AM

**Girls' Tennis**

5/3 MUHS at Harwood.....	3:30 PM
5/6 Montpelier at MUHS.....	3:30 PM
5/8 N. Country at MUHS.....	3:30 PM
5/10 Mt Mansfield at MUHS .....	3:30 PM

**Boys' Tennis**

5/3 Burlington at MUHS.....	3:30 PM
5/6 MUHS at Essex .....	3:30 PM
5/8 MUHS at CVU .....	4:30 PM
5/10 MUHS at Mt Mansfield.....	3:30 PM

**Track & Field**

5/4 VUHS/Mt. Abe at S. Burlington .	1 PM
5/8 VUHS at Essex .....	3:30 PM
5/8 Mt. Abe at Milton.....	3:30 PM
5/8 MUHS at Mt Mansfield.....	3:30 PM
5/11 VUHS/Mt. Abe at BHS .....	9 AM

**Ultimate**

5/3 MUHS at Vt. Commons.....	4 PM
5/8 TBA at MUHS .....	4 PM
5/10 MUHS at Colchester.....	4 PM

**COLLEGE SPORTS**

**Baseball**

**NESCAC Quarterfinals (Best of 3)**

5/4 Trinity at Midd (2).....	Noon
5/5 Trinity at Midd (If Necessary)...	11 AM
5/10-12 ...Final Four Tournament at Tufts	

**Softball**

5/4 Hamilton at Midd (2).....	1 PM
5/10-12 .....NESCAC Tournament at Tufts	

**Women's Lacrosse**

**NESCAC Final Four at Midd**

5/4 #1 Midd vs #4 Colby.....	Noon
5/4 #2 Tufts vs #3 Wesleyan .....	3 PM
5/5 Final.....	1 PM

**Men's Lacrosse**

**NESCAC Final Four at Wesleyan**

5/4 #8 Hamilton vs #2 Wesleyan.....	Noon
5/4 #3 Bowdoin vs #4 Midd .....	3 PM
5/5 Final.....	Noon

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.

(Continued from Page 1B)

picked up a ground ball at midfield and netted a breakaway goal 2:35 into the second half, but the Tigers scored the next three goals, giving them a 12-2 lead and triggering the 10-goal running time mercy rule.

Those three goals came from sophomore middle Lia Calzini dodging through traffic, Ada Weaber converting a clever cross-crease pass from Livesay, and Livesay curling from behind the net at 6:30.

Green Knight Sophia Clough momentarily stopped the clock with a strong solo run at 1:58 of the third period, but Livesay's spinning finish of a Schneider assist completed her hat trick and got the clock's digits moving again.

In the fourth quarter, Livesay set up Connors's fourth goal, and Eden Roberts tossed in her second goal for Rice.

Both goalies, Blackwell and Wagner, played well, each finishing with 11 saves. The Tiger defense of senior Lily Finn and juniors Lila Cook Yoder and Georgie Kiel played a solid game, especially considering that Coach Weaber said the team is experimenting with zone and man-to-man looks.

## MUHS girls' tennis avenges 2023 setbacks, tames Falcons

**By ANDY KIRKALDY**

NEWPORT — The Middlebury Union High School girls' tennis team on Monday defeated host North Country, improving to 2-0 on the season in the process.

The Tigers were set to host Rice on Wednesday after the deadline for this edition and will visit Harwood this Friday.

Coach Dan Comar noted the Tiger girls lost twice to North Country a year ago, and said he saw "nice progress in second- and third-year players moving up the ranks" — notably Sophia Boise and Piper Farnsworth, as well as senior Caroline Nicolai.

Comar also pointed out both doubles had "solid, close wins to cement the 5-2 win."

The results in individual matches were:

## Tiger boys' tennis remains on a roll, eases past Wolves

**By ANDY KIRKALDY**

MIDDLEBURY — The Middlebury Union High School boys' tennis team on Monday remained undefeated by besting visiting South Burlington, 6-1.

The 5-0 Tigers were scheduled to visit Rice on Wednesday and are set to host defending state champion Burlington on Friday at 3:30 p.m.

In individual matches on Monday vs. South Burlington, the scores were:

#1 Singles: Jackson Murray (MUHS) defeated Yuyan Zhang (SB), 6-0, 6-1.

#2 Singles: Kellan Bartlett (MUHS) defeated Mateo Duracak

"The defense is doing well. We challenged them this year, teaching them two or three different types of defense, and they've really risen to the occasion. We were switching around a bit today, kind of spreading our wings a little bit and seeing what we could do," Weaber said.

Weaber added that an overall focus for the team will be the basics. During the game on Monday, some of the team's play was uneven, probably due as much to its limited outdoor practice time this spring as its youth.

There are always fundamentals that have to be worked on," Weaber said. "It's been a tough year with all the rain and getting the girls together."

The lack of full field practice time has slowed down the process of sorting out roles, he said.

"Right now it's just trying to get everybody to step into what they're strong point is," Weaber said.

There's consensus among the Tigers and their coaches on hopes for the spring, he said.

"We've set a goal to really improve our record over the last couple years, and they're pretty focused on that," Weaber said. "And we're trying to build a

At No. 1 singles, Jade Francis, NC, defeated Audrey Carpenter, MUHS, 6-1, 6-2.

At No. 2 singles, Cheska Adonis, NC, defeated Ryte Akraimaite, MUHS, 6-2, 6-0.

At No. 3 singles, Sophia Boise, MUHS, defeated Mya Auger, NC, 7-5, 6-2.

At No. 4 singles, Caroline Nicolai, MUHS, defeated Lily Beauvais, NC, 6-0, 6-1.

At No. 5 singles, Piper Farnsworth, MUHS, defeated Anisa Brasseur, NC, 6-4, 6-1.

At No. 1 doubles, Clara Chant/Subia Khan, MUHS, defeated Natasha Godfrey/Cassidy Burnett, NC, 6-3, 4-6 (10-3).

At No. 2 doubles, Amelia Coburn/Maryam Khan, MUHS, defeated Katie Larsen/Katlyn Spomer, NC, 6-4, 7-5.

(SB), 7-5, 7-6, 1-0 (7-3).

#3 Singles: Charles Young (MUHS) defeated Will Bradley (SB), 6-2, 6-2.

#4 Singles: Iver Anderson (MUHS) defeated Jules Butler (SB), 6-1, 6-1.

#5 Singles: Nate Cook Yoder (MUHS) defeated Omar Daoudi (SB), 6-1, 6-4.

#1 Doubles: Eddie Fallis & Milo Rees (MUHS) defeated Jay Eagle & James Bradley (South Burlington), 6-1, 6-1.

#2 Doubles: Nicolas Charlebois & Robin Hokenmaier (SB) defeated Eliot Heminway & Silas Taylor (MUHS), 6-4, 6-3.



SOPHOMORE MIDDIE LIA Calzini whips in a goal during the Tiger girls' lacrosse team's win over Rice on Monday.

Independent photo/Steve James

## Tigers, Eagles win in boys' lax

**By ANDY KIRKALDY**

ADDISON COUNTY — The Middlebury Union boys' lacrosse team won three times, while the Mount Abraham-Vergennes cooperative team defeated Otter Valley to highlight recent high school action in the sport.

**TIGERS**

On April 25 the Division I Tigers defeated visiting D-II Harwood 16-9. Toby Draper sparked the Tiger offense with six goals and four assists, and Angus Blackwell and Logan McNulty each had hat tricks. Goalie Levi Nuceder made nine saves.

Emmett Lisai tossed in four goals for the Highlanders.

On April 27 the Tigers coasted at Woodstock, 15-6 as Draper tossed in another six goals and set up three

more. Jackson Gillett added three goals and two assists, McNulty scored two goals and set up one, and Nuceder made 13 saves. Tyler Eaton scored half of the Wasp goals.

On Monday Nuceder had a big day, making 19 saves as the Tigers won at St. Albans, 11-3. Draper (four goals) and McNulty (three goals, two assists) paced the offense.

The Tigers carried a 3-1 record into a home game against defending D-I champion South Burlington scheduled for Wednesday, after the deadline for this edition.

**OV AT MAV**

In a D-III game on April 29, host MAV had little trouble with the rebuilding OV squad in a 16-2 victory. Piling up points for the

Eagles were Andrew Nolan (five goals, assist), Noah Ladeau (four goals, two assists), Asa Pratt (three goals), Finley Kaeck (two goals, assist), Jack Senecal and Joe Sullivan (goal, assist each), and Jack Prouty (three assists). MAV goalies Walker Forand and Connor Nason combined for seven saves.

Caleb Brytowski scored both OV goals, and goalie Damon Wood made 12 saves as OV remained in search of its first positive result.

**OTTERS**

On Saturday D-II contender Hartford coasted past the host Otters, 18-0. Ezra Mock and Thomas Thorburn led the 4-1 Hurricanes with four goals apiece as OV fell to 0-3.

## MAV girls' lax nets two triumphs

**By ANDY KIRKALDY**

VERGENNES — The Mount Abraham-Vergennes cooperative girls' lacrosse team moved over .500 with a pair of home victories earlier this week.

The Commodores look to improve on their 4-2 record when they visit Lyndon on Friday and host Burlington this coming Wednesday. MAV's Saturday, April 27, game at St. Albans was postponed.

On this past Monday, MAV

outlasted visiting Green Mountain Valley, 14-11, as Anna Stillwell poured in five goals and set up two more. Nell Harvey (assist) and Annie Dufault notched three goals apiece, June Yates-Rusch scored twice, and Ruby Hellier added one goal. MAV goalie Carley Cook made nine saves.

Harper Travis tossed in five goals to lead the Gumbies, and two GMVS goalies combined for 12 saves.

On Tuesday, MAV thumped

Lamoille, 20-2, as 10 Commodores scored. Annie Dufault (four goals, assist), Meredith Dufault (three goals, assist) and Thompson Davis (three goals) led the MAV assault.

Safoura Camara, Scout Jacobsen and Yates-Rusch scored two goals apiece; Stillwell added a goal and three assists; Harvey, Siena Stanley and Ila Crowley chipped in a goal apiece; and Esme Visco-Lyons and Hellier added assists. Cook made 10 saves.

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<p><b>May 1, 5:00pm – 7:00 pm</b> Delta Hotel, 1117 Williston Rd, South Burlington, VT</p>	<p style="font-weight: bold; color: #003366;">Refreshments will be served.</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; color: #003366;">Please RSVP at <a href="http://www.velco.com/vlrtp">www.velco.com/vlrtp</a> or 802-770-6381</p>
<p><b>May 2, 12:00pm – 2:00pm</b> Virtual Meeting – Registration required</p>	
<p><b>May 14, 12:00pm – 2:00pm</b> Rutland Free Library, 10 Court St, Rutland, VT</p>	
<p><b>May 15, 5:00pm – 7:00pm</b> St. Albans Town Office, 398 Georgia Shore Road, St. Albans, VT</p>	



TIGER SENIOR CATCHER Sienna Rubright watches a pitch from senior pitcher Emma Deering zip into her mitt during Saturday's home game vs. Colchester.

Independent photo/Steve James



TIGER SOPHOMORE SHORTSTOP Ireland Hanley takes a throw at second base during Saturday's home game vs. Colchester, but it's too late to nab a Laker runner.

Independent photo/Steve James

## Softball

(Continued from Page 1B) for it, and she's just good," Hanley said. "Another day we get a few hits, but she's good."

Against another team, a couple of balls also might have fallen or found their way through the defense.

"They're a solid team, through and through, all the way through the lineup, all the way through defensively," Hanley said.

Certainly, given it was an opener after weeks of indoor practicing, Hanley was pleased with his defense. Only one Laker run was unearned, while sophomore shortstop Ireland Hanley shone, Dame and left fielder Izzy Wilbur made nice catches, and third baseman Meredith Cameron and Whitney at second base, both juniors, made plays.

"Our defense was solid," Hanley said.

Colchester took a 2-0 lead in the first inning on a walk to Alaina Cheeseman, followed by Madison Booska's RBI triple, and Boyer's RBI single.

The Lakers made it 3-0 in the fifth with an unearned run. Two one-out errors and a walk loaded the bases, and Cheeseman scored on Boyer's groundout to Hanley before Deering worked out of trouble by inducing a flyout to center.

Then came the seventh, when the Lakers came out swinging. The top of their order knocked out four straight hits off Deering, and then four of the next five batters greeted Whitney with hits, and the other walked.

Booska capped a big day at the plate with an RBI double to make it 12-0 before Hanley, who moved to second base with Deering taking over at short when she left the mound, made a couple plays to end the inning.

Leading the Colchester attack on Saturday were Booska (3-for-4, two doubles and a triple, two runs, four RBIs), Lily Wagoner (two hits, run, RBI), Lillian Robinson (two hits, two RBIs) and Cheeseman (two hits, three runs).

Through six innings, Deering allowed just two earned runs on five hits and two walks, but the seventh pushed her final line to six earned runs on nine hits and two strikeouts.

Monday's win over Champlain Valley brought more encouraging pitching. Whitney tossed what Coach Hanley called "five solid innings," allowing the two Redhawk runs. Deering came on to nail down the win with two scoreless innings. She walked a batter with one out in the ninth, but retired two hitters on grounders back to the mound and



TIGER SENIOR HURLER Emma Deering kept D-I title contender Colchester in check for most of the game on Saturday, but the Lakers erupted late to seal their victory.

Independent photo/Steve James

the other on a strikeout to earn the save.

The Tigers were limited to three hits — by Cameron, Whitney and Rubright — but took the lead with two runs on wild pitches and were never headed.

They picked up single runs in each of two middle innings, one on another passed ball, and another when Rubright tripled and Cameron singled. Overall, Hanley said the game featured

good defense on both sides.

Despite Saturday's tough setback, Hanley said he was not concerned about how his team, a D-II finalist in 2023 that returns most of its key personnel, would fare this season. He pointed to Deering's strong pitching that day as well as the sound defense.

"With that defense we put out there today, and we start hitting next week, we're going to be very dangerous," he said.



MUHS JUNIOR LILY Dame bursts out of the batter's box after making contact during Saturday's home game vs. Colchester.

Independent photo/Steve James

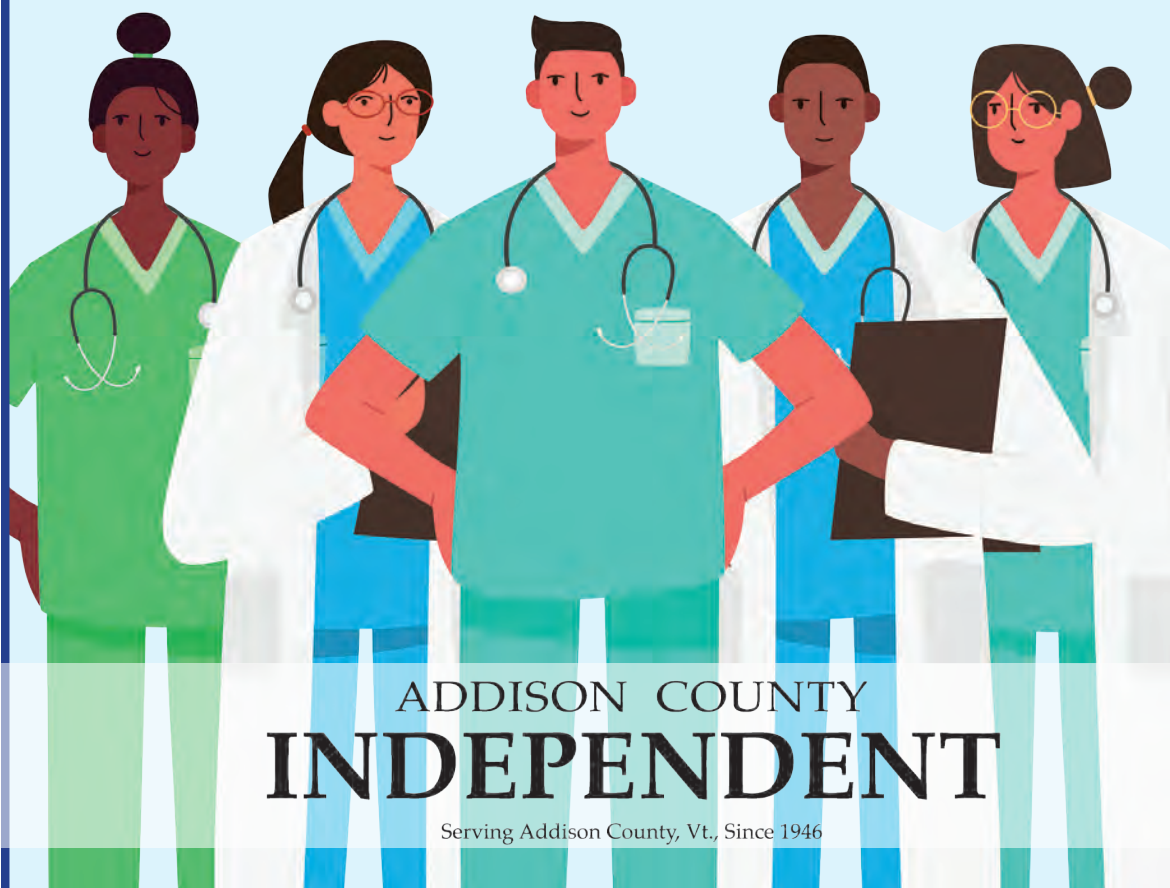
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## H.S. softball: Eagles, Otters are earning early victories

By ANDY KIRKALDY

ADDISON COUNTY — In recent high school softball action Mount Abraham took two out of three, losing only to a Division I title contender, while Otter Valley won twice on the road.

Middlebury hosted Colchester and CVU; see story on Page 1B.

The Vergennes softball team was idle; the Commodores' Tuesday game at Peoples was called off.

### EAGLES

The Eagles moved to 3-1 by winning twice in three outings.

On April 25 the Eagles bested visiting North Country, 13-4. Madelyn Hayden (three hits), Morgan Larocque (double, single), Joanna Toy and Elise Parker (two RBIs each), and Brooklyn Ryersbach (RBI double) were among the Eagles' productive hitters. Gretchen Toy tossed the complete-game win, allowing 11 hits and two earned runs, walking none and striking out eight.

On Saturday Division I power Missisquoi topped the visiting Eagles, 3-0. T-Bird hurler Molly Medor tossed a complete-game three-hitter, fanning 15 and walking four. She outdueled Toy, who went the distance and allowed two earned runs on seven hits and three walks, whiffing two batters.

On Tuesday the Eagles outslugged visiting Spaulding, 21-9. Ryersbach led the Eagle

assault with three hits, including a homer, and six RBIs.

Also contributing were Heath (triple, single, four RBIs), Morgan Larocque (two hits, three RBIs), Genevieve Forand (three hits, two RBIs), Jo Toy (two doubles, two RBIs) and Abba Parker and Gretchen Toy (two hits apiece).

### OTTERS

The Otters improved to 3-1 with their pair of victories.

On April 25 the Otters coasted at Rutland, 11-2, as pitcher Sierra Cormany tossed a four-hitter, fanning seven and walking none.

OV broke a 1-1 tie in the third inning with three runs, when Rutland made three errors, and Ady Humiston and Hannah Desabrais poked singles.

The Otters put the game out of Rutland's reach with two runs in the fourth and four runs in the fifth. In the fifth, hits by Sophia Parker, Humiston, Leann Thomas and Desabrais fueled the rally.

Humiston, Desabrais, Thomas and Kaylee Maloy had multi-hit games for OV. Rutland (1-2) got two hits from Makenzie Davis.

On Saturday OV doubled up Fair Haven, 6-3. Leann Thomas tossed a complete-game two-hitter for the Otters, striking out eight. Humiston doubled twice to lead the OV offense.

The Otters' Tuesday game at Bellows Falls was postponed.

# community calendar

## Leicester

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

### NEWS

LEICESTER — Town Clerk Julie Delphia reminds dog owners of the need to register dogs. Cost information is available on the town website. To avoid penalties and fees, be sure to register your dog(s) before the dog census is scheduled.

Green Up Day is May 4. Green Up bags are available at the Town Office. As usual, a free volunteer luncheon for workers will be held at the Senior Center from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. that day. Lunch tickets, available at the Town Shed, 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 a choice of Leicester cap or visor. The state of Vermont is attempting to achieve a Guinness World Book record by gathering at least 5,000 pledges to help clean up trash that weekend. You can sign up at the Town Office to be part of the effort. For more information, or to volunteer to clean a particular road segment, contact Diane Benware at 247-3786.

Leicester Historical Society is sponsoring Prize Bingo on Sat., May 11, at 1 p.m., at the Senior Center. All are welcome and refreshments served. Funds raised help with maintenance of the historic buildings at the Four Corners.

## 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](mailto: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](http://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.



## Thursdays on the TAM

FOR THOSE WHO missed the first Thursday on the TAM, Middlebury Area Land Trust will be holding two more sessions on Thursday, May 16, at 8:30 a.m., at the Route 23/Weybridge Road trailhead and on Thursday, May 30, at 8:30 a.m., at Wright Park off Seymour St. in Middlebury. Help MALT clean up the trails in advance of the busy summer season and enjoy a little forest bathing, coffee and doughnuts at the same time. See print or online calendar for more details.

Photo courtesy of MALT

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](http://townhalltheater.org). More info contact David Rose at 802-343-1475.

**Spaghetti dinner and silent auction in Monkton.** Saturday, May 4, 5-7 p.m., Monkton Central School, 1036 Monkton Rd. Support Monkton Boy Scout troops 525 and 802. Menu includes spaghetti with homemade sauces, salad and baked breads. Vegetarian is available. Coffee and beverages also served, with tasty dessert. Silent auction open to public and payable with cash or check. Auction closes at 6:30 p.m. Tickets \$10 adults/\$5 children under 12. More info call George Parker at 802-453-5282.

## may 5 SUNDAY

**Sunday breakfast in Middlebury.** Sunday, May 5, 8-10 a.m., VFW, 530 Exchange St. Menu includes pancakes, sausage gravy/biscuits, bacon, hash, sausage, hash browns, eggs to order, scrambled eggs, toast, coffee and orange juice. Adults \$12/children \$6. Open to the public. Proceeds benefit veterans programs.

**"For the Good of the King's Service" in Ticonderoga, N.Y.** Sunday, May 5, Fort Ticonderoga. See May 4 listing.

**River Watch restoration planting in Bridport.** Sunday, May 5, 9 a.m., Longcloud Sheep Farm. See May 3 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 dying, sports, bean boozled and more will take place behind Chellis House. More info at and register at [sistersister@middlebury.edu](mailto:sistersister@middlebury.edu). Register at [go.middlebury.edu/sib2sib](http://go.middlebury.edu/sib2sib).

**Photo scanning day in Monkton.** Sunday, May 5, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Monkton Town Hall, 92 Monkton Ridge. Current residents will inform Monkton historians of the future. Bring up to six photos to Scanning Day for Monkton Historical Society 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. Form available at [tinyurl.com/MMHC-photo-scan](http://tinyurl.com/MMHC-photo-scan) or email [laurenparren@gmail.com](mailto:laurenparren@gmail.com).

## may 7 TUESDAY

**Bridport Comes Together meeting in Bridport.** Tuesday, May 7, 4:30-8:30 p.m., Bridport Community Hall, Fire Dept., and Congregational Church. The Bridport community is invited to discuss opportunities and ideas to work together toward a more connected and stronger community. Start with everyone splitting into two simultaneous discussion forums, then come together for dinner at the fire station, then split again for two more simultaneous forums. Enjoy live Bluegrass and a free community dinner catered by Pratt's Store. Topics for discussion include infrastructure, community connections, recreation and tourism, and businesses and services. Find out more at [bit.ly/BridportTogether](http://bit.ly/BridportTogether).

**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](http://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.

## may 11 SATURDAY

**Clean out the Closet sale in Vergennes.** Saturday, May 11, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., St. Peter's Parish Hall, 85 S. Maple St. St. Peter's Resale Closet Shop is doing some spring cleaning. Sale will include clothing (men, women, children), houseware goods, books, puzzles and toys. Prices by donation. All proceeds go to our community partners.

**Green Mountain Folklore Society spring meeting in Middlebury.** Saturday, May 11, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., "LOCATION CHANGE" Champlain Valley Unitarian Universalist Society, 2 Duane Ct. Social hour, meeting, gab fest, lunch, and program. A visit to the Henry Sheldon Museum will follow lunch. More info and to reserve lunch (\$10), contact Laurie Jordan at [greenmountainfolkloresociety3lj@aol.com](mailto:greenmountainfolkloresociety3lj@aol.com) or 802-879-6467 by May 5. Please park in MUHS parking lot.

**Music with Anna in Orwell.** Saturday, May 11, 10 a.m., Orwell Free Library, 473 Main St. Immerse your little ones (ages 3-6) in the joy of music with early childhood music educator Anna Laufenberg. Through hands-on instrument exploration, interactive sing-alongs, and creative movement, cultivate a love for music while fostering creativity. Free.

**Henry Sheldon Museum season opening in Middlebury.** Saturday, May 11, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Henry Sheldon Museum, 1 Park St. New exhibits for the year are "Patent Pending: Ingenuity and Innovation in Vermont" and "Model Boats: The Craftsmanship of Jerry DeGraff." Back by popular demand with additional dresses and accessories from the Sheldon's collection is the exhibit "From Homespun to Couture: Fashion in Historic Middlebury." For more information visit [henrysheldonmuseum.org/exhibits](http://henrysheldonmuseum.org/exhibits) or call 802-388-2117.

**Prize Bingo in Leicester.** Saturday, May 11, 1 p.m., Leicester Four Corners. Leicester Historical Society invites all. Refreshments served. Funds raised help with maintenance of the historic buildings at the Four Corners.

CALENDAR ONLINE  
[addisonindependent.com](http://addisonindependent.com)

## 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.

**River Watch restoration planting in Bridport.** Friday, May 3, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Come help Addison County River Watch and Longcloud Sheep Farm plant trees along Potash Brook, a tributary of Dead Creek. We will be establishing a riparian buffer that will filter nutrients, reduce erosion, and improve wildlife habitat. The project that will also create shelter for the farm's sheep. More info and directions contact Matthew Witten at 802-434-3236 or [arcwcvt@gmail.com](mailto:arcwcvt@gmail.com). Planting repeats Sunday, May 5.

## may 4 SATURDAY

**Green Up Day in your town and across Vermont.** Details at [greenupvermont.org](http://greenupvermont.org).

**"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 [fortticonderoga.org](http://fortticonderoga.org). Continues Sunday, May 5.

**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.

**Vermont Old Cemetery Association spring meeting in Vergennes.** Saturday, May 4, 9 a.m.-noon, St. Peter's Parish Hall, 85 S. Maple St. Coffee hour from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m., meeting starts at 10 a.m., lunch at noon. Guest speaker will be State Rep. Anne Donahue, who will be speaking on her work with the abandoned Waterbury State Hospital Cemetery and her documentation of the people buried on the grounds.

**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.

**Educator idea fair in Ferrisburgh.** Saturday, May 4, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, 4472 Basin Harbor Rd. Classroom teachers, homeschool educators, and anyone involved in ecology and education are invited to mingle and discuss ideas on the environment and Lake Champlain and other topics of interest with peers from local schools and organizations.

**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

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## Reader Comments

**Here's what one reader has to say about us!**

A subscriber writes:

"Love the paper, informative, with just the right balance of state and local news."

Quotes are taken from reader comments submitted with subscription renewals.

**ADDISON COUNTY  
INDEPENDENT**



# Ferrisburgh

Have a news tip?  
Email Sally Kerschner at [smwkersch@comcast.net](mailto:smwkersch@comcast.net)

## NEWS

**FERRISBURGH** — Ferrisburgh Green Up Day is this Saturday, May 4. Green-Up bags are available at the Town Clerk's office during regular business hours. Green-Up Co-coordinators, Deb Healey and Kate Rowland, will also deliver bags and tie them to your mailbox - call 802-475-2944 or 802-989-1833. Bags will also be available on Green-Up Day at the Ferrisburgh Central School from 9-10 a.m. Bag drop off is from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. on May 4 across from the town garage on Little Chicago Road. Again, this year Andy Husk of Vermont Waste Management has generously offered to collect and deliver the Green-Up bags to the Transfer Station.

Remember, this event is for roadside trash only. If you discover tires dumped on the roadside, call the town garage with the location and description. The location of any roadside dump sites or an excessive number of tires should be reported to the Sheriff. Thanks for your continued participation in this wonderful community and statewide event. Be careful to wear gloves, avoid poison parsnip, and check for ticks when you get home.

Lake Champlain Maritime Museum will hold an Educator Idea Fair on Saturday, May 4, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Classroom teachers, homeschool educators, and anyone involved in ecology and education are invited to mingle and discuss ideas on the environment and Lake Champlain and other topics of interest with peers from local schools and organizations.

The Lake Champlain Maritime Museum will open for the season on Saturday, May 18. Visit [www.lcm.org](http://www.lcm.org) for details on the special activities planned for this day. Admission to the Museum is free for all visitors. At 1 p.m. on May 18, noted author Jack Kelly will discuss new perspectives on Benedict Arnold in his presentation, "God Save Benedict Arnold: The True Story of America's Most Hated Man."

The Ferrisburgh Union Meeting Hall will hold its annual Taste of Summer gathering on Sunday, June 2 from 11 a.m.-6 p.m. The FUMH Planning Committee is seeking farmers, makers, artists and bakers to join the Vendor Market for this event. This popular event features live music, food and fun for all ages. For more information about participation, email to [lab@ibevlocal300.org](mailto:lab@ibevlocal300.org) for details.

The Bixby Library will host poet Shanta Lee Gander, who will discuss Vermont's Lucy Terry Prince in her presentation "Lucy Terry Prince: Witness, Voice, and Poetics within the American Tradition." Gander is the 2020 recipient of the Arthur Williams Award for Meritorious Service to the Arts and was named as Diode Editions' full-length book contest winner for her debut compilation, **GHETTOCLAUSTROPHOBIA: Dreamin of Mama While Trying to Speak in Woke Tongues**. This free event, sponsored by the Vermont Humanities Council, will be on Wednesday, May 8, at 2 p.m.

On Friday, May 31, from 7-11 p.m., Bixby Library will hold its annual fundraiser — this year called the Celestial Soirée Fundraiser. This promises to be a night to remember under the storied stained-glass dome

in Bixby's magnificent marble rotunda. Tickets include live music and dancing with The Grift, a welcome drink and cash bar, local gourmet eats, and a curated live, silent, and online auction items and experiences.

Rokeby Museum opens for the 2024 season on Saturday, May 25. Visitors are welcome to attend the Rokeby History Site Tours at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Additionally, "Music with the Museum" will be held on Thursday, May 3 at 6 p.m., at the Ferrisburgh Town Hall and Community Center on Route 7. This will be an even of food, music with the group, The Meat Packers, and a silent auction to benefit Rokeby's educational programming.

Ferrisburgh Grange "King Pede" card parties are scheduled for the Saturdays of May 11 and 25. These fun get-togethers are held at the Ferrisburgh Town Hall and Community Center. The evening begins at 6:30 p.m. with a sandwich supper and then on to the games! King Pede involves "trick-taking" such as in Hearts and Spades or Pitch. This is a game of skill so come prepared to use your strategic thinking.

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



## PE guru

**JUSTIN MARTELLE**, MUMS Physical Education teacher, was awarded the Middle School PE Teacher of the Year by SHAPE Vermont! SHAPE, the Society of Health and Physical Education, presents this annual award in recognition of outstanding teaching in middle school physical education. With Martelle at the ceremony in Killington is his colleague, Izzy Gogarty.

Photo courtesy of ACSD

# CSAC looking for board members

**MIDDLEBURY** — The Counseling Service of Addison County seeks four community members to join its board. The organization is recruiting individuals who are passionate about CSAC's mission to help people live emotionally healthy and satisfying lives, and share in its values of empathy, dignity and collaboration.

Because CSAC is committed to dismantling institutionalized racism and seeking justice for historically disadvantaged groups, board members are also asked to be willing to deepen their understanding of these issues and assist with re-evaluating the organization's practices accordingly.

CSAC welcomes applications from any community member whose experience complements

its mission. In particular, it is seeking community members who have personal, professional, and/or volunteer experience in these areas: the legal field, fundraising, and healthcare expertise (first responders, health finance, healthcare providers).

Even if you do not have experience in these particular areas, consider applying with any experience you feel will complement CSAC'S mission.

CSAC has a fund to support board members whose personal finances might otherwise present a barrier to their participation. Lost wages and expenses incurred during board service, such as childcare and transportation, may be reimbursed.

CSAC is accepting applications through May 24. Residents of Vergennes, Bristol and their

surrounding towns are strongly encouraged to apply.

To learn more about CSAC, the board's role, and how to apply, visit [bit.ly/32jzb0s](http://bit.ly/32jzb0s).

To apply, please send a letter of interest to CSAC ATTN: Jennifer Staats, 89 Main St., Middlebury, VT 05753 or email: [csac\\_board@csac-vt.org](mailto:csac_board@csac-vt.org). In your letter, please say why you would like to serve on CSAC's Board of Directors and how you would bring your knowledge, lived experiences, skills, and attributes to bear on the work of the organization.

If you have a resume, you are welcome to submit it, as well, though a resume is not required. If writing a letter of interest presents a barrier for your candidacy, CSAC is happy to make alternative arrangements; call 802-388-0302, extension 442.

# STUDENTS OF THE WEEK FROM AREA HIGH SCHOOLS

## Mount Abraham Union High School

### Helen Engvall

Mt. Abraham Union High School has chosen Helen Engvall as its student of the week. Helen lives in Bristol with their mom, dad and older brother, Noah. Helen has earned high and highest academic and habits of work honors every semester of high school. They shared that one of their favorite things about Mt. Abe is the amount of support they have received from teachers throughout the years, especially their English teachers. Helen specifically identified their advisor, Ms. Mayo, as a favorite teacher, describing her as a good listener, who makes advisory feel safe and fun. Helen also highlights Ms. Mayo as having the best sense of humor.

Helen participates in a wide range of extracurricular activities. In the fall, they were a member of the volleyball club team and this spring they were on the set-moving crew for "The Addams Family" musical. In addition, Helen works on the Youth Advisory Board at Atria Collective and is a member of the community committee. In this role, they work to inform others about domestic and sexual violence prevention through newsletters, social media and events. This summer Helen will work as a camp counselor through the Bristol Recreation Department. They also plan to volunteer as a stage manager for Shakespeare in the Park with the Bristol Gateway Players. In Helen's free time, they enjoy reading, making art, snowboarding, watching motorsports and spending time outside with friends, family and their pets.

When Helen was asked about their high school experience, they shared, "The most important lesson I've learned — and am still learning — during my time at Mt. Abe is that the most valuable person in your life is yourself. Be confident, and try that new experience that may feel impossible. Don't worry about the possibility of what others may think of you, and you'll find that you're a happier person for it. Your life is yours, so don't let other people control it."

After graduation, Helen plans to attend Clark University in Worcester, Massachusetts, where they will be majoring in Psychology. The Mt. Abraham community wishes Helen all the best in their future endeavors.



Helen Engvall  
MAUHS

## Otter Valley Union High School

### Owen Thomas

Otter Valley Union Middle and High School's Student of the Week is Owen Thomas. Owen lives in Sudbury with his parents and brother.

Owen has enjoyed his years at Otter Valley. He says he has made many friends and received lots of support from teachers. He particularly likes Math. His favorite teacher was Chas Hall. Owen always felt that Mr. Hall was the best advisor during his years at Otter Valley — he was always there for support or advice.

Owen played on the varsity soccer team for four years, the varsity basketball team for three years, and has been a peer mentor while at Otter Valley. He made the All-State soccer team twice and Southern Vermont League team twice, and was named the *Rutland Herald* soccer player of the year during his junior year. Owen was the varsity team soccer captain his junior and senior year and varsity basketball team captain during his senior year.

Owen is currently working at Black Diamond Builders. He has been there since he was 15 years old. He has also volunteered in sports clinics for younger kids.

In addition to playing soccer and basketball, Owen loves to ride four wheelers, hang out with friends and travel.

An important lesson that Owen has learned is to not take anything for granted and to enjoy every moment because it doesn't last long.

Owen plans to attend Vermont Technical College in the fall, where he will study construction management. He hopes this will allow him to work with his family's business in more of a management position.



Owen Thomas  
OVUHS

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email: cmulliss@gmavt.net  
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Free in-home consultations!  
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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](http://vermontalanonlateen.org) for links and list of other meetings in the region. If you'd like to speak to an Al-Anon member, call our answering service (866-972-5266) and an Al-Anon member will call you back.

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

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

**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.

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

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

**Free**

**ADORABLE HEALTHY** English Bulldog pup available to go. [jaycoll908@gmail.com](mailto:jaycoll908@gmail.com)

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

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

**Help Wanted**

**Middlebury College**

**Nighttime Cook**

Join our Culinary Team as a Nighttime Cook!

The Grille at Middlebury College seeks a positive team player to join our crew.

The Nighttime Cook will prepare a variety of menu items using kitchen equipment like griddles, char broilers, fryers, and pizza ovens, following established guidelines.

They'll ensure timely, high-quality meal prep, maintain sanitation standards, and serve customers with courtesy.

Full-time with benefits, earn up to \$22.82/hr plus differentials for night and weekend shifts.

Apply now at: <https://appttrk.com/5196787> for a taste of excitement!

**Help Wanted**

**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 [d Bailey@addisoncountypcc.org](mailto:d Bailey@addisoncountypcc.org)

**Help Wanted**

**Help Wanted**

**AGWAY**

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. Weekends and Weekends a MUST. Up to 40 hours per week. Wage commensurate with experience.

Please send resumes to [info@middleburyagway.com](mailto:info@middleburyagway.com) or fill out an application at **Middlebury Agway**, 338 Exchange Street, Middlebury VT.

**Please no phone calls.**

**Middlebury Agway 338 Exchange St. - Middlebury, VT.**

**Help Wanted**

**Addison Housing Works**

AFFORDABLE HOMES, STRONG COMMUNITIES

**Facilities Manager**

Addison Housing Works Maintenance Division has an immediate opening for a full-time Facilities Manager for our Apartment Management Division & Manufactured Home Communities in Addison County. The Facilities Manager is responsible for day-to-day operations and communication of the maintenance team, create and assign work orders, routine and preventative maintenance, vendor coordination, inventory, and turnovers, manage routine and preventative maintenance schedule, including life safety equipment, On-board new maintenance technicians. Great Management and problem-solving skills, good customer service including appropriate communication about the status of maintenance requests to residents and property management team. Staff reports to our Director of Maintenance and would have oversight with support from the director of Maintenance the Maintenance team.

**Family Support Coordinator**

Addison Housing Works has an immediate opening for a full-time or part-time Family Support Coordinator (FSC) please note in your cover letter if you are applying full or part-time. This position works under the joint supervision of the Executive Director and Director of Property Management, in partnership with members of the Property Management team to connect residents—especially families at risk of eviction—with the supports and wraparound services they need to be successful in their homes. The FSC will take a proactive approach to engaging with assigned individuals, using empathy, tact, and professionalism to build trusting relationships that promote participation and result in participant access to long-term successful housing placement. The FSC will also assist in the implementation and maintenance of a case management system to allow accurate, real-time tracking and communication of progress to all critical internal team members and partners. Families and non-elderly individuals are the primary focus. Many participants will have a history of homelessness or other housing-related challenges. This is a direct Service role. See below for additional Job Qualifications preferred: BA in Social Work, Psychology, or another Human Services field or equivalent combination of education and experience preferred. Previous experience working with high-risk populations, and/or coordinating services is preferred. Knowledge of area resources and programs available to low-income individuals, including transportation, health services, and housing are strongly preferred. This is a direct Service role.

To apply and view more details including pay ranges, please visit our job postings on Indeed or visit the Careers Page on our Website <https://www.addisonhousingworks.org/careers.html>.

You may also send your cover letter & resume to: **PO Box 156, Vergennes, VT 05491 or [jobs@addisonhousingworks.org](mailto:jobs@addisonhousingworks.org).**

**ABOUT ADDISON HOUSING WORKS:**

AHW is Addison County's largest affordable housing provider with over 700 permanently affordable homes and growing a portfolio that includes apartments, single family homes and mobile homes. We are seeking dedicated team members in support of our mission to ensure every resident of Addison County has access to safe, quality, and an affordable place to call home.

**Help Wanted**

**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](http://lincolnvermont.org/job) for detailed position descriptions and information on how to apply.

**Help Wanted**

**DUPONT**

**AUTO & BODY**

4087 States Prison Hollow Rd.  
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[dupontauto7@gmail.com](mailto:dupontauto7@gmail.com)

DuPont Auto and Body located in Monkton Vermont, is looking to hire a full time mechanic to join our family owned business. We are looking for a candidate with 2-3 years mechanical experience who is familiar with general maintenance on vehicles such as oil changes, brakes, tire changes and Vermont state inspections.

**We Offer: Full time hours Monday-Friday: NO WEEKENDS: Paid Holidays**

If you are motivated, hard working and detail oriented call or email today!

**Help Wanted**

**Help Wanted**

**Help Wanted**

**Help Wanted**

**Help Wanted**

**Help Wanted**

**Help Wanted**

**Opportunities**

**Opportunities**

**Opportunities**

**Opportunities**

**Opportunities**

**Help Wanted**

**Help Wanted**

**Help Wanted**

**What does it take to make BIG change?**

**YOU.**

Nothing makes us happier than connecting a volunteer to the needs in our community

To learn more about volunteer opportunities across Addison County, reach out to Amy Hoekstra at: [amyh@unitedwayaddisoncounty.org](mailto:amyh@unitedwayaddisoncounty.org) or visit UWAC's online volunteer center at [www.unitedwayaddisoncounty.org/volunteer](http://www.unitedwayaddisoncounty.org/volunteer)

**United Way**  
United Way of Addison County

Addison Independent **CLASSIFIED ORDER FORM**

**ADDISON INDEPENDENT**  
58 Maple Street, Middlebury, VT 05753  
802-388-4944  
[addisonindependent.com](http://addisonindependent.com) • email: [classifieds@addisonindependent.com](mailto:classifieds@addisonindependent.com)

Cash in on our 4-for-3 rates! Pay for 3 issues, get 4th issue free! An ad placed for consecutive issues runs the 4th time for free!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Or, submit your classified ad on our website: [addisonindependent.com](http://addisonindependent.com)

**DEADLINE: Monday at 5 p.m.**

**RATES**

- 25¢ per word • minimum \$2.50 per ad
- \$2 internet listing for up to 4 issues • minimum 2 insertions

- Special 4 for 3 rates not valid for the following categories: Services, Opportunities, Real Estate, Wood heat, Attn. Farmers, For Rent & Help Wanted
  - Notices  Work Wanted  Att. Farmers
  - Card of Thanks  Help Wanted  Motorcycles
  - Personals  For Sale  Cars
  - Services  Public Meetings\*\*  Trucks
  - Free\*\*  For Rent  SUVs
  - Lost 'N Found\*\*  Want to Rent  Snowmobiles
  - Garage Sales  Wood Heat  Boats
  - Lawn & Garden  Real Estate  Wanted
  - Opportunities  Animals  Real Estate Wanted
  - Adoption  Vacation Rentals
- \*\* no charge for these ads **Spotlight with large ✓ \$2**

**PLEASE PRINT YOUR AD...**

Number of words: \_\_\_\_\_  
Cost: \_\_\_\_\_  
# of runs: \_\_\_\_\_  
Spotlight Charge: \_\_\_\_\_  
Internet Listing: **\$2.00**  
TOTAL: \_\_\_\_\_

The Independent assumes no financial responsibility for errors in ads, but will rerun classified ad in which the error occurred. No refunds will be possible. Advertiser will please notify us of any errors which may occur after first publication.

# Addison Independent CLASSIFIEDS

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

Help Wanted



## Production Team Members

Vermont Soap is looking for attentive, reliable and responsible people to work in our production department.

This position requires basic computer skills, attention to detail, the ability to sit or stand for long periods of time and the ability to lift up to 50lbs. Must be a team player and also able to work independently.

This is a full time position (Mon-Fri 7-3:30) with paid vacation time, paid holidays, 401k with employer match, and more!

Please send cover letter and resume to [nichole@vermontsoap.com](mailto:nichole@vermontsoap.com).

Lawn and Garden

**GARDEN TILLING** large and small. Brush Hogging, lawn mowing. Reasonable rates. Contact Wayne 802-382-7465.

Vacation Rentals

**ADDISON: LAKE CHAMPLAIN** waterfront camp. Beautiful views, gorgeous sunsets, private beach, dock, rowboat and canoe included. \$999. weekly, or call for weekends. 802-349-4212, no texts.

Help Wanted

For Rent

**5,000 SQUARE FEET** available. Exchange Street, Middlebury, VT. 802-349-8544.

**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.

**LIGHT INDUSTRIAL/RETAIL.** 1,250 sq.ft. Exchange Street, Middlebury. 802-388-4831.

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

For Rent

For Rent



## Town of Middlebury Assistant Zoning Administrator/DRB Coordinator

The Town of Middlebury's Planning & Zoning office seeks a full-time Assistant Zoning Administrator/DRB Hearing Coordinator to perform a variety of local permitting and DRB review process duties.

Experience with knowledge of building and construction practices, Microsoft Office Suite, and ArcGIS skills are preferred. A detailed job description for the position is available on the Town's website, [www.townofmiddlebury.org](http://www.townofmiddlebury.org).

The role includes a competitive compensation and benefits package.

Please submit a letter of interest and resume to: Town of Middlebury, Attn: Jennifer Murray, Director of Planning & Zoning, Town Offices, 77 Main Street, Middlebury, Vermont 05753, or e-mail to [jmurray@townofmiddlebury.org](mailto:jmurray@townofmiddlebury.org). Position open until filled.

The Town of Middlebury is an Equal Opportunity Employer

**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.

**MIDDLEBURY, OFF CAMPUS HOUSING** available. 802-388-4831, AJ Neri Property Rentals.

**VERGENNES VALLEY VIEW APARTMENTS** is currently taking wait list applications. Occupants must be 62+ years of age. No smoking/No pets. Income limits apply - Rent based on income. Equal Housing Opportunity. 802-247-0165 TTY: 800-253-0191 [www.SummitPMG.com](http://www.SummitPMG.com).

**VERGENNES WILLOW APARTMENTS** is currently taking waitlist applications for 1 and 2 bedroom apartments. No smoking/no pets. Income limits apply- Rent rate based on income. Equal Housing Opportunity 802-247-0165 TTY: 800-253-0191. [www.SummitPMG.com](http://www.SummitPMG.com).

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 [svdmiller@icloud.com](mailto:svdmiller@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.

## MIDDLEBURY NEW FILMMAKERS FESTIVAL

The Middlebury New Filmmakers Festival [MNFF], celebrating its 10<sup>th</sup> 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.

Please e-mail a letter of application, resume, and the names of three references with their contact information to [elizabeth@midfilmfest.org](mailto:elizabeth@midfilmfest.org) by **May 31, 2024**. The MNFF is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate based on race, color, sex, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, genetic information, pregnancy, veteran status, or any other protected characteristic as outlined by federal, state, or local laws.

For a more complete job description, salary range and a full list of duties, please visit <https://midfilmfest.org/employment-opportunities/>



## Addison County Parent/Child Center

### Join the Parent/Child Center Team CHILDCARE WORKER/PARENT EDUCATOR

**Childcare Staff Position:** We are seeking a childcare worker who will work with children and parents in our therapeutic program. This is a full-time position with generous benefits. We are a therapeutic childcare program that supports children birth through 5 and their families.

**Strong candidates** must have knowledge of **child development, family systems**, excellent communication skills, and want to work with young families. Flexibility and collaboration are a must. Experience with children and families wanted: a minimum of a Bachelor's degree preferred.

Please send a resume and cover letter, along with 3 references to [Donna Bailey at dbailey@addisoncountypcc.org](mailto:Donna.Bailey@addisoncountypcc.org)

For Rent

For Rent

For Rent

For Rent

## FOR RENT

RELAX AT LAKE DUNMORE



This newly renovated **4-season cottage** has availability for graduation, Memorial Day and a few weeks still open this summer. Bright, spacious and private with a huge deck, views and terraced gardens, this **3 bedroom, 2 bath** home comes with two 2-person kayaks. Email [lisagskis@yahoo.com](mailto:lisagskis@yahoo.com) for direct pricing discounts.

Full listing and availability: [AIRBNB.COM](http://AIRBNB.COM)  
Search "Beautiful Lake Dunmore Ski Chalet / Cottage"

For Sale

For Sale

For Sale

For Sale

2012 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE • \$6,000 OBO

# YOUR NEXT RIDE!

Well maintained, black leather seats and interior are in excellent shape. New brakes, studded snow tires, 4WD, sunroof, heated seats, etc. Just over 150,000 miles. Single owner (who bought a newer model).

**2012 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE LIMITED**

MAKE AN OFFER!



CALL TODAY! 802-349-7069

## 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:

- A passion and drive to help local businesses pursue effective marketing and advertising platforms.
- A tenacious drive to support and grow sales.
- An outgoing personality eager to meet and help develop effective marketing plans for area businesses.
- Excellent communication skills and comfort conducting business over email, phone, and in person.
- 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](mailto:christy@addisonindependent.com)

ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT  
erving Addison County, VT, since 1966

Learn more about us at [addisonindependent.com](http://addisonindependent.com)



### Part-Time Office Assistant

WowToyz, a successful and established manufacturer of high-quality, educational toys for over 30 years, is looking for a motivated individual to be part of our growing company! The successful candidate must be dependable, eager to learn new processes, and willing to jump in when a need is observed. This is a position for a detail-oriented team player with confidence, energy, and great organizational and communication skills.

Retirees are welcome and encouraged to apply! We offer flexible work schedules and competitive wages.

#### RESPONSIBILITIES

Enter purchase orders into our proprietary computer software system  
Answer phone, transfer calls, and assist with customer service  
Friendly, professional, and service-focused positive attitude

#### SKILLS & REQUIREMENTS

Ability to organize and prioritize tasks with minimal supervision  
Ability to communicate and collaborate effectively with all levels of the organization  
Analytical abilities and aptitude in problem-solving  
Experience in Microsoft Office Suite or data entry software is beneficial but not a requirement

### Part-Time Warehouse

WowToyz in Vergennes is seeking part-time help for the morning shift in our warehouse, picking and packing orders and unloading trucks. Ideal candidates are organized, dependable, and able to work 20-30 hours/week, Mon-Fri. **Retirees are welcome and encouraged to apply!** We offer flexible work schedules and competitive wages.

Proof of COVID-19 vaccinations required for all employees

To apply email contact information and work history to: [resumes@wowtoyz.com](mailto:resumes@wowtoyz.com)

# Police respond to person standing on the train tracks

MIDDLEBURY — Middlebury police on April 22 investigated a report of a person standing on the train tracks off Elm and Seymour streets, blocking train travel. Police said the person in question had left upon their arrival.

## Middlebury Police Log

In other action last week, Middlebury police:

- Took into protective custody a drunken man found in the Bakery Lane area at around 8:15 p.m. on April 22. Police said they took the man to receive detox services in Rutland.
- Warned a person who was carrying an open container of alcohol on Bakery Lane on April 22.
- Arrested Timothy Farr, 70, of Middlebury on an outstanding parole-related warrant, in the Mary Hogan Drive area on April 22.
- Arrested Brandy Wills, 40, on four outstanding warrants in the Court Street area on April 22.
- Were informed on April 22 that a porta potty was missing from its Creek Road location.
- Investigated a report of an unresponsive man behind the Ilsley Library on April 22. Police said the man was taken to Porter Hospital.
- Received a report that someone had rummaged through two unlocked vehicles parked off Court Street on April 22.
- Assisted Middlebury Regional EMS (MREMS) with a suicidal person on Route 7 on April 22.
- Logged a report on April 23 about people in a red SUV allegedly shooting airsoft guns at pedestrians

on College Street.

- On April 23, warned a person who had allegedly been exhibiting "harassing behavior" in the South Village Green neighborhood.
- Received a complaint about a person who had allegedly been bothering customers at a Main Street business on April 23.
- Escorted a beaver out of harm's way at the intersection of Main and Cross streets on April 23.
- Assisted MREMS on an emergency call to a North Pleasant Street address on April 24.
- Helped a Route 7 South business that had been victimized by online fraud on April 24.
- Assisted Porter Hospital Emergency Department staff with an out-of-control patient on April 24.
- Gave a courtesy ride to an elderly patient who had been discharged from Porter Hospital on April 24.
- Assisted MREMS on an emergency call to the Washington Street area on April 24.
- Caught a loose dog in the East Main Street area and took it to Homeward Bound on April 25.
- Responded to a noise complaint in the Court Street area on April 25.
- Assisted a woman who had locked herself out of her car in the Exchange Street area on April 25.

- Advised a person on court action in connection with a possible stalking issue.
- Restored peace between two acrimonious patrons at a Merchants Row business on April 25.
- Investigated a report of a Porter Hospital patient videoing hospital staff and potentially confidential information on April 25.
- Responded to a domestic disturbance at a Munger Street residence on April 26.
- Assisted an intoxicated man after his release from Porter Hospital on April 26.
- Responded to a report of a "heavily intoxicated" person in the North Pleasant Street area on April 26.
- Assisted Middlebury College Public Safety in investigating a threatening phone call that a college staff person had received on April 26.
- Received a report that a juvenile

had tried to use a fake ID to buy tobacco at a Court Street business on April 26.

- Assisted with a "juvenile problem" in the Valley View Drive area on April 26.
- Investigated a report of a vehicle leaving the scene of an accident in The Centre parking lot on April 26.
- Investigated a disorderly conduct complaint in the Court Street area on April 27.
- Assisted Memorial Baptist Church officials with a man found sleeping on church property during the morning of April 27.
- Checked on the welfare of a Rolling Acres resident on April 28.
- Connected, to counseling services, a man who had contacted them about mental health challenges he had been facing on April 28.
- Responded to a report of underage drinking in the Frog Hollow Alley area on April 28.

### 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:

1. To hear the reports of the officers.
2. To hold election of officers for the following year.
3. To vote on fees for the maintenance of the cemetery grounds.
4. To transact any other business that may come before the meeting.

Elaine Newton, Secretary

### CITY OF VERGENNES NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Development Review Board will hold a public hearing on May 20, 2024, 7pm as the first order of new business, for the following purpose:

- To consider site plan and conditional use review for application #2024-06 by the City of Vergennes to install exterior lighting at the pool located at 47 East St. Reviews will consider Article VII, Section 1611and Section 311.

Please note that the hearing will be held as a "hybrid meeting", with participation either in person, by Zoom, or by phone. The in-person meeting will be held in the conference room at City Hall.

Join by computer: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84252901890>, meeting password: 689859.

Join by phone: Dial 1 (929) 205-6099; Meeting ID: 842-5290-1890; Meeting Passcode: 689859.

For participants joining by phone:

To raise your hand during the meeting, press \*9.

To mute/unmute during the meeting, press \*6

If you experience any difficulty in accessing this meeting, contact the City of Vergennes Zoning Administrator at 802-877-1232.

You must participate in the public hearing either in person or in writing, in order to take any subsequent appeal. The City of Vergennes is an "on the record" appeal municipality with regard to appeals to Environmental Court from Development Review Board decisions. This means that the Environmental Court shall only consider testimony or information provided during public hearings on the application. Interested parties should therefore assure that their participation in the public hearing proceedings is complete and represents the totality of their desired considerations.

A copy of the application is available for public review by contacting David Austin at [zoning@vergennes.org](mailto:zoning@vergennes.org).

April 29, 2024  
David Austin,  
Zoning Administrator

### TOWN OF ADDISON PUBLIC NOTICE

The Addison Planning Commission meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 21, 2024 at the Addison Community Center School at 6:30 PM (former Addison Central School).

1. Open the meeting.
  2. Roll call given.
  3. Approve meeting minutes for April 15, 2024.
  4. Public Comment time allowed.
  5. Discussion on public hearing results.
- Continue to work on updating & reviewing the Zonig & Subdivision Regulations & public hearing outcome.
6. Open meeting at 7:00PM for presentation on the next section to the update on Town Plan with Katie from A.C.R.P.C.
  7. If time allows we may decide to work on the comments from the public hearing.
  8. Adjourn.

\*Deliberative Session if needed - after the meeting.\*

We are planning to have a work meeting after the regular monthly meeting if needed.

Jeff Kauffman Jr., Chair  
Starr Phillips, Secretary  
Addison Planning Commission

### TOWN OF NEW HAVEN DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD NOTICE OF HEARING

Pursuant to 24 V.S.A. §4464, a public hearing before the Development Review Board of the Town of New Haven will be held at the Town Offices, 78 North Street, New Haven, VT 05472 on Monday, May 20, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. to consider the following:

1. Preliminary Plat Hearing on application #2024-DRB-08-SD submitted by David and Frances Caccavo of 1423 North Street, New Haven, VT for a 4-lot subdivision (determined as a major subdivision at sketch plan review on February 19, 2024), per Section 922 of the New Haven Zoning and Subdivision Regulations adopted April 2024.
2. Conditional Use Hearing on application #2024-DRB-11-CU submitted by Megan Ooms of 261 Belden Falls Road, New Haven, VT for a home business per Sections 329 and 610 of the New Haven Zoning and Subdivision Regulations adopted April 2024.

Please note that participation in the local proceeding is a prerequisite to the right to take any subsequent appeal. The hearing will be held as a hybrid meeting, either in person at the Town Offices, or by remote: <https://zoom.us/j/98142119190?pwd=U0pFdDQ2a1ZRZzVCRkN4ZGcyUF3dz09>  
Meeting ID: 981 4211 9190  
Passcode: 4jYbTA

An electronic copy of the application may be obtained by emailing: [newhavenzoning@gmavt.net](mailto:newhavenzoning@gmavt.net); a hard copy is available at the Town Offices during normal business hours, and can also be found on the Town's website at: [www.newhavenvt.com](http://www.newhavenvt.com).

New Haven Zoning Administrator (802) 453-3516

## Public Notices Index

Public Notices for the following can be found in this **ADDISON INDEPENDENT** on Pages 11B and 12B.

### MEETING OF THE ADDISON COUNTY REGIONAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE 8 MAY 2024 AT 12PM

A meeting of the Addison County Regional Emergency Management Committee (REMC) will be held on **8 May at 12pm** (in person at the ACRPC office 14 Seminary St. with Zoom option). Details can be found at: <https://acrpc.org/acrpc-remc/>

Meetings are held quarterly, with future meetings scheduled for the:

- Second Wednesday of August
- Second Wednesday of November
- Second Wednesday of February
- Second Wednesday of May

The REMC conducts All-Hazards preparedness planning and coordinates with Vermont Emergency Management (VEM), the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC), and the statewide Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC).

The REMC is made up of **Local Emergency Management Directors and Emergency Services Representatives** from each municipality in the region. Representatives from fire departments, emergency medical services, law enforcement, media, transportation, hospitals, the department of health district office, organizations serving vulnerable populations, and any other interested public or private individual or organization, are welcome to attend and participate!

For more information, contact ACRPC Emergency Management Planner Andrew L'Roe at [alroe@acrpc.org](mailto:alroe@acrpc.org) or 802-388-3141 x3.

### CITY OF VERGENNES NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Development Review Board will hold a public hearing on May 20, 2024, 7pm as the second order of new business, for the following purpose:

To consider site plan and conditional use review for application #2024-07 by the Addison Northwest School District to install mechanicals and construct modifications to the structures and grounds located at 43 East St. Reviews will consider Article VII, Section 1611and Section 311.

Please note that the hearing will be held as a "hybrid meeting", with participation either in person, by Zoom, or by phone. The in-person meeting will be held in the conference room at City Hall.

Join by computer: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84252901890>, meeting password: 689859.

Join by phone: Dial 1 (929) 205-6099; Meeting ID: 842-5290-1890; Meeting Passcode: 689859.

For participants joining by phone:

To raise your hand during the meeting, press \*9.

To mute/unmute during the meeting, press \*6

If you experience any difficulty in accessing this meeting, contact the City of Vergennes Zoning Administrator at 802-877-1232.

You must participate in the public hearing either in person or in writing, in order to take any subsequent appeal. The City of Vergennes is an "on the record" appeal municipality with regard to appeals to Environmental Court from Development Review Board decisions. This means that the Environmental Court shall only consider testimony or information provided during public hearings on the application. Interested parties should therefore assure that their participation in the public hearing proceedings is complete and represents the totality of their desired considerations.

A copy of the application is available for public review by contacting David Austin at [zoning@vergennes.org](mailto:zoning@vergennes.org).

April 29, 2024  
David Austin,  
Zoning Administrator

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ADDISON COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

#### Middlebury Municipal Planning Consultation

The Addison County Regional Planning Commission (ACRPC) will meet on **May 16, 2024 at 1200pm**, for a public hearing with the Town of Middlebury's Planning Commission.

The meeting will take place in person with a hybrid option at the Middlebury Town Offices, 77 Main Street, Middlebury, VT. Virtual login credentials below.

As per 24 V.S.A. §4350, ACRPC will consult with Middlebury in regards to the municipality's planning efforts, ascertain Middlebury's planning needs, identify needed assistance from ACRPC and confirm that the municipality is:

- (1) is engaged in a continuing planning process that, within a reasonable time, will result in a plan that is consistent with the goals contained in section 4302 of this title;
- (2) is engaged in a process to implement its municipal plan, consistent with the program for implementation required under section 4382 of this title; and
- (3) is maintaining its efforts to provide local funds for municipal and regional planning purposes.

#### Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2959189514>

Meeting ID: 295 918 9514

Dial-in number (long distance charges may apply): (929) 205-6099

Questions, please call either:

Adam Lougee, Executive Director	Jennifer Murray,
Addison County Regional Planning Commission	Director of Planning & Zoning
802-388-3141	Middlebury Planning Commission
	802-388-8100, x210

### 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](mailto:mkrans@naylorbreen.com).

Questions and proposals should be directed in writing to Miles Krans at [mkrans@naylorbreen.com](mailto:mkrans@naylorbreen.com). Last day for questions is Friday, April 26th, at 5:00 p.m.

### CITY OF VERGENNES NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Development Review Board will hold a public hearing on May 20, 2024, 7pm as the third order of new business, for the following purpose:

To consider site plan and conditional use review for application #2024-09 by Lisa Godfrey to construct modifications to the entrance façade and install exterior lighting to the principal building located at 135 Main St. Reviews will consider Article VII, Section 1608.

Please note that the hearing will be held as a "hybrid meeting", with participation either in person, by Zoom, or by phone. The in-person meeting will be held in the conference room at City Hall.

Join by computer: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84252901890>, meeting password: 689859.

Join by phone: Dial 1 (929) 205-6099; Meeting ID: 842-5290-1890; Meeting Passcode: 689859.

For participants joining by phone:

To raise your hand during the meeting, press \*9.

To mute/unmute during the meeting, press \*6

If you experience any difficulty in accessing this meeting, contact the City of Vergennes Zoning Administrator at 802-877-1232.

You must participate in the public hearing either in person or in writing, in order to take any subsequent appeal. The City of Vergennes is an "on the record" appeal municipality with regard to appeals to Environmental Court from Development Review Board decisions. This means that the Environmental Court shall only consider testimony or information provided during public hearings on the application. Interested parties should therefore assure that their participation in the public hearing proceedings is complete and represents the totality of their desired considerations.

A copy of the application is available for public review by contacting David Austin at [zoning@vergennes.org](mailto:zoning@vergennes.org).

April 29, 2024  
David Austin,  
Zoning Administrator

### WARNING

#### INFORMATIONAL MEETING

#### SLATE VALLEY UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

(Towns of Benson, Castleton, Fair Haven, Hubbardton, Orwell, West Haven)

May 7, 2024

The legal voters of the Slate Valley Unified Union School District (SVUUSD) consisting of the towns of Benson, Castleton, Fair Haven, Hubbardton, Orwell and West Haven are hereby warned and notified to meet at Fair Haven Union Middle High School Band Room on Tuesday, May 7, 2024 at 6:30 PM to conduct the following business:

Article 1:

To hear the Board of School Directors of the SVUUSD present its estimate of expenses for the ensuing year.

May 9, 2024

The meeting shall then be recessed to **Thursday, May 9, 2024** for the purpose of voting on the following articles at the usual polling places in the member districts by Australian ballot, said ballots being brought to Bomoseen Fellowship Bible Church following the closing of the polls in the member districts where they will be commingled and counted by the Board of Civil Authority of the constituent districts.

Town of Benson	10:00AM - 7:00PM	BensonCommunityHall
Town of Castleton	8:00 AM - 7:00PM	Castleton Fire Station
Town of Fair Haven	10:00 AM - 7:00PM	American Legion Post 49
Town of Hubbardton	10:00AM - 7:00PM	Hubbardton Town Hall
Town of Orwell	10:00 AM - 7:00PM	OrwellTown Clerk's Office
Town of West Haven	10:00AM - 7:00PM	West Haven Town Hall

Article 2:

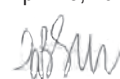
Shall the voters of the school district approve the school board to expend Thirty Million Eight Hundred Ten Thousand One Hundred Thirty-Five Dollars **\$30,810,135.00** which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year?

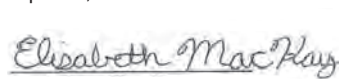
#### Informational Hearing:

Said persons and voters are notified and warned that the meeting on Tuesday, May 7, 2024 at 6:30 P.M. will also serve as an informational hearing to discuss Article 2, which will be voted on by Australian ballot on Thursday, May 9, 2024.

Dated at Fair Haven, Vermont  
April 23, 2024

Received and Recorded  
April 23, 2024

  
Patricia Beaumont, Chair  
Slate Valley Unified Union  
School District

  
Elisabeth MacKay, Clerk  
Slate Valley Unified Union  
School District

# Police deal with apparent kitten fraud

VERGENNES — Vergennes police on Sunday, April 28, took a report of fraud involving the supposed sale of two kittens via Facebook to a city resident.

Police said the resident paid \$150 for the two kittens through a contact made through the social media site, in part to cover vet bills and food for the animals. But the resident balked at paying another \$150 before the kittens were to be delivered, and then was blocked on Facebook by the contact who was allegedly going to provide the animals.

In other action between April 22

## Vergennes Police Log

and 28, Vergennes police processed three pre-employment fingerprint requests and conducted six traffic stops, one property watch, and six patrols, five by cruiser and one on foot; and also:

On April 22:

- Heard that an unattended baby had been left in a car with its windows rolled down in the Shaw's Supermarket parking lot. The car was gone when police arrived, but they used a license plate number to track the owner and called to advise the parent their actions were not safe.

- Took a phone report that a child's certified birth certificate mailed to another country had never arrived there.

- Took a report for insurance purposes of a minor two-vehicle accident in the Vergennes Union High School parking lot.

On April 23 took a complaint from a Green Street tenant that another tenant was slamming a door regularly. The tenant said he had contacted the landlord, and police said to call the landlord again if necessary.

On April 25:

- Helped the Vergennes Area Rescue Squad with a medical emergency at a Hillside Drive

apartment.

- Cited Matthew Husk, 42, reported to be a Vergennes resident, for violations of conditions of release following a dispute with a relative at a Hillside Drive apartment.

On April 26 took a report for insurance purposes of either a minor accident or incident of vandalism in the Collins Aerospace parking lot.

On April 27:

- Following a complaint, spoke to an elderly man they said has "boundary issues" about staying away from the complainant's children.

- On what was Drug Take Back Day accepted two boxes full of unused prescription drugs from about two dozen citizens.

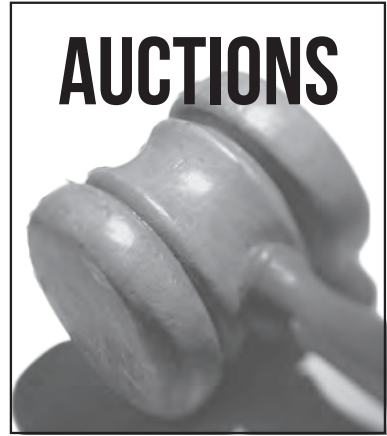
- Dealt twice with a young woman who was entering the Valley Vista rehabilitation program and experienced what police called a mental health crisis. Police were first called to a Main Street eatery when the woman allegedly attacked a companion who was bringing her to the facility. Police calmed the situation and showed the two the way to the Alden Place building. Her companion soon called again, saying the woman was out of control. Charlotte Rescue took her to Porter Hospital for counseling.



## Splash of gold

A YELLOW WARBLER enjoys a meal near the banks of Otter Creek in Weybridge.

Photo by Dottie Nelson



## AUCTIONS

### MARKET REPORT

#### ADDISON COUNTY COMMISSION SALES

RT. 125 • EAST MIDDLEBURY, VT  
Sales for 4/25/24 & 4/29/24

			COST	
BEEF	LBS.	/LB	\$	
Woodnotch	1445	1.45 (H)	\$2095.25	
Westminister	1130	1.45 (H)	\$1638.50	
Deer Valley	1000	1.21	\$1210.00	
A. Brisson	1600	1.20	\$1920.00	
Nop Bros	1850	1.18	\$2183.00	
Macglaffin	1745	1.15	\$2006.75	
Riverhill	1700	1.15	\$1955.00	

			COST	
CALVES	LBS.	/LB	\$	
M+L Quesnel	105	9.00	\$945.00	
Goodrich Farm	99	9.00	\$891.00	
Barnes Bros.	76	9.00	\$684.00	
A. Brisson	103	8.50	\$875.50	
Clifford Farm	93	8.00	\$744.00	
Defreest Farm	89	8.00	\$712.00	

Total Beef - 97 Total Calves - 151  
We value our faithful customers.  
Sales at 3 pm - Mon. & Thurs.  
call 1-802-388-2661

**ATTENTION FARMERS!!!**

**ANNUAL SPRING MACHINERY/  
FARM AND GARDEN  
CONSIGNMENT AUCTION**

**SATURDAY MAY 11<sup>TH</sup> - 10 AM**

HELD AT  
**ADDISON COUNTY COMMISSION SALES BARN**  
RT 125 EAST MIDDLEBURY, VERMONT

**All Good Consignments Welcome!**  
\*\*Please No Household Items\*\*

Large Selection Of Tractors, Farm Equipment,  
Lawn And Garden,  
**A Must Sale To Attend!**

Call ACCS 802-388-2661 Or 802-989-1507

Auctioneer-John Nop-Tom Wisnowski Sale Manager  
www.acscattle.com

## Fish and game ask you to leave wild turtles alone

VERMONT — Wild turtles need to remain in the wild, according to Vermont Fish and Wildlife, which reminds Vermonters that keeping native turtles as pets is prohibited because it can harm the turtle and pose threats to wild turtle populations.

"Capturing a wild turtle and keeping it as a pet, even if only for a short time, is not only bad for that individual turtle but it could

hurt entire turtle populations as well," said Vermont Fish and Wildlife herpetologist Luke Groff. "Releasing captured turtles back into the wild can spread wildlife diseases and also affect the genetics of the local population."

Groff explains that adult turtles usually have well-defined home ranges and know where to find food, mates and shelter. However, a turtle released in unfamiliar

habitat may roam great distances, increasing the odds it will cross roads and risk being run over.

For turtles, the loss of even a couple mature females can have serious consequences because they are slow to develop, especially at northern latitudes where the growing season is short.

"Many of Vermont's turtle species do not reproduce until they are at least 10 years of age," says Groff, "and older, sexually mature females are critical to the long-term persistence of some of Vermont's turtle populations."

Two common species you are likely to see are the Painted Turtle and Snapping Turtle. The Wood Turtle, Spotted Turtle and Spiny Softshell are rare in Vermont, and the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department urges you to report sightings of these species to the Vermont Reptile and Amphibian Atlas (vtherpatlas.org). If you see some of Vermont's native turtles in the wild, feel free to take a photo home with you, but leave the turtles in the wild.

For more information on Vermont's native turtle species, visit Vermont Fish and Wildlife's website or contact Vermont Fish and Wildlife herpetologist Luke Groff at Luke.Groff@vermont.gov.

## Public Notices

can be found in this

**ADDISON INDEPENDENT** on Pages 11B and 12B.

### GOSHEN, VT REQUEST FOR BIDS ROADSIDE MOWING

The Town of Goshen is accepting bids to perform approximately 30 miles worth of roadside mowing. Bids will be received by the Goshen Town Clerk at the Goshen Town Office until 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 28, 2024. Bids will be opened and contractor awarded on June 3, 2024 at the Selectboard meeting.

Download and complete RFB documents at [www.goshenvt.org/notices](http://www.goshenvt.org/notices).

**All bid envelopes must be clearly marked "Roadside Mowing Bid".**

All roadside mowing shall be completed prior to 7/1/24.

For questions or to have the RFB emailed directly, contact the Goshen Selectboard at [selectboard@goshenvt.org](mailto:selectboard@goshenvt.org).

### TOWN OF BRIDPORT PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Bridport Zoning Board of Adjustments will hold a public hearing on **May 15th, 2024 at 7pm in the Bridport Town Office**, at 82 Crown Point Road, on each and to consider each of the following application(s):

1. At 7:00 PM on Application (#24-18) by Al Wilkinson and Anna Wilkinson are requesting a Variance to move a preexisting shed within 50' of property lines. Tax ID# 06-057 owned by Al Wilkinson and Anna Wilkinson. The property is located 1978 Lake Street, Bridport, VT 05734.
2. At 7:15 on Application (24-17) by Sharron Macklin is requesting a Variance for building of a mudroom within 50' of property line. The property is located at 86 Ward Drive, Bridport, VT 05734.

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

Dinah Bain (chair)  
Al Zaccor (secretary)  
Michael Wojciechowski (zoning administrator)

### 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](http://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](mailto: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.

### 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

### CORNWALL CENTRAL CEMETERY

Annual Meeting 7pm on Friday,  
May 10th at the Town Hall.  
For info call 802-324-9499.

### 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.

### STATE OF VERMONT SUPERIOR COURT PROBATE DIVISION ADDISON UNIT DOCKET NO.: 24-PR-01109

#### IN RE ESTATE OF: THOMAS MORGAN NOTICE TO CREDITORS

To the Creditors of: Thomas Morgan, late of Bridport, Vermont.

I have been appointed to administer this estate. All creditors having claims against the decedent or the estate must present their claims in writing within four (4) months of the first publication of this notice. The claim must be presented to me at the address listed below with a copy sent to the Court. The claim may be barred forever if it is not presented within the four (4) month period.

Dated: 04/29/24

Executor/Administrator:  
Katrina Morgan,  
% Miller Estate Law PLC  
PO Box 220  
N. Ferrisburgh, VT 05473  
802-777-8297  
smiller@millerestatelaw.com

Publication: Addison Independent  
Publication Date: 5/2/24  
Address of Probate Court:  
7 Mahady Court  
Middlebury, VT 05753

# PUBLIC AUCTION

1079 North Street, New Haven, Vermont 05472

**10:00AM SATURDAY - MAY 11 10:00AM**



We continue to sell the collection  
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# ARTS + LEISURE

The Addison

May 2, 2024



PHOTO / KAREN PIKE



PHOTO / COREY HENDRICKSON

Addison County authors Carolyn Kuebler (left) and Julia Alvarez (right) have both released new novels this spring. Hear Kuebler interview Alvarez during a free event at Town Hall Theater in Middlebury on May 8 (registration required).

## GRAB YOUR GLASSES: TWO LOCAL AUTHORS RELEASE NEW MUST-READ NOVELS

**O**n a book tour, they are *the* authors — with their shiny new novels, radiating the word “published!” to all the awestruck novices. But here, they live across the bridge and over the fields — they are all *that* and more; they are our neighbors. Isn't that wonderful?

BY **ELSIE  
LYNN PARINI**

This time around our local celebrity authors are Weybridge resident,

Middlebury College writer-in-residence, and National Medal of Arts recipient, the poet and novelist Julia Alvarez; and Middlebury resident, *New England Review* editor, and 2022 recipient of the John Burroughs Award for Nature Essay Carolyn Kuebler.

“The Cemetery of Untold Stories” by Alvarez was released on April 2, from Algonquin Books. This book centers on the celebrated writer Alma Cruz, who inherits a small plot of land in the Dominican Republic, her homeland.

It is there that “she has the beautiful idea of turning it into a place to bury her untold stories — literally,” reads the novel’s description. “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.”

Kuebler’s debut novel, “Liquid, Fragile, Perishable,” will be released this month from Melville House. It’s described as “a vivid and moving portrayal of the intricate web of relations and fate in a small New England town, told with interlocking storylines in a unique and mesmerizing voice of uncommon power.”

These two authors will appear on the Town Hall Theater stage together this coming Wednesday, May 8, at 7 p.m., where Kuebler will be moderating a Q&A with Alvarez about “The Cemetery of Untold Stories.” This event at the Middlebury theater is free and open to all, but you must register ([townhalltheater.org](http://townhalltheater.org)).

“I am delighted beyond measure not only

to have a literary icon like Julia Alvarez as a member of my community, but also to have the privilege of producing an event like this: pairing a novelist of international renown with one on the cusp of a promising writing career of her own,” exclaimed Becky Dayton, owner of The Vermont Book Shop in Middlebury, who is presenting the May 8 event. “That these two accomplished, brilliant women will appear together to discuss Julia’s new book and its place in her impressive bibliography — in our hometown theater, and as each others’ neighbors with a long history of mutual personal regard — is of great satisfaction to me. It is the best of both worlds: that of the wider literary landscape and our little, tightly knit community.”

In an attempt to get to know these authors a little better, Alvarez and Kuebler took the time to answer three absurdly open-ended questions. It was nearly impossible to fit their thoughtful and eloquent

SEE AUTHORS ON PAGE 3

# Henry Sheldon Museum set to reopen May 11

**T**he Henry Sheldon Museum reopens for the 2024 season on Saturday, May 11. This downtown Middlebury museum offers a diverse, in-depth look at the history and art of the mid-Lake Champlain region of Vermont.

New exhibits for the year are "Patent Pending: Ingenuity and Innovation in Vermont" and "Model Boats: The Craftsmanship of Jerry DeGraff." Back by popular demand with additional dresses and accessories from the Sheldon's collection is the exhibit "From Homespun to Couture: Fashion in Historic Middlebury." The Museum Store is also reopening with new merchandise and a new look.

An opening reception and celebration of the new season will be held on Thursday, May 16, from 4:30-6 p.m. Light refreshments served.

## EXHIBIT DETAILS

**Patent Pending: Ingenuity and Innovation in Vermont**  
MAY 11-OCT. 19

Patent Pending: Ingenuity and Innovation in Vermont features many patents, ideas, and inspirational "firsts" that have come out of Vermont — the sheer number may surprise you! While patents abound for everyday objects — including the clothespin, a fishing spoon lure, and even the sports bra — others include globally significant innovations like the first electric motor and our modern Global Positioning System (GPS). There is no limit to who or what may be the next great innovator or innovation to come from Vermont. Maybe it will be you!

**Model Boats: The Craftsmanship of Jerry DeGraff**  
MAY 11-JAN. 4, 2025

Jerry DeGraff, a native Vermonter from Essex Junction, served four years in the Navy before working many years in local building trades. As he honed his skills as a craftsman, a Christmas gift in 1994 gave him the motivation to try his skills at another trade — constructing model boats from scratch. "Model Boats: The Craftsmanship of Jerry DeGraff" features DeGraff's fine skills and attention to detail.

**From Homespun to Couture: Fashion in Historic Middlebury**  
MAY 11-AUG. 31

How did local women in the small Vermont town of Middlebury dress themselves and how did they deal with their burgeoning aspirations to keep up with the fashionable trends trickling in from the larger world? From Homespun to Couture offers a window onto the sartorial tastes of local women and



Jerry DeGraff with his model of the Ticonderoga.

IMAGE / COURTESY OF THE DEGRAFF FAMILY

the growing Middlebury tailoring scene from the 1800s to the early 20th century. Historic photographs, fashion publications, business advertisements and merchants' ledgers, dresses, bonnets, shoes, and fashion accessories from the Museum's archival and object collections on display reveal what Middlebury women made, wore, and

purchased in the town's early days.

Regular Museum hours are Wednesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; the Research Center is open Thursday and Friday, 1-4 p.m., by appointment. For more information visit [henrysheldonmuseum.org/exhibits](http://henrysheldonmuseum.org/exhibits) or call 802-388-2117.

## Volunteer at Rokeby Museum this May

The Rokeby Museum in Ferrisburgh is preparing to open to the public on May 25. But first... volunteers are needed.

### SPRING CLEAN UP

Join in on May 11 (rain date May 18) anytime from 9 a.m.-12 p.m., at Rokeby Museum and help get the site ready to open. Drinks and snacks will be provided. Email [director@rokeby.org](mailto:director@rokeby.org) if you can help.

### BECOME A ROKEBY TOUR GUIDE

Rokeby Museum is recruiting volunteer tour guides for the 2024 season. Tour guides lead public tours of the historic grounds and house. Days are flexible and the museum's staff provide tour training. Interested? Email Joan at [jgorman@rokeby.org](mailto:jgorman@rokeby.org).

### EDUCATION VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Rokeby's education department is looking for volunteers to help with field trips and summer programming. To learn more contact Tucker at [tfolz@rokeby.org](mailto:tfolz@rokeby.org).

## AUTHORS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

responses into this tiny space, so below you'll find an abbreviated version. Come to the May 8 event to hear more!

## WHAT WAS YOUR CREATIVE PROCESS LIKE WRITING THIS BOOK?

**Alvarez:** "On a Sunday in October 2021, well into a second year of the pandemic, in the incipient stages of a new novel, I woke up to a total retinal detachment in my right eye."

*With the help of prism glasses (used to reduce the doubling vision in her "good eye"), Alvarez was able to dust off the novel she had started.*

"Every day I sat down to write was a gift I hadn't expected. Every character was endlessly fascinating, every image I could captivate, every sentence I could manage was a petite miracle. I couldn't drive myself like before, working six, seven hours, and then putting in a few more hours on book biz. Now, if I only got an hour — the eye strain told me when I'd had enough — I was grateful and longing to reenter the work again. I was back where I had started as a young writer, in the play and delight of the writing itself. Not without its accompanying frustrations and self-doubts (I was still me, after all) but it was a rebirth. 'And now in age, I bud again. / After so many deaths, I live and write,' writes the poet George Herbert. Resets are necessary throughout a writing life, but especially after a lifetime spent in a craft when one can become jaded and wearied and stale."

**Kuebler:** "I've started and stopped many novels and stories over the years, and have finished a few, but this is the one that has given me the most sustenance, and the most pleasure. It's the one where I figured out for myself how I wanted to write. You'd think having been an English major in college (1990 Middlebury College grad) and then being an editor for so long that I'd know exactly what to do. I'd been studying hard, it should come easy! But the only way out is through, as the saying goes, and I



only learned how to write a novel by writing one, from beginning to end and back again. And once I really dug in and got going, I had a blast. It kept me going, it's like it gave every aspect of my daily life, a fairly quiet and repetitive life in small town, a stronger sense of purpose and beauty and meaning and even love — for my life, for this place, for the people around me.."

## WHY DO YOU WRITE?

**Alvarez:** "As I enter the late chapters of my life, I want to understand this new landscape of growing old, especially growing old in a craft I've dedicated my lifetime to practicing..."

"The Canadian critic Constance Rocke recently coined the term 'Vollendungsroman,' for this type of novel, which serves as the bookend to the Bildungsroman, the novel about growing up, coming of age. Vollendungsroman is the novel of growing old, and now especially welcomed that we are living longer and that our boomer readership is hungry to explore this new

stage of our lives. Rocke notes that many new novels are addressing this ageism in fiction whereby elders are relegated to the background.

"So many of us boomers are still vibrant, and want a nuanced, complex and adventurous life... It's a phase of life that merits its own attention... I read to understand; to make meaning in my life... and if I find gaps in the bookshelves — silences — I find myself hungering... then I write them myself."

**Kuebler:** "I started writing in childhood, ferociously in those little diaries with the lock and key, where there was never enough room. I wrote because life itself was too much — too much excitement, confusion, fear, joy, beauty, all of that, all going by so fast. The desire to make something more than a messy diary came out of my love of reading. I was driven to emulation, as they say. I needed to do it myself. Reading has since the beginning given me the most immediate access to the world outside of myself, but also the world inside of myself. Music can hit those emotional chords more directly sometimes — I wouldn't want to live without music either — but reading and literature offer a more sustained experience, tend to have more to say about the specifics of daily human life,

SEE NOVELS ON PAGE 14

## BOOK REVIEW

## "LIQUID, FRAGILE, PERISHABLE"

BY CAROLYN KUEBLER

**T**here are so many things in Carolyn Kuebler's "Liquid, Fragile, Perishable" that ring true. The cast of characters in Kuebler's new — and first — novel, are so real, so believable, they could be the person walking by you on the street.

BY SARAH POPE

Set in Glenville, a fictional small town in Vermont, the novel dances back and forth among a group of residents representing people from all walks of life, from wealthy transplants in search of an idyllic Vermont life to multi-generational ne'er-do-wells trying to break the family pattern. All of these characters are distinctly human, faulty, struggling to figure out how to function in a rapidly changing world.

They suffer from tragedies, past and present, fall in love, find a purpose and overcome demons. They are not always likeable, their choices sometimes foolish, but they are trying. All of their stories are worth telling. All of their troubles are worth understanding.

Kuebler's prose is succinct, precise, smooth, and formatted in short paragraphs that resemble the text of an epic poem rather than a more traditional novel.

Though not a traditional presentation of words on a page, it works.

Present too are so many of the current issues that affect us today — the slow steady march of climate change, the devastation of the opioid crisis, alcoholism, loneliness, teens in crisis, depression, mental illness — all included with a subtlety that is striking, but not preachy. And while Upper Glenville is fictional, local readers will recognize the influence of events and people in the story from events and characters here in Addison County.

Kuebler herself is recognizable to many in these parts. A Middlebury justice of the peace, you might have seen her officiating at a wedding or working at the local polls during many elections.

In the world of reading and writing, she has been the editor of the *New England Review*, the literary magazine at Middlebury College, for at least a decade. Kuebler was a co-founder of the literary magazine *Rain Taxi*, a New York editor at *Publishers Weekly* and *Library Journal*, and has published stories, essays, reviews and author interviews in numerous venues. In 2022, she won the John Burroughs Award for Nature Essay.

The book is being published this month and is available now at The Vermont Book Shop and other good booksellers.

All told, "Liquid, Fragile, Perishable" is a beautiful and skilled examination of what it means to live in a world where bad things happen, and how people find a means to carry on when they do.

# Sparrow Art Supply launches new, free artist talks this May

**A** new series of free artist talks and demonstrations is coming to Sparrow Art Supply in downtown Middlebury. The series "Palette Perspectives" will feature artists from "Green Gold," the current spring art exhibition. Over four evenings in May, at 6:30 p.m., artists will share in depth about their creative process, inspiration and artistic journey.

These are free events, but space is limited. Reservations are required. Visit [sparrowartsupply.com](http://sparrowartsupply.com) to reserve your spot.

**MAY 9: SARAH WESSON  
PLEIN AIR OIL PAINTING**

Learn about Sarah Wesson's plein air set up

and how she observes changing light across the landscape.

**MAY 14: ZARABETH DUELL  
LAYERED WATERCOLOR LANDSCAPES**

After a career as an engineer, Zarabeth Duell has fully dedicated her attention to working with watercolor, and creating captivating landscapes in layered papers.

**MAY 16: KRISTEN DONEGAN  
CERAMICS, PAINTING & FORAGED PIGMENTS**

Through combining mediums and foraging for pigments, Kristen Donegan will share how she explores the harmony between human understanding and the natural world through art.

**MAY 23: JIM BRUCE  
MIXED MEDIA AND SYMBOLISM**

Jim Bruce is a mixed media visual artist, painter, and a writer. Primarily self taught, his chosen genres and mediums are wide ranging and inspired by his travels across the globe.

**BONUS:**

On May 24, Kristen Donegan will be back at Sparrow working on a project for the afternoon. Come by to see her demonstrate her process in an informal setting. This event is come-and-go as needed, so no reservations are required.

For more information or to reserve your spot visit [sparrowartsupply.com](http://sparrowartsupply.com).

## ART ON EXHIBIT

### New work on view at Edgewater Galleries in Middlebury

May is shaping up to be an exciting month at Edgewater Galleries in Middlebury, as they prepare to showcase the talent of local artists and celebrate significant milestones in their careers. The gallery at 6 Merchants Row will host a special family affair featuring the works of Rory and Woody Jackson, marking the 50th anniversary of Woody's first exhibition. "Borders and Boundaries," a thought-provoking exhibition by Alexis Serio and Homer Wells will be on view at the 1 Mill Street location. Details for each exhibit are listed below.

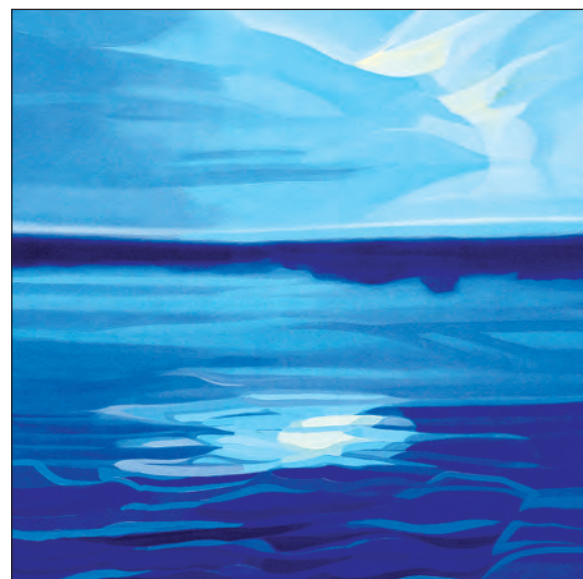
**"UNCLE WOODY AND ME: FAMILY TIES"**

On the 50th anniversary of Woody Jackson's first art exhibition, Edgewater Gallery on the

Green celebrates his career, the importance of family and the legacy of talent that lives on in Rory Jackson. On view May 3-June 11, Edgewater Gallery on the Green, 6 Merchants Row, Middlebury.

This show unites nephew and uncle, Rory and Woody Jackson, in an exhibition that celebrates the career of an iconic Vermont artist, the importance of family and the rising success and evolution of Rory, the next generation of painters in the Jackson family.

An opening reception and artist talk will be held on Friday, May 24, from 5-6:30 p.m. at the gallery. There will be opening comments



*Alexis Serio*

given by Rory followed by Woody's artist talk. Enjoy live music, light refreshment and drink. The event is free and open to all. For more information call 802-989-7419 or email [info@edgewatergallery-vt.com](mailto:info@edgewatergallery-vt.com).

**"BORDERS & BOUNDARIES"**

In "Borders & Boundaries" Alexis Serio and Homer Wells explore literal and figurative reflection, the transience of light, and the power of imagination and chance in works that expand perceptions of the traditional landscape through their intersection with abstraction. On view May 17-June 25, Edgewater Gallery at the Falls, 1 Mill Street, Middlebury.

An opening brunch reception with artist Homer Wells will be held on Saturday, May 25, from 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Preview both artists' work, meet Wells and enjoy coffee and brunch fare. This event is free and open to all. For more information call the gallery at 802-458-0098 or email [info@edgewatergallery-vt.com](mailto:info@edgewatergallery-vt.com).



*Woody Jackson*



*Rory Jackson*

# ART ON EXHIBIT

## BRANDON ARTISTS GUILD

7 Center Street, Brandon

For more info visit [brandonartistsguild.org](http://brandonartistsguild.org) or call 802-247-4956.

**Celebrating 25 years!** This summer and fall the Brandon Artists Guild will be reminiscing by exhibiting a rotating display of community artworks from our 2003-2012 fundraiser projects. A kick-off celebration reception will be held Friday, May 3, from 5-7 p.m. New artists at BAG: Linden Eller, Donald Perdue, Dasha Kalisz, and Bonny Dutton.

## EDGEWATER AT THE FALLS

1 Mill Street, Middlebury

Visit [edgewatergallery.com](http://edgewatergallery.com), call (802) 458-0098 or email [info@edgewatergallery-vt.com](mailto:info@edgewatergallery-vt.com) for more info.

**"Borders & Boundaries."** Alexis Serio and Homer Wells explore literal and figurative reflection, the transience of light, and the power of imagination and chance in works that expand perceptions of the traditional landscape through their intersection with abstraction. An opening brunch reception with artist Homer Wells will be held on Saturday, May 25, from 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. On view May 17-June 25,

## EDGEWATER ON THE GREEN

6 Merchants Row, Middlebury

Visit [edgewatergallery.com](http://edgewatergallery.com), call (802) 989.7419 or email [info@edgewatergallery-vt.com](mailto:info@edgewatergallery-vt.com) for more info.

**"Uncle Woody and Me: Family Ties."** On the 50th anniversary of Woody Jackson's first art exhibition, Edgewater Gallery on the Green celebrates his career, the importance of family and the legacy of talent that lives on in Rory Jackson. An opening reception and artist talk will be held on Friday, May 24, from 5-6:30 p.m. On view May 3-June 11,

## JACKSON GALLERY

68 S Pleasant St, Middlebury

Visit [townhalltheater.org/jackson-gallery](http://townhalltheater.org/jackson-gallery) or call 802-382-9222 for more info.

**"The Blue Between Day and Night."** Paintings by East Middlebury artist Leigh Harder. For this exhibit, Harder uses alcohol ink to "catch the particular blue of the changing twilight sky." On view April 12-June 8

## PHOTOPLACE GALLERY

3 Park Street, Middlebury

For more info visit [photoplacegallery.com](http://photoplacegallery.com).

**"Portrait: Self and Others."** An exhibition of photographs that show portraits, self- or otherwise, that go beyond the surface to explore a deeper vision of the subject and, hopefully, draw an emotional response from the viewer. Juror Aline Smithson selected approximately 35 images for exhibition in the Middlebury gallery, and 40 more for

SEE EXHIBITS ON PAGE 15



**ARIES:** March 21/April 20. Aries, it's challenging for you and a romantic partner to get together this week and that may lead to stress. Over time you will be able to reconnect and get things back in sync.

**TAURUS:** April 21/May 21. Taurus, normally you are very open, but all of your communication channels seem to be blocked of late. Don't be too hard on yourself as things will return to normal soon enough.

**GEMINI:** May 22/June 21. Gemini, if a family member has been in a bad mood or is feeling unwell, it is up to you to get to the root of the situation. Provide whatever assistance you can.

**CANCER:** June 22/July 22. Cancer, you may feel like you don't want to get involved if a friend or colleague is in trouble. But this person can really use your help at the moment and you should step up.

**LEO:** July 23/Aug. 23. Don't let your career get sidetracked by gossip and office politics, Leo. You should stand up for yourself if others are speaking poorly about you. Avoid getting involved in gossip.

**VIRGO:** Aug. 24/Sept. 22. Virgo, what seems to be bad news about your financial situation may not be as bad as it once appeared. Double-check the details before you become panicked.

**LIBRA:** Sept. 23/Oct. 23. Libra, you may be inclined to protect loved ones from the truth this week, but they need to hear all of the details in this instance. Break any news to them gently.

**SCORPIO:** Oct. 24/Nov. 22. Scorpio, you are a workaholic by nature, but when fatigue hits you this week, you'll need to step back and give yourself time to rest. There's a lot coming your way soon enough.

**SAGITTARIUS:** Nov. 23/Dec. 21. A person who is no longer in your life may be on your mind a lot these days, Sagittarius. Cherish the fond memories you have of this person and don't worry about being preoccupied.

**CAPRICORN:** Dec. 22/Jan. 20. Capricorn, misinformation may be spreading around you and it can be tempting to add your own input to the discussions. Make sure your contributions can be backed up.

**AQUARIUS:** Jan. 21/Feb. 18. You are finally putting some of your longstanding plans in motion, Aquarius. However, this week you may receive some information that might delay progress.

**PISCES:** Feb. 19/March 20. Someone may try to mislead you with some inaccurate information this week, Pisces. Conduct your own research and you'll get all of the details you need for to draw your own conclusion.

Spring has sprung,  
time for cotton!

Wed-Thurs 11am-5pm  
Fri 11-7pm, Sat 10am-5pm  
Sun 12-4pm  
Closed Mon-Tues

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OPEN: M-F 10-5 and Saturday 9:30-4

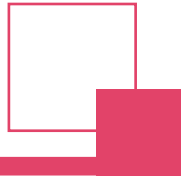
## FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

MAY 3 — James Brown, musician (d)  
MAY 4 — Sharon Jones, singer (d)  
MAY 5 — Michael Palin, actor (81)

MAY 6 — George Clooney, actor, (63)  
MAY 7 — Rabindranath Tagore, poet (d)  
MAY 8 — Raoul Trujillo, choreographer (69)  
MAY 9 — Sophie Scholl, anti-Nazi activist (d)

# CALENDAR

MAY 2-10  
2024



## THURSDAY, MAY 2

**STORYTELLING SLAM AND WORKSHOP IN VERGENNES.** Thursday, 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](https://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 [middlebury.edu/college/box-office](https://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](https://WRVP.org).

## FRIDAY, MAY 3

**RIVER WATCH RESTORATION PLANTING IN BRIDPORT.** Friday, May 3, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Come help Addison County River Watch and Longcloud Sheep Farm plant trees along Potash Brook, a tributary of Dead Creek. The group will be establishing a riparian buffer that will filter nutrients, reduce erosion, and improve wildlife habitat. The project that will also create shelter for the farm's sheep. More info and directions contact Matthew Witten at 802-434-3236 or [acrwcv@gmail.com](mailto:acrwcv@gmail.com). Planting repeats Sunday, May 5.

**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](https://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 [vergennessoperahouse.org](https://vergennessoperahouse.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.

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MCTV SCHEDULE Channels 1071 & 1091		MIDDLEBURY COMMUNITY TELEVISION: P.O. Box 785, Middlebury, Vt. 05753		Please see the MCTV website, <a href="https://www.middleburycommunitytv.org">www.middleburycommunitytv.org</a> , 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><b>Channel 1071</b> <b>Friday, May 3</b> 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 6:30 p.m. Energy Week 7:30 p.m. State House, Public Affairs <b>Saturday, May 4</b> Overnight: Public Affairs 5 a.m. Selectboard 7 a.m. Alzheimers Advocacy Day 8:50 a.m. Health Care Is a Human Right Community Meeting 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, State House, Public Affairs <b>Sunday, May 5</b> Overnight: State House, Public Affairs 5 a.m. Health Care a Human Right 6:10 a.m. Alzheimers Advocacy Day 8 a.m. Energy Week 9 a.m. Catholic Mass</p>	<p>11 a.m. Memorial Baptist Service 12:30 p.m. Energy Week 4 p.m. Congregational Service 6:30 p.m. Eckankar 7 p.m. Catholic Mass 7:30 p.m. Energy Week 8:30 p.m. Vote for Vermont <b>Monday, May 6</b> 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, Public Affairs 8 p.m. Health Care a Human Right 10 p.m. Dr. John Campbell <b>Tuesday, May 7</b> Overnight: State House, Public Affairs 7 a.m. Press Conf., Public Affairs 8:30 a.m. Vote for Vermont 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 <b>Wednesday, May 8</b> Overnight: State House, Public Affairs 6:30 a.m. Energy Week 7:30 a.m. Memorial Baptist Service 9:30 a.m. Catholic Mass</p>	<p>10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 7 p.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs <b>Thursday, May 9</b> Overnight: State House, Public Affairs 5 a.m. Press Conf., Public Affairs 8 a.m. Congregational Services 12 p.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 8:30 p.m. Energy Week 9:30 p.m. Eckankar  <b>Channel 1091</b> <b>Friday, May 3</b> 8 a.m. All Things LGBTQ 9 a.m. Yestermorrow 12 p.m. School Board Meeting/s 5 p.m. All Brains Belong Club 6 p.m. Ilsley 100 Project Community Information Meeting 7:30 p.m. Julie Ruppert - Womens Collegiate Athletics 9 p.m. Green Mountain Film Festival 10:30 p.m. At the Ilsley <b>Saturday, May 4</b> 7 a.m. Chair Yoga 8 a.m. Word Time With Miss Markee 8:35 a.m. Tai Chi 9 a.m. Nature and Science Programs 10:57 a.m. Team Yap The Pokemon Podcast Episode 1</p>	<p>12 p.m. Team Yap The Pokemon Podcast Episode 2 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 9 p.m. Songwriters Notebook <b>Sunday, May 5</b> 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 10 p.m. Nature and Science Programs 12:30 p.m. School Board Meeting/s 6 p.m. All Things LGBTQ 7 p.m. Yestermorrow 2024 - Building Affordability 8:30 p.m. Ilsley 100 Project 10 p.m. At the Ilsley <b>Monday, May 6</b> 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. Author Talk - Angela Saini - Patriarchs: Origins of Inequality</p>	<p><b>Tuesday, May 7</b> 7 a.m. Chair Yoga 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. Green Mountain Film Festival 6 p.m. All Brains Belong Club 8 p.m. Building Affordability 9:02 p.m. Building Affordability <b>Wednesday, May 8</b> 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 5 p.m. Yestermorrow 8 p.m. Julie Ruppert 9:30 p.m. Green Mountain Film <b>Thursday, May 9</b> 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 p.m. Moccasin Tracks 5 p.m. All Things LGBTQ 6 p.m. Green Mountain Film Festival 7 p.m. Angela Saini</p>	

## SATURDAY, MAY 4

**GREEN UP DAY IN YOUR TOWN AND ACROSS VERMONT.** Details at [greenupvermont.org](http://greenupvermont.org).

**GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB BIRD WALK IN ADDISON.** Saturday, May 4, 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](mailto:jennifer.kluever@yahoo.com) with questions and to register. More at [gmcbreadloaf.org](http://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](mailto:vtrevda@yahoo.com) for details. More at [gmcbreadloaf.org](http://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 Woodward or one of several wonderful prizes. Tickets \$66, drink ticket included, available at [townhallthater.org](http://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](http://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](http://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**  
**RIVER WATCH RESTORATION PLANTING IN BRIDPORT.** Sunday, May 5, 9 a.m., Longcloud Sheep Farm. See May 3 listing.

**PHOTO SCANNING DAY IN MONKTON.** Sunday, May 5, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Monkton Town Hall, 92 Monkton Ridge. Current residents will inform Monkton historians of the future. Please bring up to six photos to Scanning Day for Monkton Historical Society 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 use of your photo in future work. Form available at [tinyurl.com/MMHC-photo-scan](http://tinyurl.com/MMHC-photo-scan) or email [laurenparren@gmail.com](mailto:laurenparren@gmail.com).

**"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](http://townhalltheater.org).

**ROCHESTER LIGHT & POWER IN ROCHESTER.** Sunday, May 5, 2 p.m., Rochester School Auditorium, 222 S Main St. See May 2 listing.

**MONDAY, MAY 6**  
**DANCE 260 CLASS SHOWING IN MIDDLEBURY.** Monday, May 6, 5-6 p.m., Dance Theatre, Mahaney Arts Center, 72 Porter Field Rd. Students show their choreography with music by the Middlebury Choir, Deborah Felmeth and Ron Rost. Directed by Laurel Jenkins and lighting by Bert Crosby. Free. More info at [middlebury.edu/events](http://middlebury.edu/events).

## 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](http://townhalltheater.org).

**HOME STAGE IMPROVISATIONAL PRACTICES CLASS SHOWING IN MIDDLEBURY.** Tuesday, May 7, 5-6 p.m., Dance Theatre, Mahaney Arts Center, 72 Porter Field Rd. This informal showing demonstrates the research of Improvisational Practices DANC0261 led by Professor Lida Winfield and musicians Ron Rost and Deborah Felmeth. Lighting will be improvised by Bert Crosby. Free. More info at [middlebury.edu/events](http://middlebury.edu/events).

**MICA QUARTET: RONDO THROUGH THE AGES IN MIDDLEBURY.** Tuesday, May 7, 7:30-8:30 p.m., Robison Hall, Mahaney Arts Center, 72 Porter Field Rd. The debut performance of the MICA string quartet, with Middlebury College student performers Marco Matroni, Isaac Xie, Amelia Grosskopf and Chelsea Robinson. The hour-long concert will explore stylistic transformation across string quartet works spanning the 18th-20th centuries, featuring works by Scarlatti, Haydn, Schubert, Smetana, Debussy and Bartok, as well as original solo viola interludes that stylistically bridge the works together. Free. More info at [middlebury.edu/events](http://middlebury.edu/events).

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 8**  
**"PAINTING THE MODERN GARDEN" ON SCREEN IN MIDDLEBURY.** Wednesday, May 8, 11 a.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. Claude Monet is perhaps the most well-known painter of gardens but other greats such as Van Gogh, Pissarro, Matisse and Sargent all viewed the garden as a meaningful focus for their talents. The work of these great artists, along with many others, feature in a major exhibition, "Painting the Modern Garden," from The Royal Academy, London. This film takes a magical journey from the gallery to the gardens, to Giverny and Seebüll and other glorious grounds favored by artists. Tickets \$15, available at [townhalltheater.org](http://townhalltheater.org).

**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.

**PIANO RECITAL BY STUDENTS OF DIANA FANNING IN MIDDLEBURY.** Wednesday, May 8, 7:30-9 p.m., Robison Hall, Mahaney Arts Center, 72 Porter Field Rd. The spring concert by Diana Fanning's students has always been a popular event celebrating our talented Middlebury pianists, including Judy Chen, Adam Gips, Greg Marcinik and Peter Shellhaas playing works by Bach, Beethoven, Chopin, Debussy, MacDowell and Mozart. Free. More info at [middlebury.edu/events](http://middlebury.edu/events).

**THURSDAY, MAY 9**  
**MUSIC DEPARTMENT STUDENT SHOWCASE IN MIDDLEBURY.** Thursday, May 9, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Room 221, Mahaney Arts Center, 72 Porter Field Rd. An evening in MAC to showcase the work of music department ensembles, classes, and student bands. Refreshments provided. Free. More info at [middlebury.edu/events](http://middlebury.edu/events).

**FRIDAY, MAY 10**  
**MATHIS PICARD IN MIDDLEBURY.** Friday, May 10, 7 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. THT's House of Jazz series continues with Mathis Picard, a French-Malagasy pianist, composer, producer and bandleader in a solo appearance in Middlebury as part of his world tour. Rooted in the tradition of live acoustic performance, while incorporating the latest technology, Mathis creates his own musical style influenced by his multi-national background. Tickets TBD.

**CONTRA DANCE IN MIDDLEBURY.** Friday, May 10, 7-9 p.m., Champlain Valley Unitarian Universalist Society, 2 Duane Ct. Free, non-gendered contra dance with a live band for dancers of all ages. No experience needed — Caller Richard Hopkins will walk you through the steps before each dance. On-site parking is very limited, so parking at nearby MUHS is preferred.



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# COMMUNITY DANCE EVENTS

## Middlebury dancers welcome the public to free evening performances, May 6 & 7

The community is invited to two evenings of dance in the Dance Theater (room 110) of the Mahaney Arts Center in Middlebury. On Monday, May 6, at 5 p.m., the Technique and Composition class will take the stage. Choreography by students, set to music from the Middlebury Choir, Deborah Felmeth, and Ron Ross, will enchant the audience under the direction of Laurel Jenkins and lighting by Bert Crosby.

The following day, Tuesday, May 7, watch the Improvisational Practices Class Showing at the same time and place. Led by Professor Lida Winfield, students will explore movement to the rhythms of Ron Ross and Deborah Felmeth, with lighting improvised by Bert Crosby.

Both showcases are free and open to all.



# UPCOMING MUSIC

## Sonic delights await audiences with Mathis Picard at Town Hall Theater



*Experience the magic of jazz fusion with Mathis Picard live at Town Hall Theater in Middlebury on Friday, May 10, at 7:30 p.m. This is the final performance of the 2023-2024 House of Jazz season.*

On Friday, May 10, Jazz Middlebury and Town Hall Theater present "An Evening with Mathis Picard," of Jazz at Lincoln Center touring band fame. This culminating performance of the 2023-2024 House of Jazz season will be a solo performance to remember. Expect to hear original compositions from Picard and interpretations of solo piano classics, ranging from the pen of Duke Ellington to Thelonious Monk & J.S. Back to Chopin and Ravel. Picard will also present the world premiere of selections from his new book of preludes and fugues.

Picard is a pianist, composer, and producer on the international music scene. Based in New York City and from France and Madagascar, Picard honors his multi-cultural background by merging musical influences and elevating sonic synchronicity. Named a "rising star," Picard is an ASCAP Next Generation of Songwriters Recipient, a member of the Montreux Jazz Foundation, and a Juilliard Alumni under the mentorship of Kenny Barron.

Picard has shared the stage with artists such as Christian McBride, Braxton Cook, Ron Carter, Lillias White, Lee Ritenour, Wynton

Marsalis, Veronica Swift, Etienne Charles and more. Rooted in the tradition of live acoustic performance and deemed as "one to watch" by *Jazzwise* magazine, Picard also shines as a solo pianist, playing solo sets for NY Fashion Week, Little Island, Umbria Jazz Festival, and is featured on several records.

Picard presented his first solo piano album *Live at the Museum* in 2022. Recorded with a live audience at the National Jazz Museum of Harlem in New York City, *Live at the Museum* is a sonic journey through which Mathis explores the museum of his own life in music, honoring and spotlighting his roots in jazz, classical and electronic music. In 2023, Picard released his latest album "Heat of The Moment."

Enjoy an intimate evening beginning at 7:30p.m., with table seating for \$40 or regular seating for \$30. Student tickets: \$15. Cash bar open throughout the show. Patrons who purchase table seats are invited to a post-show meet and greet with Picard and receive one free drink ticket. Please have IDs ready. Tickets: [townhalltheater.org](http://townhalltheater.org) or call 802-382-9222.



# THE BIRD'S EYE VIEW



Issue 51 Spring 2024

## MAYO TO RETIRE AFTER LONG STINT AS MATH TEACHER

By Kaydence White

Carla Mayo is a math teacher and co-leader of the STEAM department at Mt. Abe. After teaching for 33 years, she plans to retire at the end of this semester.

When asked why she went into teaching, she said, "I wanted a career in which I could make some kind of difference. I found that in teaching because not only am I actually teaching a specific content area (math), I am also modeling and providing guidance to young people who are learning about themselves and how they fit into our community."

Mayo went to college at UVM and got a degree in math, then started teaching in Rutland in 1992. After 3 years at Rutland Middle School, Mayo came to Mt. Abe. When asked why she's retiring now, she explained, "Given this year was my



Mayo (3rd from right) with advisees who will graduate when she retires

30th year here, it felt like the right time to step down and try some other career opportunities."

In regard to favorite memories, Mayo has many. She explained, "Currently, I am really enjoying teaching the children of the students that I had when I started my career. It has been fun to reconnect with

families in this new way. One of the most fun memories I have is the teacher flash mob that we did at a pep rally before Covid."

The hardest thing about teaching was not always having the time to help every individual student. She also worries that "we will not be able to attract new people to the field of teaching because of the challenges that a teacher faces on a day to day basis."

During retirement, Mayo plans to work seasonal jobs with flowers. She stated, "I loved working at Mt. Abe and I will miss all the wonderful staff and students (See *MAYO*, Page 2)

## STAFF MEMBERS SHARE THEIR THOUGHTS ABOUT MT. ABE SCHOOL LUNCH

By Dylan Wells

School lunch is the food that feeds thousands of children around the state of Vermont for free, five days a week, Monday through Friday. Two Eagle Cafe staff

members shared their thoughts on the very important meal program at Mt. Abe.

Carol Roscoe is the current manager of the Mt. Abe kitchen. "I was assistant manager, and things changed in here when the food cooperative came in, so I applied for the manager job," Roscoe explained. When asked if she would make any changes to the Mt. Abe meal plan, she responded, "I think that there is always room for improvement and that there is always room for new menus." Maybe the kitchen staff is planning something new behind the scenes and may stir up some new food for students and teachers to try. Roscoe also shared that students could

recommend any meals for lunch "as long as they meet the requirements." Roscoe explained why some food options on the menu change and others don't, such as the chicken burger and pizza. "It's called a cycle menu, where every six weeks, it cycles around, providing basically the same thing," she said. She also explained how there are two options every day, "so if you don't like what's being served on one side you can always rely on the other side to provide you with the same old food you like."

Ashli Earle is part of the kitchen staff and she is a mother of two who enjoys her (See *LUNCH*, Page 8)

## EAGLE CAFE GETS A TASTE OF FRANCE

By Emily Fritz '26

Mt. Abe French II students spent their class time on April 2nd preparing the courses for French Day. They had special help from a visiting professional chef, along with Kathy Alexander, our director of food services. French Day provides a chance for everyone to experience a bit of French culture and cuisine.

The Eagle Cafe came up with a menu that consisted of croissant sandwiches, Coq au "Vin" and Ratatouille. For dessert, the cafe offered Gateau de Pomme (apple cake) and Oreos in honor of the upcoming eclipse. French Day was meant to take place on April 4th, but due to the snow day, it occurred on April 5th. Even with



there being a snow day, it was still very successful and yummy.

Kathy Alexander from the Eagles Cafe shared some information on French Day. When asked how it felt working with the students and guest chefs for three days, she said, "I really enjoyed having both there; they were helpful and fun." In addition to the many tips and tricks, the chefs gave many compliments on the organic food.

Alexander talked about the difference in making French food rather than the normal menu. She said that it was fun

(See *TASTE of FRANCE*, Page 2)

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## STUDENT TEACHING INTERNS BRING FRESH IDEAS TO HUMANITIES DEPT.

By Michael LaRock

This year, Mt. Abe hosted two teaching interns in the high school, one in social studies for the whole year, and another in English for the spring semester.

James Hughes is a 38-year-old, originally from California, who has been interning with Jess Little in Social Studies since late August. Previously, he worked as a librarian for the Holocaust Studies department at UVM. His new goal is to become a certified Social Studies teacher.

Angus Dickerson is a 32-year-old former construction worker interning through the Champlain College Teaching Apprenticeship Program. He is being co-mentored by Vicki Bronson and Lisa Grzyb as he works towards his teaching license in English.



Hughes and four-legged friend

Both interns spoke about their positive experiences with the Mt. Abe community. "I love it," Hughes said, then added, "I really like the school, the staff, and the students. Mt. Abe is a wonderful place. I feel very fortunate to have gotten the opportunity to intern here."

Dickerson added, "My most positive experiences are the few times I'm certain that I taught them something." Dickerson recalled playing pictionary to review for an upcoming vocab quiz. "I drew this peacock for like four or five different classes to illustrate the definition of the word flaunt," Dickerson explained. "When I got back the sentences they wrote for their quiz, I got several

versions of "the peacock flaunts its feathers to attract a mate" and that felt great, because I taught them the definition of the word."

Dickerson has integrated himself into the learning community. He explained, "As

soon as the kids learn your name and ask you for help, it's impossible to not be emotionally invested. You just feel a responsibility."

Hughes shared a similar sentiment, saying, "I would say the best part of my internship has been working with students to meet their goals, and sharing my interest in history."

Hughes' mentor Jess Little had a lot to say about Hughes' (See *INTERNS*, Page 5)



Grzyb, Dickerson, and Bronson on "dress-alike" day

## SCHOLAR'S BOWL TEAM WINS

By Reed Cousino, Cam Castillo and Sam Schoendorf

For the first time since 2015, the Mt. Abe Varsity Scholar's Bowl team was able to clinch a victory in the finals against Montpelier and claim the Scholar's Bowl small school state championship.

This year's format was slightly different than last year, in that all teams played at January's Playoffs and in April, at the finals. Last year, teams only went to the State Finals in April if they won. This year,

(See *SCHOLARS*, Page 7)

# VOICES

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### Peers Should Have Decorum with Others

Mt. Abraham High School is a place known for its inclusivity and education, a place with standards, those standards being HEART: Honest, Engaged, Appropriate, Responsible, and Timely, an acronym the entire student body hears every day.

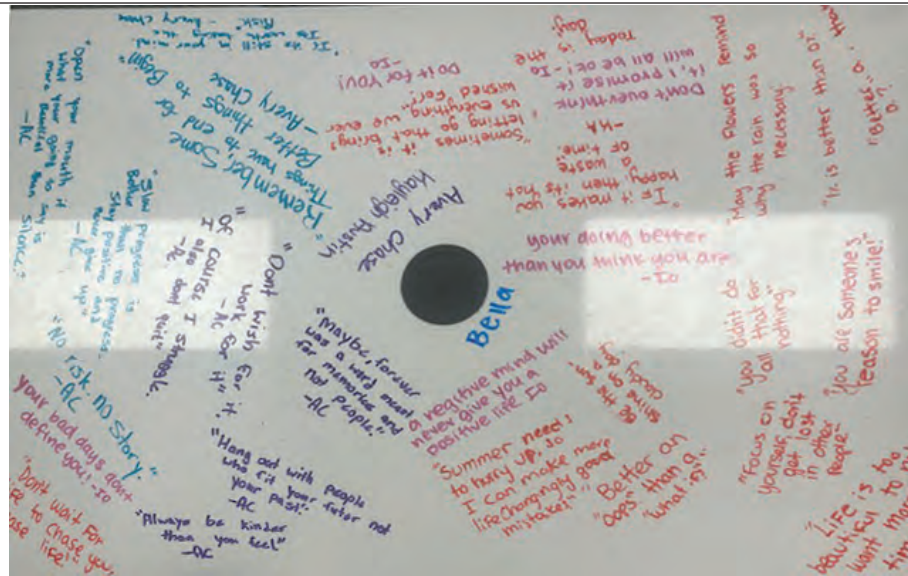
At the very start of the day, you see a group of students waiting at the door while staff stands inside holding the door shut. The kids waiting are usually kids whose parents can only drop them off 10 minutes early. An easy solution, you may think, is riding the bus. Riding a bus full of kids blaring music on speakers, screaming, forgetting to wear deodorant. No adult would willingly want to do that, so why would a teenager? So, the students stand out in the weather that our school deems as "nice enough." Some students wonder, would our staff want to stand out in the wind and rain?

Advisory plus two blocks go by. Around this point, it would be time to head for lunch. You can choose to sit in the large cafe or the small cafe. In the small cafe, you may find kids dying each other's hair, and in the large cafe, you may very well find white students passing around the N-word. Not the majority of white students, but one very specific group of students. Bringing it to staff may result in an "investigation." They will question the students, who will deny it. Without solid proof (five students telling the same thing over and over again apparently is not enough) they cannot do anything. The students making the reports will likely hear "You just can't see the consequences due to the confidentiality" or "It often stems from the parents and there isn't much we can do about that." If the consequences were severe enough, wouldn't the student stop the behavior? The behavior is a direct violation of the "appropriate" piece of the HEART acronym. Not all students are like this; the majority of them are not. So, if we know which students *are* like this, why is the problem still the same consistent issue? Maybe, as a girl, if you're lucky enough to not witness this, you'll get told a random freshman boy "really likes your shorts" or "sit on my face." Better yet, someone you haven't spoken to in months will call you "fat" or a "slut."

Lunch is finally done. The third and fourth blocks begin. These blocks may be totally fine, or you may very well have someone nonconsensually touch you. You can make a report, but then the investigations have to occur, and there are "no cameras in the classroom" to have any solid evidence. This isn't happening to everyone, and it isn't every day. But it has become far too common and unpleasantly memorable.

Despite what this article has portrayed, Mt. Abe isn't a terrible place, it just needs change. Investigations shouldn't constantly lead to a dead end, with no justice or closure. Most importantly, peers should have decorum with each other, regardless of their attractions or hatred.

Fallon Bataille '25



Quotes and words of encouragement adorn the wipeboard table with an artistic flair in the library

## LOOKING FORWARD TO ANOTHER RODEO SEASON

By Jada Boise '25

I am beyond excited for this rodeo season with my three amazing horses that I am beyond grateful to have. About 3 years ago, my mom took me to Texas and I came home with my two beautiful paint horses named Spirit and Boone. I bought Spirit as a 3-year-old and Boone as a 10-year-old. Spirit was the baby of the family and I took pride in training and teaching her the ropes of Barrel Racing and pole bending. Boone was a finished barrel and pole horse, but we didn't realize that he had been abused. I have worked extremely hard to earn his trust and taken him back to basics to help understand that I won't hurt him if he makes a mistake. Having horses is all about mistakes. If your horse makes a mistake, it is okay and there is no need to hit them. You go back to the

skill that you were working on and stay patient with them and work through the problem. Having horses is a blessing and they make your life magical.

In 2022, I did NBHA which was an amazing opportunity for me. I won a buckle for pole bending 3D Champion. I was so proud. Last year, I joined the High School Rodeo Association. It was Spirit's first real year running barrels and

poles and we qualified for National High School Rodeo Finals in Wyoming! Going to Wyoming was the most incredible experience of my life. I feel beyond blessed to have had that opportunity, and I am so excited to go again this year!

In November, my dad and I went back to Texas to get another barrel horse. I originally went down for a mare, but she didn't end up going through the sale. There was another horse I was interested in, but he was a gelding and I was looking for a mare. Once he came into the ring, I knew he was the one. I looked at my dad and said that is the one. We bid on him and got him! I was so excited, I started crying. I went back to the pens to go see him. I found out his name was Uno. I looked at him and knew he would be my best friend. When we first got there, I saw this



Boise shows her fine barrel racing form at Pond Hill Rodeo

## MAYO

(Continued from Page 1)

that I have worked with over the years."

Bob Maurer is also a Mt. Abe math teacher, with a strong working relationship with Mayo. His favorite memory of working with Mayo is of her wonderful sense of humor. "She has a very wonderful, open, giving personality," Maurer explained. When asked about what he thought about her retirement, he said that he's happy that Mayo will be able to explore other opportunities. He added, "I hope that I will have the opportunity to see her in the future."

Leah Tierney has Mayo as her math teacher this year. She said, "What I'll miss the most is her kind heart, funny jokes, and stories about my parents." When asked what she liked best about how

she taught math, Tierney said, "I always felt supported if I ever had a question." Tierney's final words to Mayo about her impending retirement or what you hope she does when she's retired were "I will miss having you and I hope you become that back-up singer in the band."

Helen Engvall has had Mayo as her advisor for the last two years. She explained what she will miss most about Mayo, saying, "I will miss her laugh, her jokes, and her genuine care for each student. She is so engaged every day, and she is always genuine and kind with her words. She brightens every morning with her jokes, and she's just an overall lovely person to be around. She is such a light at this school, and I will really miss seeing her every morning." Engvall also had her as a math teacher, and what she liked best was that "she was very patient and

## TASTE OF FRANCE

(Continued from Page 1)

trying different cooking methods, such as braising the chicken and adding more flavor. She added, "The guest chefs taught us a new potato recipe which is now their favorite." Alexander tried a bit of all of the food and she was very pleased with the meals, especially the chicken and potatoes.

Lastly, when asked how French Day started, she told me that Jori Jacobeit, the French teacher, had requested a day for students to celebrate French cuisine and culture. The Eagles Cafe loves special days since they get to try new recipes, different techniques, and work with the kids. Below is the menu of the day.



filly. She was the cutest thing and I was definitely interested in her, but she wasn't my first choice. I went back into the auction house to see her go through and little did I know, I would win the bid. I once again asked Dad if it would be okay, and he said yes. After I won the bid, I called my mom and told her that we were coming home with two. She was so happy for me. Once the horses got home, they had to be in quarantine for 2 weeks, then they went in with my other horses and they all quickly became friends. I will be doing a High School Rodeo with the both of them this year and I can't wait to run Uno and see what he can do! Finding a horse that can run his heart out for me and I know will take care of me is rare. Having this horse is a true honor; being able to care for him and ride him is a blessing.

(See RODEO, Page 6)

always willing to help out. It was obvious she really cared about each and every student." Finally, Engvall shared her hopes for Mayo's retirement, saying, "I truly wish her all the best. I hope to see her selling chocolates and flowers, and enjoying her well-deserved time off!"

Wyatt Moyer had Mayo as a math teacher and HOW lab teacher this year. What he will miss most about Mayo: "Always having a safe and fun place to go for help with anything." What he liked best about how she taught math was how "she invited students to struggle with topics they didn't know and answer questions on the lessons she knew we could answer. She didn't just show us the answers." Moyer's final words to Mayo about her impending retirement were "I hope she comes back and visits.. and stays available for contact with help on my math homework!"

## “BE AN UPSTANDER” POSTERS MADE SOCIAL STUDIES CLASS

# MIDDLE SCHOOL



**BI-COLOR BIRD, MIXED MEDIA**  
By Mady King '28

## I AM A TREE

By Emily Wells '29

I am a tree. I am tall, I am strong, my leaves bringing beauty and signs of happiness to all. When you were a kid, you made a home out of me, hiding away

when your parents got mad and started yelling. I am a tree. It took me forever to get where I am now. The years dragged on, I continued to be nothing but a little stud poking from the ground.

Eventually, I grew big and tall, but you were already too far gone before you got to see it. Before you got to see me. I am a tree. The days don't stop for anyone, and eventually, my leaves start to change. You gawk and say how pretty I look, ignoring what the sight entails. The leaves fall, my branches bare and vulnerable, and suddenly, you don't think I'm pretty anymore. You see my branches, my scraggly and worn down branches, and you leave me. You leave me all alone and wait until my leaves, my beautiful leaves, come back, like they always do, like you know they will, exclaiming to everyone you know how ugly everything looks when I don't have my protective armor to hide my body. You don't like how I

am when I'm not instantly pleasant to the eye, but when have you ever cared about anything other than beauty?

I am a tree. When we were little, you hadn't yet noticed. You hadn't noticed my thinning bark, slowly peeling away as you continued to climb and punch me in your anger as if I hadn't also once been alive. When we were little, you hadn't noticed how I was slowly withering away as you used me for escapes. I still had my leaves, my beautiful, protective leaves. I was still pretty. Now that we're older, now that we're grown, you've started to notice finally. You see the parts of my trunk, my body that was once strong and magnificent, and all you see is bark tearing away from its home, my trunk dying, leaving a skeleton in its wake. We're older now, but maybe not quite so grown up. You've got new things in your life, much more shiny and beautiful than I am, leaving me where I've always been left standing: in your shadow. You see the ugly, broken, peeling away mess you've made of me and decide



**PARROT, MIXED MEDIA**  
By Brayden Fay '29



**TEAL BIRD, MIXED MEDIA**  
By Thatcher Leggett '29

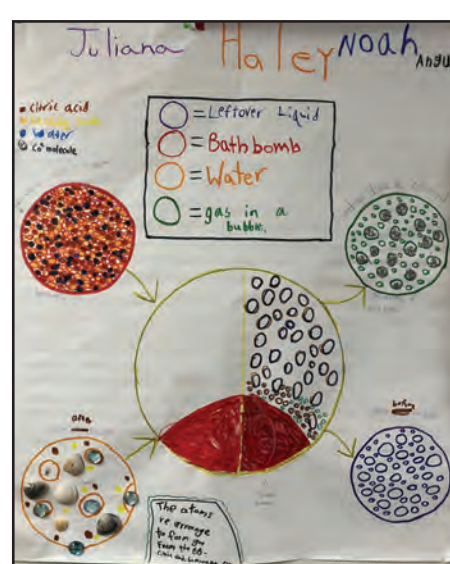
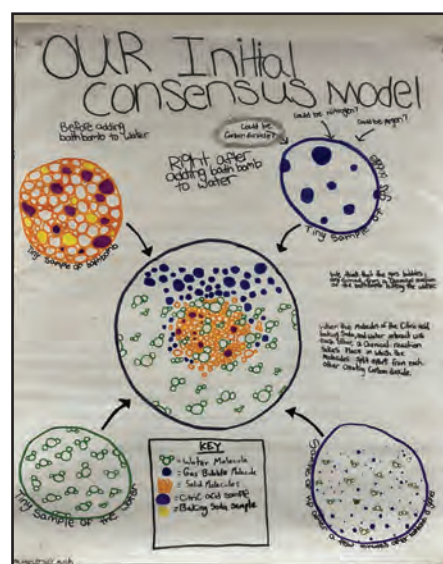
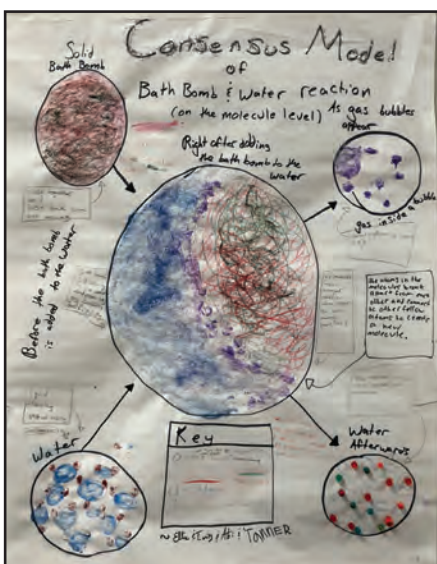
that your new shiny toys are more important than the shelter I've given you for all these years, not minding what it takes from me. I am a tree. I've grown old and ugly, and you cut me down. It has taken me forever to grow so strong and mighty, and you take it all from me in just a couple of swings, a heaping mess of branches on the ground. I have become just another number.

I am a tree. I am tall, I am strong, and my leaves spread beauty and signs of happiness to all, and yet, all you see is a bother, a specimen standing in your way to greatness, never mind the comfort I have given you. I am a tree. To be cut down, to be loved, to be a burden, to be more sticks in your fire. I am a tree. You merely see more wood to be used in your never-ending plans of hurt and selfishness. I am a tree.

*Thank you to Emiko Chrusciel for encouraging art students to share their work here, and to Sarah Fox for getting students to share their writing.*

(See TWO MORE, Page 8)

## CONSENSUS MODEL POSTERS MADE IN SCIENCE CLASS

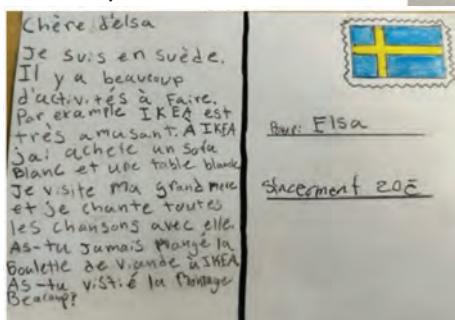


# ART & POETRY

French students were invited to create postcards impersonating two best friends from the story *La Nuit Blanche de Zoe*, a story our French II class is reading.

By Abe Camara '27 and Kestrel Edwards '27

Dear Zoe,  
I am in Colorado in the Aspen Highland. I ski a lot and I am participating in the Junior Olympics. The food in the United States is very good. I love McDonalds. It's very big. I love the Big Mac. Have you ever drank the Grimace shake?  
Sincerely, Elsa



Dear Elsa,  
I am in Sweden. There are a lot of activities to do. For example, going to Ikea is very fun. At Ikea I bought a white couch and a white table. I am visiting my grandmother and I sing a lot of songs with her. Did you like to eat meatballs at IKEA? Did you visit the mountain a lot?  
Sincerely, Zoe



## GIRLS CAN

By Rachel Cousino '27

Girls can do what boys do  
Girls can go huntin', dressed in all camo  
Girls can go fishin' and bait the hook  
They can wear boots and jeans  
Messy hair with no care.

Play football and be a QB  
Girls can go muddin' and get dirty  
Wrestle and win states  
Girls can be CEOs of big companies

Girls can be bosses,  
Wear the pants in a relationship  
Decide what they want to wear  
Have no care if their shoulder is showin'  
They can have the same pay as men  
Provide for themselves on their own  
Girls can do what boys can.

\*written in the style of "Girls, Can We Educate We Dads" by James Berry

## TIME

By Ada Fisher '27

Tie-dye shirts. Sun  
On our faces. Fun

Every day. Where  
Does that stay? In

My mind. Tucked  
Away with time. But

Dust it off. So  
It may cough.

Away the dust. And  
Years of must.

Taken out with  
Time.

"Time" was written in the style of "We Real Cool" by Gwendolyn Brooks

## WHEN I WAS TEN

By Cam Castillo '27

When I was ten,  
I embarked,  
Embarked on the mother of,  
Adventures –  
An adventure so bold that,  
It would make a medieval knight –  
Cringe with fear.  
An arduous trip,  
Through ferocious deserts and all-knowing mountains.  
As you zoom below the peaks,  
You feel –  
Like a mouse in a man's world,  
Scuttling  
Through unimaginable power.  
The harrowing experiences are,  
Too long to list.  
The power outage in Pennsylvania,  
The truck stop in Tennessee.  
The tornado in Texas,  
Even aliens in Alaska.  
Those days  
Of driving.

Of pain,  
And cramped knees.  
Through mega city,  
Through mega country,  
From border to border,  
An adventure,  
That changed—  
Me.  
In spirit,  
Psyche,  
An even more –  
Patience acquired,  
Inner peace required,  
Through heaven and hell,  
From coast to coast,  
Like Columbus en route  
To the new world.  
I met shamen,  
Store clerks,  
And stone masons.  
I was an eagle soaring over  
The phantoms of pain,  
And suffering.

"When I Was Ten" was written in the style of "Nighttime Fires" by Regina Barreca

## ADVANCED METAL SHOP PROJECT

By Greyson Desilets '26

For my Advanced Metal Shop project, I used the Porsche logo to make a wall piece.

First, I drew the design on isometric paper to get the front view and side view (1: picture not available). After I completed my isometric drawing, I used Coreldraw to design and cut out a first draft on blue poster board (2: picture not available).

Once this was done, I got peer review, remediated my first draft, and added the inner shield shape (3). This was then scaled up to its full size and cut on the CNC plasma cutter. Once I took it off the plasma table, I tack-welded an inch tall border all the way around the logo to make it stick out (4). Before this project was considered done, I spray painted it matte black, and now I have a completed Porsche wall piece (5).



4



3



5

## THE CLOUDS WERE MOUNTAINS THAT DAY

By Bella Osborne '27

The clouds were mountains that day,  
The mountains were clouds that day,  
The sun was the moon that day,  
The moon was the sun that day.

Everything was the opposite that day,  
I don't know why but I liked it.  
I liked that everything wasn't perfect,  
it was peaceful.  
Oh what peace when the moon and the sun and the mountains and the clouds didn't follow any rules.  
Perfection was just a word, not a goal.  
Perfection is the clouds, the moon, the mountains, the sun.

However it is not what you think.  
You think of perfection as making no mistakes.  
But my perfection is you make mistakes,  
You find new ways to be perfect.

Perfection was in the clouds that day.  
Perfection was in the mountains that day.  
Perfection was in the sun that day.  
Perfection was on the moon that day.

# SURVEY REVEALS MT. ABE'S FAVORITE SEASONS AND REASONS

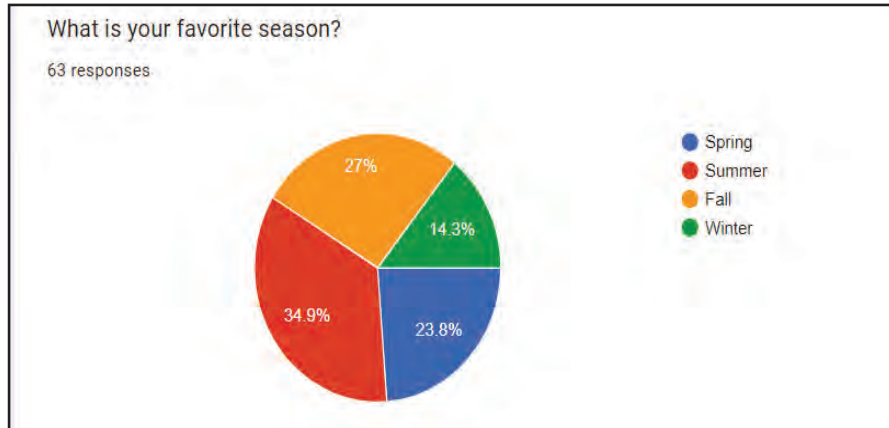
By Michael LaRock

A recent survey asked all teachers, staff and students at Mt. Abe about their favorite season and months within the seasons.

When asked what their favorite season was, 22 out of 63 said summer, 17 said fall, 15 said spring, and 9 said winter. Ninth grader Madison Bartlett said, "Summer is my favorite, because I can swim all the time in the summer. Also, it's really warm and you can do more stuff in the summer time than you can in the winter time." Seventh grader Ellis Carrico picked winter because "I get to play in the snow and ski."

The favorite month in the favorite season, summer, was July, getting 32 out of 63 votes, while 16 said August, 8 said the end of June, and last by one vote was the beginning of September with 7 votes. Ninth grader Cameron Vose picked July and said, "It's not too warm or cold."

October was hands down the favorite month of the second favorite season of fall at 54%, while 25% said the end of Sep-



tember, 16% picked November, and the beginning of December had only 5%. TAP intern Angus Dickerson said, "It is the best month for fashion, with its light jackets and sweaters. There are lots of opportunities for layering before it gets super cold."

When asked about their favorite month in spring, 43% said May, 29% said the beginning of June, and 19% said April. The least popular was the end of March at

10%. English teacher Katie Burdett picked May and explained, "It's a nice in-between month. It's usually warming up, but not too hot yet. Also, the plants and flowers are typically green and blossoming."

Finally, for the favorite month of the least favorite season of winter, 23 of 63 said the end of December, 17 said January, 12 said the beginning of March, and 11 said February. Tenth grader Riley Abbott

# STUDENTS SHARE FAVORITE CLASSES, TEACHERS, SCHEDULE DAYS

By Dylan Wells

A survey was sent out asking students what they liked and disliked about school, with 19 middle school students and 14 high schoolers responding.

Students were asked about their favorite class, and art was the most popular with 7 out of 33 student votes. Math and English were tied for second with 5 votes each. Science and P.E./Health also tied, with four votes. Chorus got 2 votes and wood shop got one vote. Students were then asked why, and 30% said because they liked the subject, 27% said because of the teacher, and 18% said for the learning style. Ninth grader Madison Bartlett said art was her favorite class and explained, "I like the hands-on stuff and the jewelry we make is really nice and you can make professional-grade rings. I also like it because Ryan Strobel is a really good teacher." Seventh grader Brooke Purinton said Chorus because "I love singing in groups, and how many friends I have in that class."

On the opposite side of the ques-

tion, students were asked about their least favorite class. The least favorite class, to the chagrin of many, was math with 8 out of 33 student votes. In second was science with 6 votes, and last was P.E. with 4 student votes. When asked why, 23% said because of the other students in the class, there was a tie for second between the subject and the learning style at 13% and lastly, only 20% said because of the teacher. Junior Hazel Stoddard said physics was her least favorite because "the subject just doesn't work for me. The learning style doesn't work."

Next, students were asked who their favorite teacher was, and the most popular teacher was Cathy Turner, who teaches middle school Health, with 5 out of 33 student votes. In second was middle school English teacher Sarah Fox with 3 student votes. Third place was a four-way tie between middle school social studies teacher Karyn Norwood, middle school math teacher Emily Ringquist, middle school art teacher Emiko Chrusciel, and high school

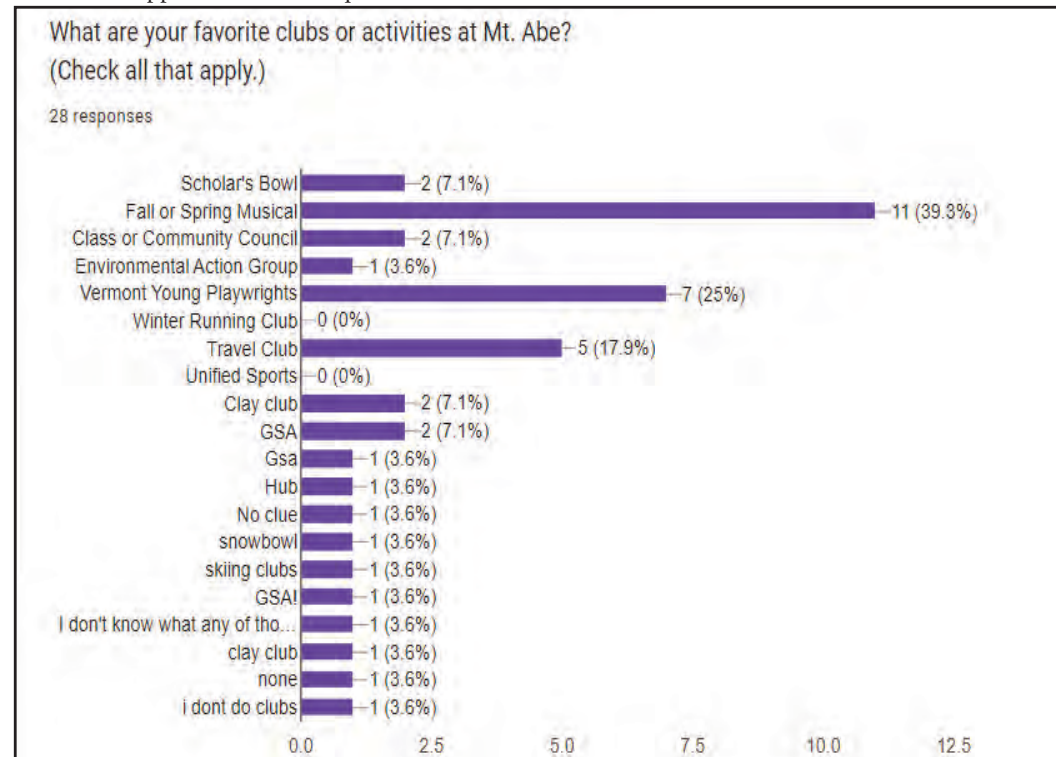
art teacher Ryan Strobel, each garnering 2 student votes apiece. Seventh grader Emily Wells said her favorite teacher was Turner because "she's always really understanding and open-minded."

Students were then asked what schedule they preferred, and 34% of the students said that both of the days were fine, while 28% said they preferred white days over maroon days, and 25% said they liked maroon days more than white days, only 12% said they preferred neither white or maroon days. Seventh grader Brooke Purinton explained why they didn't like either days. "On white days, I have to miss a quarter of lunch to put my Chromebook back from stem, and on maroon days, I have Gym, which I'm not very athletic."

Students were also asked about their favorite sports at Mt. Abe, to play or watch, and soccer and basketball were tied for most popular, with track & field and softball a close second. Other favorites included volleyball, field hockey, lacrosse, and wrestling. Eighth grader Payton

Shepard wrote, "Soccer is my favorite sport to play and watch. I really enjoy my coaches and my teammates, because we have a solid, safe team I can be myself around. Soccer can be serious when we need to be, but also have fun and laugh at times. It adds to my Mt. Abe experience by giving me something to look forward to at school when I wake up in the mornings." Seventh grader Jordan Ryersbach said, "Lacrosse is my favorite sport because it's so interesting and there is a lot of running. I like how students at Mt. Abe are supported by parents, peers and community members."

Finally, students were asked about their favorite clubs or activities. *See graph at left for results.*



# SURVEYS

said the beginning of March "because it's starting to change and get less cold, and spring is near!"

When asked about any other seasons they liked, 21% said mud season, 15% said fishing, 6% said hunting season, and 4% said stick season, possibly making a reference to the song. Seventh grader Elliot Olstad chose mud season, saying, "It's in spring and I like spring." History teacher Jess Little said stick season because "I like it when it is cool and dry and the tree branches are visible."

# WHAT WAS THE BEST THING YOU DID OVER APRIL VACATION?

**Ryan Jennings '24:** "I was able to take a youth out for youth turkey season and on Sunday the 28th, he got a 20lb tom with a 10 1/4 inch beard and 3/4 inch spurs."



**Math teacher Teresa Boucher:** "I got animals for my farm!!"



# INTERNS

(Continued from Page 1)

performance. She explained that he was teaching Global Studies 9 and A.P. U.S. History and co-teaching Independent and Guided Learning Opportunities. Little added, "He will be a great teacher when he finishes his internship because he really makes the lessons fun to do."

Grzyb explained that Dickerson will teach English 9 and added, "He is great at connecting with students. He's super knowledgeable, and a kind and empathetic teacher." Hughes' and Dickerson's time spent at Mt. Abe has been a positive experience that will guide their future careers.

## SCREAM VI USES GOOD HORROR ASPECTS FOR A SEQUEL

By Kaydence White

The movie *Scream VI* was an entertaining movie. Each *Scream* movie does a really good job with the plot in terms of the variety of ways they're going to murder each victim. You may think ghostface is running out of ideas six films in, but this latest installment has plenty to offer both old fans and newcomers to the series.

Jenna Ortega plays Tara Carpenter, the main character, who tries to figure out who the killer is before she gets killed. Ortega is kind of believable, but could have been more dramatic when she witnessed a murder. Of course, if she had been



more cautious, the movie would've lasted ten minutes. Mason Gooding, in the role of Chad, was my favorite actor because he was convincing in the way he cared for Tara. I found Tony Revolori's performance as Jason Carvey to be obnoxious, and the character undeveloped and unrealistic.

The majority of the murder scenes are well done, meaning they are scary and horrific.

However, the first murder scene is stupid. The character just wanders down a dark alleyway with no precaution and of course, they get stabbed. The best one is the end-

ing death where Ethan Landry, played by Jack Champion, gets stabbed in his mouth and then has a television smashed on his head. If that sounds bloody and gory, that's because it is, but if you like horror movies, you'll find it entertaining.

The iconic ghostface costume was as scary as ever. When the film revealed a closet full of scream masks, this might have been the creepiest part of the film. I also enjoyed the soundtrack they used because they featured artists like Billie Eilish, Demi Lovato, and Girl in Red.

I'd give this film 4 1/2 out of 5 stars because of all the suspense building up to the reveal of the killer, but I wouldn't recommend it if you don't like scary movies or don't enjoy gory movies. *Scream VI* couldn't beat the original *Scream* film, but it's not the worst.

## HIGH SCHOOL SEES RECORD NUMBER OF PLAYWRIGHTS PARTICIPATE

By Ada Fisher '27

Vermont Young Playwrights (VYP) is a program that allows middle and high schoolers from all over the state to write and direct their own one-act plays. This year, Mt. Abe high school had a record number of participants.

VYP occurs over two in-school workshop days during the winter and spring seasons, and participants are provided guidance from a professional playwright throughout the process. There is also a festival held in May in Burlington where two student-written plays are chosen to be performed by professional actors and directors. Ninth grader

Megan Bowers participated this year and said, "I liked hearing other people's writing, and the things I learned in playwrights I feel that I could apply to other parts of my life. The opportunity to see my work performed by other students was also a great learning tool. I learned a lot and re-

ally liked the program."

The program was coordinated by English teacher Vicki Bronson and had 19 student playwrights. Mt. Abe's professional playwright this year was Ethan Bowen, who has his own theatre company and has been working with VYP since 1995.

Because Mt. Abe pays the fees to participate, the program itself is free to attend and allows students to be creative and express themselves through theatre. It has been running for 29 years and serves ~25 schools in Vermont, with Mt. Abe being one of the lucky participants in the high school and middle school this year.



Vermont Young Playwrights high school participants 2024 pause during the first workshop for a yearbook photo

## FRENCH STUDENTS ATTEND FESTIVAL IN WINOOSKI IN MARCH

By Nell Harvey '24

On Thursday, March 28th, seven Mt. Abe students made their way to Winooski to attend the French Festival, hosted by Winooski High School. The festival was a celebration of the declaration of March 20th being the official "Day of La Francophonie."

Not only did these students get to at-

tend this ceremony, they had the honor of sharing what the French language means to them. For many students, French is a way to explore the world, near and far, and to connect with others in the process. Joanna Toy explained this exact feeling when she said, "French is a little like a secret language that is just for us." For everyone, the French language holds a different

meaning and with that, a great importance.

The Master of Ceremonies was Lise Veronneau, the Honorary Consul to France for Vermont. The students also got to hear from Marie-Josée Duquette, who is a part of the Québec Government Office in Boston, and various other adults that work in Québec and Boston with the Consulate and



Annie duFault at the podium, while Harvey, Siena Stanley & Anna Stilwell look on



French Government.

Attending the Francophonie Festival was a wonderful way to connect with the French community in Vermont and to celebrate this day of declaration.

## REVIEWS

### INDEPENDENT READING TIME IS NEW FAVORITE PART OF FRENCH CLASS

By Molly Burgess '26

As a French II student, one of my favorite parts of our class is "lecture indépendante" which is the 10 minutes we got to read in the beginning of class. Ms. Jacobeit allows our class to pick a French book of choice to read for the first ten minutes of class. During these ten minutes, there are no distractions allowed. We are allowed to do nothing but sit and read our books for ten minutes. This has helped me become more focused and content in our classes. This is also a great way for us to cool down before class, because we come straight from lunch. There are so many different types of books to choose from; for example, there are graphic novels, non-fiction, science fiction, mystery, drama, sports and more. For anybody who finds this to be interesting and if you would like to be a part of the French reading community, Ms. Jacobeit welcomes students to come into F.I.T.



block on Fridays to read whatever you would like, including English books. Tea is also available if you would like some as you are reading!



Small sample of French books to choose from

## RODEO

(Continued from Page 2)

I really just want to thank my parents for all they have done for me. I wouldn't be where I am today without them. They are my biggest supporters and they are there when I need them. If something happens, they are right there by my side. Throughout my life, I have learned that if you had a horse and lost it, it is better to have loved and lost than to never have loved at all. I love all of my horses, but I have one up above that was my whole world, and even though he's gone, I know he is looking over me. Rodeo is beyond busy and it can get stressful, but all of my horses have all taught me something different, and with patience, I truly have become a better rider. I am so excited to run these amazing horses this year and have all the support that I am so blessed to have. I couldn't imagine life without these amazing animals.

## SPANISH STUDENTS SHARE LA NIÑEZ (MY CHILDHOOD) PROJECTS

By Jake Prouty '25

Cuando era niño me gustaba la música de rock clásico. Por ejemplo nosotros escuchábamos en mi papá's radio. Pasábamos mucho tiempo escuchando música con mi papá. Después de la escuela primaria mi papá siempre tenía música. Un día mi papá compra una guitarra. Me encantaba la guitarra. La guitarra era fascinada era niño y la actualidad. Cuando era niño, mi comida favorita era la sopa de letras. Mi mamá cocinaba sopa de letras porque yo me enfermaba. Yo jugaba con bloques y legos cuando era niño. Yo

jugaba con mi amigos fuera en el verano. Nosotros nadábamos en el río de New Haven. Mi familia veía *Good Luck Charlie* y *Jessie* y *Spongebob* en la televisión. Nuestro favorito erabamos *Good Luck Charlie*. En general mi era nino was muy bein y conmovedor.



When I was a kid, I liked classic rock music. For example, we listened to the radio with my parents. We spent a lot of time listening to music with my dad. After elementary school, my dad always had music. One day, my dad bought a guitar. I loved the guitar. The guitar was fascinated when I was a child and today. When I was a child, my favorite food was alphabet soup. My mother cooked alphabet soup because I would get sick. I played with blocks and Legos when I was a kid. I played with my friends outside in the summer. We swam in the New Haven River. My family watched *Good Luck Charlie* and *Jessie* and *Spongebob* on TV and always had dinner together. Our favorite was *Good Luck Charlie*. In general my childhood was very nice.

By Hazel Stoddard '25

Yo era una niña interesante, activa, tenía mucha energía. Iba a la escuela en Starksboro a la Robinson School. En la escuela jugaba con mis amigas, mi mejor amiga era Louisa. Jugábamos fútbol, familia y niños perseguen niñas. Jugaba fútbol por muchos años. Juego fútbol ahora. Jugaba fútbol en Nicaragua en la playa. Fui a Nicaragua tres veces. Veía animales como monos, perros, lagartos y cucarachas del mar. Veía *Wild Kratts* de

pequeño y aprendía sobre animales. Mi personaje favorito en *Wild Kratt* era Aviva porque ella era inteligente, bonita y manaba la tortuga. Me gustaba jugar en el bosque y construir casas de hada. También yo coleccionaba rocas bonitas y decoraba la casa con las rocas. Otros juguetes eran animales de peluche, bloques, libros y gemas de plástico. Mi madre hacía la alfombrilla con fieltro; tenía ríos, carreteras y parques. Tenía un tren de madera y manejaba los trenes en la alfombra.

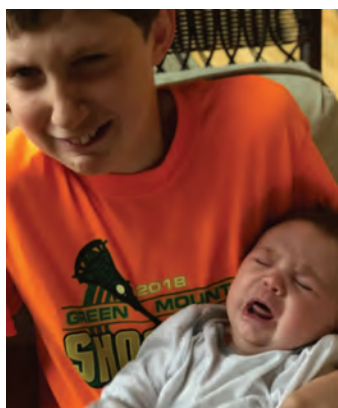


When I was a little girl, I was interesting, active and had lots of energy. I went to school at Robinson School. At school I played with my friends, my best friend was Louisa. We played soccer, and the family and boys chased the girls. I played soccer for many years. I play soccer now. I played soccer in Nicaragua on the beach. I went to Nicaragua three times. I saw animals like monkeys, dogs, lizards and cockroaches of the sea. I watched *Wild Kratts*

when I was little and learned about animals. My favorite character in *Wild Kratts* was Aviva because she was smart, pretty and drove the tortuga. Also, I collected pretty rocks and decorated my house with them. Other toys I had were stuffed animals, blocks, books and plastic gems. My mom made a rug out of felt, it had rivers, roads and parks. I had wooden trains and drove them on the rug.

By Wyatt Bannister '26

Yo era muy travieso y desobediente cuando era niño. Yo haría peleaba con mi hermano y ganar. Yo iba mi abuela casa alguna vez al desayuno. Yo y mi hermano veíamos Jorge el curioso. Mi juguete favorito era mi oso de peluche. Su nombre era Teddy. Yo jugaba con mi amigo Rhett, nosotros jugábamos fútbol americano y basquetbol. Mi comida favorita era pasta, yo comía pasta por cada comida. Cada verano mi familia y yo íbamos a Carolina del Norte. nosotros nadábamos en la playa.



I was very naughty and disobedient when I was a child. I would fight with my brother and win. I used to go to my grandmother's house sometimes for breakfast. Me and my brother watched *Curious George*. My favorite toy was my teddy bear. His name was Teddy. I played with my friend Rhett, we played football and basketball. My favorite food was pasta, I ate pasta for every meal. Every summer my family and I went to North Carolina. We swam on the beach.

By Esme Visco-Lyons '25

De niña, era muy sociable y habladora, pero a veces era tímida. No era muy traviesa, pero me gustaba molestar a mi hermana. No mentía mucho de niña, pero una vez, robé un LEGO de mi escuela primaria. Mis padres no sabían que el LEGO no fue de mi, porque no se lo dije. Me gustaba mucho jugar con mis amigos, y con los LEGOs. También, jugaba con los bloques y las muñecas plásticas. Mi programa de televisión favorito era *Shaun la Oveja*, y a mi mamá le gustó mucho, así que veíamos mucho. Iba al campo de recreación con mi papá, y nosotros jugábamos al fútbol. Nadaba

en la piscina de Mt. Abe por el equipo de natación. Conocí a Ruby y Hazel de niña muchos años pasados. Conocí a Hazel en el jardín de infancia de Starksboro. Nosotros jugábamos debajo de la mesa del jardín de infancia. Un día, Hazel fue un gato y yo fui su gatito. Conocí a Ruby en un restaurante se llamaba Mary's. Ahora, el restaurante se llama Tillerman. Nosotros íbamos a un campamento que fue dirigido por la madre de Ruby. Así es como era cuando era niña.



As a kid, I was very sociable and talkative, but sometimes I was also timid. I wasn't very naughty, but I used to like to annoy my brother. I didn't lie much as a child but one time, I stole a LEGO from my elementary school. My parents didn't know that the LEGO wasn't mine, because I didn't tell them. I liked to play with my friends, and with LEGOs. Also, I used to play with blocks and Barbies. My favorite television show was *Shaun the Sheep*, and my mom really liked it, so we watched it a lot. I used to go to the Bristol Recreation Fields with my dad and we used to play soccer there. I used to swim in the Mt. Abe pool for the Addison Otters swim team. I met my friends Hazel and Ruby when I was a kid many years ago. I met Hazel at Starksboro pre-school. We used to play under the table at the pre-school. One day, Hazel was a cat and I was her kitten. I met Ruby at a restaurant named Mary's. Now, the restaurant is called the Tillerman. We used to go to a camp run by Ruby's mom. That is how I was when I was a kid.

## SCHOLARS

(Continued from Page 1)



Vermont NEA Small School Scholars' Bowl Champions 2024:  
Reed Cousino '27, Joe Darling '24, Cam Castillo '27, Cole Putnam '26, Sam Schoendorf '25

Mt. Abe won the small school division in January based on points, and Montpelier won based on points in April, requiring a head-to-head championship game at the finals in April. Having come off a loss in the finals the previous year, the team was ecstatic about this. "It was great to be able to lead the Mt. Abe team to victory for the first time since the team re-formed three years ago," said junior Sam Schoendorf, varsity team captain.

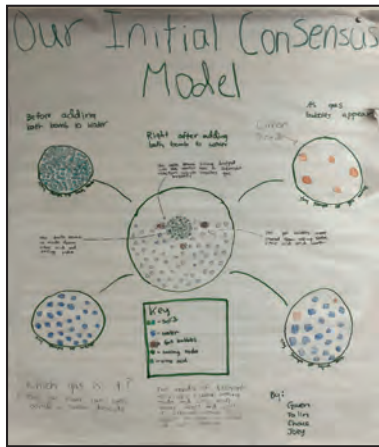
This win qualified them for the Small School National Championships, which the team hopes to go to next year. "If we get the money together, we would love to be able to have the opportunity to go to Nationals," said ninth grader Reed Cousino, Varsity team member.

*Thank you to Nate Shepard for encouraging students to share their La Niñez stories here, and to Jori Jacobeit for getting her French II students to submit their writing!*

## TWO MORE FROM THE MIDDLE SCHOOL

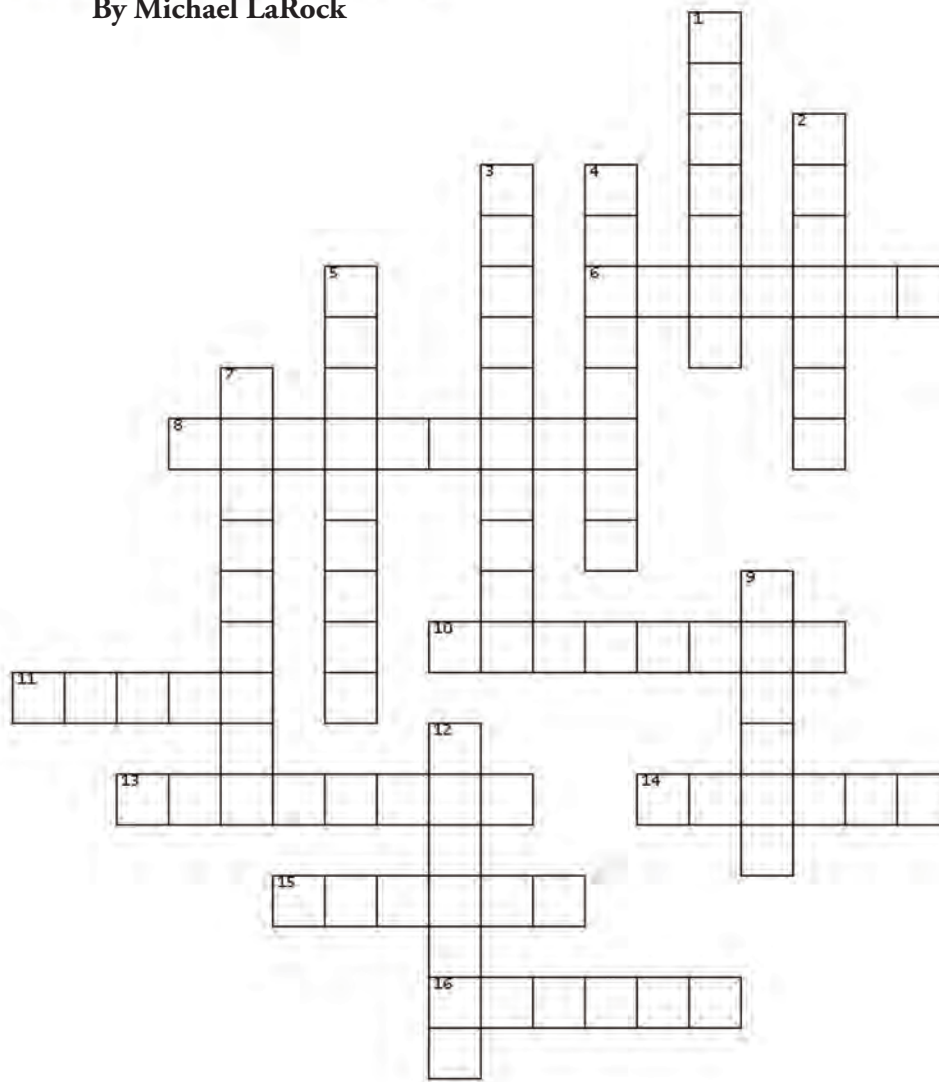


**BIRD, MIXED MEDIA**  
By Elsa Masefield '29



## Cat and Dog Breeds

By Michael LaRock



**ACROSS**

- 6. Most popular dog mascot
- 8. Badger hound
- 10. Breed of famous meme grumpy cat
- 11. Dwarf dog traditionally owned by British royalty
- 13. Cat that shares a name with donut holes
- 14. Tri-color type of cat that is almost exclusively female
- 15. "The Sacred Cat of Burma"
- 16. Hairless breed of kitty

**DOWN**

- 1. Breed that shares a name with pop star "Mr. Worldwide"
- 2. "Dog-like cats," named for their receptiveness to human touch
- 3. Longhair cat whose name references street urchins
- 4. Canadian breed that retrieves
- 5. Tiny Mexican breed
- 7. Cruella de Vil dognapped 101 of them
- 9. Requires periodic haircuts
- 12. Breed of cat originating in Thailand

For the solution go to: <https://sites.google.com/a/anesu.org/birds-eye-view/home/puzzles>

## LUNCH

(Continued from Page 1)

job as a "lunch lady." She said, "I enjoy that, as a district, we try to go with local options." Mt. Abe indeed serves food that is local and rarely artificial. Earle says she eats school lunch "all the time" and enjoys the taste. She explained, "I even try things that I never would have and often, I turn out to actually like them."

The U.S. wouldn't have had any of this "meal plan" without Harry Truman, who turned this idea into law in 1946 with concerns of malnutrition of children. When asked if she thought the meal plan that is offered at Mt. Abe is sufficient, Earle responded, "I think so, yes. I think we offer a wide variety of breakfast and lunch options, and that we get enough of the required nutrients out."

As far as areas of improvement, Earle said, "If I could change one thing, it would be to go over and redo the portion sizes. I think some kids can eat more than we portion out." Despite all the meal-making that lunch workers do throughout

the day, Earle has never felt over-worked and enjoys her job.

A lot of students love desserts, but they are rarely served at school. When asked whether they would enjoy serving more sweet treats such as cookies or apple crisp, Earle responded with a rather sweet answer: "I'd love to bring it back one or two days a week."

James Hughes is a UVM student teacher at Mt. Abe who frequently eats school lunch. He was asked if he had any favorite meals that the school provided. "I like the salad on the salad bar." Students and teachers alike know that the school offers salads every day. He was then asked the opposite question, what his least favorite food was, and he replied, "I'm always reticent to eat what I would call Hispanic or Mexican food from places that aren't from my house." When asked if the food tasted good, he said, "I would say it was better than the school lunch they served me as a youngster, but good food is a relative term." Finally, Hughes

talked about changes he might make to the Mt. Abe menu if he could, saying, "I would probably have the salad bar be a little more consistent, and there are a few things I miss that are not there, like pineapple."

For more information or to see the monthly menus, check out <https://mausd-anwsdnutrition.com/>



Graphic by Bruce Babbitt

### The Bird's Eye View

**Contact:**

Mt. Abraham Union High School  
220 Airport Drive  
Bristol, VT 05443  
Phone: (802) 453-2333 x62095  
Fax: (802) 453-4359

**Advisor** Vicki Bronson  
vicki.bronson@mausd.org

**Staff:** Michael LaRock '25 Dylan Wells '26  
Kaydence White '24

[sites.google.com/a/anesu.org/birds-eye-view/](https://sites.google.com/a/anesu.org/birds-eye-view/)



Middle School students' goals form the petals of sunflowers in a hall display

# PUZZLES

sponsored by **SPARROW ART SUPPLY**

## ACROSS

- 1. Lions do it
- 5. In favor of
- 8. Rest here please (abbr.)
- 11. Pulpits
- 13. Leisure activity
- 14. Fertility god
- 15. Financial obligations
- 16. When you anticipate getting somewhere
- 17. Spanish river
- 18. Sporting events
- 20. Type of tree
- 21. Ceased to be
- 22. Persons
- 25. Synthetic resin
- 30. Relates to photochemical

reactions

- 31. Father
- 32. Former Cowboys coach
- 33. City in Finland
- 38. Run batted in
- 41. Got through
- 43. They darken skin
- 45. In a harmful way
- 48. Form of weaving
- 49. City of Angels hoopster
- 50. Caucasian language
- 55. Syngman ... Korean president
- 56. Sun up in New York
- 57. Paddled
- 59. Fishes
- 60. Affirmative

61. Nimble

- 62. Doctor of Education
- 63. Soviet Socialist Republic
- 64. A small island

## DOWN

- 1. Cool!
- 2. Hebrew unit of measure
- 3. Swedish rock group
- 4. College army
- 5. Favor over another
- 6. Called it a career
- 7. Egg-shaped wind instrument
- 8. Israeli statesman
- 9. Hurries
- 10. Slog

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				
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48						49				50	51	52	53	54
55						56				57				58
59						60				61				
62						63					64			

						9			
			2	9					
8			3	6				4	
	7			8					
9	1							7	
			1					6	2
		1				5			
		6	8						
5	3	9	7	2					6

## 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**

- 12. Midway between south and southeast
- 14. Benedictine monk
- 19. Self-immolation by fire ritual
- 23. Family of regulator genes
- 24. Surrendering
- 25. Political action committee
- 26. S. American plant
- 27. Long-term memory
- 28. Bark
- 29. Breathes in
- 34. Take hold of
- 35. Everyone has one
- 36. Valentine's Day color
- 37. Drivers' licenses and passports
- 39. Outer walls of castles
- 40. Enters with force
- 41. One thousandth of an inch
- 42. Deceased Chinese politician
- 44. Sugary secretion of plants
- 45. Expressed pleasure
- 46. Shelter
- 47. Utilizes
- 48. Forest resident
- 51. Fashion accessory
- 52. A sharply directional antenna
- 53. ... Kristofferson, actor
- 54. A bad place to end up
- 58. MLBer Gordon

This week's puzzle solutions can be found on Page 13.



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A series of *free* artist talks and demonstrations at 6:30pm featuring artists from Green Gold!

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**May 14: Zarabeth Duell**  
LAYERED WATERCOLOR

**May 16: Kristen Donegan**  
FORAGED PIGMENTS AND CLAY

**May 23: Jim Bruce**  
MIXED MEDIA AND SYMBOLISM

Attendance is free, but reservations are required! RSVP at [sparrowartsupply.com](http://sparrowartsupply.com)!

# 3 THINGS TO DO

## Addison County adjacent

**SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE:** DUNGEONS & DRAGONS, COMMUNITY CHORUS AND BAND, AND A PRO-WRESTLING ROCK CONCERT

### D&D INTERACTIVE PERFORMANCE COMES TO THE VALLEY

The Valley Players will host "Chaos in the Valley: Undeclared Champ," on Friday, May 3, at 7 p.m., at the Valley Players Theater, 4254 Main Street (Rt. 100) in Waitsfield. This Dungeons & Dragons-themed show will feature four improv comedians/table top role players and a Dungeon Master. Admission for the audience is a small donation to the Valley Players Theater. This show is rated PG-13 for some language and figurative violence and will last about two hours.

The players for this Valley Players event are Jordan Streeter (Moretown) as The Dungeon Master, Allen Morgan (Burlington) as Old Roald the Bold, Jon van Luling (Burlington) as Gnarly Undercarriage, Eric Badger (Waterbury) as Breadly Baker, and Izzy Grae (St. Albans) as Bungi.

When the game of Dungeons & Dragons is played in front of an audience it adds an extra amount of spontaneity. Audience members can make additional donations (to the Valley Players) to participate in the show by altering game events at set times, such as making a

player re-roll; adding or subtracting monsters in a fight; and adding bonuses to a player's roll. Audience members are encouraged to bring cash for these transactions; the Valley Players Venmo code will also be available to scan for purchases.

No reservations are required, seats will be available on a first come, first served basis starting at 6:30 p.m. The audience may bring snacks and beverages to enjoy during the game. Questions may be emailed to valleyplayers@madriver.com or call 802-583-1674.

### HINESBURG ARTIST SERIES PRESENTS A MOTHER'S DAY CONCERT

The Hinesburg Artist Series (HAS) will celebrate spring and Mother's Day with a concert full of beautiful music on Sunday, May 12, at 4 p.m., in the CVU auditorium. The concert will feature the Hinesburg Community Band and South County Chorus, both under the direction of Rufus Patrick.

## FROM THE FURRY TO THE SCALY, WE WANT TO CELEBRATE THEM ALL!

Does your pup possess an abundance of paw-someness? Is your cat the epitome of purr-fection? Perhaps your ferret is your ultimate BFF (best ferret forever)? Or maybe you have a snake that's simply ssssssuper? Then it's time to showcase them in the annual Addison Independent Pet Photo Contest!

# Pet PHOTO

## C O N T E S T

We've got categories for every type of pet personality:

- Funny Faces
- Best Pals
- Action Shot
- Couch Potato
- Model Shot
- Work Companions

Entering the contest is easy! You can submit via email to [contests@addisonindependent.com](mailto:contests@addisonindependent.com), online at [addisonindependent.com/contests](http://addisonindependent.com/contests), or drop off your entry in person or by mail at **58 Maple Street, Middlebury.**

Don't forget to include your pet's name(s), approximate age(s), and a brief description of why they're the best at what they do. Entries are welcome until **Sunday, May 19th at 11:59 PM.**

Voting will take place at [www.addisonindependent.com/pet-photo-contest](http://www.addisonindependent.com/pet-photo-contest) from Monday, May 20th to Sunday, May 26th. And yes, you can vote for more than one pet!

The winners will be announced on May 30th in our special Animal Issue of Arts + Leisure. Each top winner in their respective category will receive a prize from Middlebury Agway.

**Questions?** Reach out to Jenna at [contests@addisonindependent.com](mailto:contests@addisonindependent.com)

Sponsored by **AGWAY**  
MIDDLEBURY FARM & GARDEN



Each category winner will receive a gift certificate from Agway



"We have put together a lovely mix of music that families are sure to enjoy," Patrick said. "This concert will be a wonderful way to celebrate spring and mothers."

The Hinesburg Community Band will present selections by James Swearingen, Randall Standridge, Robert Longfield and a rousing piece entitled "Dragons Fly On The Winds Of Time" by Larry Neeck. The South County Chorus will sing selections by Michael Engelhardt, Howard Helvey, and David Waggoner. Other featured selections will be "Turn the World Around" by Harry Belafonte, arranged by Mark Hayes and "A Million Dreams" from the "Greatest Showman" arranged by Mark Brymer.

"Performing for our local community for more than 25 years has been so inspiring," Patrick added. "We have enjoyed support from people who attend regularly, from many local businesses who have advertised faithfully in our program, individuals who have been moved to donate, and



## OUT OF TOWN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

performers who are dedicated to bringing joy to the community through music."

The concert is free, with donations gratefully accepted. For more info visit [hinesburgartistseries.org](http://hinesburgartistseries.org).

### PROFESSIONAL WRESTLERS & THEATRE PERFORMERS TAKE TO THE 'STAGE'

From the theatrical minds of Jason Huza and Jeremiah James, comes a heartfelt homage to the art of professional wrestling that blends daring athletic feats with the melodic sounds of a Broadway-style rock musical at Burlington's Higher Ground on Tuesday, May 7.

"The Last Match: A Pro-Wrestling Rock Experience" follows veteran professional wrestling icon Ben Vengeance as he steps into the ring for his final pay-per-view event after a career that lasted 30 years. He is set to battle the formidable up-and-comer Alexander Swagger for the BTD World Heavyweight Championship Title in what will be Vengeance's final match.

In the world of "The Last Match," the ring is a stage, and the stage is a battleground — a place where legends are born and dreams are realized. Catch this unique evening on May 7, at Higher Ground in South Burlington. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. and the show starts at 8 p.m. Reserve tickets in advance at [thelastmatch.com/tickets](http://thelastmatch.com/tickets).



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## Pet of the WEEK

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**Dr. Megan Swasey** earned her Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine from Purdue University and served in the U.S. Army as a veterinarian. Dr. Swasey lives with her husband on a dairy farm in Shoreham and offers care throughout Addison County and neighboring towns.



## Addison County

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[meganswaseydv@gmail.com](mailto:meganswaseydv@gmail.com) | [addisoncountyyvet.com](http://addisoncountyyvet.com)  
Facebook: Addison County Mobile Veterinary Services

## Pets In Need

### HOMeward BOUND

Addison County's Humane Society

### Cynthia



**Cynthia** is a lovely 4.5-year-old girl who came to us all the way from Florida. She was abandoned by her owner when they moved out of the country. She was left in the street and she was found in a plaza where she enjoyed a colony of cats. Cynthia was rescued because she always came to her feeder for attention. She is very calm and she likes to be petted most on her back. She loves wet food and prefers to be with adult cats. Cynthia is FIV+ and will have the same life expectancy as a cat that doesn't have FIV.

### Rey




**Rey** is a little firecracker. She is sweet, fun, and full of playful energy. She loves playing with other cats as well as with her people and with toys; she has even been known to play fetch! Rey is very athletic, energetic, and fun-loving. She's social and not afraid of meeting everyone. She never hides and she is very friendly, even with new people she meets. Rey is a little comedian and is so entertaining. She loves to be brushed and gets along with cats, dogs, and children. She is on a seafood diet because of a poultry allergy.

### Honey



**Honey** is part of our Third Party adoption program. She is still residing with her family. She is a 2.5-year-old boxer/hound mix weighing 80 pounds. She is a high-energy dog with social anxiety looking for a quiet home, away from the hustle and bustle of a busy town. All toys and games are fun for Honey whether balls, Frisbees, or tug toys. She likes to fetch, chase, and learn tricks for treats. She is super affectionate and thrives on attention.

### Nachos



**Nachos** is a 66-pound black lab mix bursting with energy and charm! At 2.5 years old, he is a silly goofball who would best thrive in a quiet home environment, ideally with one dedicated person. He has previously lived with dog-savvy cats. Nachos is a bundle of joy who craves ample exercise, mental stimulation, and playtime making him the perfect companion for an active individual. His playful, affectionate demeanor ensures he will keep you entertained and will shower you with love & snuggles.

### Wheel



Meet adorable 4-year-old **Wheel**! She is a Checkered-mix and fully litter box trained. She is shy at first but quickly becomes your best friend when tempted with tasty treats. Wheel is a gentle soul who would do best in a quiet, laid-back home with older children, as too much commotion stresses her out. She adores gentle pets on the head and engaging in stimulating activities like stacking cups and solving puzzle feeders. She is becoming a master at tricks.

### Want to learn more?

Call or check our website. We may have a pet for you!  
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# THE HOME

A LOOK INSIDE AREA HOMES FOR SALE

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*This week's property is managed by IPJ Real Estate.  
More info at [middvermontrealestate.com](http://middvermontrealestate.com).*





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This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertisement for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination, call HUD Toll-free at 1-800-669-9777.

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[www.theRealEstateCompanyVT.com](http://www.theRealEstateCompanyVT.com)  
THREE MAIN STREET | BRISTOL, VERMONT 05443 | 802.453.6161

**FOR RENT**

RELAX AT LAKE DUNMORE





This newly renovated **4-season cottage** has availability for graduation, Memorial Day and a few weeks still open this summer. Bright, spacious and private with a huge deck, views and terraced gardens, this **3 bedroom, 2 bath** home comes with two 2-person kayaks. Email [lisagskis@yahoo.com](mailto:lisagskis@yahoo.com) for direct pricing discounts.

Full listing and availability: [AIRBNB.COM](http://AIRBNB.COM)  
Search "Beautiful Lake Dunmore Ski Chalet / Cottage"

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**PUZZLE SOLUTIONS** MAY 2, 2024

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EMAIL [CHRISTY@ADDISONINDEPENDENT.COM](mailto:CHRISTY@ADDISONINDEPENDENT.COM) TO FIND OUT HOW.



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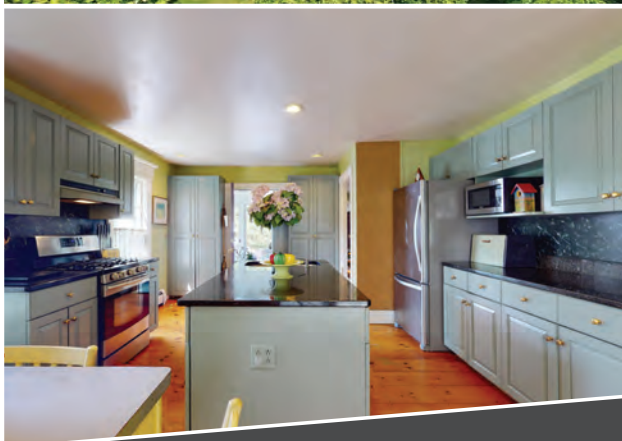
**WALTHAM NEW LISTING!**  
**3991 GREEN STREET**  
 MLS #4992921 | \$449,000  
 2 BD | 1 BA | 1088 SF | 3.00 AC

Sweet log cabin home situated atop a knoll with Green Mountain views to the east and your own pond just below! Stone fireplace, wood stove insert, wood floors throughout. Full basement offers dry, unfinished space, as well as your utilities. Impeccably maintained grounds, covered back porch, and a two-car garage, additional insulated outbuilding (think studio, office, or writer's retreat!). This magical spot is conveniently located between Middlebury and Vergennes and minutes away from Lake Champlain.



**WEYBRIDGE NEW LISTING!**  
**2672 WEYBRIDGE ROAD**  
 MLS #4992913 | \$825,000  
 4 BD | 4 BA | 2848 SF | 1.80 ACRES

Quintessential VT farmhouse just a few minutes to Middlebury. After 30 years of enjoyment, the owners are making way for you to live and love this home. Detailed and ornate woodwork and special features and improvements are showcased throughout the house. A lovely wood mantel and verde marble surround in the living room around the wood-burning fireplace, beautiful window detail, lovely floors and plenty of storage space and rooms to make you right at home. A generous eat-in kitchen flows indoors to the dining room and living room and outdoors to the large screened porch. In summer months, you'll enjoy the picture-perfect and fragrant plantings. At the rear of the house is a guest suite with a separate heating system and private bathroom and exterior access. On the 2nd floor you'll find a primary suite with a full bath with jet tub and an adjacent office space, as well as three other rooms (with built-in desk spaces or shelving) and another full bath. Patio off the porch, stone walls, mature landscaping, fruit trees, a detached garage/workshop and a historic c.1840's half-girl homestead barn.



[ipjrealestate.com](http://ipjrealestate.com)

34 Main Street, downtown Middlebury  
 info@ipjrealestate.com | 802.388.4242

**NOVELS**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

and can make something out of nothing. And writing is something you can do for cheap. You don't need expensive supplies, tools, luthiers ... you do it with the stuff you already have and anywhere you go. You just

— just? — need time. An absurd amount of time.

"This book comes out of a lifetime of watching and listening and wondering what on earth are other people are thinking. What's it like to be someone else? Imagining requires a stretch beyond the self but also into the self."

**WHAT DO YOU HOPE READERS WILL TAKE AWAY?**

**Alvarez:** "I want people to connect with the stories and move through this landscape of rich and interesting storytellers; and realize the stories are all around them. The stories are powerful, but the community around the cemetery is just as important. I, Julia Alvarez, AKA Alma, AKA Scheherazade, may not be the one to tell the stories, but they will be told. Narratives can weave around us.

"I also want readers to enjoy themselves. The book may challenge, trouble, and delight... I want readers to enter into that creative space. A book is only half written when you write it; when a reader reads it is when it comes alive."

**Kuebler:** "I want people to take away a stronger sense of love for their community and the people around them, all of them, not just the people who think and look like they do, or the people who have achieved impressive things. I want them to take away that you don't have to be rich or famous or important in any other way to have a story that has beauty and tragedy in it. To get some pleasure from reading, for sure, but also maybe to get a sense of humanity as a single, many-armed organism, or like a stand of trees bearing up under difficult conditions. And yet we're all stuck with our individual egos, our need to make something of our own lives, or just to make a living.

"As the world becomes less inhabitable and more volatile we're going to have to realize that it doesn't work to just be in it for ourselves. It really never has. I think a lot more people are starting to question the ideal of rugged individualism that this country in particular was built on."

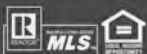
*Editor's Note: Both novels are for sale at The Vermont Book Shop in downtown Middlebury and at all fine booksellers.*



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## EXHIBITS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

the online gallery.  
On view May 3-24.

### SPARROW ART SUPPLY

44 Main Street,  
Middlebury

For more info visit

[sparrowartsupply.com](http://sparrowartsupply.com) or call 802-989-7225.

"Green Gold," Sparrow Art Supply's debut exhibition at 44 Main Street, is a celebration of new beginnings. In this exhibit seven artists explore growth, transition and renewal. The exhibit will be on view through May 25

### TOURTERELLE RESTAURANT & INN

3629 Ethan Allen Hwy, New Haven

For more information visit [JanetFredericksStudio.com](http://JanetFredericksStudio.com) or [tourterellevermont.com](http://tourterellevermont.com), or call 802-453-6309.

"Overview," featuring work by Lincoln artist Janet Fredericks. Included in the exhibit are hand-stitched textile pieces, cyanotype prints, mono prints, paintings, and drawings. Fredericks' drawings and paintings are intended to give the sense of entering into the landscape rather than a surface perspective. This follows her lifelong interest in the seen and unseen worlds; spirit and matter. On view at the restaurant Wednesday through Saturday 5:30-9 p.m., through May.

## BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY HOMESERVICES

32 MERCHANTS ROW  
MIDDLEBURY, VERMONT



348 West Shore Rd.  
Lake Dunmore  
Price: \$289,000



**NEW LISTING** Sweet Lake Dunmore Cottage! Savor summer days - striking views of Moosalamoo & Dunmore, shared beach, swim, boat, fish, hike, bike. BnB this 2-bdrm with personality. Assoc groundskeeping. Great investment! LA Sue Mackey 802-989-1417

## VERMONT REALTY GROUP

(802) 388-9836  
[WWW.VTREGROUP.COM](http://WWW.VTREGROUP.COM)



1903 Quaker Village Rd.  
Weybridge, Vermont  
Price: \$399,000



**NEW LISTING.** 1840 gem overlooking Otter Creek boasts 3 bedrooms & 2 baths, delightful back deck, friendly village close to Middlebury. Newer roof, heat pumps, & Buderus boiler. Tons of nearby rec - hike, bike, fish & bird watch. LA Jeff Olson 802-989-9441

BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY HOMESERVICES

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BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS ONE  
HOME AT A TIME!



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## OPEN HOUSE MAY 4, 9 AM-12 NOON



Come see this unique property, located just south of Middlebury right off of Route 7. The house has had a lot of work done on it over the last 1 1/2 years including an updated kitchen with all new high-end appliances, but there is still room to add your personal touch. The house has lots of storage space in the attic and also multiple out buildings. There is an attached garage with one door but has room for a shop area and at least 4 cars. There is another building that has even more space. A wonderful place to call home with extra space for toys and equipment!

118 Three Mile Bridge Rd., Middlebury  
MLS # 4985673 \$439,000



Your host,  
Heather

Foster-Provencher  
Office: (802) 989-7522  
Cell: (802) 989-2770  
[cvprophfp@gmail.com](mailto:cvprophfp@gmail.com)

Champlain Valley  
Properties

## OPEN HOUSE MAY 4, 9 AM-12 NOON

70 Court Street, Middlebury, VT  
802-989-7522 | [ChamplainValleyProperty.net](http://ChamplainValleyProperty.net)





Town Hall Theater & Jazz Middlebury Present

## THE HOUSE OF JAZZ

AN EVENING WITH MATHIS PICARD

Friday, May 10 at 7:30pm

68 South Pleasant Street, Middlebury

On Friday, May 10, Jazz Middlebury and Town Hall Theater present **An Evening with Mathis Picard**, of Jazz at Lincoln Center touring band fame. This culminating performance of the 2023-2024 House of Jazz season will be a solo performance to remember. Expect to hear original compositions from Mathis and interpretations of solo piano classics, ranging from the pen of Duke Ellington to Thelonious Monk & J.S. Bach to Chopin and Ravel. Mathis will also present the world premiere of selections from his new book of preludes and fugues.

Mathis is a pianist, composer, and producer on the international music scene. Based in New York City and from France and Madagascar, Mathis honors his multi-cultural background by merging musical influences and elevating sonic synchronicity. Named a “rising star,” Mathis is an ASCAP Next Generation of Songwriters Recipient, a member of the Montreux Jazz Foundation, and a Juilliard Alumni under the mentorship of Kenny Barron.

Mathis presented his first solo piano album *Live at the Museum* in 2022. Recorded with a live audience at the National Jazz Museum of Harlem in New York City, *Live at the Museum* is a sonic journey through which Mathis explores the museum of his own life in music, honoring and spotlighting his roots in jazz, classical and electronic music. In 2023, Mathis released his latest album *Heat of The Moment*, which the UK’s *The Times* gave a 5-star review. Mathis fell in love with Middlebury when he was here in March 2023 for THT’s 15 Birthday Celebration and was determined to come back. What better place to kick off his *Heat of The Moment* tour than right here!

Enjoy an intimate evening with table seating for \$40 or regular seating for \$30. Student tickets: \$15. Cash bar open throughout the show. Patrons who purchase table seats are invited to a post-show meet and greet with Mathis and receive one free drink ticket. Please have IDs ready. Tickets: [townhalltheater.org](http://townhalltheater.org) or call 802-382-9222.



## Don't Miss These Upcoming Events

### The Grift

Addison County  
Youth All-Stars  
May 4th @ 7pm

### 27 Breaths

Presented by THT  
May 5th @ 2pm

### History of American Musical

Final Class  
May 6th @ 7:30pm

### Reimaging Stories

Presented by THT &  
Vermont Book Shop  
May 7th @ 5:30pm

### The Janes

Presented by MNFF  
May 9th @ 7pm

### Meet the Singers

Presented by OCM  
May 18th @ 5pm

Sponsored by



Tickets: [townhalltheater.org](http://townhalltheater.org) ▪ 802-382-9222 ▪ 68 S Pleasant St, Middlebury, VT 05753

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We would like to thank our sponsors Deppmann Law and Jazz Middlebury