



Hog wild

The Brandon Artists Guild has a porky idea to celebrate its 25th anniversary. See Arts + Leisure.



Tiger lax hot

The MUHS boys won three in a row, one over the defending D-I champ. See Sports, Page 1B.



Bristol green

The Bristol selectboard hears proposed changes to the town bandstand. See Page 14A.

ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT

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\$1.50

Ilsley bond gets a thumbs up

Middlebury voters endorse \$17M makeover by 956-200 margin

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — Middlebury voters on Tuesday voted overwhelmingly to make a \$17 million investment in the Ilsley Public Library during its 100th birthday year.

Approximately one-fifth of the shire town's 5,870 registered voters turned out at the polls to support a 20-year bond proposal, by a 956-200 margin.

Ilsley Library Director Dana Hart was all smiles on Wednesday morning.

"I'm feeling joy and excitement with all that's to come, and gratitude to the many people who helped us get here," she said.

Joe McVeigh, a member of the Ilsley 100 Project Team and a libra ry trustee, also voiced his thanks.

"It's a really great feeling to have such a tremendous level of support from the community," he said. "With nearly 1,000 people voting in favor and 200 opposed, the bond passed by almost a 5-1 margin — which is pretty resounding. At a time when school budgets around us are getting voted down, it's a tremendous testament to the people of Middlebury that they have proved they value civic institutions that are going to provide valuable resources to the people of the town."

Tuesday's result triggers a tentative project schedule calling for the town to solicit bids this coming January from contractors willing to begin construction next spring. Plans call for the Ilsley's 1977 and 1988 additions to be removed, with the original 1924 building to be retained, restored, and equipped with a new, 8,000-square-foot, two-story addition on its northeast side.

The National Bank of Middlebury has agreed to temporarily host basic library services — rent-free, beginning next February — within the first floor of its historic Duclos building, at the

(See Ilsley, Page 9A)

Panton grapples with plan for Vt.'s largest solar field

By ANDY KIRKALDY

PANTON — There is no question about one element of the 50-megawatt solar array that is proposed for land west of Route 22A in Panton.

At 300 acres, mostly now farmland, it would be big — Vermont's largest.

How large is 300 acres? About 227 football fields.

If an array this size was sited in Vergennes it would cover 18% of the city's surface area.

The array is installed South of West Road as proposed by Stamford, Conn.,

firm Freepoint Commodities LLC, it would spread across 2% of Panton's land.

The array would be 10 times as big as the 5-megawatt solar array on the north side of Panton Road near Panton Town Hall.

According to Freepoint's preliminary map provided in March to the Panton Planning Commission/Development Review Board (DRB), the array would stretch about 4,000 feet south from West Road, which runs from Route 22A west toward the Dead Creek Wildlife

(See Panton, Page 8A)

Riverflow will serve adults with disabilities

Monkton community for all is taking shape

By MARIN HOWELL

MONKTON — It's normal for any parent to worry about what their child's life will look like after leaving the nest.

But for the parents of individuals with developmental disabilities, that question is one filled with frightening uncertainty as they contemplate where their children will find the support and community they need throughout adulthood.

"A lot of the parents I know, they're getting older, and their adult children are living with

(See Riverflow, Page 17A)

MAUSD to host budget forums

By MARIN HOWELL

BRISTOL — Residents in the Mount Abraham Unified School District will have several opportunities next week to share their budget-related feedback with district officials.

The MAUSD board on May 13 and 14 will host five public forums focused on the budget at locations

(See MAUSD, Page 9A)



By the way

Hey, Weybridge residents, have you ever wondered what your local fire department is all about? Looking for a good spring activity? Stop by the Weybridge Volunteer Fire Department at

(See By the way, Page 13A)

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Bang bang

RIPTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL student Emma Delabruere joins with classmates this past Friday at the school in demonstrating taiko drumming techniques they learned during a weeklong residence with Sensei Stewart Paton of Burlington. She wears a Japanese hachimaki on her head while drumming. See more photos on Page 16A.

Independent photo/Steve James

Ripton music venue to host its final show

Coffee House caps magical 29-year run

By JOHN FLOWERS

RIPTON — Richard Ruane and Andrea Chesman took a moment last week to harken back to the early 1990s, a time before the Town Hall Theater and the Vergennes Opera House, when live entertainment in Addison County largely consisted of sporadic seasonal concerts —

such as Middlebury's Festival on the Green.

Local musicians like Ruane, hungry for an outlet for their

"We're getting tired out. We've been doing this a long time. The volunteers are getting older and we're getting older."

— Richard Ruane

creative talents, would gather at each other's homes for jam sessions.

It was at during one of these impromptu sessions, at the Chesman/Ruane home in Ripton in the fall of 1994, that those assembled —including Tim Price, Su White, Ian Pounds, Sallie Mack and Mark Mulqueen — began

entertaining thoughts of a local performance venue.

Their search essentially began

(See Ripton music, Page 15A)

College president Patton is leaving

Will start new job in Mass. in January

MIDDLEBURY

— Middlebury College President Laurie L. Patton will be leaving Middlebury this coming January to become president of the American Academy of Arts & Sciences.

The institution's 17th president — and first woman — Patton took office on July 1, 2015. She announced the transition on May 2.

"Middlebury is a community I love and admire, and it has become home," Patton wrote in a letter to the community released this passed Thursday. "Even more, it has taught me a great deal about the work of our democracy and the common good. It seemed right for me to continue that work at a national level with the scholars,



PATTON

artists, writers, lawmakers, and businesspeople who are thought leaders in the Academy and the world."

The American Academy of Arts & Sciences, based in Cambridge, Mass., was created in 1780 by John Adams and John Hancock, among others, to "convene leaders from every field of human endeavor to examine new ideas, address issues of importance to the nation and the world ... and cultivate every art and science which may tend to advance the interest, honor, dignity, and happiness of a free, independent, and virtuous people."

Its current membership includes Nobel and Pulitzer Prize winners

(See Patton, Page 13A)

Middlebury students end Gaza encampment, reach agreement

By MARIN HOWELL

MIDDLEBURY — Middlebury College students early this week dismantled the pro-Palestinian encampment on campus after reaching an agreement with college officials.

Students at the college last week had joined thousands of others throughout the country in protesting Israel's ongoing war with Hamas and calling on higher-ed institutions to divest from holdings tied to Israel, as well as

take other action in response to the war.

Middlebury students have now agreed to end their encampment after finalizing a written agreement with college officials on Monday that calls for an immediate ceasefire and outlines next steps.

"Generally, the administration agreed to our demands in the sense that they gave us as much as we could realistically

(See Students, Page 13A)



RICHARD RUANE AND Andrea Chesman helped create and shepherd the Ripton Community Coffee House through a successful, 29-year run as a small-town concert venue that attracted big talent. The coffee house, which is staged monthly at the historic Ripton Community House, will dim the lights for the last time on May 18 after a performance by Green Heron.

Photo by Rory Ruane



WINEMAKERS NICHOLE BAMBACIGNO and Kevin Bednar recently took over the reins at Lincoln Peak Vineyard in New Haven. The pair plans to bring back some of the well-loved wines and events previously offered at the vineyard, as well as put their own spin on the business.

Photo courtesy of Nichole Bambacigno

New owners take over local vineyard

Duo brings over a decade of global experience to Lincoln Peak

By **MARIN HOWELL**

NEW HAVEN — Spring is a season associated with new beginnings, and that's certainly been the case this year at Lincoln Peak Vineyard, where new owners Nichole Bambacigno and Kevin Bednar are settling in and readying to welcome wine enthusiasts from far and wide.

The pair purchased the New Haven vineyard, winery and tasting room from Shelburne Vineyard last month and bring to the business over a decade's worth of experience at vineyards across the globe.

The seasoned winemakers said they're excited about this next chapter and seeing what opportunities lie in store for Lincoln Peak.

"We're winemakers and viticulturists first, so we're really excited to get a season under our belts and see how this vineyard presents itself and to see the sorts of wines that this vineyard wants to make," Bambacigno said.

BACKGROUND

Both Bambacigno and Bednar have spent several years learning the ins-and-outs of winemaking from producers in the United States and abroad.

Bambacigno, a California native, first got into the wine industry working in a tasting room while studying biochemistry at California Polytechnic State University. She found herself encapsulated by the world of viticulture and in 2013 began working at E. & J. Gallo Winery in Modesto, Calif. — one of the largest wineries in the world.

It was there that the couple first crossed paths, after Bednar moved to California to begin his own career in winemaking. He'd grown up in Essex, Vt., and had long thought about running a vineyard in the Green Mountain State, a passion that grew while studying abroad in Chile and Spain, two of the world's largest wine-producing countries.

The pair hit it off in Modesto and decided to take their relationship — and careers — to the next level. Together they started their own wine label, Ghost House Wines.

"For us, it was really a passion project. It allowed us to cultivate our passion and have some more freedom over some of the winemaking decisions," Bednar recalled. "It was super small. We were doing it after work, everything by hand in little, six-gallon carboys."

The pair found that starting Ghost House Wines gave them an opportunity to learn, make mistakes, and gain winemaking experience that differed from their work at the large-scale producer Gallo.

Though situated firmly in the country's top wine-making region, Bambacigno and Bednar found themselves growing eager to bring their passion for viticulture to the East Coast.

"Ever since I first got into the idea of making wine, I had always wanted to have a winery in Vermont, understanding that I had to go out and learn how to do it well before coming back," Bednar said. "It had always been in the back of my mind and always been my overarching career goal. Thankfully, that was contagious for Nichole."

While they waited for an opportunity to move to the Green Mountain State, the couple continued learning from and working with winemakers from Australia, New Zealand and Austria.

The couple eventually settled in New Jersey a few years ago, where they led winemaking teams at the Sharrott and William Heritage wineries.

"We really enjoyed our time (in New Jersey), but it was always a steppingstone to get to Vermont," Bambacigno said. "We wanted to get familiar with the East Coast wine industry, the viticulture, and see how grapes are grown in this climate. That was the big reason why we moved to New Jersey, always with the idea of coming to Vermont when an opportunity presented itself."

That opportunity came about this past December when the team at Shelburne Vineyard approached Bambacigno and Bednar about buying Lincoln Peak.

NEW BEGINNINGS

The New Haven vineyard was founded over two decades ago by Chris and Michaela Granstrom, who sold the business to Shelburne Vineyard in 2021.

"When we took over Lincoln Peak, we were fully invested in continuing what the Granstroms had established," Eleanor Leger, CEO of Shelburne Vineyard, said last week in press release. "This commitment never wavered, but the challenges of managing a vineyard and second tasting room remotely from our main location in Shelburne became increasingly evident. Nichole and Kevin's dedication to preserving the heritage of this beloved vineyard and their commitment to crafting exceptional wines make them the perfect fit for this role."

Bambacigno and Bednar officially took over ownership of the vineyard last month and opened the tasting room up to visitors this past Saturday.

"We had a really nice turnout, and we had a lot of previous customers and new customers come out and had a lot of really nice conversations with people," Bednar said of the opening weekend.

The pair will keep the Lincoln Peak name and brand, though they're excited to put their own spin on the label art and tasting room.

Bambacigno and Bednar said they're also looking forward to familiarizing themselves with the land as they season gets underway.

The property hosts eight different varieties of grapes on seven acres.

"We're most excited to both watch the vines grow and help guide them through their season," Bednar said. "Especially after such a damaging season last year, it's going to be really exciting to get lots of fruit off the vines this year and watch them grow throughout the season."

FRIDAY NIGHT MUSIC

Bambacigno and Bednar will have a variety of wines available this season, including ones that reflect the drier style Lincoln Peak (See *Vineyard*, Page 3A)

Climate bills face opposition from Gov. Scott

By **EMMA COTTON**
VTDigger.org

VERMONT — In the past week, three of the legislative session's biggest climate bills passed out of their second chamber, and are likely to head to the governor's desk soon.

Those bills include S.213, which would establish a new state permitting system for building in river corridors; S.259, which would require big oil companies to pay for damages from climate change in Vermont; and H.289, a bill that would update the state's renewable energy standard by requiring utilities to make a quicker transition to renewable energy.

Gov. Phil Scott and members of his administration have publicly expressed concern about all three of the bills. Asked whether Scott would veto them, Jason Maulucci, Scott's spokesperson, said the governor hasn't made a final decision.

"We're at the point in the session where things change rather quickly in bills, so he will reserve judgment until final versions reach his desk," Maulucci said, referring VTDigger to Julie Moore, secretary of the Agency of Natural Resources, for the administration's positions on S.213 and S.259.

While the two bills are very different, Moore said the administration's opposition to both can be boiled down to a similar reason: "The principle — in both of these cases — is good and important. But that doesn't mean you should just charge headlong into it without doing all of the groundwork necessary for it to be successful."

S.213, which passed the Senate in March and passed the House on May 3, addresses development in river corridors, sets new standards for wetland protection and increases dam safety measures. Supporters of the bill say it's an important policy that will protect Vermonters from events like the July 2023 floods.

Lauren Oates, a lobbyist at the Nature Conservancy Vermont, said Vermont has experienced flooding with more regularity and severity since Tropical Storm Irene in 2011.

"We know that that trauma and those damages, physical or otherwise, are going to continue to be incurred," she said. "And this bill, the Flood Safety Act, is the bill that we have that uses some of the best available science, and then has come up with a cohesive and semi-comprehensive suite of solutions that recognize our flood problem."

Moore contends that the bill does not give her agency the money or time it needs to build out the new permitting program. While the agency asked for roughly 15 new staff members — and the bill would

create 15 new positions — "it only provides enough funding for 11 of those 15 positions," she said.

While acknowledging the Legislature's financial challenges, Moore said lawmakers haven't expressed "any real interest in adjusting the scope of the bill to match the resources they do have available."

Moore is also concerned that Vermonters may be caught off-guard by the regulation, which could apply to as many as 45,000 parcels in 2028, when the permitting system would kick in. She said she thinks the process could benefit from additional time.

Oates, who has been working closely with lawmakers on S.213, said the bill balances both limited resources and the urgency of flood-related disasters with the agency's needs.

"The worst case scenario of an aggressive timeline is the agency has to come back to the Legislature and ask for more time to do this well and to do this right. The worst case scenario of an extended timeline is more homes are put in harm's way," Oates said.

S.259, which passed the Senate in April and passed the House on Monday, would use the "polluter pays" model, requiring the world's biggest oil companies to pay for damages that their product has caused in Vermont by way of climate change. The money would be deposited into a Climate Superfund Cost Recovery Program Fund.

Oil companies are expected to put up a fight, and the result could mean expensive litigation for Vermont.

"I harbor no illusions that Big Oil is going to do anything other than a full court press against this bill, on whichever state or states act first," Moore said. She recommended that lawmakers research the idea of a climate change superfund, write a report on it, and then determine how to proceed next year.

"I think, ultimately, you get one bite at this apple and want to make sure you're doing it in a way that will withstand judicial scrutiny," she said. "And I'm not sure we're there yet."

Ben Ederly Walsh, a lobbyist with the Vermont Public Interest Research Group, argued that a lawsuit would be worth it if Vermont won. While no one knows yet how much money the bill could bring to the state, "what we do know, beyond a shadow of a doubt, is that the funds that would come to Vermont, if we are successful, would be orders of magnitude more than any potential cost to defend a lawsuit against this," he said.

Walsh said the bill would

"clearly be good for Vermonters, because the status quo is, we have to shoulder virtually all of the costs on our own with no contribution from these enormously profitable companies."

H.289, which passed the House in March and passed the Senate on Tuesday, would update the state's renewable energy standard by requiring utilities to buy renewable energy at a faster pace.

Earlier this year, the Department of Public Service, part of Scott's administration, gave lawmakers a cost estimate that the bill's advocates — and later, the state's Joint Fiscal Office — said was likely too high.

TJ Poor, director of the department's regulated utility planning division, who has worked closely on the bill, said the department still opposes it. Poor said the Department of Public Service would have preferred that lawmakers consider its own proposal to update the renewable energy standard, which includes a slower timeline to using local renewable sources.

"We need to clean up our grid as fast as possible, as quickly as possible, as affordably as possible, because we're going to lean into it far more" as the state electrifies, said Johanna Miller, a lobbyist at the Vermont Natural Resources Council.

Some supporters of the three bills see a pattern in Scott's recent and likely future vetoes. Moore said, despite the fact that the administration "isn't full-throated in supporting any of these three bills as they come out of the Legislature," her agency is committed to fighting climate change and protecting Vermonters from its impacts.

The Legislature hasn't been willing to compromise, she said, and hasn't fully funded the work it's endeavoring to assign to her agency.

"As a result, you end up with this tension that is convenient to portray as for or against climate action, when in reality, I think it's about trying to make sure we are able to do the work we need to do well," she said.

Miller said she's interested in seeing the administration come up with its own plan to address climate change.

Referencing S.213, Oates, with the Nature Conservancy, asked what the alternative would be.

"What are we doing, then, as a state to make it safer, to make it less expensive with respect to flood related damages?" she said. "What is the plan to create a more flood resilient or flood prepared state in the absence of this bill?"

Middlebury to inspect water lines

MIDDLEBURY — Heads up to Middlebury municipal water customers: The town is working with Otter Creek Engineering (OCE) to complete an inventory of water service lines within the municipal system, and you need to set up an appointment for officials to conduct field work in line with this project.

Every water system in the country is required to develop an inventory of service line pipe materials for every service line in their system: It's a mandate of the federal Lead and Copper Rule.

During the next few months, OCE technicians and Middlebury Public Works staff will begin field work within the town to observe and classify the customer-owned portion of your service line. The

town wants you to pick one of three ways it could observe your water service pipe:

- Fill out a self-inspection report through ottercrk.com/service-line-inventory. Follow the instructions and submit completed form.

- Schedule an inspection appointment by calling OCE at 802-382-8522, ext. 219, or navigate tinyurl.com/ya53rdrw.

- Or, secure an inspection with OCE technicians if you see them in your neighborhood. They'll be going door-to-door during the coming weeks. The water line inspection takes around 10-15 minutes.

— John Flowers

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LAFFIA

May 9 - May 15

Perry-Askew took a student-centered view at MUMS

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — Janelle Perry-Askew's career has followed her heart, which — in addition to her family — belongs to science.

She's found joy and fulfillment teaching the subject to Middlebury Union Middle School students for the past 29 years. But she's got other passions to pursue during her golden years, including travel, so she'll be retiring when the final bell signals summer break next month.

Perry-Askew, a fifth-generation Vermonter hailing from Brattleboro, will leave with fond memories and the satisfaction of having given a new generation of children a better understanding of what makes things tick.

"I love to figure out how things work and why they do the things that they do," she said during a recent interview in her classroom, which is plastered with science-related diagrams, posters and charts.

"I love sharing (science) with kids, hopefully making them curious and wanting to investigate things," Perry-Askew added. "I might not reach everybody, because not everybody loves science, but at least I'm giving them foundational information so that when they get into the high school... they'll have a good background."

While she's come to love teaching, it wasn't what she had in mind when she went to college. After earning a degree in biology from the University of Tampa, she hit the job market without a firm gameplan — just youth, enthusiasm and a passion for science.

"I thought I was going to do sports medicine, but I didn't really have a clear thought of what I wanted to do. All I knew is I wanted to do something science-related," she said.

Perry-Askew actually began her professional life as a dental assistant, and then graduated to oral-surgeon assistant. But she yearned

for a career more rooted in the study of the physical and natural world and wanted to share her knowledge with others.

"I thought, 'Why not teach?'" she decided.

She returned to school (Trinity College in Burlington) to earn a bachelor's in education, eventually solidifying her credentials with a master's in education from the University of Vermont.

Her first interview was for a middle school science teaching vacancy at MUMS in 1995. She was thrilled to land the job, and the rest is history — and scientific fact. Perry-Askew relished the freedom she was given to guide her charges through the journey of how things work the way they do, and why.

She liked the middle school demographic and the notion of giving students a solid science foundation she hoped would serve them well as lifelong learners.

"When you teach middle school, you don't have to focus on one specific subject area in science; you can teach all of the different areas and see how everything is connected," Perry-Askew said. "I love that, and I love sharing that with kids, because nothing exists in isolation. Everything's connected."

IN A NEW BUILDING

When she started her job, the district's middle schoolers were still based at Middlebury Union High School off Charles Avenue. By the late 1990s, they had moved to their own middle school building off Middle Road. There's an artificial wetland behind the school, which has served as an onsite science lab for portions of the MUMS science curriculum. The school's proximity to the Trail Around Middlebury — a rustic path leading through woods and past

streams — has also given students a convenient window on the natural world.

In the beginning, Perry-Askew created her own science curriculum, which was eventually fortified by textbooks, library resources and hands-on science experiments. Technology has since increased by leaps and bounds; her students now have Chromebooks to access a wealth of scientific data and videos to inform their learning.

Climate change figures prominently in each science unit through middle school — particularly for 8th-graders, she noted. And Perry-Askew has sought to not only ensure students understand global warming and its causes, but also how to fight it.

For example, "unit two" in the MUMS science curriculum is titled "energy in waves."

"We look at it as the impact science has on solutions to things," she said. "We look at how to improve energy efficiency in homes, such as insulation, heat pumps, windows. We learn about how those things work in the home, how it can save money, but also that when you're not using as much energy, you're putting less greenhouse gases into the environment."

Perry-Askew knows some of her students don't share her affinity for science and have no plans to make it part of their career plans. That's OK, but she reinforces the benefits of having a well-rounded base of knowledge.

"I tell them, 'You may not be interested in this, but soak up everything, because you never know what doors of opportunity are going to open,'" she said. "I want to give them a foundation, so they can be good citizens when they leave here and be able to make good decisions about the world they live in when they graduate."

Teachers, Perry-Askew has always believed, should be more than mere conduits of information. They can also be designers, guides, managers and influencers.

"We play a lot of different parts, along with just being there for them," she said. "As a teacher, I believe the most important thing is the relationship with the kids. You've got to create a great relationship, and from there, the kids will become more engaged in doing what you're asking them to do."

Speaking of kids, Perry-Askew is very proud of her two daughters. Her youngest, Maryn, is about to graduate from McGill University and plans to become an astrophysicist. Her oldest, Elise, is teaching English in South Korea. Part of her reason for retiring is so she can spend more time with them and her husband, John Askew.

She also wants to travel, citing Iceland, Australia, New Zealand, Africa and Costa Rica as destinations to check off her bucket list.

MUMS Principal Michaela Wisell said Perry-Askew has been a big asset to the school community.

"In her time here, she has instilled a love for science inquiry and curiosity in all of the students she's worked with," Wisell said.

"Janelle is an incredibly supportive colleague who brings a wealth of institutional knowledge that helps

"You can teach all of the different areas and see how everything is connected. I love that, and I love sharing that with kids, because nothing exists in isolation. Everything's connected."

— Janelle Perry-Askew

"As a teacher, I believe the most important thing is the relationship with the kids."

— Janelle Perry-Askew

Vineyard

(Continued from Page 2A)

has been known for in the past. Eventually, the couple hopes to bring back several wines from the original Lincoln Peak portfolio.

The pair also plans to bring back the well-loved Friday night live music events beginning in June.

"We're really excited to see people come out and taste some wines and just enjoy this beautiful spot," Bednar said.

The tasting room is now open Wednesday-Sunday from noon to 6 p.m. Visitors can stop by to try out a flight of wines, grab a bottle

to go or enjoy a glass with a variety of local cheeses and charcuterie pairings. Bednar said the couple is hoping to host a grand opening at the vineyard later this month.

It's gearing up to be a busy season for Bambacigno and Bednar, who in are expecting their second child any day now. But the pair said running Lincoln Peak was an opportunity they couldn't pass up and they're ready to get started.

"It's been a big move, and a lot of changes for us, but we're really excited," Bambacigno said.

ADDISON COUNTY

School Briefs

Bee Eckels of Vergennes has been named to the 2023 fall

semester dean's list at Simmons University in Boston, Mass. To qualify for the list, students must obtain a grade point average of 3.5 or higher, based on 12 or more credit hours of work in classes using the letter grade system.



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MIDDLEBURY UNION MIDDLE School teacher Janelle Perry-Askew is capping a 29-year career, during which she inspired a new generation of students to embrace science.

Independent photo/John Flowers

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Editorials

If students focused their protests, they could have the world behind them

That university and college students, as well as others, throughout the U.S. are demonstrating against Israel's indiscriminate bombing of Gaza and the killing of over 34,000 Gazans fits within the American psyche and political traditions. If others aren't going to protest America's support of Israel through its billions in cash and tens of thousands of bombs that have reduced wide swaths of Gaza to rubble, campus protests have a role to play — and at the very least have succeeded in making the issue a top priority in today's politics.

Just this past week, President Joe Biden, who has been outwardly critical of Israel's ruthless invasion of Gaza for the past several months, finally paused a shipment of 1,800 2,000-pound bombs and 1,700 500-pound bombs to Israel. The tipping point for the Biden administration was Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's decision to invade Rafah, which is a key distribution point of aid into Gaza and is currently sheltering over a million residents who have few, if any, other places to go.

Biden's decision has been dubbed "a shot across the bow" to get Netanyahu to understand the gravity of his concern and the loss of support Israel is witnessing from many Americans, as well as allies throughout the world.

Biden's State Department explained its decision to pause the shipment of bombs in comments to the *Washington Post*, saying an incursion into Rafah would "dramatically increase the suffering of the Palestinian people, would lead to an increase in loss of civilian life, would dramatically disrupt the delivery of humanitarian assistance ... the great majority of which is coming through Kerem Shalom or Rafah and is being distributed inside the Rafah area."

Biden and his administration have worked hard over the past several months to push plans for an Israeli ceasefire, hostage release, and a peace agreement with Hamas, along with a long-term goal of a two-state solution governing Palestine.

Therein lies the disconnect with the student protests, which have focused too much on being pro-Palestine and anti-Israel, and not enough on advocating for practical solutions to what has long been a complex region. The student protests have also extrapolated their anti-Israel stance to include Biden's support of Israel, which has been increasingly measured, and discounted Biden's continued efforts to rein in Netanyahu's worst impulses.

Surely the students understand politics well enough to know America doesn't control what Israel does, and also that Republicans have been far more partisan in their support of Netanyahu's war on Gaza. Just this week the *Post* reported that "Republicans assailed news of a delay in weapons approvals as a 'reprehensible' betrayal. 'The United States must stand with Israel. Period,' said Rep. Russell Fry (R-S.C.)."

Moreover, while Israel has always received strong support from Republicans and Democrats in Congress, the *Post* reports that "powerful pro-Israel interest groups including the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, (are) spending tens of millions of dollars this election cycle to unseat Democrats it views as insufficiently pro-Israel."

And yet poll after poll shows student disenchantment with Biden's performance on this issue, seemingly oblivious to how ex-president Trump and Republicans in Congress would give Netanyahu even more support and a freer rein to do as he pleases.

In the students' obsessive desire to punish Israel and Biden's support of it, they have ignored how Trump and Republicans would make the situation far worse. Similarly, the spectacle of shutting down campus life with demands on college administrators to put pressure on Israel through divestment or other equally obtuse measures, is a misuse of the political moment.

The students' fight is not with those who support Israel, the country, but with all who support Netanyahu's brutal and unrestrained invasion of Gaza. The students need to distinguish between the far right-wing faction of Israelis supporting Netanyahu, including far-right Republicans in this country, and the moderates and liberals everywhere who seek long-term peace in the region.

Most immediately, the students must make a political choice at home between the Democrats' efforts to rein in Netanyahu and press for ceasefire, peace and a two-state solution governing Palestine, and the Republicans' full-throated support of Netanyahu. Until they do, the student protests are weakening Biden and the Democrats, and are strengthening Netanyahu and the Republicans who support him.

President Biden will continue to walk a fine line between this nation's continued support of Israel as an important ally, and the need to find a lasting peace between Israel and its neighbors. If students want the same, they'd be smart to support Biden and other Democrats in that effort.

To that end, if their campaign against Netanyahu's policies is to have any lasting impact, student protesters need to build vigorous campaigns to oppose Republicans in the upcoming House, Senate and presidential races. And if students would articulate their political point, which is also a cry against leaders prone to use military might over reason, they'd not only make a difference in domestic politics, but have much of the world behind them.

Angelo Lynn



Up top

WORKERS LABORED THIS past Friday to install a new copper roof on top of Robison Hall at the Middlebury College's Mahaney Arts Center, which was built in 1992. The weather cooperated — it was dry and sunny but not hot.

Independent photo/John S. McCright

The irony of policing college students

I have been pondering the relationship between policing and teaching. Initially, one might not see the two as related, but they really are quite intertwined. In fact, there is a considerable amount of literature about how traditional public schooling functions much like the prison system. As an institution, the school system is quite rigid. Students must ask to use the bathroom. Classes begin and end with bells. Meals happen in a cafeteria with a set, daily menu. Teachers are often forced to police pupils' behavior, whether they'd like to or not.

College is a bit different, but not all that much. Schedules still dictate daily life. Professors must enforce deadlines and rules. There is a code of conduct that administrators must enforce. Meals also happen en masse. But things are also a bit different on college campuses — life is a little less restrictive. Students can come and go from class as they wish. If they don't want to go to class at all, the only real consequence is that their grade will suffer. And, in general, college is a place where students can choose to follow their own interests and learn to think freely and for themselves.

As a professor, I try to show my students that there are many ways to think about any one issue, including historical events. In secondary school, students are often taught that history is a set of facts that include dates, actors, and events that require rote memorization. Instead, college courses generally encourage students to consider that any given moment in time can be recounted and understood from multiple perspectives. History is nuanced. Like many of the complex issues of

today, people from the past have disagreed about how to move forward, and that has led to some of history's greatest conflicts and controversies. We encourage our students to think about what is just, how events unfolded and could have gone differently, and how to learn from history to move toward a better future. For most professors, the goal is not to tell our students what to think, it is to teach them how to think for themselves. When they learn to do that, they can choose the path that they believe will bring us toward a better future as informed citizens.

But even this supposed freedom of thought is monitored and policed to some degree, which brings me back to my initial point. Right now, we are watching a horrific conflict unfold in the Middle East — a region that has a deeply complex history. Across the nation, college students, many of whom view this from multiple

perspectives, are using the skills that they have learned in their college classes to raise concerns about what they see as contributing to injustices in that region. Most of them are demanding their colleges and universities financially divest from Israel, as a part of a wider Israel-Hamas war protest. This means that they want their schools to sell any stock and otherwise cut any financial ties with companies tied to Israel. The way numerous universities have responded to those demonstrations, several of which began peacefully, has been to deploy police onto university campuses and have student encampments forcibly removed.

The irony inherent in this response is appalling to me. (See *Ways of Seeing*, Page 5A)

Ways of Seeing

By Mary E. Mendoza



Homelessness has many impacts

11th in a series

Craig Stevens is the director of the Vermont Department of Health Middlebury District Office. For more than 30 years, he has worked closely with consumers, community leaders, health and human service organizations, and government representatives to help them develop solutions to their outstanding public health issues.

During my short time working at the Middlebury Office of the Vermont Department of Health, much of my exposure to homelessness has focused on what is most visible — what I see downtown, what I hear of disruptions, what urgent issues are discussed at meetings. When asked to write a small reflection on homelessness, I chose to concentrate on some of the hidden elements, the people, their health, some of the costs that we, as the public, incur that might not be seen, and the research on solutions.

According to the 2021 Point in Time Count, which obtains a one-day count of those experiencing homelessness, there are 117 homeless individuals representing 80 households in Addison County. Another more recent estimate by Charter House put it at 146 individuals. *The Middlebury Campus* reported this past Oct. 26. Of those cited in the Point in Time

Count, 16% of those households included children, 10% were fleeing domestic violence, 27.5% were chronically homeless, and 38.8% were first time homeless.

Behind these numbers is a larger and perhaps unknown pool of individuals who are at risk and vulnerable to homelessness. A significant percentage of first-time homeless, 38.8% — or 4 out of 10 — underscores

the precarious environment for individuals and families in Addison County. Whether these individuals and families have a long-term experience with homelessness, transient or one-time, research demonstrates a significant cost to health including treatment and hospitalization, as well as impacts on early childhood development. Poor health can be a significant contributing factor of homelessness, according to

the National Health Care for the Homeless Council (February 2019), particularly for individuals who have a major health incident that isn't covered by insurance or may inhibit their ability to work. And it can be cyclical, in that being homeless, and the context of homelessness, can further degrade and worsen health conditions. Chronic diseases such as diabetes, asthma, cardiovascular disease and the lack of proper food

(See *Living Together*, Page 5A)

Letters to the Editor

A big shout-out to ECE teachers

As Teacher Appreciation Week approaches in May, I find myself reflecting on the invaluable contributions of our Early Childhood Education (ECE) teachers here in Addison County. These dedicated professionals, with their unparalleled level of expertise, ongoing commitment to education and unwavering compassion, deserve our utmost gratitude and recognition. In every corner of our community, Addison's childcare professionals embody the essence of excellence in education. Their tireless efforts not only shape the minds of our youngest learners but also nurture their hearts and souls. With patience, creativity, and boundless energy, they create environments where children thrive, learn, and develop into confident individuals.

What truly sets Addison's ECE teachers apart is their unwavering dedication to their profession. They pursue continuous education, staying abreast of the latest research and best practices in early childhood development, and their commitment to excellence ensures that each child receives the highest quality of care and education, setting a strong foundation for future success.

Our ECE professionals aren't just educators — they're advocates for the families and children they serve. They understand the unique needs of each child and work tirelessly to ensure that every family feels supported and valued. Whether through parent-teacher conferences, individualized care plans, or advocating for Act 76 (the Childcare Bill) which was passed last year, they go above and beyond to create a nurturing and inclusive environment for all.

As we celebrate Teacher Appreciation Week, let us take a moment to express our heartfelt gratitude for every Addison County childcare professional. Their dedication, professionalism, and unwavering commitment to the well-being of our children enrich our community in so many ways. They are heroes whose impact reverberates far beyond the walls of their classrooms.

To all the ECE teachers of Addison: thank you. Thank you for your passion, your dedication, and your unwavering commitment to shaping the future generation. Your work is a testament to the transformative power of education, and our community is profoundly grateful for all that you do.

Kathryn Torres
New Haven

Two issues with school financing

In my view, there are two basic financial problems with Vermont's Public Education System. First, the cost per pupil is much too high and not sustainable. Second, approximately 30% of the budget is financed by Sales & Use Taxes. I will discuss each of these problems below.

Vermont's statewide cost per pupil in fiscal year 2025 is projected by the Department of Education to be \$22,953. Spending on direct education costs grew at 8% in 2024 and is projected to increase by another 12% in 2025. Vermont is ranked 4th highest in education spending per pupil among all 50 States according to World Population Review. However, in terms of wealth, Vermont ranks 35th (GDP per capita). They also rank Vermont 49th in state population growth. Lastly, the Tax Foundation ranks Vermont 4th highest in the country in terms of Taxation.

In other words, we are spending a lot per pupil on education, we are a below average state in terms of wealth, we are growing at a very slow rate and have some of the highest tax rates in the country. The picture is clear. We are spending too much on education given our moderate wealth. For example, the four states other than Vermont that spend the most per pupil on education had an average GDP

(See *Biggert letter*, Page 5A)

ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT

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Letters to the Editor

County fortunate to have abundance of volunteers

The *Addison Independent* Volunteer section every spring is always so enjoyable to read — to see how many people are out there giving their time to supporting others. This year's issue pointed out the outstanding contributions made by so many. Also, there were several very significant and active groups and people that were not even mentioned.

The Open Door Clinic is one example. What a major force it is in so many people's lives!

The Friday Evening Suppers is

another very vital group. Led by Dottie Neuberger, this group puts out between 400 and 450 meals every Friday, 52 weeks a year. One can go to the downstairs of the Congregational Church and be served a meal. Meals to go are also available. And a large amount of meals are delivered to peoples' homes. Every week there are about 15 regular volunteers and 4-12 additional volunteers who are college students, people from court diversion and parole, and individuals and families looking to make a difference.

Also, about 12 people deliver the meals to homes all over Addison County.

Another very important community support group is Gather, run by the Breadloaf Mountain Zen Community. Anyone is welcome to stop by for coffee, snacks, conversation, games and art activities, recovery meetings, cooking, grief groups, and more.

Thank you.

Deborah Young
New Haven

Biggert letter

(Continued from Page 4A)
per capita of \$93,000, whereas Vermont's GDP per capita is only \$63,000. In effect, we are spending beyond our means.

Further, we are already a very highly taxed state that cannot afford to increase taxes more, especially given our extremely low growth rate. Finally, we are an aging population which is losing our young people to opportunities outside of Vermont. Clearly something needs to change. The path we are on is not sustainable.

The second major financial problem Vermont faces with its education system is its method of financing these education costs. Did you know that almost 30% of our \$2.1 billion education budget for fiscal 2024 was financed through Sales & Use Taxes? The remaining 70% was paid for with Property Taxes. This is fine when Sales & Use Taxes are increasing, but the Vermont State Tax

Department is forecasting zero growth in this revenue stream for the next fiscal year due in part to our slow growth rate.

When you factor in all of Vermont's education costs including pension, transportation and meals, the education budget for next year is projected to increase by approximately 9%, or \$243 million. Since the Sales & Use Tax stream is projected to remain the same next year, that means that all of this increase in education spending will need to be paid for by increases in property taxes. That is the main reason why our statewide property taxes are projected to increase by 18% even though education costs are going up by 9%.

Further, last year the state used approximately \$100 million from its Education Reserve Fund to help pay for the increase in costs. This year there is only about \$35 million left in the Fund to cushion

the blow, and there will be a zero balance in the Reserve Fund going into fiscal 2026.

In conclusion, it is clear that we need a major change in course. Our education costs are too high, and it is unfair to burden property holders with 100% of the increase in our already too high costs. Increases in property taxes will only make it harder for young people to afford a home and will increase the rate we are losing our young population.

I believe that we need a major revamping of our education system by our state legislators and Education Department. We need to look for ways to decrease spending and look for more equitable ways to finance our education costs. We all want the best school system possible, but we have to be realistic given the state's financial position.

James Biggert
Addison

Living Together

(Continued from Page 4A)
and medications can highly impact individuals. Silent contributors like lack of bathing, getting proper rest and sleeping conditions continue a spiral of illness. Unsurprising conditions can co-occur; for example, people with diabetes often have co-occurring depression, which can spiral for a homeless individual.

Not surprisingly, people most at risk for homelessness share many of the same precipitating health indicators as those who are homeless. A 2021 study published in the *Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Uninsured* conducted an analysis of electronic medical records that showed both homeless and at-risk-for-homelessness individuals, as compared to not at-risk individuals, have elevated incidence of chronic pulmonary disease, hepatitis, liver disease, hypertension, obesity, diabetes, deficiency anemia, congestive heart failure and depression among others.

The cost of homelessness is multi-factorial and includes hospitalization and medical treatment. For example, a report in the *New England Journal of Medicine* showed homeless people spend longer days hospitalized at an extra cost of \$2,414. People who are homeless interact with the prison system more frequently, specifically for overnight stays. A University of Texas survey of

Health conditions among the homeless population in comparison to the general U.S. population

Condition	Homeless	Housed
Diabetes	18%	9%
Hypertension	50%	29%
Heart attack	35%	17%
HIV	20%	1%
Hepatitis C	36%	1%
Depression	49%	8%
Substance use disorder	58%	16%

Source: Homelessness & Health: What's the Connection? by the National Health Care for the Homeless Council, Fact Sheet February 2019

homeless individuals showed that each person cost taxpayers \$14,480 per year for overnight jail incidences.

So, what levers can be pulled to curb the costs associated with homelessness and continue to move forward in our mission to serve this vulnerable population? In an article by the National Alliance to End Homelessness: "Ending Chronic Homelessness Saves Taxpayer Money," the alliance puts forth a "proven solution to end chronic homelessness: permanent supportive housing." Permanent Supportive Housing, or PSH, pairs affordable housing with case management and auxiliary services to reduce emergency department and inpatient stays, improve health and wellbeing, while also helping individuals achieve long-term housing stability.

Cost studies were conducted

across 22 PSH sites to document the reduction in services, such as hospital stays, emergency room visits as well as crisis services and jail. According to the study, a chronically homeless person costs an average of \$35,578 per year in taxpayer dollars across all study sites. Costs on average were reduced by 49.5% with PSH while expenditure for supportive housing averaged \$12,800 resulting in almost \$5,000 less expenditures for the intervention compared to no intervention. The value presents itself in the societal impact and reduced pressure on health care and jails, however challenges in funding often originate in who funds these dollars because the benefit is distributed across the health and welfare system.

For citations and links to these studies email craig.a.stevens@vermont.gov.

The CLA doesn't change your education tax bill

How the common level of appraisal (CLA) is used to calculate town tax rates

$$\text{equalized tax rate} \times \text{fair market value}/100 = \text{tax bill}$$

$$\$1.50 \times \$250,000/100 = \$3,750$$

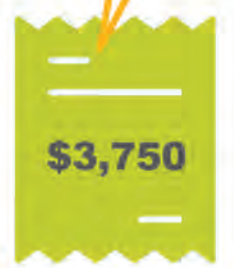
$$\text{equalized tax rate} / \text{CLA} = \text{town tax rate}$$

$$\$1.50 / .90 = \$1.67$$

$$\text{town rate} \times \text{assessed value}/100 = \text{tax bill}$$

$$\$1.67 \times \$225,000/100 = \$3,750$$

The CLA doesn't change the tax bill, it only changes the tax rate



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The new and 'improved' CLA

The 1973 oil embargo prompted many energy-saving ideas — real and imaginary. Daylight savings was extended year-round, which was spoofed in a cartoon of President Richard Nixon demonstrating an energy-saving blanket. He was shown cutting a strip from one end of the blanket and sewing it back on to the other end.

The current plan to reform the notorious CLA — common level of appraisal — looks a lot like Nixon's blanket. It doesn't actually change how things work, it just makes them look a little better to the public. The latest version of the yield bill now in the Senate changes the way the CLA is calculated but doesn't actually change the way the CLA works or affects tax bills.

The CLA is misunderstood to begin with. It affects school tax rates at the town level, but not school tax bills. The CLA is part of the process to ensure fairness in the property tax system. For taxes to be

fair, property needs to be evaluated against a uniform standard — a "common level of appraisal." Town-wide reappraisals of individual property are expensive, so they are done periodically. But each year the state determines the aggregate fair market value of each town. Based on those values, the Legislature determines the tax rates — known as "equalized tax rates" — that will generate the revenue needed to help fund public education.

But because towns reappraise property at different times, the official assessed or "listed" values on the Grand List are typically less than

fair market values. The CLA is the mechanism to adjust for the gap between the two values: It is the ratio of the listed value to the fair market value. In a town with a 90 percent CLA, the total listed value of property is 90 percent of the state-calculated fair market value. If property values go up between reappraisals, the CLA goes down. The lower the CLA, the bigger the

gap between the assessed value and fair market value.

So when the state sets tax rates for the year, they're setting a lower rate because they're assuming a higher property value than the town listed amount. That means the town tax rate is higher than the rate set by the state, but it's applied to a lower value, resulting in the same bill.

The CLA requires a little math, and it can be confusing, but it's become a bugaboo because it's so often used as a scapegoat. Many factors affect town tax rates: Changes in per-pupil spending, changes in other revenue sources, changes in property values. But it's so much easier to blame the CLA.

Even though the CLA is not well understood, the Legislature seems to have concluded that voters don't like it when they think their CLA is too low, when there is too big of a gap between the listed value and fair market value. So they have devised a formula that will increase all of the CLAs and change equalized tax rates, but leave town tax rates unchanged.

In the end, tax bills won't change with the redefinition of the CLA. The only difference will be that the CLA will appear to be higher — just as Nixon's blanket appeared to be bigger.

Community Forum

This week's writer is Jack Hoffman, senior analyst at Public Assets Institute, a non-partisan, non-profit organization based in Montpelier. He is a resident of Marshfield currently living in France.

Ways of Seeing

(Continued from Page 4A)
Our students deserve the right to be heard. We owe it to them to allow them to express themselves the way that many of us have encouraged them to do. What message does it send to our students if the minute they put their knowledge into practice, we unleash the police onto our campuses? Moreover, given the recent data on police violence in this country, what kind of danger are we putting our students in when we allow police onto our campuses with the sole purpose of dismantling student demonstrations with brute force? What kind of especially hazardous environment does this create for our minority students? Finally, this approach only escalates resentment and leads to full on rebellion, with students destroying property and taking over buildings. This is not to say that there should not be some balance in how college administrators respond to students engaging in illegal acts, but it is to say that some of the decisions that students are currently making are in response to the brute force that they have faced at the hands of the police via college administrators. In short, utilizing police enforcement aggravates an already tense situation where force is then met with force.

Institutions of higher learning must do better. If we encourage our students to think for themselves and act as informed citizens, then we should not police and punish them when they do so, even if they do it by holding us to a higher standard. These issues are, indeed, nuanced, and I don't believe that is lost on our students. We owe them the opportunity to share their concerns and to present us with other paths forward than the one we are on now. Administrators should certainly hold students accountable for acts

like destruction of property and the use of violent force, but they should also provide space for open dialogue with students to express their concerns to university leadership and faculty alike. Treating students like the free thinkers we have taught them to be can only empower them to work toward a better future and encourage us to consider new, and perhaps better, ways of doing things.

Mary E. Mendoza is an assistant professor of history and Latino/a Studies at Penn State University.

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Obituaries

Lindi Lee Bortney, 79, of Ripton

RIPTON — Lindi Lee Bortney died May 1 at her home in Ripton after a long illness. She was 79. Linda Lee Bortney was born April 28, 1945, in San Francisco, Calif., the only child of Fred S. Bortney (born Bortnick) and Florence Simon Bortney. She grew up across the bay in Oakland. She changed her name to Lindi as an adolescent. Lindi graduated from Oakland High School and the University of California, Berkeley, where she majored in theater arts.

After traveling a year in Europe with her friend Nancy, she earned a master's degree in Music Composition and Theory at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, where she met Jay Selnick. The two were married in Long Beach, Long Island, N.Y., in 1970. Lindi taught music in Garden City and then in Syosset, N.Y., where in 1974 she founded the Adelettes, a girls' barbershop chorus. The Adelettes have won many awards over the years, and are still going strong. Lindi's concert choirs also consistently won top honors.

In 1977 she met Jerome Shedd when they were singing together in a chorus with the Philadelphia



LINDI LEE BORTNEY

Orchestra. They were married in 1985.

She was music director of the Island Hills Chorus on Long Island, and later sang and danced in the front row of the Ramapo Valley Chorus in New Jersey when they became international champions. She appeared on the stage of Carnegie Hall several times, as part of the New York Choral Society and Ramapo Valley Chorus. Lindi was in demand as a conductor and clinician, touching the lives of many students across the United

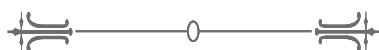
States. She was the first recipient of the Sweet Adelines International Music Educator Award.

After retirement, Lindi and Jerry moved full-time to their home in Ripton. Soon after, Lindi founded Maiden Vermont, a women's barbershop chorus, and was their director until recently. She also served as music director for several shows produced by Town Hall Theater, Middlebury Community Players, and White River Valley Players.

Lindi was an avid reader, loved folk dance and square dance, and enjoyed potting flowers. Her happy place was in the bow of her canoe, fishing in Vermont waters. Her photographs won blue ribbons. She and Jerry travelled extensively around the world.

She is survived by her husband, Jerome Shedd, cousins in California, and many honorary brothers, sisters and children. She loved many people.

At her request, a memorial square dance will be held at a later date. Contributions in her memory may be made to Addison County Home Health and Hospice PO Box 754 Middlebury, VT 05753. ◊



Carol Ann Audy, 69, of New Haven

NEW HAVEN — Carol Ann Audy of New Haven, Vt., age 69, passed away unexpectedly on May 4, 2024. She was born Dec. 21, 1954, in Middlebury, Vt., the daughter of George and Bertha Sherman.

She graduated from Mount Abraham Union High School in 1972 and shortly after married the love of her life, Keith Audy, on Oct. 26, 1973. Over her life she worked at Standard Register, Polymers Plastics, S.T. Griswold, The Tax Team in Middlebury, Vt., and both family businesses, Audy Trucking and Audy Farms. Carol enjoyed camping, her yearly trips to Virginia to see her grandson Ethan, going to Maine with her family and her Friday night dinners out with Keith. She absolutely adored her cats Sheila and Figgy, but most of all she enjoyed her family and her grandkids with all her heart. She was always very



CAROL ANN AUDY

proud of her two sons and would never hesitate to tell you so. She was her grandchildren's biggest fan.

Holidays were always made extra special by Carol. Christmas was her favorite. She always made sure that she spent exactly the same

on each grandchild, as she wanted each one to feel as special as she thought they were.

Carol is predeceased by her mother, Bertha; father, George; and nephew Mark Sherman. Carol is survived by her husband of 50 years, Keith; two sons, Jeffrey (Chelsea) and Jonathan (Roxanne); sister, Linda Valentine (Danny); brother, Larry Sherman (Shari); grandkids, Ethan, Isabella, Vivienne, Morgan, Colin, Silas, Garrett, and Jillian; and many nieces and nephews.

A service will be held Saturday, May 11, at 10 a.m., at Brown-McClay Funeral home in Bristol. Calling hours will be Friday, May 10, from 6-8 p.m. at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers memorial contributions in her name can be sent to Homeward Bound, Addison County Humane Society, 236 Boardman St. Middlebury, VT 05753. ◊



Candace D. Swain memorial services

NEW HAVEN — A memorial service for Candace D. Swain will be held on May 19, 2024, for her family and close friends. The gathering will be held at the Allen and Susan Swain residence at 509 Otter Creek Highway, New Haven, Vt. Candi loved the trillium patch at the back of the property and that is where folks will gather. Close friends

should arrive at 12:30 p.m. Please note that family will be arriving on or just after 12:30 following a brief private family dedication at the cemetery. There will be a light lunch following the ceremony.

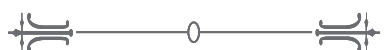
In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the New Haven Library and/or New Haven Historical Society. ◊

Obituary Guidelines

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

department. Photos (optional) with either paid obituaries or free notices cost \$10 per photo. Obituaries may be emailed to obits@addisonindependent.com.

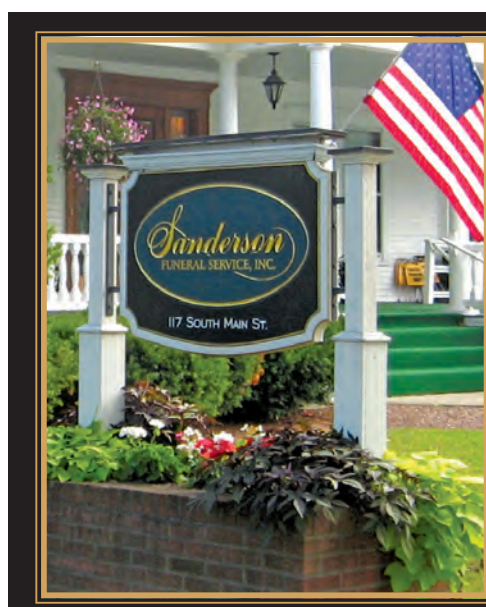
Submissions must be received by 11 a.m. on Wednesday for publication in the Thursday paper. Email obits@addisonindependent.com or call 802-388-4944 for more information.



GERARD "GERRY" J. GAGNON

Gerard 'Gerry' J. Gagnon celebration of life

SALISBURY — Family and 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. ◊



Alan L. Evarts, 74, of Vergennes

VERGENNES — Alan L. Evarts 74, died May 3, 2024, at Helen Porter Healthcare & Rehab Center in Middlebury after a brief illness. He was born Sept. 17, 1949, in Middlebury, the son of Vance F. Evarts Sr. and Martha (Abel) Evarts.

Alan received his GED later in life and was a personal caregiver for many years. He enjoyed antique cars and was an avid train enthusiast.

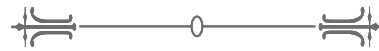
He is survived by his significant other and love of his life, Janet Welch of Vergennes, by his brother, Craig Evarts of Rochester and several nieces and nephews.

Alan was predeceased by his parents, and his brother, Vance F. Evarts Jr.

A celebration of his life will be held on Thursday, May 9, at 11 a.m., at Sanderson-Ducharme Funeral Home, located at 117 S. Main Street Middlebury.

Memorial contributions may be made to Homeward Bound Addison County Humane Society at 236 Boardman Street Middlebury Vt. 05753.

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



Panala Kinzie, 71, of Leicester



PANALA KINZIE

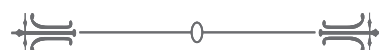
LEICESTER — Panala Kinzie, age 71, of Leicester, Vt., passed away peacefully on April 29, 2024. She was surrounded in her final days by those who loved her most of all.

Pan was born on Nov. 29, 1952, to Charles and Beatrice Kinzie in London, England. She graduated from Satellite High School in Satellite Beach, Fla., and earned an associate degree from Brevard Community College.

She held many jobs over the course of her life, but was most proud of being a mom to her four children, and to countless English mastiffs and French bulldogs that she bred and raised.

Pan was predeceased by her partner, David Wortham; her

son, Joshua Monk; her grandson, Christopher Werner; her siblings



Grant Harvey Parker, 94, formerly of New Haven

RIVERSIDE, Calif. — We regret to announce the passing of Grant Harvey Parker, who died in Riverside, Calif., on March 26, 2024, at the age of 94.

He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Mrs. Kathleen Anne Parker; son Matthew, daughter-in-law Anjana, grandsons Joshua and David; daughter Janice; and daughter Rana and son-in-law, Benjamin Uong. He is predeceased by his mother, Florence Siple Parker; father, Grant Leach Parker; and cousin Marie Bradley.

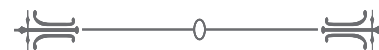
Grant Harvey Parker was born on Feb. 8, 1930, in Bristol, Vt. He moved to New Haven at a young age and grew up alongside his cousin Marie on the family dairy farm. As a child, Grant was active in 4-H, showing award-winning Jersey cows. He attended all 12 years of primary and secondary school at Beeman Academy in New Haven, Vt. As a young adult, he traveled several times on his own to California, while continuing to work the farm in Vermont and a variety of jobs, including



GRANT HARVEY PARKER

Simmonds Precision Products, where he inspected parts for the Apollo mission.

On April 23, 1966, he married Kathleen Anne Palmer, also of New Haven, Vt. They met at the local A&W and married in Bristol at St. Ambrose Catholic Church several years later. They welcomed three children, Matthew, Janice, and Rana over the next several years.



Roland Ted Simmons Jr., 80, of Orwell

ORWELL — Roland Ted Simmons Jr., age 80, passed away Friday, April 26, 2024, at Helen Porter Nursing Home in Middlebury.

Ted was born in Hartford, Conn., on Nov. 5, 1943. He was the son of Roland and Helen (Helenski) Simmons Sr. He grew up in Bloomfield, Conn., where he received his early education and graduated from Bloomfield High School, class of 1961. He earned his degree, class of 1963, from Radford Hicks School of Agriculture. He moved with his family to Charlestown, N.H., and worked the family farm with his father. They moved to Orwell in 1972 and settled on Royce Hill Road, where he continued farming.

After selling his cows he continued working doing field crops until his retirement in 2019. He was a selectman for the town of Orwell for 18 years. He



ROLAND TED SIMMONS JR.

served on the Vermont League of Cities & Towns board and was a past member of the Orwell First Response Squad. He was an avid reader and enjoyed watching old movies. He loved to work on the farm.

Surviving are his sister, Susanne



ALAN L. EVARTS

Christine Kinzie, Charles Kinzie and Janet Armstrong; and her parents, Charles and Beatrice Kinzie. She is survived by her three remaining children: Stacey Patel of Swarthmore, Pa.; Ashlee Monk of Middlebury, Vt.; and Phillip Troy Monk of Walla Walla, Wash.; as well as her seven remaining grandchildren: Zoe Monk, Kyler Monk, Shane Monk, Junior Monk, Elliot Monk, Brighton Escude, and Emma Patel.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to Age Well or Homeward Bound of Middlebury, Vt. Both organizations were incredibly helpful in caring for Pan and her pets during her final days. ◊

Emery of Orwell; a niece; Nicole May; one nephew, Bernard Mohan Jr.; and two grandnieces, Jessica Claudio and Brianna May. He was predeceased by his parents, sister Frances Mohan and her husband, Bernard Mohan Sr.

The memorial service in celebration of his life will take place, on Saturday, May 18, at 11 a.m., at the Orwell Congregational Church. The Rev. David Anderson, pastor, will officiate. A private graveside committal service and burial will precede the funeral, in the family lot at Mountain View Cemetery.

Following the ceremony, the family will receive friends in the church hall for a time of remembrance.

Memorial gifts in lieu of flowers may be made in his name to The First Congregational Church of Orwell or to the Orwell First Response Squad.

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

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Peggy McGrath Lawrence, 83, of Addison

ADDISON — Peggy McGrath Lawrence, 83, of Addison, Vt., passed away peacefully on April 21, 2024. Born in New York City, N.Y., Feb. 10, 1941, to the late H. Thomas and Margaret McGrath (nee Cahill), Peggy grew up in Scarsdale, N.Y., with her parents and younger siblings Kerry McGrath Denny, H. Thomas McGrath Jr., and Maureen McGrath. She adored New York City's glamour and energy and worked in clothing stores and as a model in high school and college. She graduated from Scarsdale High School and Wheaton College in Norton, Mass., where she made lifelong friends and met her future husband, John E. Lawrence Jr. of Hamilton, Mass. Her fondest memories were outside of the classroom, and she loved telling stories from that (and every other) era of her life.



PEGGY MCGRATH LAWRENCE

Following her college graduation and marriage in 1963, Peggy and her husband lived in North Carolina as he completed his military service. It was here that Peggy began a lifelong dedication to service, volunteering with Navy Relief providing family counseling support. As the family expanded to include her two sons, they relocated to New York and Rhode Island before settling in Massachusetts in 1975, where she spent the next 40 years. Each new home was an opportunity to exercise her gifts for decoration and entertaining and to forge deep friendships.

Peggy was a practicing artist who earned her master's in fine arts degree at the School of the Museum of Fine Arts of Boston in 1984. Working particularly in pastels, charcoal, and graphite, she used the landscapes of New England and the transformation of its small towns as very personal subject matter. She also worked professionally as an illustrator and as an architectural draftsman.

Peggy had a knack for weaving her interests into her personal, professional, and social life. She

joined clubs for community and shared enthusiasm and often took leadership roles. She was a devoted gardener and was a past president of the North Shore Garden Club in Massachusetts and the Middlebury Garden Club in Vermont. She wrote plays for and performed with a group at the Somerset Club in Boston, and she served on the Event Committee of the Town Hall Theater in Middlebury following her move to Vermont. She was quick to volunteer her creative talents to worthy causes, decorating donated furniture and bird houses for fundraising sales. She was a member of an investment club for many years and enjoyed hunting the markets for the next stock win. She loved sports, including tennis, skiing and even skydiving in college. Her weekly Middlebury Tai Chi class provided a new kind of challenge, forcing her to both slow down and communicate inwardly. She was up for any game or puzzle, and she looked forward to Mahjong every Monday. Babies, dogs, the fillet of fish sandwich at McDonald's, a party, travel, books, a good bargain, chocolate and talking brought her immense joy. There were things she did not like as well; spelling and computers were a constant source of irritation, and anything that ate the beloved plants

in her garden was an implacable foe.

She loved Vermont and appreciated how the community welcomed her when she moved to be close to her son George and his family in 2016. She joined the Congregational Church of Middlebury and became a deacon. She prepared macaroni and cheese and cookies for the Community Supper, which serves over four hundred free meals every Friday and helped with serving, cleanup and provided childcare during it and Sunday services. She was on various committees that organized memorial services and fundraisers, and she painted a mural in the children's area. She loved the diverse membership of the congregation and made many close friends. She also volunteered at the Ilsley Public Library, working at the annual book sale and participating in holiday decorating there and around town with the garden club. She was proud of her busy schedule.

Peggy most treasured her relationships with her family and friends. Her grandchildren were a source of tremendous pride, and her summer "Grannie Camps" provided many shared fond memories. She is survived by her sons, George E. Lawrence (Cinny) and Nicholas P. Lawrence (Julie); four grandchildren, Ellie, Erin, Charlotte and Tommy; her sister, Maureen McGrath, and many nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Tuesday, May 28, at the Congregational Church of Middlebury, 2 Main Street, Middlebury, VT 05753 with a reception following at the church.

In lieu of flowers the family suggests contributions in memory of Peggy M. Lawrence to the Charter House Coalition in Middlebury, Vt., supporting the local community with housing and meals at chcv.org/want-to-get-involved/donate/.

Condolences can be shared at sandersonfuneralservice.com. ♦

Letters to the Editor

Victims' voices were left out of Morley trial story

I am writing in response to a recent article with the title "Taxi driver innocent of restraint charges" in the April 25 edition of this paper. Having attended the three days of the trial and knowing the six victims from the incident I find the article biased towards Marvin Morley with seemingly no attempt to understand or hear from the victims. Whether Morley was proved not guilty beyond a reasonable doubt of the felony or not, what happened to them matters and has had serious and lasting effects on their lives. Was it a case where the law did not provide a more accurate charge for what occurred, perhaps. But, by omitting their perspective in the article these young women's voices were dismissed and their experience on the night of July 4, 2022, was negated. They are not simply women whose "imagination ran wild," as suggested in the article.

The night of the incident the Vermont State Police were contacted and interviewed each of the victims individually and recorded their statements. At the time the two officers found them credible and found cause for charging Morley with six felony counts. In fact, the address one of them pinged on her phone while stopped at Morley's home is one

the police recognized right away due to at least one prior incident. If one googles Marvin Morley it is easy to find a Sept. 15, 2022, article from *The Middlebury Campus* reporting that the July 4 incident is one of several incidents involving young female passengers and Mr. Morley. There seems to be a history of him overstepping boundaries and making at least some of his passengers feel unsafe. Do they rise to felonious acts? Clearly the jury of nine men and three women did not think so. I believe the jury worked hard within the guidelines they were given by the judge. I can accept the decision of the jury regarding the felony charges against Mr. Morley and thank them for their service.

However, there remains in this state and country a history and problem of people not believing women's voices when they are put in unsafe or sketchy situations by men. One only need look at the recent Justice Department settlement with the FBI for the latter not believing the young women who reported on Larry Nassar, the U.S. women's gymnastics team doctor.

I am happy to report that here in Addison County we do have State Police who are supportive and listen carefully to victims and are

willing to testify in court on their findings. In addition, the night of the incident the troopers shared information about the victim advocate at the Addison County Unit for Special Investigations. Martha Bowdish worked extensively with the six victims supporting them at each turn in the case. Ms. Bowdish also helped get them support from Atria Collective (formerly WomanSafe). During that summer Atria advocates met with the victims several times both as a group and individually as needed. Ms. Bowdish and Jena Santa Maria from Atria also supported the four victims who returned to Middlebury to testify before, during and after the trial.

I spent my career working with women and girls to encourage them to find and use their voices in support of one another and themselves. It is important work because so many times publicly and privately female voices are dismissed or degraded by what happens in courts and how it is reported in the media. This kind of treatment often leads women and girls to be unwilling to report incidents and crimes when they happen. We as a society need to do better.

Ellen Flight Middlebury

Thank you for supporting the Ilsley Library bond

On behalf of the Ilsley Public Library Board of Trustees and the Ilsley 100 Project team, our thanks to the citizens of Middlebury for your vote of confidence in passing the article in Tuesday's election to fund a portion of the library's renovation/expansion project through a public bond. This project will have a transformative effect on the future of Middlebury for our downtown and for generations to come, and you will be able to say that you were part of it.

We also want to extend thanks to the many people who have made it possible for us to get to this point, including our volunteers,

staff, donors, and elected officials. We are particularly grateful to Library Director Dana Hart, Town Manager Kathleen Ramsay, and Brian Carpenter and the Middlebury Selectboard for successfully steering us to this point. The expertise of Judith Harris, Clerk of the Works, has been invaluable. Our partners at ReArch Company, especially Chris Huston, and at Wiemann Lamphere Architects, especially Michael Mindaneo, have been terrific to work with. The donation by the National Bank of Middlebury of temporary space for our operations has

also been extremely helpful in moving the project forward. Extensive coverage from the *Addison Independent* has kept the community informed of the many steps in this process.

We thank all of you for your enthusiastic backing of the bond vote and look forward to your continuing support in the next steps for Middlebury's public library.

Joe McVeigh, Chair, Ilsley 100 Project Team
Meg Baker, President, Ilsley Public Library Board of Trustees

Georgette M. Cousineau, 72, of Whitehall, N.Y.

WHITEHALL, N.Y. — Georgette M. Cousineau, 72, of Skenesborough Harbor Apartments passed away on May 2, 2024 in the Rutland Regional Hospital following a short illness.

She was born on Sept. 23, 1951, at Porter Hospital in Middlebury, Vt., the daughter of the late George and Rita (Quesnel) Cousineau.

She grew up in Whiting, Vt., and graduated from Otter Valley Union High School and received a bachelor's degree from The College of Saint Joseph in Rutland, Vt. Georgette was a long-term substitute teacher and retired as school bus driver from Whitehall Central School District in 2010.

After retiring her enjoyments were visiting family, friends and doing community activities at Skenesborough Harbor Apartments.

She often helped with community meals as well as assisted with providing food. Georgette was an



GEORGETTE M. COUSINEAU

avid knitter, always making items for family and friends. (If you knew Georgette more than likely you will have something she had made).

Georgette's generosity had no limits, often making items for donations for charities anonymously.

Besides her parents she is predeceased by her brothers, Arthur and Maurice Cousineau.

She is survived by her son, John Stevens of Seattle, Wash.; her daughter, Damienne Colippy of Elizabethton, Tenn.; granddaughter Elizajane and grandson Jacob; her brothers Claude of Bridport, Vt., Raymond of Addison, Vt., and Ernest and his wife Laurie of New Haven, Vt. She is also survived by several nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be celebrated at 11 a.m. on Saturday June 8, at the First Baptist Church in Whitehall, N.Y., with Pastor Pam Bolton officiating.

In lieu of flowers donations made be to Whitehall American Legion Post 83, Skene Manor Historical Place, Issac Griswold Library, Skenesborough Rescue Squad and Skenesborough Museum all of Whitehall, NY.

Online condolences may be made at www.jillsonfuneralhome.com. ♦

A poem written for Mother's Day on remembrance

MAKE MYSELF REMEMBER (Mother's Day 2024)

I have to make myself remember
The skillful fingers that used to push

A needle through calico layers
Making the tiniest stitches
Intricate, patient designs
Around the square of a quilt
In her lap

I have to make myself remember
The beautiful mouth that used to laugh

With auburn head thrown back
Revealing her straight white teeth
Encircled by lips painted pink
From the gold tube of lipstick
In her purse

I have to make myself remember
The agile body that used to labor
All sweaty in garden sun
Looking for ripe cucumbers
Or weeding around marigolds
Then jumping into the pool
Clothes and all

I have to make myself remember
The practical mind that used to offer

Wisdom to my young heart
Before a troublesome school day
"Give it to God and leave it,"
While quickly braiding my hair
At the mirror

I have to make myself remember

The resolute will that used to persevere

Packing up dishes in boxes
Wrapping them gently in paper
The ripping sound of tape
Another move across country
A new home

I have to make myself remember
The clever artist that used to plan
A collage of pictures in frames
Laid out on the living room rug
Or an idea sketched on paper
For an elaborate cake
She would bake

I have to make myself remember
The handwriting that used to comfort

When I was away at school
Thirsty for something familiar
Pages of news and affection
Appearing like fresh water
In my mailbox

I have to make myself remember
The vibrant mother I used to know

Her fingers now fumble with pills
The body sleeps most of the day
And laughter now is scarce
Reality jumbled and twisted
In her head

And I wonder if she remembers
That this is not who she was
And in truth, it is not who she is
Hidden behind cloudy eyes
And the unrecognized stare

But I will make myself Remember

Suzanna Rood Vergennes



BERTHA J. BENJAMIN

Ken 'Sonny' Young celebration of life

LEICESTER — Please come to share memories, stories and gratitude for the life of Ken "Sonny" Young, who died Jan. 16, 2024. The celebration will be held on Saturday, May 18, from 1-5 p.m., at Foxcroft Farm, 898 Delorm Road in Leicester. There will be a pig roast, good food and great company. ♦



KEN 'SONNY' YOUNG

Bertha J. Benjamin celebration of life

MIDDLEBURY — Family and friends are respectfully invited to attend the graveside service for Bertha J. Benjamin, who died Jan. 2, 2024, at Middlebury Cemetery on Route 30 in Middlebury, Vt., on June 1, at 1:30 p.m. A celebration of life will follow at the VFW on Exchange Street in Middlebury, Vt. ♦

National Nursing Week, May 6-10

Nurses are the heroes that offer care to those who are sick, support to those who are weak, compassion to those who are suffering and comfort to those in need.

These brave and generous individuals give so much, that all we can say in return is **THANK YOU.**

Happy National Nurses Week to ALL nurses — we hope you know how much you are appreciated!



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THE GREEN FIELD in front of the trees in the center of this photo and the brown field to its right would be part of the 300 farmed acres covered by solar panels if a 50-megawatt solar array proposed for Pantan by Freepoint Commodities is eventually approved by the Public Utilities Commission. The site, part of a farm operated by Joe Marszalkowski, lies west of and runs parallel with Route 22A in the town's south end. Independent photo/Andy Kirkaldy

Panton

(Continued from Page 1A)
Management Area. That's all the way to the Addison town line.

It would be sited several hundred yards west of and downslope from Route 22A and run parallel to the road, per preliminary mapping. Existing homes, trees and plantings appear to provide some screening from the site.

Another thing about which there is not much question: Many, but not necessarily all, Pantan residents don't care for Freepoint's plans.

According to the New York City PR firm that answered the *Independent's* questions on Freepoint's behalf, those plans include an application to the Vermont Public Utilities Commission (PUC) late this year, construction in 2026, and the array online in 2027.

More than 100 Pantan residents as of late last week had signed a petition against that proposal, according to organizers Sharon Ashcraft and Cindy Cooke; they hope to reach 300 signatures in a town with a population of about 700.

The petition claims the array will "degrade the rural character of the area," "contribute to blight and the loss of farmlands," "have a disruptive effect on the diverse wildlife species residing in the area," and be "antithetic to the landscapes that make Vermont special."

RESIDENTS SPEAK OUT

About 15 residents spoke in opposition at an April 14 planning commission/DRB meeting. According to meeting minutes, Cooke, a West Road resident, said Pantan has already done its share for the state's energy plans by including an Enhanced Energy Plan in its town plan and hosting the 5-megawatt array on Pantan Road.

Resident Charles Strona said he moved to the town decades ago "not to look out his back door and see a field of solar panels," but "for the rural environment." He also made a common criticism about the array, that it "won't benefit local residents." It is now unclear where Freepoint would market the power the array could generate.

Resident Bob Moulton chimed in

that "people don't realize the scale of this; 300 acres is too massive for our town."

Ashcraft said she moved to Pantan "for the scenic beauty and open rural landscape. To destroy that scenic beauty would be a huge tragedy."

People who spoke directly to the *Independent* said they favored solar power, but not this project in this location.

Sam Marszalkowski is one who opposes the project. She is a Rutland-area resident and a member of the family trust that owns more than 200 acres of the land in question. Her brother Joe Marszalkowski is now farming that 200 acres, part of a larger 1,400-acre operation on which he plants grains.

Members of the family trust are divided on whether to lease the land to Freepoint.

Sam said this is not a "Not In My Back Yard movement strikes again" situation. But she opposes the deal signed by the trust because she believes the land should be farmed, and she shares the opinion of others about the array's impact on the viewshed and wildlife.

"I'm not opposed to solar," she said. "I guess it's just the scale and the magnitude."

Panton Planning Chair Mary Rudd summed up.

"I personally have not heard from anyone who favors this," she said.

Rudd also provided details about what Pantan's Enhanced Energy Plan says, and about how Freepoint's proposal relates to it.

"It is disappointing to see a company come with a preliminary proposal that is not compliant with the Enhanced Energy Plan. Only about one-third of the proposed array is contained in the area that is permissible," she wrote in an email. "The Enhanced Energy Plan specifically prohibits installations greater than 500 kW outside of the preferred area."

Planners, according to April 14 minutes, did not support voting to reopen the town plan to modify the Enhanced Energy Plan, a move that could ease the way for Freepoint's proposal. The energy plans' preferred array siting area

only includes a portion of the area covered by the proposed array.

But, regardless of local regulations and input, the state regulator — the Public Utilities Commission — likely has the final say.

Rudd said the planning commission has scheduled June 13 for a formal vote on whether to reopen the plan.

Meanwhile, selectboard Chair Howard Hall, who calls himself neutral on the array, said he has heard from residents on the other side of the fence.

"I know some people are very unhappy about it, and I know some people are very happy about it," Hall said.

What are people who back the prospect telling him? What cropped up was that the array won't affect supporters directly, and the town could benefit financially from taxing the installation.

"They think ... it's really not in sight from anywhere that most people live. They don't see that area between Slang Road and West Road. There's not much you can really see off Route 22A, that's what these people are saying. And if it can reduce my taxes somehow, somehow, or give some benefits to the town, say a new snowplow, or this or that, it's the way it is," Hall said.

He added, "People also feel it's beneficial because it is solar power. It is a process that is clean energy. Yes, it's panels out there, but it's better than a coal-fired plant or fracking."

But Hall also said he finds the information provided so far by Freepoint falls short of the mark.

Hall wants to know more about the array itself and issues such as the arrangements to remove it when it is no longer functional. He also wants details on the transmission line that would bring the power generated to the VELCO substation in Vergennes, and a detailed map of the array showing property lines.

"We've only met with these people once, maybe twice, and there've been some questions on it. And there's been some comments from fellow Pantonians on this. And we're saying we need more information," Hall said.

Panton solar, the big picture

By ANDY KIRKALDY

PANTON — As folks in Pantan discuss a 50-megawatt solar array that Freepoint Commodities is proposing to put up west of Route 22A and south of West Road, the local debate is playing out on a larger stage. For one, the Vermont Legislature is considering and update to H.289, a bill that would double the amount of new renewable energy projects in the state.

In addition to H.289, in recent years, the Vermont Legislature has passed laws requiring the state to incrementally reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by 2025, 2030 and 2050.

And in the meantime, Vermont's demand for electric power is projected to grow.

According to a 2023 report in *VT Digger* on an analysis conducted for the Vermont Climate Council, the state's electric power usage could double over the next 16 years as it weans itself from fossil fuels — from about 5,500 gigawatt hours then to nearly 11,000 gigawatt hours by 2040 — as more electric vehicles hit roads and more

electric heat pumps replace gas and oil furnaces and boilers.

Meanwhile, according to *Seven Days* in 2023, the state's rate of producing more solar energy is slowing. Solar installation in Vermont peaked in 2016 with of 81 megawatts of new arrays, but by 2022 the total dropped to 32 megawatts.

The question now becomes how much say Pantan has about siting a solar array, even with its Enhanced Energy Plan.

Addison County Regional Planning Commissioner planner Andrew L'Roe helped the town write that plan. L'Roe noted that according to 2016's Act 174, the Public Utilities Commission, or PUC, must give the community "substantial deference" in considering an application for a project within its borders.

According to the law, "a land conservation measure or specific policy shall be applied in accordance with its terms unless there is a clear and convincing demonstration that other factors affecting the general good of the State outweigh the application of the measure or policy."

But L'Roe said, in an email to the *Independent*, that with such a compelling state interest the commission could instead give a town "due consideration," a term carrying less legal weight than substantial deference.

Thus, the PUC could decide the state's goals for renewable energy rise to a factor "affecting the general good of the State" in a case such as Freepoint's pending application.

L'Roe said the regional planning commission is not aware of a precedent.

"As far as we know, that hasn't been legally tested with the PUC," he wrote.

He did note hopefully that in a similar case in Rutland reported in the *Rutland Herald*, the town was granted party status for a proposed solar array.

"Overall, we appreciate that Pantan is and has been very proactive and took the steps necessary to identify their power needs, existing contributions, and preferred-siting locations," he wrote, "and now they have a greater local say in what happens within their town."

Rudd said the planning commission has tried to obtain such information from Freepoint and an affiliated company, SunEast Development LLC, and forwarded specific requests after its April 14 meeting — which was reportedly attended virtually by a Freepoint representative.

"I have not heard anything more from Freepoint or SunEast, and still have not received written answers the questions posed at the April meeting," Rudd wrote in a May 6 email to the *Independent*.

FREEPOINT'S POV

Freepoint is a multinational corporation that has offices around the world. It should also be noted that Freepoint has been in trouble with the law.

From a Dec. 14 U.S. Department of Justice press release:

"Freepoint Commodities LLC ... has agreed to pay over \$98 million to resolve an investigation by the U.S. Justice Department into violations of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act stemming from the company's involvement in a corrupt scheme to pay bribes to Brazilian government officials."

Freepoint is also proposing 20-megawatt arrays in Shaftsbury and Fair Haven that would also be among the state's largest.

The Public Utilities Commission (PUC) is currently considering the Shaftsbury proposal, which according to a 2023 *VT Digger* article sparked opposition. The last recorded action on the Shaftsbury application on the PUC website was a "workshop" scheduled this past September.

There is no PUC application on record for Fair Haven. A 2023 *Seven Days* article quoted Fair Haven town officials saying, "There's been no outrage at all," about Freepoint's proposal.

The March Pantan planning commission minutes said Freepoint did move the array somewhat to partially comply with the town's energy plan, and the company believes there is onsite screening: "The new location will benefit from extensive natural screening due to its current valley location in and adjacent to Pantan's preferred solar energy development area."

Freepoint, according to minutes, also represented its intentions "for Freepoint to be the owner of the business and they would be responsible for the aesthetics of the site, landscape, health, and eventual dismantling of the array."

The *Independent* contacted Freepoint's Connecticut headquarters and was told to

submit questions to New York public relations firm RFBinder.

RFBinder Senior Managing Director Kelly Logan answered, including with the PUC application and construction and operations timetables.

Logan was also asked what kind of assurances could Freepoint offer Pantan residents that their concerns about viewshed and wildlife protection will be addressed.

She replied: "Our most advanced project with respect to PUC review is in Shaftsbury, and their record is very good. Our Shaftsbury project has (a memorandum of understanding) with the Agency for Natural Resources that indicates that we have a common understanding on how to execute the project without any undue impact on wildlife and their habitat ..."

"On viewshed, we believe our Pantan site is well secluded and will not have an undue aesthetic impact. At Shaftsbury, the state Department of Public Service hired their own consultant to review our landscape plan and their report was very favorable. We expect to meet those standards at all our projects."

Logan was also asked about the potential destination of the power

(See Solar, Page 9A)



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Solar

(Continued from Page 8A)
the array might generate.

In Logan's words, "We are looking out of state now, focused on (Connecticut) utilities."

But an update of H.289, an update to a key Vermont bill on renewable energy, is this week scheduled for its third reading in the Vermont Senate.

That update would, in part, according to the Vermont Natural Resources Council, "Double the amount of new renewables Vermont utilities are required to build in the state ... from 10% to 20% of the electricity they deliver. This is expected to be met mostly with new solar."

In other words, new demand in Vermont could be created for in-state solar arrays such as those Freepoint is proposing.

"Yes, it would be great to have a local customer," Logan wrote in response to a question about H.289. **SOLAR VS. SOY?**

As Sam Marszalkowski noted, some wonder why productive farmland is being considered for a change to solar production. Back when the Vorsteveld farm leased land to Green Mountain Power for the array on Pantan Road, the farm owners said it was not their most useful acreage.

But Joe Marszalkowski, Sam's brother, now farms the 200-plus acres that would be covered by most of the up to 170,000 solar panels that would be installed.

Doing business as Marszalkowski Grains, his farm also includes about 500 rented acres in Addison as well as 900 total acres on the longtime family farm west of Route 22A. He plants soy, corn, hay and winter wheat, almost exclusively as animal feed.

Of the 900 Pantan acres, Marszalkowski said about 700 is suitable for planting — and the array as proposed would remove from use somewhere between 200 acres and 300 acres of tillable land from use. It would also bisect his land on a north-south axis, reducing efficiency.

Marszalkowski and his sister both disagree with the decision by the family trust to lease the land, a decision they say they were not even aware was happening. The trust, per a document emailed to the



THIS PANTAN FARM field, shown looking south from West Road looking toward Addison, would be part of the 300 acres covered by solar panels if a 50-megawatt solar array proposed by Freepoint Commodities is eventually approved by the Public Utilities Commission. The site lies west of and runs parallel with Route 22A in Pantan's south end.

Independent photo/Andy Kirkaldy

Pantan selectboard, is intended to benefit the medical and retirement needs of their grandmother, Mary.

Their cousin Alex Marszalkowski operates the trust and wrote that letter to the selectboard urging its support for the array.

In part it states: "Understanding the financial challenges and the urgent need to secure funds for Mary's care, we explored various avenues and ultimately arrived at the idea of partnering with a reputable solar company to develop a renewable energy project on a portion of our farm. This project will not only provide the financial stability required to cover Mary's nursing home expenses but also safeguards the future of the Pantan farm."

Alex wrote the solar array would be better for the land: "I believe the development of solar will actually have a positive impact because the fields will no longer be intensively farmed, they will not be plowed every year (allowing them to now act as a carbon sink), they will not be sprayed with hundreds or thousands of gallons of herbicide, pesticide, and tons of chemical fertilizers will also no longer be needed."

Joe, who took control of farm

operations from his father, Richard, this year, took issue with Alex's claims. He told the *Independent* he does not use pesticide, and the farm spreads a total of 250 pounds a year of glyphosate (which is called the "safest herbicide") on the 700 acres of the family farm. He also acknowledged adding another 300 pounds of dry fertilizer — nitrogen, potassium and phosphate — per acre.

He also rotates crops carefully, and the winter wheat he plants prevents soil erosion. Joe added that solar arrays can leak heavy metal pollutants through damage or defects, and questioned the alleged environmental benefits of the proposed array.

Joe was asked if he would still be able to operate the farm if the array was installed. Ultimately, his conclusion was not a happy one, due to less volume and similar overhead.

"That's a tough question," he said. "I would like to think so, but I really don't believe I would."

But Joe does not oppose solar power, even in the adjacent area identified in Pantan's energy plan that includes some of his land. From behind his barn, he pointed to an area north of West Road and

west of Slang Road. If two other farmers agreed, he said, 300 acres could be available there in an area that not only better follows the plan, but is also better shielded by trees.

One of those other farmers agreed to a power line, but balked at an array, he said, leading Freepoint to turn to his relatives who run the trust.

"The town had a plan. They would rather have it on Slang Road, pushed farther north. It is a more hidden area from Route 22A," he said. "There's a large group of woods east of it, as well as to the north."

Joe said he understands the NIMBY issue: "If everybody says no, we're not going to progress," but that Pantan should be "thoughtful on the whole process."

"I know a lot of people are dead set against it and fighting the whole project," Joe said. "But you can't stop the progression, and it is good in a sense. It's good for the overall economy. But it's a project that really needs to be looked at in a different angle and planned a whole lot better. And I think unless we act to stop it now, or make changes, or make our voices heard, then I believe we'll just get run over."

MAUSD

(Continued from Page 1A)

in each of the district member towns — Bristol, New Haven, Monkton and Starksboro. Residents will also have a chance to provide input through an electronic survey.

After voters twice defeated spending proposals for the upcoming school year, MAUSD is trying to craft a budget that the four towns will approve before the fiscal year begins on July 1.

School board members on Tuesday discussed logistics and ground rules for the upcoming meetings. They also acknowledged the forums are just one step in working to engage in important conversations with the community.

"We are not going to answer everything that they need in this one meeting," board member Melissa Laurie said. "I'm hopeful that if we can communicate that well, that this is just step one, and we're going to keep going up that ladder until we get to a place where, hopefully, we build back trust in the community and we're collaborative and we're working together."

The upcoming community forums are part of district officials' efforts to solicit feedback from residents before drafting a third spending plan for the upcoming fiscal year. District voters defeated a \$37 million spending plan on Town Meeting Day and then shot down a \$35.9 million proposal on April 16.

The MAUSD board last week decided it would hold off on developing another spending proposal until it had time to gather community feedback and hear from Superintendent Patrick Reen on several budget-related questions residents have raised. Reen is scheduled to present that information to the board at its May 14 meeting.

On Tuesday board members adopted a plan for engaging with the community that includes hosting public forums in each of the district member towns next week.

Those meetings will take place:

- In Bristol on May 13 at 6:30-8 p.m.
- In New Haven on May 13 at 6:30-8 p.m.
- In Monkton on May 13 at 6:30-8 p.m.
- In Starksboro on May 14 at 3:30-5 p.m.
- A daytime community forum

on May 14 beginning at 10 a.m. at a site to be announced.

District officials were still determining meeting locations as the *Independent* went to press.

Community members can keep an eye out for posters, Front Porch Forum messages and other media posts and internal communication from MAUSD with more details.

The meetings will not be offered on Zoom, but community members are free to attend any of the forums, not just those hosted in their hometown.

In addition to setting dates for the community forums, board members on Tuesday established some ground rules for the upcoming meetings. Those included setting clear expectations at the start of each meeting to center conversations around the FY'25 budget and community collaboration.

"There is a reason why we're doing these meetings, and it's to give us more information about what the community needs as answers for their questions that will help us move forward for this budget and for the next budget," Board member Kathi Apgar said. "I don't see this as an open town hall discussion. I see this as a very focused construct, so that we can use it as a foundation and do this again when we have more time."

Other ground rules include having board representatives present at their hometown meetings and ensuring confidentiality for those that provide feedback.

"We are dedicated to protecting anonymity at these meetings so all notes collected from discussions will not be accompanied by names," MAUSD Board Chair Erin Jipner told the *Independent*. "When electronic surveys are answered, we will ask people to protect their own identity by keeping name of selves, students, and schools out of responses."

Jipner noted the board will be focused on building community collaboration around the budget and center conversations around two questions: what do you want the board to know right now and what would it take to make you feel positive about the budget?

The electronic survey will consist of those same questions. "We welcome all to attend and help us forge a path forward," Jipner said.

Ilsley

(Continued from Page 1A)

intersection of Main Street and Printer's Alley.

The bank's magnanimous offer of an interim downtown spot for the library was just one of the metaphorical stars that seemed to align prior to Tuesday's bond vote. Another biggie was the announcement that Middlebury taxpayers would be responsible for just 25% (around \$4.4 million) of the total \$16,995,000 million project cost. That's because the balance is to be covered through \$6 million through private donations, \$4 million from the town of Middlebury's local option tax surplus fund, \$2 million through state and federal grants, and \$552,064 in tax credits and rebates.

Officials said the local taxpayers' bonded share (\$4,387,936) of the project is expected to add around \$120 a year for a resident with a home assessed at \$300,000.

With the bond now greenlighted, the team of Wiemann-Lampere Architects and ReArch Company will spend this summer and fall refining construction documents. Ilsley officials will begin planning in earnest for the library's interim move to the Duclos building and landing a temporary storage spot for the bulk of the library's collection.

As the *Independent* went to press, officials were checking out an offer by Satori Vermont to temporarily house the collection in warehouse space at 1741 Route 7 South. Satori is a cannabis company operating in the former Standard Register complex.

Hart said the Satori offer is one of several potential options Ilsley officials are exploring.

The smaller portion of the Ilsley collection will go to the Duclos building, along with basic library services. The roughly 4,000-square-foot space will also accommodate small spaces for youths, adults and teens to use library resources; and a few public access computers, according to Hart.

Ilsley boosters are continuing

efforts to raise the \$6 million in donations that are key to the overall funding package. As of early May, officials had confirmed \$3.3 million in gifts and pledges — all arriving since January. A more public phase of the campaign will launch later this year, according to McVeigh.

He and Ilsley Trustees board

Chair Meg Baker have already crafted a "thank you" message that appears in this edition of the *Independent*. Among those receiving a shout-out: members of the Middlebury selectboard, Town Manager Kathleen Ramsay, and Judith Harris, the project's clerk of the works.

"This project will have a

transformative effect on the future of Middlebury for our downtown and for generations to come and you will be able to say that you were part of it," McVeigh and Baker said of supporters.

Reporter John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.



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THIS YEAR'S WEYBRIDGE Eco Fair is honoring longtime Weybridge Energy Committee member Dan Wright, right, who has been involved since the beginning of the organization. Photo courtesy of Fran Putnam

Annual Weybridge Eco Fair set May 18

WEYBRIDGE — The Weybridge Energy Committee is hosting the third annual Eco-Fair Saturday, May 18, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., at the Weybridge Elementary School, 2790 Weybridge Road, Weybridge.

There will be a demonstration of electric vehicles, a free flower and vegetable seed share/swap, demonstrations of electric lawn and garden equipment, information on home energy efficiency, weatherization, and composting, and more.

Refreshments and children's activities will be available.

Participants for the seed share/swap who wish to bring seeds are asked to label any seeds not in commercial packaging. Pollinator Pathway Weybridge will have a table with information on protecting our native pollinators, planting native plants, and more.

All are welcome from any town to this free, rain or shine event.

This year's Eco-Fair is dedicated to Dan Wright, founding member

since 2012 of the Weybridge Energy Committee. Dan is deeply committed to the importance of helping our community take action in the face of the climate crisis. He has been a steady presence at every event and project we have undertaken and has been the WEC secretary for many years. He will be missed when he moves out of the area.

For more information about this event, please email Fran Putnam at franputnam24@gmail.com.

Walter Cerf funding applications available

VERMONT — Funding is now available to nonprofits and municipal organizations through the Walter Cerf Community Fund at the Vermont Community Foundation. The Walter Cerf Community Fund makes grants to address charitable needs in the state of Vermont. Priority interests are the arts, education, historic preservation, and social services.

The fund will consider both small (\$500-\$5,000) and large

(up to \$25,000) grant requests. Organizations applying for a small grant may request program/project support or general operating support. Large grant requests must be program/project-specific and from organizations serving Addison County or Brandon.

Grants are made to organizations that either have a statewide constituency and make a unique contribution to Vermont or are located in or serve Addison County

or Brandon. Approximately 70% of funds available will be awarded to programs and projects in and/or serving the Addison County and Brandon area. The remaining 30% of available funds will support programs and projects with a statewide constituency.

Applications will be accepted through 5 p.m. on Tuesday, July 2. Visit vermontcf.org/cerf to learn more and apply.

Letters to the Editor

It's high time that we lower the voting age to 16

I am a grandmother and concerned about the future of democracy for the benefit of my grandchildren and others. I believe we need to lower the voting age to 16.

Studies have shown that only 30% of young people nationwide are registered to vote, but that 86% of that percentage do vote, especially on issues that impact them. Political scientists

have found that 16-year-olds are mature enough to inform themselves and make rational voting decisions.

16- and 17-year-olds can drive a car, hold employment, pay taxes, and represent the next generation of leaders. They deserve the right to vote and have their voices heard in our democracy.

Including younger voters in our

democracy gives them a tool to hold elected officials accountable for their actions and inaction on issues that directly impact them.

Six jurisdictions in the United States have already lowered the voting age to 16 for some elections, resulting in increased voter turnout with no discernible negative consequences.

Sally Roth
Bristol

Fill empty space before building new juvenile facility

It's important for the state of Vermont to have a safe and comfortable facility to treat traumatized juveniles. Addison County and the City of Vergennes may well be the best location for that to occur.

Before we build anything new, as a state I'd ask us to keep in mind that every public asset we build must be maintained by the taxpayers in perpetuity. Parks, libraries, schools, state roads, etc., all come with a cost year after year. Most of our public assets are important to our lives and society, however some become underused to obsolete as our society progresses.

For example, "The space book 2023" categorizes and totals all the State Department of Buildings & General Services owned and leased buildings, land, towers, and rest areas. Not included in that report are properties under control of other state agencies like Historic Preservation, AOT, ANR, and State Colleges. That report states that

currently 158,136 square feet of space (5.4% of the total) is vacant. We taxpayers are paying for that space, even when it is unoccupied.

Our public K-12 schools are not directly owned by the state of Vermont, but also are funded by the taxpayers. From the Vermont Agency of Education "2022 School Facilities Inventory Report" (and assuming I totaled it correctly!), our public K-12 school system has 383 buildings/wings/additions totaling 18,119,530 gross square feet of space. With 82,901 students enrolled, that's 219 gross square feet per student.

Data on typical space per student is hard to find. While dated, The Council of Educational Facility Planners International tracked average per-student square footage in Canada and the United States in the mid-1990's. That information:

- Elementary Schools: 70.1 to 111.5 gross square feet per student.
- Middle Schools: 81.2 to 154.4

gross square feet per student.

- High Schools: 101.9 to 160.7 gross square feet per student.

I don't mention these statistics to add fuel to the fire on our school system debates. I do mention these statistics to suggest that we have the 20,000 necessary square feet of space to spare that could be repurposed for the juvenile crisis facility. I encourage you to look at the aforementioned "2022 School Facilities Inventory Report" — particularly the estimates of the renovations needed on the buildings. The dollar numbers are terrifying, and since the buildings already exist and are public, we're going to pay the bill for those renovations.

Before we build a new juvenile crisis facility and add more perpetual overhead to the taxpayer burden, let's take a closer look at what we already have, already pay for, and will be paying to renovate anyway.

Chris Lapierre
Vergennes

Neighborhood thankful for traffic calming measures

Thanks, and gratitude to our town's officials on behalf of the Greater Buttolph Neighborhood, many of whom have been working for years to ensure the safety of our school children walking and biking to our 3 schools, which are all linked by our neighborhood, as well as the many pedestrians and cyclists using our streets. We are grateful to the Safety Committee who

recently unanimously endorsed some of the traffic calming measures that we asked for.

The Police Department, the Department of Public Works, the selectboard and the Infrastructure Committee as well as the Bike Ped Committee have all worked with us to attempt to calm the traffic that makes it dangerous to walk, bike and even cross the street to mailboxes. (A recent

Police traffic study showed 57,000 plus vehicles traveling on Rogers Rd. and through Buttolph Acres in one month!)

Our neighborhood looks forward to the continued collaboration to make our section of town a safer place to be.

Wendy Warren
Rogers Road
Middlebury

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Happy Nurses Week!

Thank you to all of the nurses who live and work in and around Addison County. Your dedication to your work and compassion for people help to make this community a great place to live.

"Thanks to all the wonderful nurses at the UVM Porter Medical Center ENT clinic. They always do their best to take care of us." — Justin B.

"Nurses are wonderful. They always make me feel so welcome and listen to my questions, showing great support when I need it most." — Sara K.

"Thank you for being there for me and my family, you respond quickly in MyChart and I know you have our backs. You are appreciated!" — Julie S.

"Nurses have a special gift and I appreciate the care they have shown me at Porter over the years." — Mary M.

"So thankful for all of our amazing nurses who care for and support our patients and their families with dignity, compassion, and comfort to provide each person with the best care possible." — Lindsay G.



Scott urged to sign safe injection site bill

Advocates make last-minute effort to get pilot program in Burlington

By PETER D'AURIA
VTDigger.org

MONTPELIER — Over the past five years, Elissa Johnk, the lead minister at the First Congregational Church of Burlington, has borne witness to Vermont's overdose crisis.

Johnk hosts services as ambulances drive by multiple times an hour. She has found people passed out on church property. She has held burials of overdose victims in front of their children and in front of their parents. She has learned how to distinguish someone on a bad trip from someone who needs immediate medical attention. She's learned "what bone looks like when it's been eaten away by animal tranquilizer," she told listeners Tuesday in the Vermont statehouse's Cedar Creek Room. "And how to treat it."

Johnk's remarks were part of a last-minute effort by advocates to urge lawmakers and Gov. Phil Scott to pass into law H.72, a bill that would lay the groundwork for the creation of an overdose prevention center — aka safe injection site — in Burlington. As Vermont weathers

a crushing opioid abuse crisis and rising overdoses, proponents of the bill say that a staffed, secure site could ensure that people do not endanger themselves by using alone.

Legislators have nearly finished their work with H.72. The House passed it in January, the Senate passed an amended version last week, and on Tuesday lawmakers in the House approved the Senate's amendments.

Grace Keller, an advocate and recovery worker, said that in the past she heard skepticism about on-demand treatment, syringe exchanges and the overdose-reversal drug Narcan.

Now, "we know those things as ubiquitous. We know them as the tools that we have in our toolbox," Keller said. "The day is going to come when we're going to think that way about overdose prevention centers."

The bill would create a legal framework for overdose prevention centers in Vermont and would allocate \$1.1 million from settlements with drug companies to fund a pilot program in Burlington.

It would also direct the state's department of health to hire an outside entity to study the pilot's impact on overdoses, deaths, crime, emergency services, treatment and recovery, and syringe litter in the area.

Gov. Scott, however, has made no secret of his opposition to the bill. The governor "remains opposed to the unproven injection sites," spokesperson Jason Maulucci said Tuesday in an email, "and believes we should instead be investing those precious resources on more proven harm reduction, prevention and treatment methods."

Could the legislature override a gubernatorial veto? Nothing is certain, but signs appear favorable: in January, House lawmakers approved the legislation by a 96-35 vote, and last week, the Senate passed the bill by 21 to eight. Both votes exceed the margin of two-thirds necessary for a veto override.

To advocates, the passage of the bill is long overdue.

"Not having an overdose prevention center puts the burden on all of us," Johnk said Tuesday. "And we are not able to hold it."



STUDENTS AND TEACHER pose for a class photo outside of the Chimney Point schoolhouse in Addison. The Addison Town Historical Society will be meeting to talk about old schools and the transition to a centralized school on Sunday, June 2.

Photo courtesy of Geoff Nelson

Construction aid for schools one step closer

By ETHAN WEINSTEIN
VTDigger.org

MONTPELIER — The Vermont Senate on Tuesday approved H.871, a bill that will continue the process of establishing a state aid for school construction program.

The Vermont Agency of Education estimates the state's schools need more than \$6 billion in construction

over the next two decades, a number widely considered a lowball figure.

H.871 is back in the Vermont House.

If passed, the bill sets up a summer working group to draft legislative language in time for next year that would renew state money for school buildings for the first time since the Great Recession.

That working group, if established, will have many big questions to answer, chief among them: how should the state prioritize its limited financial resources, and where should the money come from?

The Senate amended the House's version of the bill, so H.871 will require further approval before going to the governor's desk.

ADDISON COUNTY School Briefs

Katha Bolduc of Addison and **Miranda Berry** of Bristol were named to the Vermont State University dean's list for the 2023 Winter Practical Nursing term. To qualify for this academic honor, students must achieve a 3.5 or greater term average.

Justice Green of Starksboro was named to the Elmira College dean's list for the winter 2024 term. Full-time undergraduate students registered for at least 12 computable credit hours and earning a term grade point average of 3.6 or higher at the end of Term I or Term II are placed on the list.

Three local students, **Maia Jensen** of Bristol, **Hannah Kelly** of Ferrisburgh and **Elise Heppell** of Ripton were named to the dean's list for the fall 2023 semester at St. Lawrence University. To be eligible for the list, a student must have completed at least four courses and have an academic average of 3.6 based on a 4.0 scale for the semester.



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The University of Vermont Health Network is dedicated to providing training and development opportunities to our employees and members of our local communities that help them to gain the skills, education and professional certifications they need to establish rewarding careers in health care.

Our many professional development programs are designed to help address workforce shortages in health care while investing in partnerships with local community organizations. For example, Porter Medical Center partners with the Patricia A. Hannaford Career Center in Middlebury to offer its Licensed Nursing Assistant (LNA) Pathway program to students in Addison County, helping cover students' educational costs and offer paid training and a job upon completion of the course.

All UVMHN Pathway programs place an emphasis on providing innovative educational and funding models to support non-traditional learners and

working adults. The programs include additional allied health programs for in-demand careers including respiratory therapy, laboratory, radiology and surgical services.

These workforce development initiatives are not only designed to help local students find rewarding careers, they also help reduce delays in patient access to health care services.

If you or someone you know is interested in exploring a career in health care, from nursing to respiratory therapy, learn more about our Centers for Career Development on the UVM Health Network Careers website: www.uvmhealthnetworkcareers.org.

THE
University of Vermont
HEALTH NETWORK

Porter Medical Center

Historical society examines school changes

ADDISON — What was it like to move from a small one room schoolhouse to the new Addison Central School? Addison Town Historical Society have saved the framed roster of students who made the transition from grades one through seven and invites all members of the first classes to attend and share their memories and memorabilia of the transition. The meeting will take place at the former Addison Central School (now the Addison

Community Center), Rt. 17 West, on Sunday, June 2 at 2 pm. The school presentation will be followed by a brief business meeting and the election of officers.

On a separate note, ATHS treasurer Vaughn Watson invites everyone to a special free musical event at the parish of Our Lady of Seven Dolours R. C. Church in Fair Haven. The church is celebrating its 150th anniversary year and have asked Watson to present an

organ recital on Sunday, May 19, 3 p.m., on their historic 1853 E. & G. G. Hook pipe organ at the church, located on VT Route 22a in Fair Haven. Included will be works by J.S. Bach, Robert Schumann, Louis Vierne, Marcel Dupre and Eugene Gigout.

A free will offering will be received and a reception will follow. For more details, please call Watson at (802) 759-2453. All ATHS members are cordially invited to attend.

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Year-Round Hazardous Waste Collection

The HazWaste Center at the District Transfer Station in Middlebury is open to residents from any of the District's member towns.

Most items are accepted from residents free of charge.

Businesses must pay for disposal and must call 388-2333 for an appointment.

Common items include:

- | | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Acetone | Drainer opener/cleaner | Mercury thermometers | Primers or shellacs |
| Acids | Driveway sealer | Mercury thermostats | Rechargeable batteries |
| Adhesives | Dry cleaning solvents | Mineral spirits | Roach traps/poison |
| Algaecides | Flea & tick killer | Mothballs | Rug/upholstery cleaner |
| Aerosols | Fluorescent bulbs* | Motor oil | Solvent-based glues |
| Antifreeze | Fly killer | Mouse/rat poison | Stains |
| Ant killer | Formaldehyde | Nail polish | Stump remover |
| Ammonia | Fuel additives | Nail polish remover | Tars or resins |
| Auto body filler | Fungicides | Naphtha | Transmission fluid |
| Automotive fluids | Furniture polish | Oil-based paint | Tub & tile cleaner |
| Chlorine bleach | Gasoline | Oily waste | Varnish |
| Brake fluid | Hair dyes | Oven cleaner | Weed killer/fertilizer |
| Bug spray | Kerosene | Paint thinner/turpentine | Wood preservative |
| Button cell batteries | Latex paint | Parts cleaner | |
| Contact cement | Lead paint chips | Pesticides/herbicides | |
| Deck sealer | Lead-acid batteries | Photographic chemicals | |
| Diesel fuel | Lime/rust remover | Pool chemicals | |



Household hazardous waste includes any unused product that is poisonous, reactive, corrosive, or flammable.

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Backlit beauty

NATURE PROVIDED A bit of chiaroscuro in Lincoln last week, making this female moose look a little bit like something painted by Caravaggio.

Photo by Dale Cockrell

By the way

(Continued from Page 1A)

460 Quaker Village Road for its Open House & Recruitment event this Saturday, May 11, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Enjoy some light refreshments, hotdogs and snacks while you meet your local firefighters and tour firetrucks. Some activities and face painting will also be available.

Local residents and associates from The Residence at Otter Creek senior living community at 350 Lodge Road in Middlebury are hosting a charitable prescription-eyeglass drive through June to support the Addison County Community Action Center at the nonprofit Helping Overcome Poverty's Effects. The drive started on April 15 and will run through June 30. Prescription eyeglasses and sunglasses can be dropped off inside the Residence lobby. For further information on this charitable effort, call 802-388-1220, ext. 4855. Information about The Residence at Otter Creek can be found at tinyurl.com/k7m26njz.

Who remembers Ethan Roy, the standout soccer player and laid-back geek while a student at Middlebury Union High School, class of 2011? After working as a software developer, middle school paraprofessional, Peace Corps volunteer and half a dozen other things, Ethan has turned to educational neuroscience and now conducts research using behavioral, neuroimaging and electrophysiology methods to understand how the brain changes while a person is learning. Sounds pretty deep. Next week he will defend his PhD. thesis at the Stanford University Graduate School of Education. Wish him good luck, though he probably doesn't

need any.

Birdathon! Support the Otter Creek Audubon Society for its 2024 Birdathon fundraising event. Teams and individuals will choose a 24-hour period during the month of May to find as many bird species as they can in Addison County. With such a rich variety of habitats to explore, they're sure to find a lot. Sponsor a team or start your own. Learn more about this on the local Audubon Society website: <https://wp.me/pt0Pq-2kC>.

The town of Middlebury has free COVID tests available for local residents who need them. You can pick these up at the community's police station, recreation facility, town clerk's office, or the Ilsley Library. The limited supply is being distributed at up to two packs (four tests) per person.

Vermont Secretary of Administration Kristin Clouser recently released the state's revenue results for March, which showed the General Fund and Education Fund both exceeded their monthly consensus cash flow targets, though the Transportation Fund underperformed. Vermont's General, Transportation and Education Fund receipts were a combined \$246.1 million — exceeding the target by \$1 million, or 0.4%, according to Clouser. General Fund revenues for March totaled \$164.9 million, which was \$1.3 million (or 0.8%) above the target. Transportation Fund revenues failed to achieve their \$26.6 million March target by around \$1.8 million. Meanwhile, Education Fund receipts were around \$56.3 million — about \$1.5 million, or 2.7%, above their target. Said Clouser: "As we enter the last quarter of the fiscal

year, the March results signal the state will likely close the year in a good financial position. The General Fund performance has exceeded expectations, but caution is still necessary as tax refunds continue to be processed and the results of the annual spring personal income tax filing season are still pending."

The nonprofit Counseling Service of Addison County is looking for four new board members. The agency welcomes applications from anyone in the community who's passionate about CSAC's mission and shares its values of empathy, dignity and collaboration. In particular, CSAC right now is seeking board candidates with professional experience in the legal field, fundraising and healthcare. But the agency encourages you to apply even if you don't have experience in those realms. CSAC will accept applications through May 24. To learn more about CSAC, the board's role, and how to apply, please visit tinyurl.com/2p8ejvvc. If you'd like to meet with a current board member to learn more about the role before submitting an application, send an email to csac_board@csac-vt.org, ATTN: Jennifer Staats, or call 802-388-0302, extension 442.

Average gasoline prices in Vermont have fallen 0.5 cents per gallon during the past week, to \$3.63 per gallon, according to GasBuddy. That's 26.4 cents higher than a month ago and 9.6 cents higher than a year ago. The cheapest station in Vermont was selling at \$3.44 this week; the most expensive at \$3.73. Meanwhile, the national average fell 1 cent to \$3.62.

Students

(Continued from Page 1A)

have asked for without the underlying structures, such as the profit motive of keeping the endowment maximized, having change," said Joshua Glucksman, a Middlebury student who took part in the encampment, told the *Independent*.

Middlebury College President Laurie Patton announced the completion of the written agreement, "A Commitment to Common Educational Values," in a May 6 letter to the college community.

"We still disagree about many fundamental issues, but we share concerns for the devastating effects of the violence in Israel and Gaza on educational opportunity for all in the region," Patton wrote. "The document is future-oriented, outlining pathways for fruitful deliberation at Middlebury on the profoundly painful issues that the violence raises."

Students at Middlebury launched the Gaza Solidarity Encampment on April 28, pitching tents on McCullough Lawn, the central campus lawn where Middlebury's commencement ceremony is set to take place later this month. By mid-week, the demonstration had grown to include 75 tents and around 150 students were involved in the encampment in one way or another.

Middlebury students had listed five demands for college officials, building off the Middlebury Energy2028 divestment campaign and mirroring pleas of other student demonstrators around the country.

Students called on the 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 and ensure freedom of expression and amnesty for protestors and supporters of Palestine liberation.

Students also demanded college officials not associate with Israeli institutions and businesses; create

affiliations with Palestinian academic and cultural institutions; and release a public statement "calling for an immediate and permanent ceasefire in Gaza and condemning Israel's genocidal campaign against the Palestinian people."

The written agreement reached by students and administrators on Monday addressed a few of those demands.

In the document, college officials call for "an immediate ceasefire and an end to the violence," and went on to say they "condemn unequivocally the killing of all innocent civilians in Gaza and Israel, where no civil society, including educational institutions, can continue in the midst of such destruction. Palestinians and Israelis cannot learn in an environment torn by war."

Administrators in the document also agreed to expand opportunities for students to weigh in on the college's investments. College officials noted the institution "regularly and openly shares information" about its investments through the appointment of a Student Government Association representative on the Investment Committee.

"We are open to giving access beyond the Student Liaison to Endowment to expand the conversation. We also meet regularly with the Student Investment Committee (SIC) and the Research & Investment in Sustainable Equity (RISE)," the statement reads. "Together, we will continue these practices. We invite student participation in open discussions about how our endowment works."

Administrators added trustees often meet with students to discuss common concerns and would continue conversations about investment practices beginning this month and throughout the next year.

College officials in the document also clarified the institution doesn't currently invest in arms or arms manufacturers.

"We resolve to talk with trustees about sustaining and codifying our investment strategy of not investing in armaments. We will also share the details of this commitment and provide regular updates," the statement reads. "Following the Middlebury tradition of regular conversations between students and trustees, we will discuss and debate openly the complex questions involved in managing an endowment."

The documents also addressed the war's impact on educational institutions in the region and efforts to support the education of those affected.

"Following Middlebury's tradition of creating hospitable educational environments for those affected by violence, together we will explore avenues to host all students in the region displaced by war and violence. We appreciate the encampment's focus on the displacement of Gazan students," they wrote.

Administrators also committed to working with students to explore ways to support organizations and NGOs working in the region.

Glucksman, the student, said he and his colleagues will make sure that happens.

"Moving forward, students are still ready to pressure the administration to follow through with these demands, and to also turn our attention towards the board of trustees, who we know hold the real power in making decisions on the endowment," he said.

In her May 6 letter, Patton acknowledged the document is only one part of the college community's ongoing work in addressing "one of the most challenging issues of our time."

"Throughout this process some members of our community have been impacted differently than others," she wrote. "We owe everyone in this community care and attention, and we have a responsibility to recognize and respond to varied experiences. This is the way we build a shared sense of a Middlebury community."

Patton

(Continued from Page 1A)

and former U.S. presidents.

The college trustees will set a timetable for picking Patton's successor, decide who is going to be on the search committee and plan the logistics for the transition.

"The most important responsibility of any governing board is to select the right person to lead the institution," Middlebury Board Chair Ted Truscott said in a letter to the Middlebury community. "The search will be an accelerated one and focus on both the continuity of Middlebury values and preeminent qualities of leadership." He emphasized that the effort will be inclusive and involve stakeholders from across the institution.

He congratulated Patton on her new job.

"This is an extraordinary honor for Laurie — and for Middlebury," Truscott said.

Patton will leave behind a global

educational institution comprising undergraduate and graduate schools and programs in Vermont, California and dozens of locations around the world. Patton oversees Middlebury College, Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey, Middlebury Language Schools, Middlebury C.V. Starr Schools Abroad, Middlebury Bread Loaf School of English, and Middlebury Bread Loaf Writers' Conferences.

Middlebury prides itself on preparing students to lead "engaged, consequential, and creative lives; contribute to their communities; and address the world's most challenging problems through an immersive curriculum that stresses working across intellectual, geographical, and cultural borders."

In her time leading Middlebury, Patton has eloquently and forcefully communicated that message.

She said that her professional life will change, but she and her husband, Shalom Goldman, will be active locally.

"While I'll be leaving the presidency of Middlebury, we'll remain in the Middlebury and Addison County community at our house in Shoreham," she wrote in her letter. "Shalom will retire in 2025 and will teach at Bread Loaf, and I'll commute to the Academy's headquarters in Cambridge, Mass."

"Over the next eight months, I look forward to working with you and the board to solidify our accomplishments and make it possible for others to continue them in their own way. We are indeed growing into what I hoped for at my inauguration: To have more and better arguments, with greater respect, stronger resilience, and deeper wisdom."

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

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

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

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



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Bristol Beat

Man cited for violating conditions

BRISTOL — Bristol police on April 26 responded to a 911 call reporting a loud argument on Adirondack View. Ultimately police cited Devin Humiston, 25, of Bristol, for violating conditions of release.

Between April 7 and 27, Bristol police completed 45 foot patrols, conducted 18 traffic stops and checked security at Mount Abraham Union High School 19 times, at Bristol Elementary School 24 times, and at local businesses 12 times.

Police also processed 18 fingerprint requests, responded to one 911 call that turned out to be a misdial, conducted one welfare check and helped three people gain access to their locked vehicles.

In other activity last week, Bristol police:

- On April 8, checked the area of Route 116 South and Hewitt Road for a person driving a minibike on the roadway but did not observe anyone doing so.

- On April 8, assisted someone from out of state during a mental health crisis on Main Street.

- On April 9, helped St. Ambrose Catholic Church find services for someone in crisis.

- On April 10, responded to Lower Notch Road, where a tree had fallen across the travel portion of the roadway. Police put out cones and

Bristol Police Log

contacted the Bristol Public Works Department.

- On April 12, helped someone on South Street with a trespass concern.

- On April 12, responded to Main Street for a possibly disorderly person and determined no offense had occurred.

- On April 12, responded to a citizen dispute on West Street. Police interviewed the involved parties and found no offense had occurred.

- On April 13, began investigating damage to a pedestrian crossing sign on Main Street.

- On April 13, investigated a motor vehicle crash on Prince Lane that involved a vehicle leaving the scene of the collision.

- On April 13, cited Michael Heffernan, 62, of Bristol for violation of conditions of release.

- On April 14, received a call of possible trespassing on West Street but didn't see anyone in the area.

- On April 15, assisted Bristol Elementary with a truancy concern.

- On April 15, helped an person access mental health resources.

- On April 15, responded to a

loose-dog complaint on North Street. Police determined it was the owner's first offense and issued a warning.

- On April 15, helped someone on Mountain Street avert an internet scam.

- On April 16, responded to a motor vehicle crash at the corner of North and Pine streets. Police cited Emil North, 22, of Starksboro, for grossly negligent operation and driving under the influence.

- On April 17, checked on a suspicious vehicle on Pine Street.

- On April 17, began an unlawful mischief investigation on Airport Drive.

- On April 17, helped someone find contact information for social services.

- On April 20, responded to a report of a potentially abandoned vehicle. Police determined it wasn't abandoned and the owner was contacted to move the vehicle.

- On April 22, responded to a report of suspicious activity on North Street. The vehicle was gone when police arrived.

- On April 23, responded to a motor vehicle complaint on Prince Lane. Police determined the vehicle had left prior to the caller contacting police, and not enough information was provided to identify the vehicle.

- On April 23, responded to a motor vehicle crash on Prince Lane.
- On April 24, helped a South Street business escort a patron out of its office.

- On April 24, helped someone on East Street in getting a ride home.

- On April 26, responded to a traffic hazard on North Street, where vehicles were hindering pedestrian and vehicle traffic.

- On April 26, checked the welfare of someone on East Street and learned they were out of town.

- On April 27, participated in "National Drug Take Back Day."

New Bristol bandstand design proposed

By MARIN HOWELL

BRISTOL — Community members in the 5-town area are proposing a redesign of the Roy J. Clark Memorial Bandstand on the Bristol Town Green, in particular, replacing the structure with an alternative design that addresses various safety and accessibility concerns.

Bristol Recreation Director Meredith McFarland and members of the Bristol Town Band proposed the idea of an alternative bandstand design to the town's selectboard at its April 22 meeting. They told the board the new design would largely resemble the current structure but would offer more space and make it easier for people of all ages and abilities to use the structure.

"A lot of people love the Bristol bandstand, we're not getting rid of it," McFarland told the board. "What we want to do is make it accessible for everybody."

The current bandstand, built in 1937, is around 24 feet, 8 inches wide and sits about 3.5 feet above the ground, requiring residents to use steps to enter and exit the structure.

The design presents a couple of challenges for members of the Bristol Town Band, which uses the structure for weekly concerts during the summer.

"We're a pretty big band at this point, and it's a pretty tight squeeze," Steve Rooney said. "Getting everybody up there and getting everybody off is quite a chore at the beginning and the end of an event...and for an aging band, for some of us it's tough to get up there and get back down, and for other events it can be difficult for people to access."

Bristol Town Band President Noelle Rose said the height of the structure is of particular concern. "The safety thing I think for me is the number one reason, the inclusivity for the older members. Not just for the band, but over the summer there's lots of people that go up and down onto that bandstand," she said. "I personally have caught people falling down the stairs before, instrument in one hand and looking for something to grab on the other hand."

The redesign would address these concerns by replacing the current gazebo with a slightly larger structure that's closer to the ground. The proposal presented to the selectboard suggested a 30-foot-wide structure that would sit on a concrete slab, about seven inches off the ground. "The thought was to replace it with something bigger so there was more elbow room and if we had to put music under cover for a quick shower, we could do that without scrambling like we do now," Rooney explained.

Community members would be able to enter the new bandstand from several spots.



CHANGES ARE BEING proposed to the bandstand that has stood on the Bristol town green for 87 years. The selectboard said it would consider making it bigger and lower to the ground so it could accommodate more Bristol Band members without making them climb steps.

Independent photo/Marin Howell

An entry pad would serve as a step and landing for a small ramp with handrails, and freestanding benches between columns would replace the railing that currently wraps around the perimeter of the building, allowing space for residents to enter the structure from multiple other points.

"The bench back would still mimic the current railing design, so there'd still be some language that you'd see that would remind you of the way the current bandstand looks," Rooney said.

Imitating the look of the current bandstand is one of six goals of the project. Other goals include:

- Increasing the area under the roof to reduce band crowding.

- Lowering the platform to allow easier access to the structure for all.

- Improving lighting and controls.

- Providing breaks in the railing around the perimeter of the structure to allow for easier loading and unloading and for speaker placement.

- Providing chair storage inside benches.

Rooney said that storage would allow the Bristol Town Band to set up for concerts more easily.

"Setting up wouldn't require that we haul folding chairs in a trailer out there and set them all up for the outside, they'd be able to just pop the benches open and populate the area with chairs," he said.

McFarland added lighting upgrades would also be welcomed.

"I put the lightbulbs in there, lightbulbs disappear," she said. "If we had the LED receding lights,

that would take care of that issue and actually probably look a lot better than having these funny little lightbulbs sticking out."

Selectboard members voiced a handful of initial suggestions and concerns regarding the proposal, such as the impact of lowering the bandstand on visibility and the need to solicit public input moving forward.

McFarland said proposing the idea to the selectboard was seen as a first step in getting guidance from officials on the project and inviting public feedback. She noted a potential next step would be creating a survey to gather more community input on the project.

"This is a great community discussion, (the bandstand) is definitely a highlight of Bristol," she said.

In recent weeks, Bristol residents have taken to Front Porch Forum to weigh in on proposed changes to the bandstand.

"This current Bandstand building is a part of Bristol's History. One of the most iconic and recognizable buildings in Bristol," Michael D'Avignon wrote, voicing his opposition to the proposal. "There are other remedies to the overcrowding and safety issues with the elderly climbing the stairs (I understand that)."

Others agreed.

"The bandstand: from a nostalgic viewpoint and an aesthetic viewpoint I definitely say keep it as is. It seems to me that its current size and location are perfect. But that may just be the normal aversion to change," wrote Jim Peabody.

Board members on April 22 ultimately voiced support for allowing the group to continue exploring the idea.

"I'm very much in favor of letting them move forward because we're going to know very quickly if the public supports it or not," Selectman John "Peeker" Heffernan said.

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Ripton music

(Continued from Page 1A)
and serendipitously ended just a stone's throw away — at the Ripton Community House off Route 125, a Civil War-era, town-owned building that was erected as a Congregational Church, but at the time was standing idle, except for the annual town meeting and occasional weddings.

“Wouldn't it be great, we all agreed, 'to have a regular community gathering to give people a chance to see their neighbors and hear good music?'” Ruane recalled. “The Community House was the perfect place for it, and it was just sitting there unused.”

The group pitched, to the Ripton selectboard, the idea of offering a coffeehouse-style concert series with an open mic, followed by a featured performer. The series would run on volunteer power, with a small admission price to keep it accessible, along with the sale of baked goods at intermission to further defray operations and raise money for nonprofit causes.

Ripton officials embraced the idea, leading to the first Ripton Community Coffee House (RCCH) performance on May 6, 1995 — as a benefit for the concert series. Around 100 people showed. The main act was the trio of Ruane, Sallie Mack and Rick Klein. With an admission fee of \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for kids and seniors, along with concession stand revenues, the founders raised \$473 to get the coffee house going.

“Quite frankly, we expected 60 or 70 people to show up for the first few concerts until the novelty wore off,” Ruane wrote in a history of the RCCH, which can be found at rcch.org/history. “We figured the audience would dwindle to 20 or 30 within eight months. Luckily, we were wrong.”

They sure were. During its 29-year run, the RCCH presented 312 concerts showcasing almost 900 performers who delighted thousands of spectators with wonderful music. The coffee house began as a year-round series of Saturday concerts, but organizers gradually pared it back to nine months so as not to compete with concurrent, nearby musical events that began to mushroom.

Sadly, the lights will dim just one more time for the RCCH series, when the musical duo Green Heron delivers what will be the last performance on Saturday, May 18.

“We're getting tired out. We've been doing this a long time. The volunteers are getting older and we're getting older,” Ruane said during a recent interview that included Chesman.

They leave a rich musical legacy that includes jumpstarting regular, live entertainment in our area. Their non-profit effort stayed true to the RCCH mission throughout its lengthy, successful run: “to provide an opportunity for members of our greater community to come together and hear great music at an affordable price, to nurture musicians by providing a great place to play, and to provide support for local non-profit organizations through refreshment sales.”

Coffee house leaders worked hard to keep the venue open to musicians of diverse backgrounds and talents, including many Vermonters in various stages of their careers.

“We wanted at least one-third of our shows to provide Vermont musicians a quality 'listening room,' where they would get well paid, as well,” Ruane said.

LOCAL TALENT

Lineups included excellent, locally recognizable performers like Matt Flinger (of Ripton), Caleb Elder (Starksboro) and Brett Hughes. There have also been visiting musicians like Anje Duvekot, Bruce Molsky, Greg Klyma and Gideon Freudmann. And of course, there have been those needing little introduction, some of whom got their start at the coffee house and continued to play there even as their stars shone brighter. Folks like singer/songwriters Caitlin Canty (formerly of Proctor), Moira Smiley of New Haven, and Anais Mitchell, also born and raised in New Haven.

Mitchell, whose musical “Hometown” has been a Broadway hit, first played the coffee house during an open mic session at age 16. She would return a couple more times as her career gained momentum. Her last coffee house performance, around a decade

ago, produced an overflow crowd, Chesman recalled.

“We sold out and we couldn't let any more people in,” she said. “(Mitchell's) friends all hung out in the parking lot, because we had the doors open and they could still hear the concert.”

Ruane — a well-known singer/songwriter who's equally adept on guitar, mandolin, banjo and ukulele — has himself graced the coffee house stage on multiple occasions. He's recorded multiple albums as a solo performer and as a member of bands that have included “Feast or Famine” and “Bread and Bones,” a group you'll be able to see at this year's Festival on the Green.

Since 2012, Ruane and Beth Duquette have been performing as a duo. Duquette joined the coffee house around 20 years ago as co-executive director. Her tasks have included booking performers.

While you won't see Chesman pick up a guitar or belt out a tune, her contributions through the years have kept the coffee house organized and well nourished.

When asked about her connection to music, Chesman chuckled and said, “I married *him*,” while glancing at Ruane.

But modesty aside, Chesman — the author of more than 20 cookbooks — for many years hosted all of the RHHC performers and volunteers for dinner. She still cooks the food, though it's now consumed at either the community house or another Ripton resident's home.

Chesman has also organized around 180 bake sales at coffee house concerts that have provided welcome revenue to local nonprofits.

Yes, the coffee house has produced a lot of tasty food and entertainment, but it wasn't a bottomless cup. Its capacity, according to fire marshals, is 175. But organizers have been more conservative, setting a “standing room only” rule after 135 are seated. Full houses during the early years were a rarity. But the venue started getting a well-earned reputation for its superior acoustics, its homelike setting and its eclectic mix of entertainers.

“In the 2000s, we started selling out; during the two or three years before we got shut down for COVID, we sold out maybe a quarter of our shows,” Ruane said.

Ironically, the coffee house eventually became a victim of its own popularity. Some folks became discouraged making a lengthy, winding trek up Route 125 to Ripton, only to find every seat taken. Ruane remembered seeing a former coffee house regular and saying, “I haven't seen you in a while,” whereupon the person responded, “It's a 25-minute drive for us to get to Ripton, and we got turned away three times.”

“It took us a couple years to get people coming back, and we had a little period there with people not coming as often as they had,”



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THE RIPTON COMMUNITY House is endowed with great acoustics and an intimate space that allows the audience to view performers up-close. Here we see the band Night Tree regaling a crowd at a recent performance as part of the Ripton Community Coffee House concert series. The Coffee House series will end its 29-year run on May 18.

Photo courtesy of Richard Ruane

Ruane remarked.

Organizers solved the problem a few years ago through the sale of tickets online, replacing the first-come, first-served seating tradition.

SURVIVING THE PANDEMIC

The RCCH pivoted to technology, in earnest, during the COVID pandemic. Like most entertainment hubs worldwide, the coffee house was temporarily shuttered due to social distancing mandates. The venue eventually offered remote concerts, giving loyal audiences — some as far away as Australia — an entertainment fix, while providing a revenue stream for artists during lean times.

“We wanted our performers to make money, somehow,” Ruane said, noting some shows drew as many as 130 online viewers. “It actually worked out really well for people to log in (for shows). Some people make pretty good money for (performing) in their basement, or wherever.”

The RCCH series returned to in-person performances during the 2022-2023 season — at Lincoln's Burnham Hall. Chesman and Ruane explained Burnham Hall has a fully raised stage that provides more social distancing between the audience and performers than was afforded at the Ripton spot.

Audiences were pleased to return to the RCCH's Ripton roots for shows during the fall of '23. But Ruane, Chesman, Duquette and Mulqueen — the RCCH's faithful sound tech — had by this time already begun talking about concluding the series.

Ruane reiterated the physical toll that concert prep had taken on his aging body.

“There's a lot of loading and unloading (equipment),” he

said, adding the Saturday venue deconstruction invariably spilled into Sunday.

“He's meticulous about how the equipment is handled,” Chesman said of her husband. “I don't help him with his gear. I've learned there's a ‘Richard way’ to do it, and there's a wrong way to do it.”

The decision to halt RCCH has been made easier by the growing success of a new concert series that Duquette and Mulqueen have brought to Lincoln. It's called Burnham Presents, and it recently wrapped up its inaugural season.

“Now, we can go to Burnham Hall and sit back and enjoy the music like everybody else and not have to work so hard for it,” Chessman said.

Those involved with RCCH will always have the memories. The series offered magic as well as music for some of its audience members.

“We had a marriage we know of that (arose from) a first date at the coffee house, and they had the wedding and reception there, because they were so attached to it,” Chesman said of the couple, who reside in the Adirondacks.

Would Ruane and Chesman like to see someone else take the reins of the RCCH to extend its life?

“I'd consider it, but what I don't want to have happen is somebody run it into the ground and not have it be a quality thing,” Ruane said.

“We have talked about the succession, and it's our feeling

that if somebody comes forward, they're most likely going to want to do their own thing,” Chesman said.

But the duo are confident the Ripton Community House will continue to be used. The town has a social committee to plan community activities. Last year, Chesman helped organize free “soup and bread nights” at the building.

“Those were wildly successful,” she said.

Ruane said it's good to know that live entertainment will continue to be plentiful even after the plug is pulled on Ripton Community Coffee House.

“We aren't leaving that much of a vacuum as far as music goes, and that's great,” he said.

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Taiko!

AFTER LEARNING ABOUT Japanese culture last week, students at Ripton Elementary School got a lesson that was hands-on ... and loud! Sensei Stewart Paton from Burlington Taiko brought the weeklong investigation to a culmination with a student performance of drumming and dance on Friday afternoon at the school gym. Shown, clockwise from right, are Paton leading the students in a Japanese dance move, Paton and students expressing thanks, student Mia Smith tapping on a drum, Bryson Greeno demonstrating how it is done, Arden Metcalf keeping eyes on Sensei while keeping the beat, Paton working up high, Emily Amaral finishing a piece with a flourish, and Goncalo Amaral wearing a hachimaki headband while drumming. Paton's residency was funded by the Addison Central Educational Endowment Fund and from Friends of Ripton Elementary School.

Independent photos/Steve James



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Riverflow

(Continued from Page 1A)
 them,” said Elizabeth Campbell, whose 26-year-old son Jesse has Down Syndrome Regression Disorder. “It’s oppressive living with your parents your whole life, and besides, your parents die and then it’s a crisis for the family and for the kids.”

Housing choices for Vermonters with developmental disabilities have been limited in recent decades, but newer options are starting to crop up around the state. Intentional, residential communities for adults with developmental disabilities have formed in Hardwick and Middlebury, and now, another one is taking shape in Monkton.

Campbell and a dedicated team are working to get the new Riverflow Community up and running. The Monkton community will soon offer a place for people with and without intellectual disabilities to live, work with and celebrate one another.

“Riverflow is a kind of guardian community for everyone involved,” Campbell explained. “Everyone needs to be a part of something that’s meaningful and important.”

A STATEWIDE PUSH

Campbell has spent years pushing the state to expand housing options for Vermonters with developmental disabilities. She noted Vermont’s current go-to housing option is a “shared living” model likened to adult foster care, where providers are compensated for supporting one or two

individuals with developmental disabilities.

“While there are some wonderful shared living providers, that is the exception and not the norm, and I know that because of all the parents I’ve heard from,” Campbell said. “My husband and I wanted community for Jesse and more stability and the option to live with peers, so we advocated, but nothing changed.”

“People are starving for community, ways to connect. We see Riverflow as a way to facilitate that, not just for our adult children with intellectual disabilities but all the people who are going to find a way to connect.”

— Elizabeth Campbell

Campbell continued advocating after the death of her husband in 2020. She decided to write an op-ed.

“I wanted to let Vermonters know that despite being such a progressive, thoughtful state in so many ways, we were behind the times and that we could do better than adult foster care,” she recalled.

The piece was widely circulated, and Campbell soon began hearing from other aging parents in her position seeking more options for their adult children.

She drafted a petition garnering more than 700 signatures statewide, and she worked with other parents to form the Developmental Disabilities Housing Initiative. The parent-run advocacy group started with around 100 parents across the state and pushed for the creation of housing options beyond the shared living model.

“We hosted two statewide forums on housing for adults with development disabilities, we wrote several op-eds, we did interviews,” Campbell said. “Most importantly, we targeted legislators and let them know that parents like me were in a

terrible position, getting older and not having a secure, stable position for their children.”

Their efforts led lawmakers to approve Act 186 in 2022. Among other initiatives, the law created a position within the Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living to help expand housing options for Vermonters with developmental disabilities.

The legislation also provided \$500,000 in pilot planning grants to support development of alternative housing options. Campbell teamed up with Waitsfield residents Amy and Jim Caffry to apply for an Act 186 grant to build an intentional community for adults with developmental disabilities.

The team was awarded a \$169,500 grant and got to work.

Campbell first reached out to Hannah Schwartz, an expert on intentional communities for adults with developmental disabilities. Schwartz helped form Hardwick’s Heartbeet Lifesharing community in 2000, where she served as executive director for 20 years. She’s also previously worked with the Yellow House Community in Middlebury, another intentional community for people with developmental disabilities.

Both communities are part of, or modeled after, the Camphill movement, a social change initiative dedicated to creating life sharing, therapeutic communities where individuals with and without intellectual and developmental disabilities live, work with and care for one another. According to the Camphill Foundation, the international movement has grown to include more than 100 communities in 15 countries around the world.

MONKTON COMMUNITY

The Riverflow team is now working to bring that model to Monkton.

Similar to other Camphill communities, Riverflow’s mission is to support each of its inhabitants in forming friendships, gaining vocational skills and pursuing dignified, self-directed lives. The team is also committed to welcoming adults with developmental disabilities who have higher support needs and thus, are currently very limited in housing options.

“One of our individuals, there were 17 home care providers that turned them down,” Schwartz said. “To go through that process as a family and a friend with special needs, that’s so undignifying and so scary.”

The team has purchased an eight-bedroom house at 57 Cedar Lane in Monkton to house Riverflow’s first community members. Four founding residents, or “friends,” will live in the house, along with live-in staff and volunteers.

Campbell discovered the Monkton home by chance while on a bike ride through the area. It was exactly the kind of place the team was searching for; a single-story home with lots of space for community members, situated on 30 acres that’ll allow Riverflow to keep growing.

One wing of the house even offers four bedrooms with ensuite bathrooms for Riverflow’s founding friends.

“What’s weird about this house is it’s exactly what we’d build,” Schwartz said.

While full of potential, the house had been abandoned for around eight years and needed lots of love.



ELIZABETH CAMPBELL, LEFT, and Hannah Schwartz are part of a dedicated team working to build a residential community in Monkton for adults with developmental disabilities. The group hopes to open the new Riverflow Community later this year.

Independent photo/Marin Howell

The Riverflow team is working to fix up the property and make necessary renovations, such as those needed to be recognized as a “Therapeutic Community Residence.” Riverflow would need to receive that designation before opening.

The team is also tackling larger projects, like transforming the former galley kitchen into a more accessible space with room for all community members to get involved in food-focused activities.

Creating space for everyone to bring their unique skills and interests to the table is a key part of Riverflow’s mission, and that of other Camphill communities.

“A lot of what you do in life sharing is people are always included and everyone finds their way of being in the mix,” Schwartz said. “That’s what’s so wonderful about the communal life, everybody’s talent is celebrated and utilized.”

The community is committed to person-centered care, an approach that extends to daily activities and other aspects of life at Riverflow.

Day-to-day programming at Riverflow will likely incorporate activities like baking, fiber arts and woodworking, though Schwartz said the programs that unfold at the community will ultimately center around the interests of its members.

“A lot of it starts with who the individuals are and what they’re like, so there will be a period of time where we’re getting to know them,” she explained.

NEXT STEPS

Riverflow is hoping to have its first community members move in by Oct. 1, a timeline dependent on fundraising efforts and completing needed renovations.

The team is looking to raise up to \$1 million, which would allow Riverflow to fully own the

Monkton property and complete renovations. Raising \$350,000 would help knock off the most needed projects and ensure an October move-in.

The team has launched a fundraising campaign and is applying for state grants.

“If we get that \$1 million, we’ll move four adults with development disabilities with higher needs into this house,” Campbell said. “And we’ll change the lives of their parents, who like me, can for the first time have some peace.”

Aside from donating, there are other ways community members can get involved in making Riverflow a reality. Volunteers are helping bring the neglected landscape back to life, and the team welcomes donations of labor and furniture to fill the house.

Once the work is done, the team plans to continue inviting the surrounding community to take part in life at Riverflow, such as through community meals open to the public.

Schwartz and Campbell described Riverflow as a “porous community,” where everyone is welcome.

“Everyone knows that people are starving for community, ways to connect,” Campbell said. “We see Riverflow as a way to facilitate that, not just for our adult children with intellectual disabilities but all the people who are going to find a way to connect.”

The Riverflow team is also looking to hear from prospective volunteers and coworkers (live-in staff) who’d like to live and work in the community.

“It’s a really great gap year for people who are wanting to take a break between high school and college and want to just tap into their core values before stepping

into college,” Schwartz said of the volunteer role.

Once the first home is completed, the Riverflow team plans to expand the community with the addition of three more homes, a barn, a community center and other amenities.

Team members acknowledge bringing Riverflow to life has been far from easy, but they’re passionate and confident about the community they’re building. They feel they’ve already formed a dedicated group that so far consists of a board of directors, founding friends and other contributors.

“We have a really committed board with a lot of skills, so there’s not a doubt in our minds that 30 years from now, this will be continued,” Campbell said. “We’re here to stay.”

While they’re excited about the start of the Riverflow Community, team members note many Vermonters with developmental disabilities are still in need of housing options that allow them to live fulfilling, dignified lives.

The team is hoping Riverflow shows others around the state that creating these types of communities is possible and essential for those Vermonters and their families.

“That’s such a hopeful message,” Schwartz said. “It seems impossible, and I’m hoping that just by showing with sheer will and skill and determination, we can do these things.”

Campbell echoed that sentiment. Her son Jesse is one of the founding friends expected to move into Riverflow later this year, but she acknowledges many Vermont families are still in the troubling position she found herself in years ago.


“I feel like with Riverflow I got a lifeboat, but it’s not a great feeling to be in that lifeboat when you know so many families do not have a secure future for their adults with intellectual disabilities,” she said. “I hope that Riverflow is a model that will be replicated in other parts of the state so other parents feel the great relief that Riverflow has brought to me.”

Those interested in learning more about Riverflow can visit www.riverflowcommunity.org.



RIVERFLOW COMMUNITY MEMBERS Duncan Caffry, Jim Caffry and Jesse Campbell stand outside the Monkton home that will soon offer a space for individuals with and without intellectual disabilities to live and work with one another.

Photo courtesy of Hannah Schwartz



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Local woman starts new wellness, fitness center

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — Fitness has always been important to Karrie Sinks. The Middlebury native and current Weybridge resident got into sports at an early age, displaying her varsity soccer, basketball and softball skills for Middlebury Union High School before graduating in 1998.

Exercise has remained a big part of her life into adulthood, a joy she's shared with her three children and legions of others who participate in Middlebury's Parks & Recreation Department programming. Sinks has spent many years with the department coaching kids' sports and leading dance/Pilates for children, contributions for which in 2022 she was honored with the town's Robert E. Collins Award.

"I love sports and the way they make me feel," she said during a recent interview.

Sinks flirted with the idea of buying a gym at age 23, but the time wasn't right. Now in her early 40s, with her children firmly ensconced in school, an introduction to "Inferno Hot Pilates (IHP)" reignited her interest in running her own fitness hub.

Two months ago, she opened one — "802 Pilates Health & Fitness," in The Centre shopping plaza at 260 Court St., in a space previously occupied by H&R Block, and then Middlebury Sew-N-Vac.

"You don't get rich doing this. It's more for the love of doing it and the community you build," she explained. "It's always better together, and you always challenge yourself."

Sinks is certified as a personal trainer and in Pilates — including Level 1&2 IHP. She explained IHP involves a high-intensity Pilates workout in a room heated to 95

degrees, with 40% humidity.

"You get in there and it's hot, right off the bat. It's fast-paced and helps you build long, lean muscle," she said, adding the high temperature helps IHP practitioners get into the workout "zone" quicker while promoting perspiration — which is intended to help the body detox.

But 802 Pilates isn't a one-trick pony. It offers a variety of other workouts for folks of all ages, including "barre" — not to be confused with the Vermont city — which employs ballet-like movement to engage and tone muscles.

The new enterprise also has several yoga offerings, including hot yoga, yoga dance and restorative yoga.

There's "kids' dance," along with Hip Hop for children aged 9-12.

"This class fosters creativity, coordination, and confidence in a supportive environment," reads

a description of the Hip Hop sessions. "Get ready to bust a move, make new friends, and unleash your inner superstar on the dance floor."

But Sinks stressed you don't have to be a fitness superstar to benefit from 802 Pilates. She's all about the self-improvement journey that people take upon launching their personal fitness regimen.

Her motto: "Start where you are. Use what you have. Do what you can."

She wants to cater to people of all abilities and is committed to getting seniors into the action. Sinks is planning what she calls "Silver Sessions," consisting of "gentle exercises focusing on enhancing mobility, flexibility, and overall well-being."

It's been a busy couple of months, and that's fine with Sinks. She



KARRIE SINKS, A longtime fitness enthusiast, has just opened her new business, 802 Pilates Health & Fitness, in The Centre shopping plaza off Court Street in Middlebury.

Independent photo/John Flowers

currently teaches 16 classes during a typical week, which includes sessions with private clients. She's a versatile teacher, but also has a great supporting cast. Her roster of instructors includes Neon Crystal and Bobbie Hutchins (both for kids' dance), Vanessa Dunleavy (yoga/dance), Deb Orosz (yoga) and Lily Hunt (group fitness and barre).

"My idea was to bring strong, knowledgeable people from this community to part of the team," she said. "I might be the owner, but I'm not 'the boss.' I think you're always stronger as a team than working as a boss with people underneath you."

802 Pilates offers monthly membership rates and a drop-in option for \$35 per class. It also

currently offers passes for eight or 12 classes. Sinks is developing a new promotional package that will allow clients to sample a variety of different classes to see which ones they like best.

Rather than drop in and take your chances, Sinks advises folks to pre-register. Complete details about 802 Pilates, including classes, their start times, rates, package deals and online registration, can be found at 802pilates.com.

Sinks' future plans include marrying 802 Pilates offerings with other services, including acupuncture, presentations from nutritionists, and meditation.

The best service her new business provides?

"It makes people feel good," Sinks said.

Be on the look-out for the emerald ash borer

BURLINGTON — The emerald ash borer (EAB) is no stranger to Vermont, having first been reported in 2018 in northern Orange County. Since then, it has been confirmed in every county in the state except Essex County.



EMERALD ASH BORER

This invasive wood-boring insect attacks all species of native ash trees within the Fraxinus genus. It is predicted to kill almost 99% of Vermont's ash trees if they are left untreated.

To draw attention to this pest and the environmental and economic damage it can cause, the week of May 19-26 has been designated as National Emerald Ash Borer Awareness Week. For its part, the Vermont Urban and Community Forestry (VT UCF) program is helping to increase public awareness by providing resources and encouraging Vermonters to get involved by scouting for the pest, organizing a neighborhood ash tree tagging event or spreading awareness on social media.

An online Emerald Ash Borer Awareness Week Toolkit is available at <http://go.uvm.edu/eab-toolkit>. It contains posters, videos, sample social media posts and other tools; resources for educators; information on ash tree identification and guidelines for hosting a neighborhood ash tree walk or tree tagging event.

In addition, VT UCF is asking outdoor recreationists, landowners and other community members to be on the lookout for signs of this pest. Adults, which emerge in late May or early June, are 1/4- to 1/2- inches long and dark green and metallic in color. Affected trees will show signs of thinning canopy, epicormic sprouting, woodpecker flecking and s-shaped tunnels behind the outer bark.

Sightings of the pest and any trees suspected of being infested with EAB can be documented with photos and reported via the "Report It!" button on the Vermont Invasives website (www.vtinvasives.org).

This website also has a number of resources, including videos and

maps showing infested areas, to help homeowners, municipalities and forest landowners and managers identify, understand and control the spread of EAB. Municipalities can access templates to write ash management plans, tools to calculate the costs of different management scenarios, case studies from other municipalities and sample documents, such as letters to residents and contracts with tree removal companies.

While towns may choose to treat some public ash trees with pesticides, this option can be costly and must be done before the beetle is well-established in the tree. Damage from EAB is not always apparent as once an adult starts laying eggs in an ash tree, it can take from three to five years for enough larvae to build up under the bark for the tree to show any symptoms.

It may take up to a decade from when EAB first arrives in an area before ash trees begin dying off on a large scale. Ash trees that are not treated or removed will die, potentially creating a hazard along roads and other public areas. Having a management plan in place will help municipalities better prepare and manage the impacts of EAB and the loss of ash trees in their communities.

Vermonters can do their part to slow the spread of EAB by following the "buy it where you burn it" rule. This means not transporting firewood long distances. Instead, use only certified, treated firewood or buy or gather firewood close to where it will be burned. All Vermont state campgrounds and many privately owned campgrounds have local firewood available for purchase on-site and can recommend additional places to buy wood locally.



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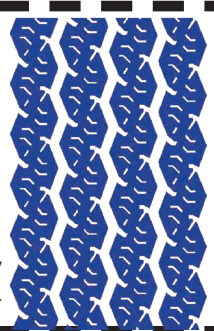
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VERMONT'S FREE FISHING Day is scheduled for Saturday, June 8, this year. If you've ever had an interest, this is the day to try it out for free.

Photo by Dan Lovell, VTF&W

Vt. Free Fishing day to be held Saturday, June 8

MONTPELIER — Vermont's annual, statewide Summer Free Fishing Day is Saturday, June 8 this year, and it will be highlighted by a free family fishing festival in Grand Isle as well as opening day of the state's regular bass fishing season.

Free Fishing Day gives resident and nonresident anglers the opportunity to go fishing without

a license for the day in Vermont lakes and streams.

Free Fishing Day in Vermont also will be celebrated at the "Grand Isle Family Fishing Festival," to be held at the Ed Weed Fish Culture Station at 14 Bell Hill Road in Grand Isle. The festival will run from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Designed for young or novice anglers and

families, this event offers basic fishing instruction and the chance for kids to catch big trout in a hatchery pond. No prior fishing experience is needed, and Vermont Fish and Wildlife will be supplying fishing rods, reels and bait for use by participants.

Vermont's regular bass season also opens on June 8, marking

the start of some of the best bass fishing action in the northeast. The season opens each year on the second Saturday in June and extends through the last day of November.

To learn more about fishing in Vermont or to purchase a fishing license, visit www.vtfishandwildlife.com.

Vermont State Police Log

ADDISON COUNTY — Vermont State Police (VSP) operating out of the New Haven barracks had a relatively light week in terms of the number of official actions they reported.

On April 30, five troopers from the VSP's New Haven barracks conducted a saturation patrol on Route 7 in New Haven to enforce and promote traffic safety laws. The patrol took place between 1:30 and 3:30 p.m.

Troopers made 23 traffic stops, issued 15 traffic tickets, wrote 22 warnings and towed two vehicles.

State police remind all motorists to drive responsibly, turn to a sober driver when necessary, leave a safe distance between vehicles, plan ahead, put their phones down and ensure their vehicles are in good working order.

Also on April 30, state police cited Heather M. Dragon, 49, of Colchester, for possession of cocaine. The citation stemmed from a Feb. 23 incident in which a trooper found a vehicle that has allegedly been driven erratically in the Auto Creek parking lot off Route 7 in Ferrisburgh. Police identified Dragon as one of the passengers in the vehicle, and a substance found in her possession turned out to be cocaine, according to police. Her hearing at Addison County District Court, Criminal Division, is tentatively scheduled for Oct. 21.

Two incidents involving violence or threats of violence occurred more recently.

On May 5, troopers received a call around 8:30 p.m. notifying them of a fight in progress on Fay Road in Goshen. Following their investigation, state police cited Cody E. Balch, 33, of Warren, for simple assault.

Then, on May 6, at around 8 p.m., troopers responded to a report of an altercation at a Lake Dunmore Road home in Leicester. Police allege Marlene L. Hutchins, 63, of Leicester, had been in possession of a deadly weapon that she had allegedly used to threaten a family member. Police said Hutchins was taken into custody and taken to the New Haven barracks, where she was cited for first degree aggravated domestic assault.

Celebration set in Vergennes with Mexican food, speakers

VERGENNES — After nearly three years in the making, the water project sponsored by Vergennes Rotary and the Catholic Migrant Ministry of Addison County in San Jose Monteverde, Mexico, is now completed. The organization are holding a celebratory presentation on Wednesday, May 22, at 5:30 p.m., at St. Peter's Parish Hall, 58 S. Maple Street in Vergennes.

A representative from Healing Waters International will be the guest speaker. Healing Waters Int. was the water project manager.

Come see a colorful PowerPoint presentation highlighting the work done on the project. Mexican-style food will be

provided by The Catholic Migrant Ministry of Addison County. Also present will be Father Yvon Royer, formerly of St. Peter's Parish, and Scott Gaines, Vergennes Rotary member and club coordinator of this project.

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SPORTS

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- School News
- Classifieds
- Legal Notices
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Score BOARD

HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

Softball	
5/2 St. Albans vs MUHS.....	4-2
5/2 Mt. Abe vs OV.....	7-1
5/3 Bellows Falls vs OV.....	3-2 (8)
5/4 Mt. Abe vs Rutland.....	12-7
5/4 Oxbow vs VUHS.....	Forfeit
5/6 MUHS vs Mt. Mansfield.....	7-2
5/7 VUHS vs Twinfield.....	19-5
5/7 OV vs White River.....	14-5
Baseball	
5/2 St. Albans vs MUHS.....	5-3
5/2 OV vs Mt. Abe.....	7-1
5/2 Peoples vs VUHS.....	11-10 (9)
5/3 OV vs Bellows Falls.....	5-4
5/4 VUHS vs Randolph.....	18-9
5/4 Montpelier vs MUHS.....	9-0
5/4 Rutland vs Mt. Abe.....	2-1
5/6 Mt. Abe vs North Country.....	15-8
5/7 Mt. Abe vs BFA Fairfax.....	11-2
5/7 OV vs Green Mt.....	5-1
5/7 Fair Haven vs MUHS.....	9-3
Boys' Lacrosse	
5/1 Mt. Abe vs Randolph.....	14-1
5/1 MUHS vs S. Burlington.....	12-11
5/2 GMVS vs OV.....	8-2
5/3 MAV vs Lyndon.....	15-1
5/4 MUHS vs Essex.....	16-8
5/7 MUHS vs Mt. Mansfield.....	12-9
5/8 OV at Randolph.....	Late
5/8 MAV at Burlington.....	Late
Girls' Lacrosse	
5/1 S. Burlington vs MUHS.....	12-4
5/3 MAV vs Lyndon.....	17-0
5/4 Essex vs MUHS.....	14-0
5/7 MUHS vs Mt. Mansfield.....	11-9
5/8 Burlington at MAV.....	Late
Girls' Tennis	
5/1 Rice vs MUHS.....	6-1
5/3 MUHS vs Harwood.....	4-3
5/6 MUHS vs Montpelier.....	4-3
5/8 N. Country at MUHS.....	Late
Boys' Tennis	
5/1 MUHS vs Rice.....	7-0
5/3 MUHS vs Burlington.....	5-2
5/6 MUHS vs Essex.....	7-0
5/8 MUHS at CVU.....	Late
Ultimate	
5/1 S. Burlington vs MUHS.....	15-5
5/3 MUHS at VT Commons.....	Canceled
5/8 TBA at MUHS.....	Late

COLLEGE SPORTS

Women's Lacrosse	
NESCAC Final Four at Midd	
5/4 #1 Midd vs #4 Colby.....	19-6
5/4 #3 Wesleyan vs #2 Tufts.....	15-7
5/5 Midd vs Wesleyan.....	11-5
Men's Lacrosse	
NESCAC Final Four at Wesleyan	
5/4 #2 Wesleyan vs #8 Hamilton.....	12-6
5/4 #4 Midd vs #3 Bowdoin.....	17-9
5/5 Wesleyan vs Midd.....	9-7
Baseball	
NESCAC Quarterfinal (Best of 3)	
5/4 Midd vs Trinity.....	6-5 (10)
5/4 Trinity vs Midd.....	5-4 (10)
5/5 Midd vs Trinity.....	18-12
Softball	
5/1 Midd vs Union.....	4-2
5/1 Midd vs Union.....	9-5
5/4 Midd vs Hamilton.....	6-2
5/4 Midd vs Hamilton.....	3-0

MAV girls' lax sinks Vikings, moves to 5-2

By ANDY KIRKALDY
VERGENNES — The Mount Abraham-Vergennes cooperative girls' lacrosse team blanked host Lyndon, 17-0, this past Friday in the Commodores' only action between May 1 and 7.

MAV improved to 5-2 heading into a game scheduled against Burlington on Wednesday, to be played after the deadline for this edition weather permitting. Up next is a Saturday home game vs. Milton at 11 a.m.

Against Lyndon on May 3, June Yates-Rusch and Annie Dufault led with two goals apiece, and 13 Commodores added one each: Siena Stanley, Kennedy Denecker, Anna Stillwell, Maris Laperle, Esme Visco-Lyons, Thompson Davis, Zoey Johnston, Meredith Dufault, Adrienne Smits, Nell Harvey, Ruby Hellier, Scout Jacobson and Safoura Camara. Carley Cook made six saves for the Commodores, and Kiara Carter made nine saves for the Vikings.



MUHS SOPHOMORE DEFENDER Cooke Riney knocks the stick out of an Essex attacker's hands during the Tiger lacrosse team's home win on Saturday.

Independent photo/Steve James

Tiger boys' lax gets key wins

Team at 6-1 after topping Wolves, Hornets, Cougars

By ANDY KIRKALDY
MIDDLEBURY — The Middlebury Union High School boys' lacrosse team got two quick Toby Draper goals to take the lead against visiting Essex on Saturday and never trailed afterward in a 16-8 victory.

The Hornets made a couple of runs at MUHS during the game and were within striking distance at 9-5 after three periods, but the Tigers hit them with a 5-0 run in the first 3:30 of the fourth quarter to settle matters.

The win was notable for a couple reasons. One, it followed a 12-11 MUHS victory at defending Division I champion South Burlington two days earlier, and it pushed the Tigers into second place in D-I behind undefeated first-place CVU.

It was also notable because Draper's six goals and three assists allowed him to crest 200 points for his career. The senior finished the day with 202 points by tacking on two assists after his 200th point, a 15-yard sidarm bullet from the left side that made it 13-5 at 9:23 of the fourth period.

After adding a 12-9 victory over visiting Mount Mansfield on Tuesday, the 6-1 Tigers have won six straight after losing by one goal to CVU in their opener back on April 18, a game played on neutral turf. Details on the Mount Mansfield

game were not available before deadline.

After Saturday's game, Draper said several things are working well for the Tigers.

"We're finding ways to score in transition, which is pretty good. It's something we've been working on for a while. And our defense has taken a huge step this year," he said.

A few loose ends could be tied up. He and Coach Matt Rizzo both said the Tigers need to find a balance between trying to strike quickly and knowing when it might be better to be more patient.

"I think we need to work on settling down on offense a little bit," Draper said. "A lot of times we're going so fast that we throw the ball away or we force the pass, or create turnovers. That's something that our coach has been talking about, and that we're going to be working on going forward."

But Draper said the Tigers believe in their ability to do what is necessary to improve and make a run at a title.

"We're feeling great. CVU is a really good opponent, but I think we have no reason to be scared of them," Draper said. "It's going to be a great year, and I think we have a good shot at winning."

Draper was also asked about his personal landmark.

"It's amazing. It's something I've

been working toward this year. I knew I was going to come up on it, and it's a great thing to accomplish," he said.

Draper's first goal was a bomb from the top of the box, and the second came after he took a feed from senior middle Jackson Gillett and picked the left side of the net at 9:24.

Essex answered in transition 18 seconds later, when Jack Schimoler picked up the rebound of a shot Tiger freshman goalie Levi Nuceder saved and tucked it home.

Draper picked off a pass two minutes later and tossed in his third goal, but Essex cut the lead to 3-2 on an Elijah Edwards strike set up by Noah Jeter at 5:20. The Tigers took a 5-2 lead after one period on a laser from senior middle Gus Hodde and the first of junior attacker Angus Blackwell's four goals, with another Gillett assist.

Nuceder preserved the three-goal advantaged with a diving point-blank transition save as time wound down; he finished with 15 stops. "The goalie's good," one Hornet on the sideline was heard to say.

When Blackwell scored in transition early in the second period on a Draper feed, it looked like the Tigers might romp. But Essex hung in and got goals from Nathan (See Lacrosse, Page 4B)

Slaters top MUHS baseball; Tigers still seeking first victory

By ANDY KIRKALDY
MIDDLEBURY — Visiting Fair Haven used two big innings and a complete-game effort from sophomore pitcher Mason Gutel to get past the Middlebury Union High School baseball team on Tuesday, 9-3.

The Slaters celebrated their second win of the spring, while frustration continued for the Division II Tigers, who dropped to 0-7 against a difficult schedule that's included four D-I teams.

Coach Tim Paquette said the Tigers have to start playing with more consistency — and quickly.

"We play good defense, and the bats aren't alive. And then the bats are alive, and we get bad defense," he said. "It's a matter of putting it all together on the same day."

The game started out crisply enough. Gutel faced the minimum of six hitters through two innings, walking one in the second, but

inducing a double-play ball to erase the runner.

Tiger freshman starter Tucker Wright matched him in the scorebook. He walked one in the first, but shortstop Carter Paquette turned a 6-3 double play to end the inning. An infield error allowed the Slater leadoff runner to reach second base in the second, but Wright fanned the next two batters and retired the third on a routine fly ball.

But things went awry for MUHS in the third inning. Wright walked the first two hitters, and Trey Lee loaded the bases with a bunt single. An error on a ball hit by Sam Kyhill allowed two runs to score, and another walk reloaded the bases. Tiger first baseman Ethan Sweet threw out a runner at the plate on a ground ball, but Tim Kendall capped the rally with a two-run single to make it 4-0.

(See Baseball, Page 2B)



TIGER SENIOR THIRD baseman Tim Whitney lunges unsuccessfully to try to catch a Fair Haven baserunner off the bag during Tuesday's MUHS baseball home game.

Independent photo/Steve James

Boys' tennis topples BHS

By ANDY KIRKALDY
MIDDLEBURY — The Middlebury Union High School boys' tennis team continued to impress in recent action, picking up three wins — one over the defending state champion — to improve to 7-0.

The centerpiece of the Tigers' efforts in that stretch was their 5-2 victory on May 3 over visiting Burlington. The Seahorses are the 2023 Vermont champion and also the team that ousted MUHS in this past spring's semifinal round, 4-3.

On this past sunny Friday with a light breeze, the Tigers were holding a 3-2 lead, but both senior No. 4 singles player Iver Anderson and freshman No. 3 Charlie Young were trailing in their matches, both losing their opening sets.

But both steadied their play and won second sets before prevailing in their tiebreakers. Anderson trailed by 5-0 in his first set before coming up just short, and then essentially controlled the rest of his match vs. Seahorse Quinn Moore. Anderson was most successful with consistent baseline work, but earned the match point — both his and the team's, because he finished before Young — with a sharp forehand volley winner.

If Anderson hadn't been so focused on outplaying his opponent, he might have figured out he was playing for the team victory in his tiebreaker — both teams, except

Young and his foe, and most of the fans had gathered to watch and cheer.

But Anderson said he had no idea, and MUHS Coach Ken Schoen confirmed he didn't advise Anderson of the stakes.

"Coach did not tell me," Anderson said, laughing. "I think it was probably a good thing I didn't know."

Anderson said Friday's team win was important for the Tigers.

"It means a lot. They were the ones that knocked us out, semifinals last year. It means a lot to beat them," Anderson said. "It seems like they are one of our biggest competitors this year, and it was really good to get a win against them."

Win or lose, he said the Tigers are enjoying this spring.

"It's a great team. Everyone is supportive, and it's just fun to play on a good team, because everyone knows how to hit, and it's just a ton of fun," Anderson said.

Schoen praised his match-clinching senior.

"Iver had the best match of his high school tennis career. Iver is arguably the best athlete on the team, and that is saying something with this exceptional team. He works really hard, and is really hard on himself as he wants to do the best he can. Today Iver was able to stay mentally tough," he said.

Schoen also noted Tiger junior

No. 1 Jackson Murray improved to 7-0 on Friday (8-0 after Monday) against opponents' top players, dropping only one set in the process. Murray lost only three games on Friday.

"He is emotionally and mentally tough, and his hand-eye coordination is beyond superb," Schoen said.

Young, at No. 3, overcame frustration with his first-set loss, and was also savvy enough to change tactics, hitting down the middle more to take away his opponent's ability to stroke angled winners, Schoen said.

"In the second set, Charles was a different player. He hit with the joy he hits with in practice and started having consistent success hitting with conviction down the middle," Schoen said. "Charles won the second set, and then upped his relaxed play in the tie-break to win that fairly easily."

Also winning their matches were freshman Nate Cook Yoder at No. 5 singles and the veteran No. 1 doubles team of seniors Milo Rees and Eddie Fallis.

Cook Yoder also improved to 7-0 with Friday's straight-set win, and 8-0 after Monday. Schoen called him a "mentally and emotionally tough player" because regardless of the status of the match, he plays the same way, "with joy, every point, win or lose, and his demeanor (See Tennis, Page 3B)



TIGER SENIOR MILO Rees and No. 1 doubles partner and classmate Eddie Fallis have been undefeated so far this spring for the MUHS boys' tennis team.

Independent photo/Steve James

A fisher sees the wonder of native fish

It was only my second cast of the day: a little weighted nymph imitating a mayfly larva that I drifted along the bottom of a thigh-deep hole. The opportunistic fish shot out from under a half-submerged log and hit the fly aggressively, attempting to snatch a morsel of food before it floated away in the swift current. It turned out to be a small brook trout no longer than the span of my hand from thumb to pinky. I brought it in quickly, admired its beautiful coloration for a few seconds, gentled released it, and watched it swim away and hide under a rock.



Outdoor column
MATTHEW DICKERSON

And that would prove to be the only fish I would see that evening despite fishing with a variety of flies along several hundred yards of river. Which was OK. It was a beautiful afternoon of fishing, and if I am only going to see one fish, I'm especially delighted for it to be one of Vermont's iconic native fish. Although at the time I was fishing on the flatter terrain along the edge of the Champlain Valley where one is far more likely to encounter introduced (and probably recently stocked) brown or rainbow trout, the small cold stream flowed down from the thickly wooded and well-canopied terrain of the Green Mountain National Forest. I was imagining that little brook trout washed down the mountain during the winter and held on in one of the last stretches of river with any suitable habitat.

For some time, my wife and I have had a practice of reading aloud to each other in the evenings. We used to do it just before bed. Now our reading time is after dinner. We rotate through a variety of books including fiction and non-fiction. Our current read is titled "Many Rivers to Cross." It was written by M.R. Montgomery and published about 30 years ago, though it only recently came into my hands as a gift from a friend.

The subtitle of the book gives a good hint why a friend thought of me: "Of Good Running Water, Native Trout, and the Remains of Wilderness." All three of those phrases in the subtitle speak to my interests.

Although the narrative — a work of non-fiction — at the level involves fishing, Montgomery's book is no more about fishing than is Norman Maclean's autobiographical novella "A River Runs Through It." Montgomery is on a search for surviving relics of the sorts of clear, cold, wild streams that were once common in the west prior to European expansion across the continent. In particular, he is interested in finding little remnants that might give a taste of what the Rocky Mountains of 300 years ago, and of the wilderness that characterized them. For him, the many subspecies of native cutthroat trout define that western wildness. Though the chapters in the book recount particular adventures from Montana down to Arizona and New Mexico in search — fly rod in hand — of some cold mountain stream that still holds native western trout, the narratives involve almost no actual fishing. They are full of the history and culture of the American west, and stories — sad, humorous and poignant — of the demise of so many western rivers.

Along the way, Montgomery writes beautifully about native fish, and why they are important, often expressing the very same way I have come to feel about native fish over the past two decades, in part as a result of my own writing about native char and trout of Appalachia, the Rockies and Alaska. Rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*), although through stocking efforts have become nearly ubiquitous in the cold waters of our continent, are not native anywhere east of

the Continental Divide. Even in the west, they were mostly found along coastal waters. And brown trout (*Salmo trutta*) are not native anywhere in North America. They are imports from Europe. Their only close cousins in North America are Atlantic salmon (*Salmo salar*). To catch a rainbow trout or brown trout in a Vermont stream feels a bit like seeing some exotic animal in a zoo; it's cool to look at for a little while, and you might admire its strength or beauty, but you know it doesn't really belong.

Vermont has no native species of trout, and dams along the Connecticut River long ago extirpated ocean-run Atlantic salmon from the watershed. But 300 years ago there were three species of the genus *Salvelinus* native to the state. Commonly known as *char* or *charr* with some species referred to as trout, though in fact they are a different genus than either the European trout or the rainbow trout of the west. They are the iconic brook trout (*S. fontinalis*), Vermont's official state fish whose species name comes from the root word for "fountain" but which can also mean a "spring," the lake trout (*S. namaycush*) which is the only species of char that spawns entirely in lakes rather than running water, and Arctic char (*S. alpinus*) which remained in just a few New England lakes after the last ice age.

And so when I find time to fish, with increasing frequency I find myself heading up the road to some small cold mountain stream on a hillside that was nearly deforested a century and a half ago and now stands mostly forested again, eschewing the chance to catch a foot-and-a-half long brown or rainbow trout and opting instead for little red, yellow and blue spots and a reminder of what once was, what can still be found in a few places, and what is worth holding on to.



MUHS FRESHMAN SHORTSTOP Gabe Velez slaps the tag on Slater Joe Buxton during Tuesday's Tiger baseball home game vs. Fair Haven.

Independent photo/Steve James

Baseball

(Continued from Page 1B)

The Tigers threatened in the bottom of the inning. Freshman Ryan Brouillard, who started behind the plate, singled, and with two out, Gutel hit consecutive batters to load the bases for Tiger No. 3 hitter Carter Paquette. But Gutel caught him looking at strike three on the outside corner to end the uprising.

Wright also had trouble finding the plate to open the fourth, walking the first batter and hitting the second. Coach Paquette summoned Brouillard to the mound, and he hit the first batter he faced. The second, Kyhill, laced a double deep down the left-field line, clearing the bases and making it 7-0.

An error on a ball hit by Joe Buxton then put runners on second and third. The Tigers managed

to turn a 3-6-5 double play on a ground ball hit to Sweet, catching Buxton off second, but not before Kyhill scored to make it 8-0.

In the fifth inning, the Slaters made it 9-0 off Brouillard on singles by Luke Senecal-Lamothe and Max Kyhill, followed by walks to Lee and Sam Kyhill. Brouillard limited the damage with a bases-loaded strikeout to end the rally. Brouillard allowed two earned runs on three hits and two walks in four innings while whiffing five batters.

"Ryan came in and did a fine job of holding them down," said Coach Paquette.

The Tigers broke through for their three runs in the bottom of the fifth. Dylan Stowe walked, and Gabe Velez reached on an error. A Cole Warren fielder's choice grounder erased Velez

and left runners on first and third. An Alex Sperry fielder's choice grounder erased Warren, and a walk to Paquette loaded the bases. Tim Whitney lined a single over shortstop to score Stowe and Sperry, and Paquette came in when the Slaters misplayed a ball hit by Aidan LaDuke.

The only Tiger who reached base during the final two innings off Gutel was Velez, who singled with two outs in the sixth. Gutel allowed three hits, walked three, struck out four, and the Tiger runs were unearned.

Coach Paquette said the Tigers, a team that includes eight seniors, had higher hopes entering the season, but time is running short to right the ship.

"There's a lot of hard work to do, and maybe we can turn it around," he said.



MUHS FRESHMAN RYAN Brouillard gets his fingertips on first base under the tag of Slater Caleb Long during Tuesday's Tiger baseball home game vs. Fair Haven.

Independent photo/Steve James

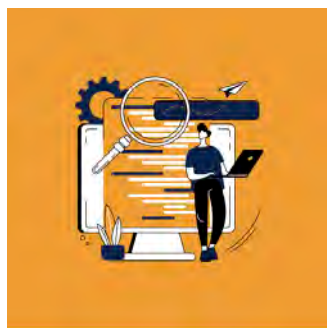
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Schedule

HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

Softball

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
5/14 OV at Mt. Anthony	4:30 PM
5/14 VUHS at MUHS	4:30 PM
5/14 Enosburg at Mt. Abe	4:30 PM
5/16 Mt. Abe at MUHS	4:30 PM
5/16 Springfield at OV	4:30 PM
5/16 Rice at VUHS	4:30 PM
5/18 Mt. Abe at VUHS	10 AM
5/18 OV at Brattleboro	11 AM
5/18 MUHS at Milton	11 AM

Baseball

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
5/14 VUHS at MUHS	4:30 PM
5/14 Enosburg at Mt. Abe	4:30 PM
5/14 OV at Mt. Anthony	4:30 PM
5/16 Green Mt. at OV	4:30 PM
5/16 Mt. Abe at MUHS	4:30 PM
5/16 Missisquoi at VUHS	4:30 PM
5/18 MUHS at Milton	11 AM
5/18 Mt. Abe at VUHS	10 AM
5/18 OV at Brattleboro	11 AM

Boys' Lacrosse

5/10 MUHS at Burr & Burton	4 PM
5/11 MAV at Milton	11 AM
5/13 OV at Montpelier	5 PM
5/14 St. Albans at MUHS	4:30 PM
5/15 Harwood at MAV	4:30 PM
5/16 Fairfax at OV	4:30 PM
5/17 CVU at MUHS	4:30 PM
5/18 Colchester at MAV	10 AM

Girls' Lacrosse

5/9 MUHS at Colchester	4:30 PM
5/11 Milton at MAV	11 AM
5/14 MAV at Harwood	4:30 PM
5/14 MUHS at St. Albans	4:30 PM
5/16 GMVS at MAV	4:30 PM
5/17 MUHS at CVU	4:30 PM
5/18 MAV at Colchester	11 AM

Girls' Tennis

5/10 Mt. Mansfield at MUHS	3:30 PM
5/15 Stowe at MUHS	3:30 PM
5/17 Harwood at MUHS	3:30 PM

Boys' Tennis

5/10 MUHS at Mt. Mansfield	3:30 PM
5/15 Stowe at MUHS	3:30 PM
5/17 Harwood at MUHS	3:30 PM

Track & Field

5/11 VUHS/Mt. Abe at BHS	9 AM
5/13 Mt. Abe at Missisquoi	3:30 PM
5/15 VUHS et al. at MUHS	3:30 PM

Ultimate

5/10 MUHS at Colchester	4 PM
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COLLEGE SPORTS

Baseball

NESCAC Tournament at Tufts

Four-Team Double Elimination

5/10 Amherst vs Colby	1:30 PM
5/10 Midd vs Tufts	5 PM
5/11 & 12	TBD

Softball

NESCAC Tournament at Tufts

Eight-Team Single Elimination

5/10 #2 Midd vs #7 Bowdoin	4 PM
5/10 #1 Tufts vs #8 Wesleyan	1:30 PM
5/11 & 12	TBD

Women's Lacrosse

NCAA D-III Games at Midd

5/11 St. John Fisher vs Endicott	1 PM
5/12 Midd vs 5/11 Winner	3 PM

Men's Lacrosse

NCAA D-III Regional at Dickinson

5/11 Dickinson vs TBD	Noon
5/11 Midd vs SUNY Geneseo	3 PM
5/12 Final	3 PM

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



MUHS SENIOR NO. 2 singles player Kellan Bartlett sets up for a topspin forehand during his match on Friday.
Independent photo/Steve James.

Tennis

(Continued from Page 1B)
demonstrates his free love of the game regardless of the micro results point to point.”

Fallis and Rees also moved to 8-0 this season. “They are an awesome duo; their team chemistry is exemplary,” Schoen said. “They are superb and very speedy athletes.”

Schoen also praised their leadership of the group: “(They) have done an amazing job of directing, consulting, ensuring that we have a team dynamic that celebrates every possible aspect of the chemistry that produces, possibly, a championship team.”

Senior No. 2 singles player Kellan Bartlett lost a keenly contested match on Friday to a player Schoen listed along with Bartlett as one of the state’s top 15 players, but bounced back for a straight-set win on Monday vs. Essex.

Schoen hasn’t yet settled on a No. 2 doubles team after senior Brian Newton, expected to anchor the duo, suffered a season-ending injury. Newton is still on board as an assistant coach.

On Friday, senior Noah Doherty-Konczal and junior Avery Hamilton rallied to force a third-set tiebreaker, in which they couldn’t hold a late lead and took the loss. Two days earlier, Hamilton partnered with sophomore Nathan Stefani in a victory over lesser foes from Rice, and on this past Monday, senior Baxter Harrington partnered with Doherty-Konczal to prevail.

Another item of interest: Back on April 15, the Tigers defeated Stowe, 4-3. Stowe was the other 2023 Vermont boys’ tennis finalist.

BURLINGTON MATCH
The individual match scores vs. Burlington on May 3 were:

No. 1 singles, Murray (MUHS) defeated Oscar Crainich (BHS), 6-1, 6-2.

No. 2 singles, Nevin Morton (BHS) defeated Kellan Bartlett (MUHS), 7-5, 6-3.

No. 3 singles, Young (MUHS) defeated Isaac Dunkiel (BHS), 4-6, 6-4, 1-0 (10-4).

No. 4 singles, Anderson (MUHS) defeated Quinn Moore (BHS), 3-6, 6-3, 1-0 (10-6).

No. 5 singles, Cook Yoder (MUHS) defeated Collin Shea (BHS), 6-1, 6-2.

No. 1 doubles, Fallis & Rees (MUHS) defeated Daniel Wick &

Winslow Price (BHS), 6-0, 6-2.

No. 2 doubles, Sam Wick & Max Ladner (Burlington) defeated Hamilton & Doherty-Konczal (MUHS), 6-1, 3-6, 1-0 (11-9).

RICE MATCH

On May 1 the Tigers defeated host Rice, 7-0. The individual match scores were:

The individual match scores vs. Burlington were:

No. 1 singles, Murray (MUHS) defeated Nate McDonald (Rice) 6-2, 6-0.

No. 2 singles, Young (MUHS) defeated Emmet Waite (Rice) 6-0, 6-3.

No. 3 singles, Anderson (MUHS) defeated Jaden Binkorst (Rice) 6-3, 6-4.

No. 4 singles, Cook Yoder (MUHS) defeated Chris Guyette (Rice), 6-1, 6-2.

No. 5 singles, Baxter Harrington (MUHS) defeated Julian Anderson (Rice) 6-1, 6-1.

No. 1 doubles, Fallis & Rees (MUHS) defeated Wilfred St. Francis & Leal Kirala (Rice), 4-6, 6-3, 1-0 (10-7).

No. 2 doubles, Hamilton & Stefani (MUHS) defeated Guillaume Bourancia & James Waite (Rice), 6-0, 6-0.

ESSEX MATCH

On Monday, May 6, the Tigers defeated host Essex, 7-0, without dropping a set. The individual match scores were:

No. 1 singles, Murray (MUHS) defeated Derin Suren (Essex) 6-2, 6-3.

No. 2 singles, Kellan Bartlett (MUHS) defeated Vishnu Konnanur (Essex) 6-4, 6-4.

No. 3 singles, Young (MUHS) defeated Lucas St. Hilaire (Essex) 6-1, 6-0.

No. 4 singles, Anderson (MUHS) defeated Rory Miller (Essex) 6-2, 6-0.

No. 5 singles, Cook Yoder (MUHS) defeated Lewis Pilcher (Essex) 6-0, 6-0.

No. 1 doubles, Fallis & Rees (MUHS) defeated Deven Sheed & Ben Lang (Essex) 6-1, 6-0.

No. 2 doubles, Baxter Harrington & Doherty-Konczal (MUHS) defeated Donovan Ho & Henry Farrell (Essex) 6-1, 6-1.

The Tigers were set to visit Champlain Valley on Wednesday after the deadline for this edition, and are slated to travel to Mount Mansfield on Friday.

Baseball teams pick up wins

OV takes three; Mount Abe hits .500; VUHS takes first

By **ANDY KIRKALDY**

ADDISON COUNTY — Otter Valley, Mount Abraham and Vergennes all posted wins in recent high school baseball play. One of OV’s wins was at the Eagles’ expense, but Mount Abe bounced back to win twice. The Commodores’ victory was their first of the spring.

Middlebury dropped two road games. The Tigers also hosted Fair Haven on Tuesday; see story on Page 1B.

EAGLES-OTTERS

The Otters bested the Eagles on May 2, 7-1, as OV hurler Isaiah Wood struck out 11 and allowed just the one unearned run in going the distance for the pitching victory.

The Eagles tallied their run in the first inning, but the Otters responded with two runs in the bottom of the inning and never looked back. **Luciano Falco** had the key blow in the first inning, a single that plated both **Jackson Howe** and **Nolan Tripp**.

COMMODORES

On May 2 VUHS lost a heartbreaker at Peoples/Stowe, 11-10, in nine innings. The Commodores took the lead in the eighth, but the Wolves’ Brandon Allen tripled to tie the game at 10-10 in the bottom of the inning, and the host team walked off with the win in the ninth on a Jaden Baird single.

Aiden Fuller had three hits to spark the VUHS offense, and **Izaak Wolniewicz** doubled.

On Saturday the Commodores (1-5) broke into the win column

by doubling up visiting Randolph, 18-9. Fuller had another three-hit game, this one including a two-run homer, **Eyon Tembruell** doubled and stole four bases, and **Gabe Scribner** doubled. The Commodores took advantage of 18 walks issued by Randolph pitchers in scoring 18 runs. **Tyler Kimball** earned the pitching win.

EAGLES

On Saturday two Rutland pitchers combined to outduel Eagle hurler **Cam Castillo** as visiting RHS came away with a 2-1 victory. Rutland reliever Sam Arnold tossed four innings of no-hit relief for the win, and also drove in the tying run in the fifth and the winning run in the seventh. Castillo was the hard-luck loser despite tossing a complete-game three-hitter, whiffing 15.

The Eagles bounced back to win on both Monday and Tuesday and even their record at 3-3. On Monday they outslugged visiting North Country, 15-8. Castillo drove in four runs on four hits, and **Abraham Ready** added three RBIs on a pair of hits. **Stefan Johnson** went six innings for the pitching win, whiffing six.

On Tuesday the Eagles coasted at Fairfax, 11-2, as **Tyler White** pitched a complete-game five-hitter, fanning eight.

Ready (three hits, two RBIs) and Castillo (two hits, two, two RBIs) again sparked the offense.

OTTERS

On May 3 the Otters’ **Wyatt Cone** bolted home in the top of the seventh on a wild pitch and

OV got past host Bellows Falls, 5-4. The Otters took a 4-0 lead behind the pitching of Howe, who whiffed eight batters in five-plus innings, but miscues in the field allowed the Terriers to tie the score at 4-4. The win went to **Jacob Warrell**, who tossed 1.1 innings of scoreless relief. Howe and Warrell also led the Otters with two hits each.

On Tuesday the host Otters dealt previously unbeaten Green Mountain Union (7-1) its first loss, 5-1. Howe threw a complete-game six-hitter, whiffing 15 batters in the process.

OV took the lead in the bottom of the fourth on hits by Tripp and **Noel Pearsons**. RBI hits by Warrell and Howe plated the final three runs in the sixth inning.

OV moved to 6-2 with the three recent wins and are set to host Hartford on Thursday.

TIGERS

On May 2 host St. Albans edged the Tigers, 5-3. The Tigers poked seven hits, two by **Gabe Velez**. **Alex Sperry** had one hit, scored all three MUHS runs and stole four bases. **Carter Paquette** had a hit and an RBI, and **Tim Whitney** also drove in a run. **Tucker Morter** took the pitching loss. Evan Marchessault doubled in two runs for St. Albans.

On Saturday visiting Montpelier bested the Tigers, 9-0. Solon Keegan Smith tossed a complete-game two-hitter, striking out 13. The Tigers dropped to 0-6 heading into Tuesday’s home game vs. Fair Haven.

MUHS girls’ lax claims one of three

By **ANDY KIRKALDY**

MIDDLEBURY — The Middlebury Union High School girls’ lacrosse team dropped a pair of games to top Division I teams last week before bouncing back to win on Tuesday. The Tigers’ record stands at 3-2 heading into a game at Colchester on Friday.

On May 1 visiting South Burlington broke a 3-3 halftime tie and went on to a 12-4 win over MUHS. Rachel Kelley (four goals, four assists) and Elise Smith (three goals, two assists)

led the Wolves’ attack, while goalie Victoria Bohlmann made seven saves.

For the Tigers, Isabel Quinn scored twice, Kenyon Connors and Alice Livesay had a goal apiece, and Sara Kent and Ada Weaber each had assists.

On Saturday, May 4, host Essex, which has so far shown to be the class of Division I, topped the Tigers, 14-0. Reese Holcomb and Brea Montague led the unbeaten Hornets with four goals apiece, and goalie Sierra Harris

made four saves.

Tiger goalie Ida Blackwell made nine saves for MUHS.

On Tuesday the Tigers edged host Mount Mansfield, 11-9, as Connors led the way with five goals; Quinn Doria and Lia Calzini each scored twice; Kent chipped in a goal and three assists; Isla Weaber added a goal; Pela Slayter set up two goals; and Lily Finn assisted one score.

Blackwell and Cougar goalie Ella Gilbert each made nine saves.

MAV boys’ lax rolls at home

By **ANDY KIRKALDY**

BRISTOL — The Mount Abraham-Vergennes cooperative boys’ lacrosse team picked up a pair of one-sided home victories late last week and improved to 4-2 heading into a scheduled visit to Burlington on Wednesday — that game played after deadline.

On May 1, the Eagles coasted past visiting Randolph, 14-1. Jack Senecal (four goals, assist), Chase Atkins (three goals, two

assists), Asa Pratt (three goals) and Andrew Nolan (two goals, assist) supplied most of the MAV firepower, and goalie Connor Nason stopped five shots. Jackson Wheaton scored for the Ghosts, and goalie Evan Brownell made 10 saves.

Two days later, MAV eased by visiting Lyndon, 15-1, allowing only three shots on goal, two of which goalie Walker Forand stopped.

Noah Ladeau powered the attack with five goals and three assists, Nolan added four goals and an assist, Pratt scored twice, and Joe Sullivan chipped in a goal and an assist. Finley Kaeck and Lorenzo Atocha added a goal apiece.

Joho Konsta scored for Lyndon, and Viking goalie Griffin Gochan made 14 saves.

MAV will visit Milton on Saturday.

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Local high school softball teams all prevail at least once

By ANDY KIRKALDY

ADDISON COUNTY — The softball teams from Mount Abraham, Otter Valley, Middlebury and Vergennes union high schools all won in recent action.

One of the Eagles' two wins came at the Otters' expense, and the Commodores' victory was their first of the spring.

EAGLES-OTTERS

May 2 saw Mount Abe and OV both enter the contest in Brandon

with 3-1 records. The Eagles broke the game open in the middle innings to prevail, 7-1.

Eagle hurler **Gretchen Toy** allowed only one hit — **Sophie Parker's** first-inning single. Toy went the distance for the pitching win, striking out four. The only OV run came when **Leann Thomas** reached on a fourth-inning error and eventually scored on a groundout.

Mount Abe took the lead with three runs in the third on **Morgan**

Larocque and **Abigail Parker** singles, a **Gen Forand** sacrifice fly and OV miscues.

They added three more runs in the fourth and one in the sixth as they banged out 11 hits, including two apiece by **Brooklyn Ryersbach**, **Elise Parker** and Forand.

Otter **Sierra Cormany** took the pitching loss, striking out five and walking one — that walk was the first she has issued this season.

EAGLES

On Saturday the Eagles spotted visiting Rutland five first-inning runs, but rallied for a 12-7 victory. Forand's big day at the plate — including a first-inning homer, two doubles and five RBIs — sparked the Eagle offense. Elise Parker also homered, singled and drove in three runs, Ryersbach homered and drove in two runs, and **Joanna Toy**, Abigail Parker and Larocque (triple) added two hits apiece. Pitcher Gretchen Toy allowed two earned runs for the

complete-game win.

Rutland's Alivia Morris homered and drove in two runs in a three-hit day, and Makenzie Davis poked two hits and drove in a run.

OTTERS

On May 3 host Bellows Falls edged the Otters, 3-2, in eight innings. Izzy Stoodley's two-run single in the bottom of the eighth erased a 2-1 OV lead. An **Ady Humiston** RBI had given OV its 2-1 lead in their at-bat in the eighth and snapped a 1-1 tie. Parker took the loss for OV despite a strong outing.

On Tuesday the Otters moved back over .500 at 4-3 by defeating visiting White River, 14-5. Cormany pitched a complete game five-hitter for the win, striking out 11 and walking four. Humiston doubled and singled twice, and **Noelle Seigle** and **Randi Lancour** each singled twice for OV.

The Otters are scheduled to play at Hartford on Thursday under the Hurricanes' lights.

TIGERS

On May 2 the Tigers made a run at Division-I power St. Albans, but came up short, 4-2. Winning pitcher Abby Gardner allowed four hits, striking out 13 and walking one, while Comets Cora Thomas and Ruby Dasaro homered and tripled, respectively.

Skyler Choiniere doubled home both Tiger runs, while hurler **Emma Deering** allowed seven hits and struck out three.

On Monday the Tigers evened their record at 2-2 by defeating visiting D-I Mount Mansfield, 7-2. Deering earned the pitching win, and **Lily Dame** tripled and Choiniere doubled to lead the Tigers' seven-hit attack.

COMMODORES

After the Commodores forfeited their Saturday game at Oxbow, on Tuesday the Commodores defeated host Twinfield/Cabot, 19-5. Details on that game were not available before deadline. VUHS improved to 1-4 with the solid victory.

The Commodores will host Milton on Thursday.

Lacrosse

(Continued from Page 1B)

Serrantonio and Tucker Smith, from Cooper Yandow, to make it 6-4. Solo efforts by Tiger sophomore attacker Logan McNulty and a senior middle Brady McDonough later in the period restored the four-goal margin at halftime.

Both teams struggled offensively in the third period, with credit due on the Tigers' side to the low defense of seniors George Devlin and Gavin McNulty (the long-stick middle) and sophomores Cooke Riney and Marshall Eddy. Draper scored early in the period for MUHS, and Edwards answered five minutes in to make it 9-5.

Then the Tigers took charge as the fourth quarter opened. Blackwell started the 5-0 run in the first minute with a soft quick-stick shot on a Logan McNulty feed that Essex goalie Mason Marckres (seven saves) probably would like another try at stopping. A minute later Draper made it 11-5 with a shot from the left side with plenty more mustard on it.

At 9:20 Blackwell converted more decisively out front, with Gillett picking up his third assist. Draper's milestone goal then pushed the Tigers' lead to eight, and freshman middle Brady Lloyd netted a Draper assist at 8:30 to complete the five-goal binge.

Yandow broke the spell with a pair of scores to make it 14-7. Logan McNulty answered, from Draper, and as time wound down Smith scored for Essex before McNulty completed his hat trick for the Tigers.



TIGER SENIOR ATTACKER Toby Draper fires home one of his six goals in the MUHS boys' lax team's home game on Saturday. Draper made six goals and three assists, surpassing 200 points for his career in the victory.

Independent photo/Steve James

Two days earlier, the Tigers took a big early lead at South Burlington (4-3) and hung on for a 12-11 victory. Draper scored four goals and set up one for MUHS, Logan McNulty tossed in three goals, and Nuceder made nine saves.

Will Anderson (five goals, two assists) and Brady Sweet (three goals) led SB's attack, and goalie Caden Clayton made eight saves.

Coach Rizzo said he is happy with his Tiger team, but would like to see a few loose ends tightened up.

"We just have to clean it up a little bit. We're at our best when

we're sharing the ball on offense and getting everyone involved. We can't just rely on Toby all the time," Rizzo said. "We have flashes of really nice lacrosse when everyone is sharing the ball, and everyone is playing together. We're just inconsistent in doing that."

Rizzo would also like to see more steadiness at the other end of the field.

"It's the same thing on defense. We have flashes of sliding quickly, our recovery looks great, and when all six guys are doing it together it looks great. But we're inconsistent,"

he said.

Rizzo believes both those things will improve, while a third challenge will be taking care of "totally basic stuff."

"If we just catch and throw and scoop the ground balls, we're going to be just fine," he said. "I'm really confident they have it in them. It's up to them. If they can trust their teammates consistently and really believe in themselves, if they do that, the sky's the limit."

MUHS girls' tennis takes two out of three

By ANDY KIRKALDY

MIDDLEBURY — The Middlebury Union High School girls' tennis team won twice in three recent outings. At 3-2 heading into a match scheduled at North Country on Wednesday, the Tigers have already exceeded their 2023 victory total.

Coach Dan Comar has been pleased with his team's progress, and especially with a Monday win over Montpelier, the D-II champion in 2021 and 2022.

"Montpelier's top three showed why they won a pair of state championship medals a couple of years ago, but a young Middlebury squad is getting some wins under their collective belt and developing a core of sophomore and junior players that improve every match," Comar said.

"And then there's senior Caroline Nicolai playing the most patient and strategic match of her high school career, patiently outlasting a player with good strokes. But the match came down to No. 2 doubles Amelia

Coburn and Anna Wolosinski, playing on the far court with all players watching the proceedings — a 10-8 third set tiebreak win that clinched the 4-3 win."

The Tigers were scheduled to host North Country on Wednesday, and Mount Mansfield is set to visit on Friday at 3:30 p.m.

RICE, 6-1

The Tigers' recent action started on May 1, when visiting Rice topped MUHS, 6-1. The individual scores were:

No. 1 singles, Lily Collins, R, defeated Audrey Carpenter, MUHS, 6-0, 6-2.

No. 2 singles, Christine Rottcher, R, defeated Rytte Akramaite, MUHS, 6-2, 6-3.

No. 3 singles, Jess Nagy, R, defeated Sophia Boise, MUHS, 6-3, 6-3.

No. 4 singles, Ella McCormack, R, defeated Caroline Nicolai, MUHS, 6-1, 6-3.

No. 5 singles, Piper Farnsworth, MUHS, defeated Maty Sultzbaugh, R, 6-0, 6-3.

No. 1 doubles, Grace Marroquin/Gabby Sheldon, R, defeated Clara Chant/Subia Khan, MUHS, 6-0, 6-2.

No. 2 doubles, Hannah Deimer/Lilli Deimer R, defeated Amelia Coburn/Maryam Khan, MUHS, 6-0, 6-2.

MUHS OVER HARWOOD

On May 3, the Tigers edged host Harwood, 4-3. The individual scores were:

No. 1 singles, Lily Catlin, H, defeated Carpenter, MUHS, 2-6, 6-4 (11-9).

No. 2 singles, Aspen Linskey, H, defeated Akramaite, MUHS, 6-3, 0-6 (10-7).

No. 3 singles, Boise, MUHS, defeated Savannah Fulton, H, 6-1, 6-2.

No. 4 singles, Nicolai, MUHS, defeated Hadley Andersen, H, 6-2, 7-6 (9-7).

No. 5 singles, Farnsworth, MUHS, defeated Mae Murphy, H, 6-2, 6-2.

No. 1 doubles, Clara Chant/S. Khan, MUHS, defeated Eleanor Hume/Haley Macdonald, H, 6-2, 6-2.

No. 2 doubles, Nina Henzel/Hannah Larson, H, defeated Anna Wolosinski/Amelia Coburn, MUHS, 4-6, 6-2 (10-7).

TIGERS DEFEAT SOLONS

On Monday, the host Tigers topped Montpelier, 4-3.

The individual scores were:

No. 1 singles, Allegra Muller, Mont., defeated Carpenter, MUHS, 4-6, 6-3 (10-4).

No. 2 singles, Christine Rottcher, Mont., defeated Akramaite, MUHS, 6-1, 6-0.

No. 3 singles, Fin Lofgren, Mont., defeated Boise, MUHS, 6-3, 6-2.

No. 4 singles, Ella McCormack, Mt, defeated Nicolai, MUHS, 6-1, 6-3.

No. 5 singles, Farnsworth, MUHS, defeated Maty Natalie Quinn, Mont, 7-5, 6-1.

No. 1 doubles, Chant/S. Khan, MUHS, defeated Somerset Pierce/Mallory Supan, Mont., 6-1, 4-6 (10-2).

No. 2 doubles, Coburn/M. Khan, MUHS, defeated Maggie Kords/Zoe Kuelh, Mont., 4-6, 6-3 (10-8).

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STATE OF VERMONT

SUPERIOR COURT CIVIL DIVISION

Addison Unit Docket No.: 24-CV-00002

Case Title: **KEYBANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION v. Thomas McKean, et al.**

SUMMONS AND ORDER FOR PUBLICATION

THIS SUMMONS IS DIRECTED TO Thomas McKean and Elizabeth McKean

1. YOU ARE BEING SUED. The plaintiff has started a lawsuit against you. A copy of the Plaintiff's Complaint against you is on file and may be obtained at the office of the Clerk of the Court, County Court House, Addison Civil and Probate Division, 7 Mahady Court, Middlebury, Vermont.

Do not throw this paper away. It is an official paper that affects your rights.

2. PLAINTIFF'S CLAIM. Plaintiff's claim is for FORECLOSURE OF REAL PROPERTY, COLLECTION OF PROMISSORY NOTE, ENTRY OF DEFICIENCY JUDGMENT.

(brief statement of the object of the action, property or credits affected, relief sought).

3. YOU MUST REPLY WITHIN 42 DAYS TO PROTECT YOUR RIGHTS. You must give or mail the Plaintiff a written response, called an Answer, within 42 days after the date on which this Summons was first published, which is Monday, May 13, 2024. You must send a copy of your Answer to the Plaintiff's attorney located at:

Sheldon Katz, ERN 2808, BROCK & SCOTT, PLLC, 23 Messenger Street, 2nd Floor, Plainville, MA 02762

You must also give or mail your Answer to the Court located at: Addison Civil and Probate Division, 7 Mahady Court, Middlebury, VT 05753

4. YOU MUST RESPOND TO EACH CLAIM. The Answer is your written response to the Plaintiff's Complaint. In your Answer you must state whether you agree or disagree with each paragraph of the Complaint. If you believe the Plaintiff should not be given everything asked for in the Complaint, you must say so in your Answer.

5. YOU WILL LOSE YOUR CASE IF YOU DO NOT GIVE YOUR WRITTEN ANSWER TO THE COURT. If you do not send the Plaintiff and the Court your Answer within 42 days, you will probably lose this case. You will not get to tell your side of the story, and the Court may decide against you and award the Plaintiff everything asked for in the Complaint.

6. YOU MUST MAKE ANY CLAIMS AGAINST THE PLAINTIFF IN YOUR REPLY. Your Answer must state any related legal claims you have against the Plaintiff. Your claims against the Plaintiff are called Counterclaims. If you do not make your Counterclaims in writing in your Answer, you may not be able to bring them up at all. Even if you have insurance and the insurance company will defend you, you must still file any Counterclaims you may have.

7. LEGAL ASSISTANCE. You may wish to get legal help from a lawyer. If you cannot afford a lawyer, you should ask the Court Clerk for information about places where you can get free legal help. Even if you cannot get legal help, you must still give the Court a written Answer to protect your rights or you may lose the case.

ORDER. The verified Complaint or Affidavit filed in this action shows that service cannot be made with due diligence by any of the methods provided in Rule 4(d)-(f), (k), or (l) of the Vermont Rules of Civil Procedure. Accordingly, it is ORDERED that service of the Summons set forth above shall be made upon the defendant, Thomas McKean and Elizabeth McKean, by publication as provided in Rules 4(d) (1) and 4(g) of those Rules.

This Order shall be published once a week for two weeks beginning on or before Monday, May 13, 2024, 2024 in the Addison County Independent, a newspaper of general circulation in Addison County, and a copy of this Summons and Order as published shall be mailed to the Defendant, Thomas McKean and Elizabeth McKean, if an address is known.

Date: 4/30/2024 /s/ David R. Fenster Superior Court Judge

more **Public Notices** on Pages 11B and 12B.

community calendar

Monkton

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

NEWS

MONKTON — If you have some black plastic plant containers that you would like to get rid of, the Monkton Friends Methodist Church members will be at the Recycling Center on Saturday, May 11, to help you recycle them. These black containers cannot be put in with regular recycled items. Gather the unwanted black plastic and bring them to the center along with your regular recycling and trash. Just remember to keep the black plastic separate. If you miss this date, the church members will also be collecting the black plastic containers at their annual plant sale on May 25 (details for that sale coming at a later date).

And if you need help digging things up, they will be happy to help you! Thank you in advance for your donations!

The Scouts BSA Troop 802 are once again sponsoring and organizing Monkton's annual Town Wide Yard Sale to be held on May 25. Now is the time to get your own yard sale placed on the town map that they will be putting together. For \$15 you can get your address location for your sale added to the map plus a yard sign to put out for your sale. For more information or to get your address on the map contact Karen at puccidog@live.com. More information will follow as the date nears.

In gearing up for their plant sale the Friends Church would appreciate any extra plants that you would like to donate for the sale. Call Marilyn Cargill at 802-

453-5192. Green-up Day was May 4. Did you go out and pick up roadside trash? If you did, a big Thank You for helping to keep Vermont beautiful!

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.

"The Janes" on screen in Middlebury. Thursday, May 9, 7 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. In the pre-Roe v. Wade era, female activists in Chicago calling themselves 'Jane' build an underground network for women with unwanted pregnancies and provide low-cost and free illegal abortions to an estimated 11,000 women. This film, the final offering in this year's MNFF Selects series, tells their story. Tickets \$14 advance/\$16 walk-up, available at townhalltheater.org.

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 greenmountainfolkloresociety31j@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 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.

Takeout roast pork supper in Vergennes. Saturday, May 11, 5-6 p.m., Vergennes United Methodist Church, Main Street, across from the Opera House. Menu includes roast pork, mashed potatoes, stuffing, gravy, vegetable, applesauce, roll and dessert. Takeout only. Preorder only. \$12. To preorder call 802-877-3150 before 7 p.m. Thursday, May 9.

King Pedo card party in Ferrisburgh. Saturday, May 11, 6:30 p.m., Ferrisburgh Town Hall and Community Center, Route 7. The evening begins with a sandwich supper and then on to the games! King Pedo 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.

MAY 12 SUNDAY

Warbler Warm-Up in Bristol. Sunday, May 12, 7:30 a.m. Bristol Waterworks, Plank Rd. Join Otter Creek Audubon Society for a search for newly arrived spring migrants. Hone your birding identification skills before leaf-out. Co-sponsored with The Watershed Center. Call Ron at 802-388-6019 if in doubt about the weather.

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

Spirit in Nature Annual Meeting and Eco-Spirit Awards in Ripton. Sunday, May 12, 2-4 p.m., Ripton Community House, Route 125. Spirit in Nature's 25th Anniversary celebration and annual meeting. Eco-Spirit Awards for 2024 will be presented to Fran Putnam, Bethany Barry, and Brett Gilman for their work on Pollinator Pathways in Addison County. Zoom link: us02web.zoom.us/j/82015132706. Craig Zondag will lead a guided walk prior to the meeting starting at 1 p.m. at SpIN parking lot on Goshen Rd.

MAY 13 MONDAY

Vergennes City Band rehearsal in Vergennes. Monday, May 13, 7-9 p.m., Vergennes Opera House. All instrumentalists welcome. For more information contact Sue O'Daniel at 802-349-5906. Rehearsals continue May 20, June 3 and June 10.

MAY 14 TUESDAY

Author Chris Lincoln in conversation with Mike McKenna in Middlebury. Tuesday, May 14, 6 p.m., Research room, Iisley Public Library, 75 Main St. Middlebury College alumna Chris Lincoln of Thetford, author of "The Funny Moon," will appear in conversation with Mike McKenna of Weybridge in the May installment of the Vermont Book Shop/Iisley Public Library Vermont Author Series. "The Funny Moon" is about the challenges of marriage, self-discovery, and personal fulfillment, and was a finalist in the humor category for two prestigious indie publishing awards.



Among the reeds

A VIRGINIA RAIL navigates reeds old and new in Otter View Park in Middlebury. Join Otter Creek Audubon for its monthly wildlife walk in the park and in Hurd Grassland on Saturday, May 11, and you may catch a glimpse of this bird and many others.

Photo by Ron Payne

MAY 15 WEDNESDAY

Great Decisions series "Israel/Gaza" in Middlebury or via Zoom. Wednesday, May 15, 3 p.m., Eastview at Middlebury, 100 EastView Ter. Middlebury College Professor Emeritus Russell Leng will give this talk in the fifth of eight talks based on the Foreign Policy Association's Great Decisions program. For more information or to obtain the Zoom link, please call the EastView Concierge at 802-989-7500.

Middlebury Community Music Center student performance in Middlebury. Wednesday, May 15, 6-7:30 p.m., St. Stephen's Church, on the green. MCMC students showcase their talents in this free performance. Celebrate musical milestones with our community.

MAY 16 THURSDAY

Thursdays on the TAM in Middlebury. Thursday, May 16, 8:30 a.m., Route 23/Weybridge Rd, Trailhead. Help MALT clean up the trails in advance of the busy summer season. MALTs Trails & Volunteer Manager, Liam Hickey, will be at the trailhead in the mornings with doughnuts, coffee and tea for volunteers. Enjoy a warm drink and chat, then get to work. Hike the section of trail yourself and return tools on the way back, or wait until 9:30 a.m. to hike as a group. Work includes clearing dead branches and small fallen trees, pruning new growth, and picking up trash. Free. Email Liam@maltvt.org to let him know you're interested.

Henry Sheldon Museum members reception in Middlebury. Thursday, May 16, 4:30-6 p.m., Henry Sheldon Museum, 1 Park St. Current Henry Sheldon Museum members, and not-yet members, are invited to join museum staff to celebrate the opening of the 2024 season and the new exhibits. Light refreshments served. More info at henrysheldonmuseum.org/events/members-reception or call 802-388-2117.

"Never Before Scene" on stage in Middlebury. Thursday, May 16, 7 p.m., Black Box Theater, Hannaford Career Center, 51 Charles Ave. The Addison Repertory Theatre's annual student show, a collection of original, short one-act plays by the students, written as part of the Vermont Young Playwrights program. Performances will feature not only original works by the students, but desserts created by The Glass Onion, the Career Center's culinary program.

Rodrigo Placencia in Starksboro. Thursday, May 16, 7:30 p.m., Starksboro Public Library. Placencia will be playing music that mixes his passion for classical guitar styles, Latin American folk music, and traditional songs from his native Mexico. Free. Part of the 5-Town Musical Library tour.

MAY 17 FRIDAY

River Watch restoration planting in New Haven. Friday, May 17, 9 a.m., Dog Team Rd. Addison County River Watch is partnering with New Haven River Anglers to plant trees along the New Haven River a few miles north of Middlebury. The group will be establishing a riparian buffer that will filter nutrients, reduce erosion, and improve wildlife habitat. More info and directions contact Matthew Witten at 802-434-3236 or acrcwvt@gmail.com.

"Never Before Scene" on stage in Middlebury. Friday, May 17, 7 p.m., Black Box Theater, Hannaford Career Center, 51 See May 16 listing.

MAY 18 SATURDAY

Early bird nature walk in Orwell. Saturday, May 18, 8-10 a.m., Mt. Independence State Historic Site, 497 Mount Independence Rd.

8th Annual Garden Shoppe in Bristol. Begins Saturday, May 18, 9 a.m., 3319 S 116 Rd. An annual fundraiser to benefit the Brendon P Cousino Med47 Foundation. A wide variety of perennials, house plants, veggie and annual starts, hanging baskets, succulent plantings, and other patio plantings, home decor, fun handcrafted items and jewelry. Runs through Sunday, June 16. More info at 802-233-8334 or med47foundation@gmail.com.

River Watch restoration planting in New Haven. Saturday, May 18, 9 a.m., Dog Team Rd. See May 17 listing.

Create! Family Shared Cookbook Online in Orwell. Saturday, May 18, at 10 a.m., Orwell Free Library, 473 Main St. Create an online cookbook to share with family and friends using the Google suite. Participants will need a google account. A personal computer and a few recipes and pictures will be helpful to bring along. Presented by Trish Dougherty.

Maritime Museum opening day in Ferrisburgh. Saturday, May 18, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, 4472 Basin Harbor Rd. Help LCMM celebrate the first day of the 2024 season. Grounds, exhibits, and Museum Store will officially open for the season for all to visit and explore. Check our calendar for additional special activities on this day. No tickets or advance reservations needed. Admission to the museum is free for all visitors.

Author Jack Kelly in Ferrisburgh. Saturday, May 18, 1-2 p.m., Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, 4472 Basin Harbor Rd. On LCMM's opening day, author Jack Kelly will discuss the research and highlights of his newest book, "God Save Benedict Arnold: The True Story of America's Most Hated Man." Kelly will sign copies of his new book, which will be available for purchase from the museum store. Free. Advance registration at www.lcmm.org/JackKelly.

Home Heat Transfer workshop in Starksboro. Saturday, May 18, 2 p.m., Starksboro Public Library, 2827 Route 116. Learn how to help keep your home cooler in the summer and warmer in the winter at this free workshop. Alex Levin from Vermont Energy Education Program will be leading. Experience hands-on learning and demonstrations showing the importance of air sealing and insulating your home. Those attending will receive a \$20 grocery store gift certificate — thanks to the generosity of VEEP. More info at tinyurl.com/veepworkshop.

Bingo in Vergennes. Saturday, May 18, 5 p.m., St. Peter's Parish Hall, 85 S. Maple St. Doors open at 5 p.m., Bingo starts at 6 p.m. A family-friendly event. All cash prizes, 50/50 raffle. Refreshments sold. Sponsored by St. Peter's Cemetery Committee to benefit the ongoing efforts for cemetery improvements.

MAY 20 MONDAY

Vergennes City Band rehearsal in Vergennes. Monday, May 20, 7-9 p.m., Vergennes Opera House. All instrumentalists welcome. For more information contact Sue O'Daniel at 802-349-5906. Additional rehearsals June 3 and June 10.

MAY 25 SATURDAY

Town-wide yard sale in Lincoln. Saturday, May 25, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. locations around town. Lincoln's town-wide yard sale to benefit WeatherVane United Inc. 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. Sign up at the Lincoln General Store if you would like to have a sale and get on the map. Rain or shine.

Plant, book and bake sale in Orwell. Saturday, May 25, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Orwell Free Library, 473 Main St. Plants of all kinds — annuals, perennials, houseplants, herbs, vegetables, shrubs, container gardens, and hanging baskets — will be for sale as well as, books, DVDs, home-baked and canned goods, soups and breads. All proceeds go directly to the Orwell Free Library for purchasing books, providing programming, updating technology and serving our community.

Rokeby season opening in Ferrisburgh. Saturday, May 25, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Rokeby Museum, 4334 Route 7. Rokeby opens for the 2024 season. Visitors are welcome to attend the Rokeby History Site Tours at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. More info at Rokeby.org.

Art on the Trails walk and natural pigment demonstration in Middlebury. Saturday, May 25, 10 a.m., Wright Park, Seymour St. Join Growing In Process, Middlebury Area Land Trust, and Middlebury Studio School for a free workshop and exhibition in the woods. Hike a short self-guided gallery walk along a TAM trail, with Mira Cabrera's original paintings displayed along the way. Cabrera will demonstrate the process she uses to forage and incorporate natural pigments from the trails into her work. More info at middleburystudioschool.org.

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- Community Playgroups
- Parent Education Classes
- Home Visits
- Pregnancy Prevention Programs
- Parent Training & Child Center

<p>Community Playgroups</p> <p>Middlebury 9:30 - 11 am Saturdays at the Addison County Parent/Child Center 126 Monroe St.</p>	<p>Vergennes 9:30 - 11 am Thursdays at the Congregational Church 30 S. Water St.</p>
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SATURDAY MAY 11TH 2024

MREMS MAY MARKET



9:00 AM **1:00 PM**

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A subscriber from Middlebury writes:

"It's terrific - good writing, thoughtful content, great photos."

Quotes are taken from reader comments submitted with subscription renewals.



ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT



RUTH STONE HOUSE in Goshen was one of three nonprofit organizations to receive donations from 100+ Women Who Care Addison County during their quarterly meeting at Tourterelle on April 16. Ben Pease accepts on the organization's behalf.

Photos courtesy of Judy Kowalczyk



MARK DEMERS of Addison County Community Action Food Shelf accepts a check from 100+ Women Who Care Addison County during their quarterly meeting at Tourterelle on April 16.



OPEN DOOR CLINIC'S Heidi Sulis was presented with a big check from 100+ Women Who Care Addison County during their quarterly meeting at Tourterelle on April 16.

Non-profits awarded funds

NEW HAVEN — 100+ Women Who Care Addison County held their second quarterly meeting of 2024 and distributed \$17,000 to local non-profits when they met at Tourterelle on April 16.

The three finalists for this quarter were the Open Door Clinic, a health clinic for under-insured or uninsured adults in Addison County; Addison County Food Shelf, which provides families with basic needs; and The Ruth Stone House, an organization in Goshen that supports the literary arts and community. The top vote recipient this quarter was

Open Door Clinic. They received 70% of the available funds. The runners-up both received 15% of the available funds.

100+ Women Who Care, Addison County is a charitable giving circle that gathers quarterly to choose three nonprofits to receive our collective donations. Every quarter, each member contributes one hundred dollars to go toward local organizations — 170 members gave this quarter, which meant that \$17,000 was available to gift.

The organization has gifted over \$100,000 to Addison County

charities since it began in 2023. They would love to welcome new members who share their commitment to supporting each other and our community. The more the merrier! Find them at www.100wacvt.org to learn more.

The next meeting will be at Town Hall Theater in Middlebury in July, where appetizers and cocktails will be served. Please come and gather together for the next vote. It's so much fun and a great reason to spend time together.

MREMS to host a pop-up market May 11

MIDDLEBURY — Mark your calendars and join Middlebury Regional EMS for its first annual MREMS May Market. This pop-up market and First Aid training event takes places on Saturday, May 11, from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. 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. 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 be providing a special K9 First Aid Course to teach about how to care for your furry friends

in the event of an emergency. MREMS will also have one of its ambulances open for children and adults to tour in a "Touch a Truck" event.

The market opens at 9 a.m. Community First Aid classes run from 10:30 a.m. to noon, and the K9 First Aid from 12:30-1 p.m.

Participating Pop-Up Market Vendors include:

- Shallow Rock Farm & Greenhouse — plants and hanging baskets, Bridport.
- Bridport Creamery — cheeses, Bridport.
- Acorn Painting — wooden bowls, Bristol.
- Welch's Laser Engraving — engraved pet tags, glasses, tumblers, and more, Bridport.
- Chips and Chimes Creations

— bird feeders, wind chimes and more, Cornwall.

• Quiet Valley Fiber Designs — knitwear designs and kits, Shoreham.

• Angela Michelle — soap, bath and body products, Middlebury.

There are still spots available for anyone who would like to reserve a table for their business or organization. Contact Kate Rothwell at krothwell@middleburyems.com for more information.

Homeward Bound, Addison County's Humane Society and the Turning Point Center will be joining MREMS at the event. Visit MREMS at middlebury911.org or facebook.com/Middlebury911 for more information.

Lincoln

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

NEWS

LINCOLN — Be sure to visit the community room in the library to learn about the seven cemeteries in town, including where they are and a bit about each of them. This year the library is collaborating with the Cemetery Association and the Lincoln Historical Society to shine a light on these special places. There is so much history and genealogy to learn.

While you're at the library stop by the children's room to see the wonderful, energetic and vibrant artwork made by the very talented preschoolers.

The glass display case this month features some original illustrations and books from Lincoln artist Reed Prescott. Included in the display are the 1996 Vermont Waterfowl Stamp, illustrations from five or six books and other pieces. These are incredible works of art. Don't miss it!

Have you heard of the philosophy of gleaning? In the preindustrial age this usually referred to picking up kernels of grain that were left in the field during harvesting. Nowadays it can be interpreted more as an initiative to keep food waste from grocery stores, restaurants, farms and homes out of landfills.

Food waste is perfectly good, safe-to-eat food that gets thrown away instead of eaten. Food gets wasted because of things like ugly or oddly shaped fruits and veggies, products nearing their sell-by or expiration date, overproduction at farms and food getting bruised during transport.

Every Monday the library receives food from Trader Joe's that has been removed from the shelves during their weekly culling. They get an unpredictable, but often generous supply which is available for free to anyone who stops by the community room between 2 and 6 p.m.

The next senior meal will be on Thursday, May 16, at Burnham Hall. Music will begin at 11:30 a.m. and lunch will be served at noon. On the menu this month will be ham, scalloped potatoes, veggies, rolls, coleslaw and dessert.

FROM THE LINCOLN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The LCC is working on their signage and webpage for the community's pollinator garden outside the Town Office and they need the help of Lincoln's children and youth! They are looking for

community members grade 12 and younger to submit artwork depicting native pollinators to incorporate into their signage and webpage. Artwork can be in any medium. Examples of pollinators include bees, butterflies, bats, and hummingbirds, among others. Artwork will be featured on an informational sign that will accompany identification signs featuring plant common names written out by Lincoln preschool through 2nd grade students.

They are using signage as one means of opening up project participation to Lincoln's youngest citizens and to make their engagement visible. If your child or youth would like to submit, please scan and email their work to commission member, Christine Birong-Smith at birong.smith@gmail.com. If you do not have scanner access or the artwork cannot be scanned, please contact Christine. Submissions are due by Friday, May 31.

Until next time ... A Book Is A Gift You Can Open Again And Again. Reading Is A Discount Ticket To Anywhere. Reading One Book Is Like Eating One Potato Chip.

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK FROM AREA HIGH SCHOOLS

Middlebury Union High School

Gus Hodde

Gus Hodde is Middlebury Union High School's next Student of the Week. He resides in Cornwall with his parents, Naomi and Booth Hodde. He has two older brothers: Henry, who is a senior at Colorado College, and Eddie, who is studying at the University of Washington in Seattle. Gus has challenged himself by pursuing the full International Baccalaureate Diploma program, which is the most demanding coursework available at MUHS. He has learned how to manage his time successfully as he balances his classes, homework and extracurricular activities. Gus is hardworking, ambitious, friendly and engaged in all aspects of our school community. He captained our varsity soccer team and has been a member of our varsity lacrosse and hockey teams.

When he reflects on his four years of high school, Gus says he is grateful for his teachers and coaches and the ability to have played sports with his good friends. He says his only regret is that he did not participate in a few more clubs, but he has thoroughly enjoyed his time with the unified basketball team, Hope Happens Here, and Best Buddies. He says those three activities have enabled him to meet students he might otherwise not have known and he's grateful for new friendships. Gus was also a founding member of the chess club at MUHS. Last fall he served as Peer Leader and enjoyed helping the 9th-graders transition from middle school to high school.

He spent last summer working at Flatbread as a dishwasher and as a landscaper. He especially enjoys time outdoors with friends and family. During the pandemic he delivered meals for Charter House and has spent time coaching younger players in both lacrosse and hockey.

As Gus looks ahead to college, he wants to enroll in an institution that has a strong sense of community and is within close proximity to vibrant outdoor activities. He has a range of academic interests and is zeroing in on possible programs of study and is excited about all that lies ahead. We're certain that a bright future awaits Gus and wish him well.



Gus Hodde
MUHS

Vergennes Union High School

Jimmy Spillman

Jimmy Spillman is Vergennes Union High School's latest Student of the Week. Jimmy is a bright and creative student, interested in topics as varying as German and his favorite class, Industrial Design and Fabrication, which he takes at Hannaford Career Center. He enjoys the interesting conversations that come up during English classes, as well as History. Industrial Design and Fabrication class teaches him how to do machinist work, like making parts according to a print, 3-D cad/cam, and measurement, among other things. For his efforts, Jimmy has twice earned the outstanding student award at the career center and placed third in a Skills USA competition for three-axis mill programming. He values the social component of school as well, being with friends.

Jimmy works at Rockers Pizza as a dishwasher and volunteers at the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum in his spare time as a blacksmith. He also gets his creativity going as a member of the Society for Creative Anachronism, an international organization that promotes living history of the medieval ages (circa 800-1400). He volunteers for his local SCA group when he can.

In his free time he makes things using many different mediums. He mostly does Blacksmithing, making nails, S hooks, and Penannular Brooches (cloak pins), among other things. He has also made a Skjoldehamn hood, a sheepskin bedroll, a belt pouch, and many other things. He's also an avid reader — fantasy and horror are his favorites — and plays video games. And everything he does is accompanied by a soundtrack. Jimmy says he listens to a smorgasbord of genres especially Rock, Jam, Country and Folk.

To Jimmy, the most important thing school has taught him is that doing things whether you want to or not eventually leads to success. "No matter how much you don't want to do the thing (class, project, craft, paper) you still need to do it and no amount of complaining is going to change that," he says. "But if you do your best and keep truckin' on you will succeed, eventually."

Jimmy currently live with his older sister and grandfather, but once he graduates, he plans to move in with his mother, who lives in Grand Isle, and take an apprenticeship at Husky technologies in Milton. All of us at VUHS wish him well.



Jimmy Spillman
VUHS

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Middlebury

Students of the Week from all area high schools are entered into a raffle to win a \$100 gift card to The Vermont Book Shop. The winner will be chosen at the end of the school year. Students of the Week are chosen by school teachers and administration

Best of luck to all Addison County students!

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

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CLASSIFIEDS

Public Meetings

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

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

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.

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 [Vergennesfree thinkers@gmail.com](mailto:vergennefree thinkers@gmail.com) for Zoom and in-person meeting information.

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.

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. jaycol1908@gmail.com

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

Opportunities

BONSAI WORKSHOP - "Creating Living Sculpture with Trees". Sunday, June 2nd, Horsford Nursery's "Art in the Garden". Info at 978-263-8646 or twinview-barn@gmail.com.

Opportunities


Help Wanted

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

Help Wanted



Addison County Parent/Child Center

Join the Parent/Child Center Team
CHILDCARE WORKER/PARENT EDUCATOR

Childcare Staff Position: We are seeking a childcare worker who will work with children and parents in our therapeutic program. This is a full-time position with generous benefits. We are a therapeutic childcare program that supports children birth through 5 and their families.

Strong candidates must have knowledge of **child development, family systems, excellent communication skills, and want to work with young families.** Flexibility and collaboration are a must. Experience with children and families wanted: a minimum of a Bachelor's degree preferred.

Please send a resume and cover letter, along with 3 references to **Donna Bailey at d Bailey@addisoncountypcc.org**



WE ARE HIRING

Open Positions :
Infant Room Teacher
Support Float Teacher

Qualifications :


- Experience with young children
- Team Player
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Loading and assisting with customer orders from the yard, warehouse and store; Stocking shelves and Filling propane tanks. Skills/Qualifications: Ability to lift 50 lbs repeatedly throughout the day. Ability to demonstrate strong organizational skills. Valid Driver's License.
Weekends and dependability a MUST! Forklift & Skid steer experience a plus. Preferable age 18+.

Cashier - Customer Service
Immediate Openings available. Must be able to work until 6pm. Weekdays and Weekends a MUST. Up to 40 hours per week.
Wage commensurate with experience.
Please send resumes to info@middleburyagway.com or fill out an application at **Middlebury Agway, 338 Exchange Street, Middlebury VT.**
Please no phone calls.

Middlebury Agway 338 Exchange St. - Middlebury, VT.

Help Wanted



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.

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

Help Wanted

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**



Opportunities

Opportunities

Opportunities

RSVP of Addison County is looking for volunteers to donate blankets, children's books, coloring books, crayons, hats, and mittens for crisis bags for children & families in need.

Call Johanna at **802.379.9512** or email johannarsvpfgp@gmail.com.

Addison Independent CLASSIFIED ORDER FORM

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DEADLINE: Monday at 5 p.m.

- 25¢ per word • minimum \$2.50 per ad
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- Special 4 for 3 rates not valid for the following categories: Services, Opportunities, Real Estate, Wood heat, Attn. Farmers, For Rent & Help Wanted
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|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Notices | <input type="checkbox"/> Work Wanted | <input type="checkbox"/> Att. Farmers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Card of Thanks | <input type="checkbox"/> Help Wanted | <input type="checkbox"/> Motorcycles |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Personals | <input type="checkbox"/> For Sale | <input type="checkbox"/> Cars |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Meetings** | <input type="checkbox"/> Trucks |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Free** | <input type="checkbox"/> For Rent | <input type="checkbox"/> SUVs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lost 'N Found** | <input type="checkbox"/> Want to Rent | <input type="checkbox"/> Snowmobiles |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Garage Sales | <input type="checkbox"/> Wood Heat | <input type="checkbox"/> Boats |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lawn & Garden | <input type="checkbox"/> Real Estate | <input type="checkbox"/> Wanted |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Opportunities | <input type="checkbox"/> Animals | <input type="checkbox"/> Real Estate Wanted |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Adoption | | <input type="checkbox"/> Vacation Rentals |

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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

LAKE CHAMPLAIN MARITIME Museum seeks part-time Development Assistant. Integral member of fundraising team, responsible for data entry/reporting and support for mailings/special events. 20 hours/week, \$22/hour. See www.lcmm.org/careers for full position description and application instructions.

Help Wanted

PAINTER NEEDED to help with painting business. Call 802-758-2410 and leave a message with name and phone number. Previous experience preferred.

Help Wanted

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

Help Wanted

SHARED LIVING PROVIDER sought for a woman in early 20s, who experiences high-functioning autism and can be anxious. Looking for a provider who can help her build adult life by creating a daily routine, learning independent living skills, and maintaining positive relationships with friends. Support is also needed with problem solving and communication when she feels stuck. She has a part-time job that she would like to maintain. She loves horses, dogs, diamond art and shopping, and actively participates in Special Olympics. Generous tax-free annual stipend of \$28,800, room & board of \$9,770, and respite budget. Contact Sharon at Community Associates. (802)388-4021.

For Sale

4 TIRES 185/55 R15 82H. Best offer, like new. 802-989-7090.

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.

For Rent

5,000 SQUARE FEET available. Exchange Street, Middlebury, VT. 802-349-8544.

For Rent

ALL REAL ESTATE advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 as amended which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, national origin, sexual orientation, or persons receiving public assistance or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or 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

For Rent

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.

COMMERCIAL/OFFICE SPACE - 3000 sq ft - Middlebury. Loading dock. Tall ceilings. \$2,500.00 p/month. 802-558-6092.

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.

For Rent

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 as amended which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, national origin, sexual orientation, or persons receiving public assistance, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertisement for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination, call HUD Toll-free at 1-800-424-8590. For the Washington, DC area please call HUD at 426-3500.

For Sale

For Rent

MIDDLEBURY SUGARWOOD APARTMENTS is currently taking waitlist applications for 2, 3, 4 bedroom apartments. Minimum occupancy requirements. No smoking/ No pets. Income based on income. Equal Housing Opportunity 802-247-0165 TTY: 800-253-0191 www.SummitPMG.com.

MIDDLEBURY, OFF CAMPUS HOUSING available. 802-388-4831, AJ Neri Property Rentals.

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.

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 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.

For Sale

DUPONT AUTO & BODY

4087 States Prison Hollow Rd. Monkton Ridge, VT 05469 • (802) 453-3562 dupontauto7@gmail.com

DuPont Auto and Body located in Monkton Vermont, is looking to hire a full time mechanic to join our family owned business. We are looking for a candidate with 2-3 years mechanical experience who is familiar with general maintenance on vehicles such as oil changes, brakes, tire changes and Vermont state inspections.

We Offer: Full time hours Monday-Friday: NO WEEKENDS: Paid Holidays

If you are motivated, hard working and detail oriented call or email today!

VERMONT SOAP
SOAP FOR THE PEOPLE

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.

WowToyz

Part-Time Office Assistant

WowToyz, a successful and established manufacturer of high-quality, educational toys for over 30 years, is looking for a motivated individual to be part of our growing company! The successful candidate must be dependable, eager to learn new processes, and willing to jump in when a need is observed. This is a position for a detail-oriented team player with confidence, energy, and great organizational and communication skills.

Retirees are welcome and encouraged to apply! We offer flexible work schedules and competitive wages.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Enter purchase orders into our proprietary computer software system

Answer phone, transfer calls, and assist with customer service

Friendly, professional, and service-focused positive attitude

SKILLS & REQUIREMENTS

Ability to organize and prioritize tasks with minimal supervision

Ability to communicate and collaborate effectively with all levels of the organization

Analytical abilities and aptitude in problem-solving

Experience in Microsoft Office Suite or data entry software is beneficial but not a requirement

Part-Time Warehouse

WowToyz in Vergennes is seeking part-time help for the morning shift in our warehouse, picking and packing orders and unloading trucks. Ideal candidates are organized, dependable, and able to work 20-30 hours/week, Mon-Fri. **Retirees are welcome and encouraged to apply!** We offer flexible work schedules and competitive wages.

Proof of COVID-19 vaccinations required for all employees

To apply email contact information and work history to: resumes@wowtoyz.com

GREAT WORK!
You found your dream job...

We're HIRING!

Marketing & Advertising Account Manager

Join us as we pursue excellence in local media!
The Addison Independent is hiring a dynamic individual with boundless creative energy and an optimistic desire to help local businesses.

A successful candidate would have:

- 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

ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT
Serving Addison County, VT, Since 1966

Learn more about us at addisonindependent.com

MIDDLEBURY NEW FILMMAKERS FESTIVAL

The Middlebury New Filmmakers Festival [MNFF], celebrating its 10th Anniversary this year, is seeking a new Executive Director to guide the Festival into its second decade.

Our goal is to hire a new Executive Director by August 1 or sooner, with his/her/their duties commencing in September 2024, following an introduction at the Festival in late August. The MNFF is a highly successful and selective regional film festival buttressed by robust community support.

The position of **Executive Director** is a full-time, year-round job, with significant emphasis on the five-month period of peak responsibility between April 15 and September 15, during which time the Executive Director must be in residence in the greater Middlebury area. The ideal candidate for this position must have extensive experience managing or holding a leadership position in a non-profit arts or cultural organization (6 – 8 years); be able to juggle myriad organizing, scheduling and recruiting tasks; exhibit strong interpersonal skills for engaging the community, Festival sponsors and stakeholders; offer clear evidence of fundraising ability; and demonstrate a love and appreciation for films and the art of filmmaking.

Please e-mail a letter of application, resume, and the names of three references with their contact information to 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/>

FOR SALE:
1982 CHEVY STEP VAN REFRIGERATED FOOD TRUCK

- 35 gal freshwater tank
- 3 bay sink
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- 2 gas generators
- MANY extras.

Well-cared for, runs great.
Inspected 4-2024 w/current sticker.

\$25,000 OBO
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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).

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CALL TODAY! 802-349-7069

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 for direct pricing discounts.

Full listing and availability: AIRBNB.COM
Search "Beautiful Lake Dunmore Ski Chalet / Cottage"

Disturbing notes found in offices of Middlebury organizations

MIDDLEBURY — Middlebury police on April 29 responded to Middlebury's industrial park where police said someone has placed "disturbing notes" in "multiple offices" off Pond Lane. Employees of the organizations where the notes were placed had found items out of place.

Police determined an employee of an external company hired to work in the building had suffered a mental health crisis and was likely responsible for the behavior.

In other action last week, Middlebury police:

- Responded to a report of a possible overdose patient in the South Village Green development on April 29.
- Served a man a no-trespass order for a Court Square business on April 29.

• Responded to the Main Street area on April 29 on a report of a drunken, suicidal man.

• Cited Shaun Symons, 46, of Whitehall, N.Y., for retail theft, following an incident at a Court Street business on April 29.

• Conducted, on behalf their parents, a welfare check on two local juveniles in the Court Street area on April 30. Police said the youths were OK.

• Received a report of people allegedly driving on Court Street holding cans of beer on April 30.

• Worked with Counseling Service of Addison County officials to get an emergency mental health evaluation for a person in the Abbey Pond Road area on April 30.

• Received a report on April 30 of a person believed to have been trying to get into cars parked off Bakery Lane.

• Checked on the welfare of a man in the Bakery Lane area after having been requested to do so by a family member on April 30.

• Checked on whether any houseless persons had been congregating under the Cross Street Bridge off Bakery Lane on April 30. Police said they found no evidence of houseless persons there.

• Helped a Lower Foote Street resident who might have been the victim of an internet scam on May 1.

• Responded with Middlebury Regional EMS to Merchants Row on May 1, where an unresponsive man needed help. Police said the man was taken to Porter Hospital.

• Investigated a report of damage to an Israeli flag off College Street on May 1.

• Served two no-trespass notices on behalf of a Court Street business on May 1.

• Assisted Porter Hospital officials with an out-of-control patient on May 1.

• Responded to a noise complaint at a Court Street residence on May 2.

• Returned a found bag and wallet to its owner on May 2.

• Helped a drunken person return to their residence on May 2.

• Received two firearms for disposal on May 2.

• Were informed on May 2 of the possible theft of jewelry from a

Middlebury Police Log

Route 7 North location.

• Were informed of an alleged dog-bite incident off Old Chapel Road on May 2.

• Responded to a North Pleasant Street residence on May 2 on a report of the death of 64-year-old Mary Chapman. Police said their investigation revealed she died from a medical event.

• Ushered a wandering beaver into the Otter Creek off Park Street on May 3.

• Returned a found wallet to its owner on May 3.

• Found a sober person to take

charge of a drunken man in the North Pleasant Street area on May 3.

• Launched an investigation on May 3 into a report of a woman allegedly stealing money from a vulnerable adult's bank account using a debit card. The case remained under investigation as the *Independent* went to press.

• Cautioned a man who had allegedly accosted a local woman following a vehicle-related incident in an Exchange Street parking lot on May 3.

• Responded to an alleged animal cruelty case at a Route 125 East location on May 3. Police said the case remains under investigation.

• Helped a local resident with an identity theft complaint on May 3.

• Received a report on May 3

that someone had been hunting in Wright Park in violation of town ordinances. Police said they found no hunter.

• On May 3, responded to a report of a man in a wheelchair going in and out of College Street traffic, yelling at customers at a nearby business. Police said they served a no-trespass order on the man on behalf of the business.

• Responded to a two-vehicle crash on Court Street on May 3. Police reported no injuries and said both involved vehicles had to be towed.

• Received a report of an argument between some folks on the town green on May 3.

• Responded to a report on May 4 of several people fighting near the intersection of Rt. 7 South

and Middle Road. Police said the complaint involved efforts by party hosts to get a drunken person to leave.

• Responded to a complaint of "screaming and banging" coming from a Main Street apartment on May 4. Police said they found a parent "having issues" with her teenage daughter.

• On May 5, helped Vergennes police process a person in custody for an alleged drunken driving offense.

• Investigated a report about a drunken man allegedly trying to

get into a Court Street apartment on May 5. Police said the man was taken to Porter Hospital.

• Assisted an East Middlebury resident whose license plates were reported stolen on May 5.

• Responded to a reported family dispute at a South Street residence on May 5.

• Investigated an unspecified alcohol offense in the Court Street area on May 6.

• Responded to a reported noise disturbance in the South Main Street area on May 6.

ATTENTION FARMERS!!!
ANNUAL SPRING MACHINERY/
FARM AND GARDEN
CONSIGNMENT AUCTION
SATURDAY MAY 11TH - 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

Public Notices can be found in this
ADDISON INDEPENDENT on Pages 4B, 11B and 12B.

TOWN OF MIDDLEBURY SELECTBOARD MEETING
ROOM 116 – LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM
TOWN OFFICES – 77 MAIN STREET
TUESDAY, MAY 14, 2024 - 7:00 P.M.
 Also available via Zoom:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84406253882>
 By Phone: +1 646-558-8656 (not toll-free)
 Webinar ID: 844 0625 3882
 For those wishing to watch but not participate:
 Selectboard meetings are livestreamed to MCTV's YouTube Channel:
<https://www.youtube.com/user/MCTV Vermont>
 and also broadcast live on Comcast Channel 1071

AGENDA

7:00 1. **Call to Order
 2. *Approval of Agenda
 3. *Approval of Consent Agenda
 3a. Approval of Minutes of the April 23, 2024 Regular Selectboard Meeting
 3b. Acceptance of Selectboard Subcommittee Meeting Minutes
 3c. Approval of Renewal Applications for 1st, 2nd, & 3rd Class Liquor Licenses, Outside Consumption Permits, and Entertainment Permits
 3d. Approval of Public Assemblage Permit - Festival-on-the-Green, July 7 - July 13, 2024
 3e. Approval of Public Assemblage Permit - Summer Market
 3f. Approval of Public Assemblage Permit - Memorial Day Parade
 3g. Approval of Grant Agreement for Adams Acres Stormwater Treatment Practice (if available)
 3h. Town Manager's Report
 • Update on TextMyGov Implementation
 • Middlebury Regional EMS Pop-Up Market & First Aid Training Event, May 11, 2024
 • Notice of National Opioid Settlements - Teva, Walmart, CVS, and Walgreens
 • FY24 Year-to-date Budget Reports

4. *Citizen Comments (Opportunity to raise or address issues not otherwise included on this agenda)

7:05 5. *Appointment of Middlebury's Representative and Alternate to the Regional Emergency Management Committee

7:10 6. *Emmalee Cherington Director of Public Works Planning - Updates & Recommendations from the May 2, 2024 Infrastructure Committee Meeting
 6a. *Recommendation on Engineering Services Contract for Halladay Road Culvert
 6b. **Infrastructure Committee Placeholder
 6c. **Infrastructure Committee Placeholder
 6d. **Brief review of project updates

7:20 7. *Christopher Matrick, District Ranger, US Forest Service Rochester and Middlebury Ranger Districts, Green Mountain and Finger Lakes National Forests regarding management of fire adapted oak and pine communities in the Escarpment Management Area on the GMNF and a general forest update

7:40 8. **Updates & Recommendations from Public Health & Safety Committee of April 22, 2024

7:55 9. *Recommendation from Personnel Committee Meeting of May 13, 2024 regarding Police Department Staffing

8:05 10. **Follow-up to Library Bond Vote of May 7, 2024
 10a. *Letter of Intent with Satori for Storage of Library Materials during construction (if applicable)
 10b. *Chris Huston, Project Manager, ReArch, with a first-look review of the draft Design/Build proposal/concepts and project schedule (if applicable)

8:20 11. *Approval of Agreement with the Addison Central School District for School Resource Officer Placement for FY2024

8:25 12. *Discussion of Selectboard Retreat Scheduling and Topic(s) of Focus

8:35 13. **Consent Agenda Placeholder
 14. **Consent Agenda Placeholder
 15. *Approval of Check Warrants
 16. **Board Member Concerns
 17. *Executive Session - Anticipated - Contracts
 18. **Action on Matters Discussed in Executive Session
 8:55 19. *Adjourn

* Decision Item ** Possible DecisionUpdate on TextMyGov Implementation

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.

NEW HAVEN EVERGREEN CEMETERY
 New Haven Evergreen Cemetery Association annual meeting will be held May 22, 2024 at 7pm at the home of Roger Boise - 434 North St.

EVERGREEN CEMETERY ANNUAL MEETING
 Saturday, May 18 at 7:00 PM
 Cornwall Town Hall,
 2629 Route 30, Cornwall, VT

FULL PASSPORT SERVICE
 The Addison County Clerk located in the Frank Mahady Courthouse in Middlebury is available to accept passport applications and provide passport photos.
REGULAR HOURS
 Monday - 8:30am to 4:00pm
 Tuesday - 9:00am to 12:30pm
 Wednesday - Closed
 Thursday - 12:30pm to 4:00pm
 Friday - 9:00am to 12:30pm
APPOINTMENTS REQUIRED
 For appointment, go to www.addisoncountyclerkvt.com or call 802-388-1966.

AUCTIONS

MARKET REPORT
ADDISON COUNTY COMMISSION SALES
 RT. 125 • EAST MIDDLEBURY, VT
 Sales for 5/2/24 & 5/6/24

BEEF	LBS.	/LB	COST
Deer Valley	1425	1.67	\$2379.75
J. Allen	1220	1.47	\$1793.40
Barnes Bros.	1065	1.27	\$1352.55
K. Rousseau	1280	1.26	\$1612.80
Savello Farm	1935	1.20	\$2322.00
Goodrich	1675	1.17	\$1959.25
J. Allen	1290	1.15	\$1483.50

CALVES	LBS.	/LB	COST
Defreest Farm	83	10.00	\$830.00
Correia Family	75	10.00	\$750.00
Barnes Bros.	95	9.90	\$940.50
UVM	106	9.00	\$954.00
Conants River	88	9.00	\$792.00
M. Rushton	97	8.80	\$853.60

Total Beef - 130 Total Calves - 218
 We value our faithful customers.
Sales at 3 pm - Mon. & Thurs.
 call 1-802-388-2661

Auction
Friday, May 17, 2024 11:00 AM
Tip Top Farm N. Danville, Vt. Plus Others
1555 Tampico Rd N. Danville, Vt. 05828
 Versatile 280 4x4 tractor with full cab-duals-8.3 Cummins-16 speed Power Shift-2700 hrs-pre emissions-ser#506427-sells with reserve, Case IH 95 4x4 with cab-L740 loader-4400 hrs, MF 3525 2wd tractor, JD 1025R 4x4 diesel with JD 60" Auto Connect mower deck and very low hours (like new), Ford 8N, Farmall A, Yale 3000# propane forklift with side shift, 1996 Volvo tandem truck-C15 Cat-13 speed with Knight Pro-Twin Slinger 8024 spreader, 1996 Int 4900 S/A dump & DT466, 1989 Int 7100 S/A truck with DT466, 2022 Quality flat bed gooseneck 25000# trailer with winch-like new, 2000 Kerr 30000# gooseneck flat bed trailer, 2021 Rice 14000# tag along trailer, 12 ton tag along trailer, 2014 Belmont 10000# landscape trailer with ramps, Gehl Scavenger 1312 side discharge spreader, Bodco 32' manure pump, NH H7550 Mow Max disc mower, Kuhn 14' tedder, 3ph pin wheel rake, NH 273 baler, bale sled, 2 running gears (1 tandem), Kverneland 3 bottom plows, Bush Hog 10' harrows, Brillion packer, Skid Steer mount hyd tree shear, Farmi 3ph winch, 3ph cordwood saw, JD 3ph auger, Kuhn EL32 6' rototiller, Frontier RT3049 4" rototiller, Allied 3ph snow blower, JD 52 Quick Hitch broom like new, Frontier MS1108 ground driven manure spreader, Fabric layer with irrigation tubing, Badger blower, Gehl 840 chopper, 2 NI 5209 disc mowers for parts, double ring chains, plus more coming.
 Farmer Boy 7 ton grain bin with auger like new, Girton 940 round bulk tank with washer, Universal 2" pipeline milker with 4 units & ATO's, Universal 5hp pump, Cornell CW gutter cleaner, 20' & 16' Val Metal silo unloaders, water bowls, wood & steel stanchions, barn fan, MVE XC20 semen tank recently charged.
Terms: Cash or Good Check
6% Sales Tax without exempt number Lunch
 Owner: Roland Heath 802-535-6484
 1555 Tampico Rd N. Danville, Vt 05828
 Auctioneers: Lussier Auction Service Lyndonville, Vt
www.lussierauction.com for pictures
 Reg 802-535-9567, Jon 802-371-7403,
 Toby 802-535-9567, Roland Ayer 802-343-3750
 List subject to change with more consignments and several may have modest reserves.
DIRECTIONS: At the traffic light on Rte 2 in the center of Danville take N. Danville for app 5 miles and follow signs to farm.

PUBLIC AUCTION
1079 North Street, New Haven, Vermont 05472
10:00AM SATURDAY - MAY 11 10:00AM

We continue to sell the collection of the late Ralph Farnsworth of New Haven VT

GAS PUMPS ONLY
 50+ Gas Pumps and Parts to be sold in two lots
PREVIEW 8:30 AM DAY OF SALE
Tom + Jordan Broughton, Auctioneers
 Bridport, Vermont 05734 • (802)758-2494
Pumps sold as is, where is, with no implied warranty
 Cash, good check or credit card
10% Buyer's premium - 13% With credit card
Find us on Facebook by searching "Tom Broughton Auctioneer" or www.AuctionZip.com

Public Notices Index

Public Notices for the following can be found in this **ADDISON INDEPENDENT** on Pages 4B, 11B and 12B.

Act 250 (1)	Middlebury (1)
Addison County Courthouse (1)	New Haven Evergreen Cemetery (1)
Addison County Solid Waste Management District (1)	Shoreham (1)
Cornwall Evergreen Cemetery (1)	State of Vermont (1)
Ferrisburgh (2)	VELCO (1)
Lakeview Cemetery (1)	Vergennes (2)
	Waltham (2)

PUBLIC NOTICE

Cellco Partnership and its controlled affiliates doing business as Verizon Wireless (Verizon Wireless) proposes to build a 70-foot Ballasted Monopole Communications Tower. Anticipated lighting application is a medium intensity dual red/white strobes. The Site location is 1117 Schoolhouse Road Ferrisburgh, Addison Co., Vermont 05456, 44 11 57.22, 73 20 56.23. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Antenna Structure Registration (ASR, Form 854) filing number is A1282227.

ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS – Interested persons may review the application (www.fcc.gov/asr/applications) by entering the filing number. Environmental concerns may be raised by filing a Request for Environmental Review (www.fcc.gov/asr/environmentalrequest) and online filings are strongly encouraged. The mailing address to file a paper copy is: FCC Requests for Environmental Review, Attn: Ramon Williams, 45 L Street NE, Washington, DC 20554.

HISTORIC PROPERTIES EFFECTS – Public comments regarding potential effects on historic properties may be submitted within 30 days from the date of this publication to: ENB (RE: EBI #011621-PR), 21 B Street, Burlington, MA 01803, 407.792.9506, ebellersen@ebiconsulting.com.

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION VERGENNES HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT (FERC No. 2674)

Green Mountain Power Corporation (GMP) filed a Notice of Intent (NOI) and a Pre-Application Document (PAD) with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) for the Vergennes Hydroelectric Project (Project) (FERC No. 2674). GMP is publishing notice of these filings and making the following information available to the public:

Summary of Documents

- The NOI was filed on May 1, 2024. The NOI notifies the Commission of GMP's unequivocal intent to prepare and file an application for new license for the Project.
- The PAD was filed on May 1, 2024. The PAD provides existing and reasonably available information about the existing Project, including relevant engineering, environmental, operational, and economic information. The PAD is available for inspection and reproduction at:

Green Mountain Power Corporation
163 Acorn Lane
Colchester, VT 05446

Applicant's Contact Information

John Tedesco
Generation Project Coordinator
Green Mountain Power Corporation
163 Acorn Lane
Colchester, VT 05446
Phone: (802) 655-8753
Email: John.Tedesco@greenmountainpower.com

Location of Project

The Project is located on Otter Creek in the City of Vergennes and the Towns of Waltham, Panton, New Haven, Addison and Weybridge, Addison County, Vermont.

Project Facilities

The Project consists of (1) three concrete overflow dams, each approximately 10 feet high, with a total length of 231 feet, and a crest elevation of approximately 132.78 feet above mean sea level (msl), surmounted by 1.5-foot-high flashboards, and a 29-foot long, non-overflow dam; (2) an 8.8-mile-long, 133 acre impoundment with a 200 acre-foot usable storage capacity at normal water surface elevation of 134.28 feet msl; (3) the north forebay with trashracks, headgates, and two, 7-foot-diameter steel penstocks; (4) the north powerhouse, Plant 9B, with a 1,000-kilowatt (kW) generating unit; (5) the south forebay, with trashracks, headgates, two surge tanks, and two, 10-foot-diameter penstocks; (6) the south powerhouse, Plant 9, with two, 800-kw generating units; (7) the generator leads from Plant 9 to the Vergennes substation and the 950-foot-long, 2,400-volt overhead generator leads from Plant 9B to the Vergennes substation; and (8) appurtenant facilities.

Relicensing Process

GMP is pursuing a new license for the Project in accordance with the Commission's Integrated Licensing Process (ILP) as described in 18 CFR Part 5. Comments regarding this relicensing process may be submitted to the Secretary of the Commission in accordance with the ILP and the filing procedures posted at the Commission's website at <http://www.ferc.gov>.

Massachusetts man cited for DUI in Vergennes

VERGENNES — Vergennes police on Sunday, May 5, cited a Massachusetts man for driving under the influence of alcohol, test refusal, after being told by concerned family members he'd been driving with slurred speech.

Police said they found a Chevy Tahoe that had been driven by Michael Ohoro, 55, of Hingham, Mass., pulled over on Main Street after having been alerted by Ohoro's wife of his possibly problematic condition. Police said Ohoro refused all forms of roadside testing for inebriation, and cited him because he allegedly showed signs of intoxication. They said the Addison County Sheriff's Department took Ohoro to a detox

Vergennes Police Log

facility.

Police added Ohoro's wife called them because the couple's son had called her, alleging Ohoro's speech was slurred, and their son was concerned. Police said she then pinged his phone and discovered the call came had from the Vergennes area. She then dialed 911, with the call referred to city police.

In other action between April 29 and May 5, Vergennes police conducted one foot and 11 cruiser patrols, four traffic stops, and one

property watch; processed three pre-employment fingerprint requests; conducted a VIN inspection; and:

On April 29:
• Took a description of a wallet that had been lost or stolen several weeks earlier.

• Following a citizen report, calmed and separated a couple arguing outside the Hillside Acres apartment complex.

On May 2:

• Removed an out-of-control female juvenile from a city residence and obtained a court order allowing her to be placed in Department for Children & Families custody. Police took her to the UVM Medical Center and waited with her there until DCF could take over.

• Calmed and separated two brothers squabbling outside a Main Street apartment.

On May 3, asked a performer at the Vergennes Opera House to move a van parked on Main Street that had partially blocked traffic.

On May 4:

• Intervened in a family dispute over whether belongings should be removed from a Main Street apartment. Police said they should remain.

• On behalf of Fish & Wildlife officials, counseled Valley Vista personnel at 1 Alden Place on how to deal with a mother bear and cubs raiding trash there. Police suggested using an entrance/exit farther from the trash, and said ownership should invest in more secure trash handling.

• Calmed and separated three people arguing loudly outside a First Street home about living arrangements. Police said alcohol apparently was involved.

On May 5, called the Vergennes Area Rescue Squad to take a young Milton woman to the hospital. Police said she was visiting city residents, who brought her to the station because she had been cutting herself and possibly had been abused at her Milton home. Police also notified Milton authorities.

TOWN OF WALTHAM, VERMONT WWW.WALTHAMVT.ORG

Notice is hereby given to the residents of Waltham that the Town of Waltham has contracted with real Capital Consulting, Inc. (RCC) to complete a Town Wide Reappraisal for the 2025 Grand List. The purpose of the Town Wide Reappraisal is to update all property data and calculate new Fair Market Values reflected as of 4/1/2025, impacting the 2025 tax year. **A public information meeting will be held on May 21, 2024 @ 6:00 pm at the Town Hall.** For more information review the Town Website at www.walthamvt.org or contact the Town Clerk by phone at 802-877-3641 or by email at clerkwalthamvt@gmail.com.

ACT 250 NOTICE MINOR APPLICATION #9A0158-17 10 V.S.A. §§ 6001 - 6111

Sean Flynn has filed application #9A0158-17 for a project that can generally be described as construction of a ±10,000 square foot, 3-unit airplane hangar on a leased site at Middlebury State Airport. The hangar will be the southernmost hangar at the airport, and will be used solely for aircraft storage, with no connections to water or sewer. Commercial use and operations of the hangar, along with servicing, fueling, and fuel storage, are not authorized. The project is located at 467 Airport Road in Middlebury, Vermont. This application can be viewed online by visiting the Act 250 Database here: <https://anweb.vt.gov/ANR/Act250/Details.aspx?Num=9A0158-17>.

No hearing will be held, and a permit will be issued unless, on or before Wednesday, May 29, 2024, at 4:30pm, a party notifies the District 9 Commission in writing of an issue requiring a hearing, or the Commission sets the matter for a hearing on its own motion. Any person as defined in 10 V.S.A. § 6085(c)(1) may request a hearing. Any hearing request must be in writing, must state the criteria or sub-criteria at issue, why a hearing is required, and what additional evidence will be presented at the hearing. Any hearing request by an adjoining property owner or other person eligible for party status under 10 V.S.A. § 6085(c)(1)(E) must include a petition for party status under the Act 250 Rules. To request party status and a hearing, fill out the Party Status Petition Form on the Board's website: <https://nr.vermont.gov/documents/party-status-petition-form>, and email it to the District 9 Office at: NRB.Act250Barre@vermont.gov. Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law may not be prepared unless the Commission holds a public hearing.

For more information contact the District 9 Coordinator listed below.

Josh Donabedian
Joshua.Donabedian@vermont.gov
802-261-1945
Mail: 10 Baldwin Street, Montpelier VT 05633-3201
Physical: 111 West Street, Essex Junction, VT 05452

TOWN OF FERRISBURGH REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

The Town of Ferrisburgh, Vermont is soliciting bids for the purchase of the former Ferrisburgh Center Methodist Church on Route 7 immediately north of the Ferrisburgh Town Hall. Proposals will be evaluated based on three areas: community benefits from the proposed use, historic preservation commitments by the proposed user, and price to be paid to the Town of Ferrisburgh.

Substantial data has been collected on the property and is available during normal business hours at the Ferrisburgh Town Hall. Interested parties can see the interior of the church by appointment through Michael (Red) Muir, Chair, Buildings and Maintenance Committee, at 1-802-338-2946.

Proposals are due in the Ferrisburgh Town Hall by 4 PM on May 28, 2024. Questions regarding proposal submission may be directed to Town Clerk Pam Cousino at 802-877-3429.

If a proposal is accepted by the Town, then the proposed conveyance will be subject to the provisions of 24 V.S.A. § 1061, including public notice and potential voter approval.

PROPOSED STATE RULES

By law, public notice of proposed rules must be given by publication in newspapers of record. The purpose of these notices is to give the public a chance to respond to the proposals. The public notices for administrative rules are now also available online at <https://secure.vermont.gov/SOS/rules/>. The law requires an agency to hold a public hearing on a proposed rule, if requested to do so in writing by 25 persons or an association having at least 25 members.

To make special arrangements for individuals with disabilities or special needs please call or write the contact person listed below as soon as possible.

To obtain further information concerning any scheduled hearing(s), obtain copies of proposed rule(s) or submit comments regarding proposed rule(s), please call or write the contact person listed below. You may also submit comments in writing to the Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules, State House, Montpelier, Vermont 05602 (802-828-2231).

Rules Governing the Licensing of Educators and the Preparation of Education Professionals.
Vermont Proposed Rule: 24P018

AGENCY: Vermont Standards Board for Professional Educators

CONCISE SUMMARY: The proposed rule revisions support the VSBPE's mission. Specifically, the VSBPE is: 1. Clarifying a Baccalaureate degree is not required for Driver's education in-vehicle only; 2. Allowing more flexibility for praxis testing requirements and waiver process; 3. Making various changes around School Psychology licensure requirements recommended by the National Association of School Psychologists; 4. Allowing additional Special education provisional licenses based on updated guidance from the US Department of Education; 5. Updating the Model Code of Educator Ethics (MCEE) based on revisions from national organizations; 6. Making routine revisions to the following endorsements: Early Childhood Education, School Counselor, School Psychologist, and Special Educator; 7. Establishing a new PK-12 Mathematics Specialist Endorsements; and, 8. Making various technical corrections.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT: Andrew Prowten, Agency of Education, 1 National life Drive, Davis 5, Montpelier VT 05620 Tel: 802-828-0768 Fax: 802-828-6433 Email: andrew.prowten@vermont.gov URL: <https://education.vermont.gov/event-location/vermont-standards-board-professional-educators>.

FOR COPIES: Katie Gagliardo, Agency of Education, 1 National life Drive, Davis 5, Montpelier VT 05620 Tel: 802-828-0699 Fax: 802-828-6433 Email: Katie.Gagliardo@vermont.gov

TOWN OF WALTHAM NOTICE OF HEARING FOR A SKETCH PLAN REVIEW

Application: #24-201, a sketch plan review of a five (5) Lot Subdivision application submitted by the Langeway family (Applicant) for Parcel # 02-20-24, Mossy Grove Subdivision, South of Plank Road, West of South Middlebrook Road.

The Development Review Board will hold a Public Hearing on this application on May 20th, 2024 at the Waltham Town Hall, 2053 Maple Street. The meeting opens at 5:30pm, and the hearing is scheduled on the docket at 6:15PM.

A copy of the application is available at: Waltham Town Offices during regular business hours of 9am to 3pm Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Pursuant to 24 V.S.A. 4464(a)(1)(C) and 4471(a), participation in this local proceeding is prerequisite to the right to take any subsequent appeal.

Dated at Waltham, Vermont this 7th day of May, 2024

VERGENNES, VT

Cellco Partnership and its controlled affiliates doing business as Verizon Wireless (Verizon Wireless) proposes to collocate wireless communications antennas at a top height of 70 feet on a 100-foot water tank at the approx. vicinity of 120 Main Street, Vergennes, Addison County, VT 05491. Public comments regarding potential effects from this site on historic properties may be submitted within 30 days from the date of this publication to: Tonya Rahinsky, t.rahinsky@trileaf.com, 1395 South Marietta Parkway, Building 400, Suite 209, Marietta, GA 30067, 678-653-8673.

TOWN OF SHOREHAM NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Development Review Board will hold a public hearing on Friday, May 24, 2024 at 7:00 PM at the Town Office (297 Main St) to consider a conditional use of application #24-011 pursuant to §4.324 of the Shoreham Unified Development Regulations. The applicant (Melita J. Bass) requests a conditional use for the replacement of two pre-existing cabins for seasonal, short-term rental use.

The application is available at the Town Office and on the town website for review. Participation in this proceeding is a prerequisite to the right to make any subsequent appeal.

Contact the Town Office by phone (802-897-5841) or email (shorehamtown@shorehamvt.us) for information on attending the hearing by videoconference or by phone.

John Kiernan, Chair

ADDISON COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS: Transportation and Disposal of Hazardous Waste

ISSUE DATE: May 6, 2024
PROPOSAL DUE DATE: 4:00 p.m., June 6, 2024
CONTACT: Don Maglienti
Tel: (802) 388-2333
E-mail: don@acswmd.org

The District is seeking proposals from qualified contractors to provide for the pickup, transportation and proper disposal of unregulated hazardous waste generated at the District's permanent Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) and Very Small Quantity Generator (VSQG) waste collection facility, "the HazWaste Center", located at 1223 Route 7 South, Middlebury, VT.

For more information or to obtain a copy of the RFP, please contact the District office at the above address, or visit our website at www.AddisonCountyRecycles.org.

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO APPLY HERBICIDE

A right-of-way pesticide application permit has been applied for through the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets by Vermont Electric Power Company, Inc (VELCO) for the purpose of making selective ground base applications of herbicides. These herbicides include: Aquamaster (Glyphosate), Escort XP (Metsulfuron Methyl), Carlon 4 Ultra (Triclopyr), Krenite S (Fosamine Ammonium), Polaris (Isopropylamine salt of Imazapyr), Rodeo (Glyphosate), and Round Up Custom (Glyphosate). Application will be on VELCOs various 115kV and 345kV transmission line right-of-ways located in the following counties and towns:

Addison County
Ferrisburgh Leicester
Middlebury Monkton
New Haven Salisbury
Vergennes

Herbicide application will start on Monday June 17, 2024.

Landowners adjacent to the areas in which will be treated should contact VELCO if private water supplies or other environmentally sensitive areas are located within 200 feet of the right-of-way edge. For further information please contact:

Colby Marshall
Utility Arborist
VELCO
366 Pinnacle Ridge Road
Rutland, VT 05701
(802) 779-7163
cmarshall@velco.com

Please contact the state agency with any other questions, comments or concerns:

Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets
116 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05620
(802) 828-5667
www.agriculture.vermont.gov

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ARTS + LEISURE

The Addison Independent

May 9, 2024



PHOTO BY STEVEN JUPITER



COURTESY PHOTOS

Artist Warren Kimble, left, one of the founders of the Brandon Artists Guild, leads a celebration of the Guild's 25th anniversary at the organization's annual dinner at the Lilac Inn in Brandon on March 25. The Guild is marking its 25th year with a silent auction of artist-decorated pigs, a nod to an early successful fundraiser that garnered much publicity and helped put the Guild on solid financial footing. Forty decorated pigs (pictured right) were auctioned off in 2003 in a fundraiser for BAG.

BRANDON ARTISTS GUILD CELEBRATES 25 YEARS WITH PIGLETS IN BRANDON

Renowned artist and Brandon resident Warren Kimble made a huge splash in the 1990s putting his distinctive twist on 19th-century folk-art styles, creating a whimsical world of white New England houses and wildly proportioned farm animals. One of those animals turned

BY **STEVEN JUPITER**

out to have more significance in his life, and to Brandon as a whole, than he

probably anticipated: the pig.

The humble pig turned out to be the initial source of the funds that enabled Kimble and other artists who had settled in Brandon to purchase and renovate the former five & dime

at 7 Center Street and form the Brandon Artists Guild (BAG).

"I was standing in front of the 5 & 10 and the president of the First Brandon Bank, which had just bought the building, came out," recalled Kimble recently at his current studio in the Granary. "I said, 'I heard you bought the building' and he said, 'Yes, but just for storage.' I immediately asked whether we could use the front windows for artwork. He said yes."

By the late '90s, it was, by all accounts, a decrepit building. Old pegboard covered the walls. It was not anyone's idea of a professional art gallery. But a group of artists and friends, including Kimble, Liza Myers, Dolores Funari, Jackie Foley, and David Martin, rolled up their

sleeves and scrubbed the place down.

"We cleaned the place as much as we could," recalled Kimble. "The earliest meetings of the Guild were at a beat-up old conference table. We'd meet and go to dinner at Sully's afterward." Sully's was across the street in the space now occupied by The River Pub.

In 2003, however, Kimble had a brainstorm that set the BAG on a successful course for the next 20+ years.

"I heard the city of Chicago was putting big fiberglass cows everywhere," he said. "Saratoga Springs was doing horses. Why don't we do pigs?"

SEE PIGS ON PAGE 3

FILM SCREENING

Brandon's silent film series kicks off with classic comedy and live music

Classics from the silent film era return to the big screen this May at the Brandon Town Hall and Community Center, which will host another season of vintage cinema with live music.

First up is Charlie Chaplin in "The Gold Rush" (1925), an epic comedy in which the Little Tramp joins in the Klondike Gold Rush. The film screens on Saturday, May 11, at 7 p.m., at the Brandon Town Hall and Community Center, Route 7, in Brandon.

Live music for each silent film program will be provided by Jeff Rapsis, a New Hampshire-based performer and composer who specializes in scoring and presenting silent films.

"The Gold Rush," a landmark comedy and one of the top-grossing films of the silent era, finds Chaplin's iconic "Little Tramp" character journeying to the frozen wastelands of the Yukon. There as a prospector, the Tramp's search for gold turns into a pursuit of romance, but with plenty of laughs along the way.

The film contains several famous scenes, both comic and dramatic, including a starving

Chaplin forced to eat his shoe for Thanksgiving dinner and a heart-breaking New Year's Eve celebration.

As a comedian, Chaplin emerged as the first superstar in the early days of cinema. From humble beginnings as a musical hall entertainer in England, he came to Hollywood and used his talents to quickly rise to the pinnacle of stardom in the then-new medium of motion pictures. His popularity never waned, and his image remains recognized around the world to this day.

"The Gold Rush," regarded by many critics as Chaplin's best film, is a prime example of his unique talent for combining slapstick comedy and intense dramatic emotion.

The screening of "The Gold Rush" provides local audiences the opportunity to experience silent film as it was intended to be shown: on the big screen, in restored prints, with live music, and with an audience.

Rapsis, who uses original themes to improvise silent film scores, said the best silent film



comedies often used visual humor to create laughter out of simple situations.

"These comedies were created to be shown on the big screen as a communal experience," Rapsis said. "With an audience and live music, they still come to life as their creators intended them to. So this screening is a great chance to experience films that first caused people to fall in love with the movies."

Rapsis achieves a traditional movie score sound for silent film screenings by using a digital synthesizer that reproduces the texture of the full orchestra.

"It's a real treat to return to Brandon for another season of great silent film," Rapsis said. "If you've never seen one of these movies in a theater, check it out. These films were the pop culture of their day, and retain their ability to hold an audience and deliver a great time at the movies."

This year marks the 13th year of the popular silent film series. Screenings will be held once a month, generally on Saturday nights starting in May and running through November. Admission is free; donations are encouraged, with proceeds to benefit the Town Hall's ongoing restoration.

Next up in this year's Brandon Town Hall silent film series will be:

Saturday, June 8, at 7 p.m.

"The Thief of Bagdad" (1924) starring Douglas Fairbanks Sr. Celebrate the 100th anniversary of this eye-popping cinematic spectacle; starring Fairbanks in top form as Arabian adventurer who must complete a series of epic tasks to save his beloved. Timeless tale told imaginatively and on a grand scale, complete with cutting edge special effects.



Charlie Chaplin stars in "The Gold Rush" (1925), a classic silent comedy to be screened with live music on Saturday, May 11, at 7 p.m., at the Brandon Town Hall and Community Center, Route 7, in Brandon. All are welcome to this family-friendly event. Admission is free, with free will donations accepted in support of ongoing Town Hall renovations.

COURTESY IMAGES

PIGS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

And so they did.

Kimble recruited 40 artists from Brandon and its environs

to decorate life-size fiberglass pigs. They were able to raise \$20,000 from local sponsors in two weeks to pay for the plain statues (at \$500 a pop).

"It says a lot about our town that people would give that kind of money for a crazy idea," said Kimble with amusement and pride.

The artists received unadorned pigs and returned fantastically reimagined sculptures that delighted everyone. The sheer joy of artistic creation was obvious in the results, which ran the gamut from wings to underwater seascapes to farm scenes to musical scores to Latin inscriptions. All the pigs were given names and biographies.

The show, titled "The Really Really Pig Show" in a sly reference to Ed Sullivan, was a major hit, generating massive publicity for the BAG. On Memorial Day weekend that year, the pigs were unveiled in a parade through Brandon and then displayed around town. That September, the pigs were auctioned off, raising over \$100,000, a sum that allowed the BAG to purchase and renovate the old 5 & 10. The pigs, one could say, provided the financial footing that has allowed the BAG to grow into the robust professional gallery it is today and weather all the economic twists and turns Brandon has had.

The pig show was such a success that in subsequent years, the BAG did birdhouses (2004), rocking chairs (2005), clocks (2011), and quilts (2018), to name just a few of their fundraising art projects. And this year, to mark the 25th anniversary of the formation of the BAG, they're returning to their roots with another pig show: "Brandon's Art of the Pig."

On a somewhat smaller scale than in 2003, the BAG's artists and willing friends will embellish wooden pig-shaped cutouts, about the size of a cheeseboard, which will be sold off in a silent auction from Aug. 16 through Aug. 18 at the Brandon Town Hall, with a "Piglet Preview Party"

"THE BAG HAS GREAT SUSTAINABILITY... WE'RE CONSTANTLY BRINGING IN NEW PEOPLE AND NEW ART."

— Warren Kimble



Barbara Ebling and Matt Gibbs pull Matt's "Porcus Latinium" in the "Really Really Pig Show" Parade in 2003.



BAG kicked off its 25th anniversary with a celebration on May 3 at the gallery. Founding member-artists Liza Myers, left, Warren Kimble, center, and Dolores Furnari, right, are still active exhibiting members at the gallery.

at Café Provence on Friday, June 7. Between the preview party and the auction, the pigs will be displayed in windows around town. As per the BAG's tradition, a portion of the proceeds will go to local schools to pay for art supplies.

At 25, the BAG can absolutely call itself a success. Along with the advent of Café Provence, the BAG's presence in town helped revive Brandon's economy after the closure of the Brandon Training School in the 90s, giving Brandon a reputation for artsiness that has brought tourists to the downtown for dining and shopping.

"The BAG is probably the best guild gallery in Vermont," said Kimble. A cooperatively run space, members who are accepted into the organization are expected to help run the gallery.

A visit to the BAG today reveals a bright, crisp space filled with paintings, photographs, ceramics, jewelry, glass, fiber arts, and jewelry. A wide variety of styles in a wide variety of media.

"The BAG has great sustainability," said Kimble. "We're constantly bringing in new people and new art."

Current BAG President Stacey Stanhope Dundon noted that despite the initially slim odds of the BAG's survival, the gallery is thriving 25 years later.

"Why? Because of an art fundraiser held early on," Stanhope Dundon wrote in an email to *The Reporter*. "The Pig Fundraiser, which raised enough money, allowing us to buy our building. It has been 25 years of the most supportive

UPCOMING MUSIC



Rodrigo Placencia to play at the Starksboro Library

The final concert in the Five Town Friends of the Arts "Winter Into Spring Musical Library Tour" will be Rodrigo Placencia. He will perform on Thursday, May 16, at the Starksboro Library.

Rodrigo Placencia grew up in Mexico City, where he began playing guitar at age 13. He was inspired to take on the instrument by his grandfather's love for Mexican popular music and his middle school peers' enthusiasm for American rock styles. While he aspired to learn to play electric guitar, his teacher immersed him in multiple styles like classical, jazz, funk and blues. He became highly passionate about

music and eventually moved to the United States to study classical guitar performance at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. For the past 17 years, he has been delighted to teach guitar and ukulele to people of all ages. When he is not making music, he enjoys traveling and exploring the great outdoors with his family.

Placencia will be playing music that mixes his passion for classical guitar, Latin American folk, and traditional songs from his native Mexico.

The show will start at 7:30 p.m. Free admission with donations welcome.



The "Winter Into Spring Musical Library Tour" presented by 5 Town Friends of the Arts concludes on Thursday, May 16, at the Starksboro Library with Rodrigo Placencia. The performance will begin at 7:30 p.m., and is free; donations welcome.

COURTESY PHOTO

Barn Opera and Opera Vermont welcome all to 'A Night at the Opera'

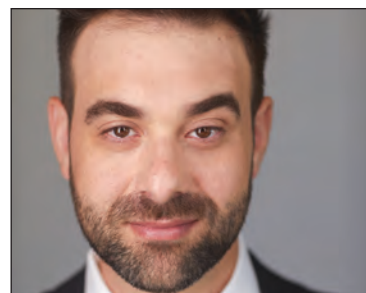
Barn Opera and Opera Vermont are excited to present "A Night at the Opera," an evening of operatic arias, duets, and ensembles from some of opera's favorite operas including: "La Traviata," "The Barber of Seville," "Madama Butterfly," "Carmen," "The Magic Flute," "The Marriage of Figaro," and of course a nod to "Rigoletto." The event on Saturday, May 18, at 7:30 p.m., will be performed by a talented group of Barn Opera/OVT favorites and newcomers, at the Barn Opera House on Pearl Street in Brandon. Tickets cost \$35.

New to Barn Opera, but certainly not new to New England audiences, Soprano Emily Baker will make her BARN debut in this concert. She has performed roles such as Donna Elvira (*Don Giovanni*), Giorgetta (*Il Tabarro*), Suor Angelica, and the Queen of the Night (*The Magic Flute*) in companies around New England and beyond. She was an award winner of the Metropolitan Opera National Auditions as well as Rochester International Vocal Competition.

Barn Opera audiences of all ages, but in particular those under 14 will remember Mezzo-Soprano Rachel Deatherage as the technicolor Cinderella in BARN's October 2023 production of Rossini's "La Cenerentola," where she has become a specialist in the Rossini repertory, performing across the United Kingdom and Austria, and recently performed the role of Charlotte in Massenet's *Werther* in NYC.



CAILIN MARCEL MANSON



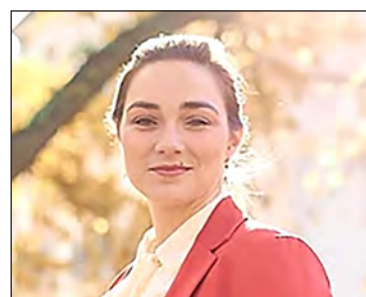
CHAD KRANAK



EMILY BAKER



ERIC MALSON



RACHEL DEATHERAGE



WAYNE HU

Tenor, Chad Kranak was last seen at the BARN in September 2022 as the dual character of the god, Bacchus and the insufferable tenor in Strauss' "Ariadne auf Naxos." He was scheduled to perform the role of the Duke of Mantova in Barn Opera's production of "Rigoletto," and we are thrilled to have him back to Vermont to perform this concert as we all eagerly await his role debut as Il Duca. He has performed many of the roles in the lirico-spinto repertory including Cavaradossi (*Tosca*), Pinkerton (*Madama Butterfly*), Rinuccio (*Gianni Schicchi*), among others.

Baritone Wayne Hu returns to Vermont having performed the role of Scarpia in Opera Vermont's production of "Tosca" in February 2024. Previously he has appeared on the mainstage with some of the country's most-respected opera and theatre companies, performing roles with New York City Opera, The Glimmerglass Festival, Tulsa Opera, Opera Memphis, among others.

Joining the Barn Opera family, pianist Eric Malson is an active soloist, recitalist, and chamber musician whose activities have taken

SEE OPERA ON PAGE 15

ART ON EXHIBIT

BRANDON ARTISTS GUILD

7 Center Street, Brandon

For more info visit 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. New artists at BAG: Linden Eller, Donald Perdue, Dasha Kalisz, and Bonny Dutton.

EDGEWATER AT THE FALLS

1 Mill Street, Middlebury

Visit edgewatergallery.com, call (802) 458-0098 or email 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, call (802) 989.7419 or email 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 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.

"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 the online gallery. On view May 3-24.

SEE EXHIBITS ON PAGE 15



ARIES: March 21/April 20. Aries, a friend has made steady progress and exhibited significant personal growth. Continue to support this person's pursuits and act as a source of encouragement.

TAURUS: April 21/ May 21. Your happiness can bring joy to many other people this week, Taurus. Spread all of your positivity among those people who can use it the most. You will reap rewards as well.

GEMINI: May 22/ June 21. The people around you may be behaving in interesting and unexpected ways, Gemini. You don't know what to make of this just yet, so sit back and watch the show.

CANCER: June 22/ July 22. Cancer, it is challenging to keep up with all of the comings and goings of the people in your social circle. It may take a little while for you to reconnect.

LEO: July 23/Aug. 23. Let others see a side of you that you don't often share, Leo. It is alright to be vulnerable at times, and this vulnerability actually may appeal to some new people in your life.

VIRGO: Aug. 24/Sept. 22. Virgo, you have a tremendous amount of power at your disposal this week. You should use all of it wisely and not waste a drop. Others will be affected by your presence.

LIBRA: Sept. 23/Oct. 23. Libra, expect to spot trouble on the horizon before other people around you. This gives you a head-start to take action and prepare yourself and others for what's to come.

SCORPIO: Oct. 24/Nov. 22. Pay careful attention to any and all financial transactions you make this week, Scorpio. You want to keep tabs on where your money is going and avoid as many mistakes as possible.

SAGITTARIUS: Nov. 23/Dec. 21. Sagittarius, a situation may arise this week in which you are expected to do more than you feel comfortable. Don't let others bully you into action. Explain your hesitation carefully and respectfully.

CAPRICORN: Dec. 22/ Jan. 20. What is the point of power struggles if it alienates all of the people closest to you, Capricorn? Sometimes you must forego ego to maintain personal relationships and family harmony.

AQUARIUS: Jan. 21/ Feb. 18. Aquarius, try to interact this week with the people who may not necessarily agree with you or share your beliefs. It could be good to see things from different perspectives.

PISCES: Feb. 19/March 20. Positive energy is circling around you this week, Pisces. Those good vibes will put you in a mood to reach out to some people in your life who may have drifted away.

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FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

MAY 10 — Bono, singer (64)
MAY 11 — William Grant Still, composer (d)
MAY 12 — Katherine Hepburn, actor (d)

MAY 13 — Daphne du Maurier, author (d)
MAY 14 — Cate Blanchett, actor (55)
MAY 15 — Mikhail Bulgakov, author (d)
MAY 16 — Adrienne Rich, poet (d)

CALENDAR

MAY 9-20
2024



THURSDAY, MAY 9

COLLEGE 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.

"THE JANES" ON SCREEN IN MIDDLEBURY. Thursday, May 9, 7 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. In the pre-Roe v. Wade era, female activists in Chicago calling themselves 'Jane' build an underground network for women with unwanted pregnancies and provide low-cost and free illegal abortions to an estimated 11,000 women. This film, the final offering in this year's MNFF Selects series, tells their story. Tickets \$14 advance/\$16 walk-up, available at townhalltheater.org.

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.

VERGENNES CITY BAND REHEARSAL IN VERGENNES. Monday, May 13, 7-9 p.m., Vergennes Opera House. All instrumentalists welcome. For more information contact Sue O'Daniel at 802-349-5906. Rehearsals continue May 20, June 3 and June 10.

SATURDAY, MAY 11

MONTHLY WILDLIFE WALK IN MIDDLEBURY. Saturday, May 11, 7 a.m., Otter View Park, Weybridge St. and Pulp Mill Bridge Rd. Otter Creek Audubon and the Middlebury Area Land Trust invite community members to help survey birds and other wildlife at Otter View Park and the Hurd Grassland. Birders of all ages and abilities welcome. Please take common sense COVID-19 precautions. Stay home if you are feeling ill and wear a mask if you are unvaccinated. For more information, call 802-388-6019.

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 or call 802-388-2117.

CHARLIE CHAPLIN'S "THE GOLD RUSH" ON SCREEN IN BRANDON. Saturday, May 11, Brandon Town Hall, 1 Conant Sq. Brandon Town Hall's 2024 silent film series kicks off with classic comedy featuring the Little Tramp's search for fortune and romance in the Klondike. Live music accompaniment by silent film historian Jeff Rapsis. Free. Donations are welcome to help support ongoing Town Hall renovation efforts.

SUNDAY, MAY 12

WARBLER WARM-UP IN BRISTOL. Sunday, May 12, 7:30 a.m. Bristol Waterworks, Plank Rd. Join Otter Creek Audubon Society in a search for newly arrived spring migrants. Hone your birding identification skills before leaf-out. Co-sponsored with The Watershed Center. Call Ron at 802-388-6019 if in doubt about the weather.

VERGENNES VOYAGER BICYCLE RIDE.

Sunday, May 12, 9:15 a.m., meet at Vergennes Union High School, Monkton Rd. Green Mountain Bicycle club hosts this 26-mile rolling (E) or 39-mile flat to rolling (E/M) rural ride running along Otter Creek to Middlebury for a possible bakery stop. The longer ride heads toward Kingsland Bay State Park before heading south to Middlebury. More info contact leader Kevin Batson at 802-825-2618 or kevbvt@gmail.com; co-leader William Regan at 571-730-8160 or william.regan.802@gmail.com; or social rider leader Donna Leban at 802-862-1901 or donna.leban@gmail.com.

MOTHER'S DAY CONCERT IN HINESBURG. Sunday, May 12, 4 p.m., CVU Auditorium. The Hinesburg Artist Series will celebrate spring and with a concert full of beautiful music, featuring the Hinesburg Community Band and South County Chorus, both under the direction of Rufus Patrick. Free, with donations gratefully accepted. More info at hinesburgartistseries.org.

TUESDAY, MAY 14

AUTHOR CHRIS LINCOLN IN CONVERSATION WITH MIKE MCKENNA IN MIDDLEBURY. Tuesday, May 14, 6 p.m., Research room, Ilsey Public Library, 75 Main St. Middlebury College alumna Chris Lincoln of Thetford, author of "The Funny Moon," will appear in conversation with Mike McKenna of Weybridge in the May

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

MCTV SCHEDULE Channels 1071 & 1091		MIDDLEBURY COMMUNITY TELEVISION: P.O. Box 785, Middlebury, Vt. 05753		Please see the MCTV website, www.middleburycommunitytv.org , for changes in the schedule; MCTV events, classes and news; and to view many programs online. Submit listings to the above address, or call 388-3062.	
Channel 1071 Friday, May 10 Overnight: Green Mountain (GM) Care Board 6 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 Saturday, May 11 Overnight: Public Affairs 5 a.m. Selectboard 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, Public Affairs Sunday, May 12 Overnight: State House, Public Affairs 8 a.m. Energy Week 9 a.m. Catholic Mass 11 a.m. Memorial Baptist Service 12:30 p.m. Energy Week 1:30 p.m. Press Conf., Public Affairs 4 p.m. Congregational Service 6:30 p.m. Eckankar	7 p.m. Catholic Mass 7:30 p.m. Energy Week 8:30 p.m. Vote for Vermont Monday, May 13 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, Public Affairs 4 p.m. GM Care Board 10 p.m. Dr. John Campbell Tuesday, May 14 Overnight: State House, Public Affairs 5 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 Wednesday, May 15 Overnight: GM Care Board, Public Affairs 6:30 a.m. Energy Week 7:30 a.m. Memorial Baptist Service 9:30 a.m. Catholic Mass 10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 7 p.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs Thursday, May 16 Overnight: 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 Channel 1091 Friday, May 10 7 a.m. Chair Yoga 8 a.m. All Things LGBTQ 9 a.m. Yestermorrow - State-Level Housing Solutions 10:20 a.m. Trees and Rewilding 11:30 a.m. Moccasin Tracks 12:01 p.m. School Board Meeting/s 2:30 p.m. Poem City 5 p.m. All Brains Belong Club 6:30 p.m. Yestermorrow - Housing Solutions Saturday, May 11 5 a.m. Yestermorrow - Housing 8 a.m. Word Time With Miss Markee 8:35 a.m. Tai Chi (25) 9 a.m. What's Happening with Weather in the Champlain Valley. What the National Weather Service Does 11:17 a.m. Poem City - Tidal Wave 3 12 p.m. Yestermorrow - Housing 4 p.m. All Brains Belong Club 5:30 p.m. Poem City - LGBTQ Reading	6:30 p.m. VINS: Birds and Climate Change 7:25 p.m. Puffins 8:10 p.m. National Weather Service 9:15 p.m. Champlain Valley Weather Sunday, May 12 4 a.m. Nature and Science Programs 7:05 a.m. Tai Chi 7:30 a.m. Poem City - LGBTQ Reading 8:30 a.m. Poem City - North Branch Nature Center - Natural Selections 10:30 a.m. Ohavi Zedek - The Two Lives of Henrietta Szold 11:20 a.m. Masonry in Early Vermont 12:01 p.m. School Board Meeting/s 6 p.m. All Things LGBTQ 7 p.m. Yestermorrow - Housing 8:18 p.m. Masonry in Early Vermont 9 p.m. Ohavi Zedek Monday, May 13 7 a.m. Tai Chi 7:25 a.m. Nature and Science Programs 12 p.m. School Board Meeting/s 4:30 p.m. VT Women in the Civil War 6 p.m. Ohavi Zedek 6:50 p.m. Masonry in Early Vermont 7:30 p.m. Poem City - LGBTQ Reading 8:30 p.m. Poem City - North Branch Nature	Tuesday, May 14 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 2 p.m. VT Women in the Civil War 6 p.m. All Brains Belong Club 7:29 p.m. Moccasin Tracks 8 p.m. Yestermorrow - Housing 9:18 p.m. Masonry in Early Vermont Wednesday, May 15 5 a.m. Moccasin Tracks 6 a.m. Poem City - LGBTQ Reading 7 a.m. Tai Chi 7:30 a.m. School Board Meeting/s 4 p.m. All Brains Belong Club 5:25 p.m. Yestermorrow - Housing 9 p.m. Moccasin Tracks Thursday, May 16 5 a.m. Yestermorrow 7 a.m. Tai Chi (25) 7:25 a.m. Kids Yoga 8 a.m. Chair Yoga 9 a.m. School Board Meeting/s 4:29 p.m. Moccasin Tracks 5 p.m. Poem City - LGBTQ Reading 6 p.m. Ohavi Zedek 6:50 p.m. Masonry in Early Vermont 9:30 p.m. VT Women in the Civil War	

TOP PICK

The Addison Repertory Theatre will present its annual **"NEVER BEFORE SCENE"** on May 16 and 17 at the Hannaford Career Center in Middlebury. The show is a collection of original, short one-act plays by the students, written as part of the Vermont Young Playwrights program.

The evening performances will feature not only original works by the students, but desserts created by The Glass Onion, PAHCC's culinary program. Tickets are \$15 (and include desserts at intermission).

TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE AT
ADDISONREP.LUDUS.COM/200453965



From left to right: MUHS students Nick Carpenter, Remy Howe, Max Carpenter, Mirabelle Markowski.

COURTESY PHOTO

installment of the Vermont Book Shop/Ilsey Public Library Vermont Author Series. "The Funny Moon" is about the challenges of marriage, self-discovery, and personal fulfillment, and was a finalist in the humor category for two prestigious indie publishing awards.

THURSDAY, MAY 16

GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB WILDFLOWER HIKE IN WARREN. Thursday, May 16, Lincoln Peak. Enjoy the effects of altitude on wildflower meadows of the ski trails leading up to Lincoln Peak. Slow to moderate pace with 2,400 feet of elevation change and 5 miles round trip from Sugarbush South. Spectacular views throughout. Contact Ken Corey at 802-349-3733 or kencorey53@gmail.com with questions or to register. More at gmcbreadloaf.org.

HENRY SHELDON MUSEUM MEMBERS RECEPTION IN MIDDLEBURY. Thursday, May 16, 4:30-6 p.m., Henry Sheldon Museum, 1 Park St. Current Henry Sheldon Museum members, and not-yet members, are invited to join museum staff to celebrate the opening of the 2024 season and the new exhibits. Light refreshments served. More info at henrysheldonmuseum.org/events/members-reception or call 802-388-2117.

"NEVER BEFORE SCENE" ON STAGE IN MIDDLEBURY. Thursday, May 16, 7 p.m., Black Box Theater, Hannaford Career Center, 51 Charles Ave. The Addison Repertory Theatre's annual student show, a collection of original, short one-act plays by the students, written as part of the Vermont Young Playwrights program. Performances will feature not only original works by the students, but desserts created by The Glass Onion, the Career Center's culinary program. Tickets cost \$15 and are available at addisonrep.ludus.com/200453965.

RODRIGO PLACENCIA IN STARKSBORO. Thursday, May 16, 7:30 p.m., Starksboro Public Library. Placencia will be playing music that mixes his passion for classical guitar styles, Latin American folk music,

and traditional songs from his native Mexico. Free. Part of the 5-Town Musical Library tour.

FRIDAY, MAY 17

GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB TRAIL WORK IN RIPTON. Friday, May 17, Sucker Brook to Middlebury Gap. The trail crew will be clearing drainage structures and blowdowns from Sucker Brook shelter to Middlebury Gap. Total of five miles of hiking with tools from point to point. Contact Ellen Cronan for more information, 908-595-2926. More at gmcbreadloaf.org.

MOUNT ABRAHAM STUDENT ART EXHIBITION IN BRISTOL. Friday, May 17. A new collection by students from MAUHS will be on view at Art on Main in downtown Bristol. More info at artonmainvt.com.

RIVER WATCH RESTORATION PLANTING IN NEW HAVEN. Friday, May 17, 9 a.m., Dog Team Rd. Addison County River Watch is partnering with New Haven River Anglers to plant trees along the New Haven River a few miles north of Middlebury. The group will be establishing a riparian buffer that will filter nutrients, reduce erosion, and improve wildlife habitat. More info and directions contact Matthew Witten at 802-434-3236 or acrwcvvt@gmail.com. Repeats Saturday, May 18.

"NEVER BEFORE SCENE" ON STAGE IN MIDDLEBURY. Friday, May 17, 7 p.m., Black Box Theater, Hannaford Career Center, 51 See May 16 listing.

SATURDAY, MAY 18

GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB HIKE IN KEENE VALLEY, N.Y. Saturday, May 18, Hopkins Mountain. Explore this 5.5-mile out-and-back trail off the beaten path of many of the high peaks. This strenuous hike with 2,200 feet elevation gain will be taken at a slow to moderate pace. Open summit offers incredible views of the high peaks; notably the Great Range, highlighted by the jagged profile of

Sawteeth. Carpool to the trailhead, about 70 min. from Middlebury. Contact Barry Francis at 802-349-9206 for details and to register. More at gmcbreadloaf.org.

GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB WOMEN'S BACKPACKING WEEKEND ON THE IN EASTERN ADIRONDACKS. Saturday, May 18-Sunday, May 19, Pharaoh Lake Wilderness. Expect moderate to difficult hiking over two days, with moderate elevation change. This will be a leisurely trip, and beginners or those who have not backpacked in some time are welcome. Limit 8 participants. Contact betheliason@gmail.com for more info. Rain date June 1-2. More at gmcbreadloaf.org.

EARLY BIRD NATURE WALK IN ORWELL. Saturday, May 18, 8-10 a.m., Mt. Independence State Historic Site, 497 Mount Independence Rd.

RIVER WATCH RESTORATION PLANTING IN NEW HAVEN. Saturday, May 18, 9 a.m., Dog Team Rd. See May 17 listing.

MARITIME MUSEUM OPENING DAY IN FERRISBURGH. Saturday, May 18, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, 4472 Basin Harbor Rd. Help LCMM celebrate the first day of the 2024 season. Grounds, exhibits, and Museum Store will officially open for all to visit and explore. Check our calendar for additional special activities on this day. No tickets or advance reservations needed. Admission to the museum is free for all visitors.

CREATE! FAMILY SHARED COOKBOOK ONLINE IN ORWELL. Saturday, May 18, at 10 a.m., Orwell Free Library, 473 Main St. Create an online cookbook to share with family and friends using the Google suite. Participants will need a google account. A personal computer and a few recipes and pictures will be helpful to bring along. Presented by Trish Dougherty.

AUTHOR JACK KELLY IN FERRISBURGH. Saturday, May 18, 1-2 p.m., Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, 4472 Basin Harbor Rd. On LCMM's opening day, author Jack Kelly will discuss the

research and highlights of his newest book, "God Save Benedict Arnold: The True Story of America's Most Hated Man." Kelly will sign copies of his new book, which will be available for purchase from the museum's store. Free. Advance registration at lcmm.org/JackKelly.

MEET THE SINGERS OF "LA FILLE DU REGIMENT" IN MIDDLEBURY. Saturday, May 18, 5 p.m., Champlain Valley Unitarian Universalist Society, 2 Duane Ct. Join Opera Company of Middlebury for its annual Meet the Singers concert. Enjoy listening to the singers' favorite arias or songs from musical theater. Tickets \$44 with hors d'oeuvres and cash bar, available at townhalltheater.org.

A NIGHT AT THE OPERA IN BRANDON. Saturday, May 18, 7:30 p.m. Barn Opera House, 1386 Pearl St. An evening of operatic arias, duets, and ensembles from some of opera's favorite operas including: La Traviata, The Barber of Seville, Madama Butterfly, Carmen, The Magic Flute, The Marriage of Figaro, and of course a nod to Rigoletto. The event will be performed by a talented group of Barn Opera/OVT favorites and newcomers, and will be at a reduced cost of \$35 tickets.

GREEN HERON IN RIPTON. Saturday, May 18, 7:30 p.m., Ripton Community Coffee House, Route 125, village center. RCCH's final regularly scheduled concert. The music of Green Heron stretches across the entire folk landscape. Old-time, folk, bluegrass, country, Celtic and blues music are all represented as the band brings the back porch to the stage. Doors open at 7 p.m. Tickets general admission \$15/generous \$20-\$25 or pay what you can. Beverages and baked goods available. More info at rcch.org.

SUNDAY, MAY 19

KINGSLAND BAY BICYCLE RIDE. Sunday, May 19, 9:15 a.m., meets at Shelburne Shopping Plaza left side of the parking area. Champlain Valley Bicycle Club leads this 35-mile (E/M) ride from Shelburne through Charlotte to Kingsland Bay Park and back. The 51-mile (M) ride heads towards Vergennes and climbs to Monkton Ridge, returning through Hinesburg and a 65-mile (M/S) option heads into Huntington but will not have a leader. More info contact leader Josh Simonds at 802-355-4352 or jsimonds9@gmail.com, co-leader Diane Meyerhoff at 802-495-8883 or diane@thirdsectorassociates.com, or Donna Leban at donna.leban@gmail.com for social ride sign-ups.

MONDAY, MAY 20

VERGENNES CITY BAND REHEARSAL IN VERGENNES. Monday, May 20, 7-9 p.m., Vergennes Opera House. All instrumentalists welcome. For more information contact Sue O'Daniel at 802-349-5906. Additional rehearsals June 3 and June 10.

WHAT'S HAPPENING NEXT DOOR

Young Tradition Festival brings lively performances to Burlington on May 10-12

Vermont Folklife's 2024 Young Tradition Festival takes place Friday, May 10-Sunday, May 12, in Burlington. Now in its second decade, the Young Tradition Festival celebrates young artists and multi-generational connections through a wide array of music and dance traditions. It is a perfect opportunity for youth, families, and the general public to explore varied traditions through lively performances and events.

This year's festival includes concerts at Contois Auditorium at City Hall on Friday and Saturday, including world-renowned Nepali sarangi player Shyam Nepali's band Himalayan Dreams on Friday night and the sensational Québécois trad band Genticorum on Saturday night — with the Young Tradition Touring Group opening the evening.

On Saturday, from 10 a.m.-1 p.m., at the Burlington Farmers Market, young musicians, dancers, and their teachers perform in the Student/Mentor Showcase, sharing traditional

fiddling, Tibetan singing and draynen-playing, Nepali harmonium, West African drumming, Quebec trad music, and more.

Sunday features two all-ages events at Contois Auditorium: A family-friendly jam session at 10 a.m. (free to attend, donations welcome), followed by a Family Contra Dance at 1:30 p.m. Contra dance tickets available at the door. The three-day festival also includes Friday performances for students at Burlington's Integrated Arts Academy and residents at the Converse Home.

Tickets for Himalayan Dreams (Friday, May 10) and Genticorum (Saturday, May 11) can be purchased in advance or at the door. Tickets to the Family Contra Dance (Sunday, May 12) will be available at the door and cost \$10 per person/\$30 per family.

Tickets and information about the festival are available at vtfolklife.org/ytfest.



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PUZZLES

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ACROSS

1. It wakes you up
6. A place to sleep
9. Czech village
13. Appetizer
14. African country
15. Dark brown or black
16. Parent-teacher groups
17. Saturates
18. ESPN personality Kimes
19. Songs to a lover
21. Cavalry-sword
22. Begat
23. Patriotic women
24. Famed Princess
25. One who does not conform
28. Neither
29. Nigerian monetary

unit

31. Body parts
33. Hit Dave Matthews Band song
36. Depicts with pencil
38. Make into leather without tannin
39. Plants grow from them
41. Alias
44. Fingers do it
45. More dried-up
46. Clod
48. Senior officer
49. A way to listen to music
51. The bill in a restaurant
52. Historic center of Artois region
54. Cyprinid fishes

56. Poisonous perennial plant
60. Scottish Loch
61. Heads
62. Extra seed-covering
63. Wings
64. Britpop band
65. Forearm bones
66. Small immature herring
67. Female sibling
68. Hymn

DOWN

1. Vipers
2. Not on time
3. Resembling a wing or wings
4. Tears down
5. Professional designation

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
13					14				15			
16				17				18				
19				20				21				
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66					67			68				

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		8		6		7		
5								4
	4					8	9	
				4			7	
8						2		

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

6. Noise a sheep made
7. Type of lodge
8. Speak poorly of
9. Ties the knot again
10. Apron
11. Studied intensively
12. City in Finland
14. One who monitors
17. 18-year astronomical period
20. Trent Reznor's band
21. Takes to the sea
23. Split pulses
25. Valentine's Day color
26. Wyatt __
27. Type of rail
29. One from the Big Apple
30. Asteroids
32. Made more sugary
34. Change in skin pigment
35. Mild yellow Dutch cheese
37. Koran chapters
40. A place to relax
42. Young woman ready for society life
43. Female horses
47. Half of Milli Vanilli
49. Icelandic poems
50. Indiana town
52. Golden peas
53. Closes tightly
55. It's mined in mountains
56. Cliff (Hawaii)
57. Ribosomal ribonucleic acid
58. Monetary unit
59. Primordial matter
61. TV station
65. Rise

This week's puzzle solutions can be found on Page 13.



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Pets In Need HOMeward BOUND

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Popeye

Popeye is a big, strong guy with lots to say. He's often singing the songs of his people, which involves a lot of heartfelt meows. While we don't think he would like to eat spinach, he will eat any cat food or treats you offer him! Popeye is an easygoing guy and gets along with other cats and all people. If you are wondering about his eyes, he does have some trouble seeing but it doesn't stop him from exploring and meeting new people.



Sunny

Sunny is sure to brighten anyone's day with his charm! He's an 11-year-old Maine Coon and enjoys curling up in his bed for a snooze and snuggle time. Sunny has lived with dogs but doesn't like the cats at the shelter.



Bear

Bear is an 8-month-old, 76-pound German Shepherd/Rottweiler mix and is still growing. He has a lot of puppy energy and can be jumpy when excited, but is very smart and learns new cues like a champ. He is extremely food-motivated and enjoys solving puzzle toys. Bear is very playful and will need a lot of physical and mental exercise. He absolutely loves his people and is very friendly to visitors. Bear does not get along with other dogs in the same household and needs to be the only pet. He can live with older children. It is important for Bear's new owner to understand that he is still an adolescent and will need a lot of training. He is a big, goofy youngster who is looking for an active family capable of handling his size and energy.



Sadie

Sadie is part of our third-party adoption program, still residing at home with her family. She is a beautiful, intelligent, and energetic 6-year-old black and brown coonhound. She likes treats, hikes, walks, running around, and physical affection. A baby entered the picture recently and her family is having trouble managing Sadie's needs with their expanded responsibilities. Please visit our website for an in-depth bio for Sadie.



Misses

Misses is a sweet-hearted American guinea pig, just one year old. She has calico fur and she's cute, cute, cute! She's new to the shelter, but already showing us what a blast having a guinea pig can be! From munching on veggies and fruits, to enjoying tasty treats, she's all about that gourmet life. Get ready for some serious fun and cuddles because with Misses around, there's never a dull moment!



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ASK A MASTER GARDENER

CHICKENS IN THE GARDEN

There's more to consider than fresh eggs when raising chickens at home. For gardeners, that includes keeping both chickens and plants safe and productive.

problem. Take advantage of their natural tendencies by allowing access to the garden when they can do the most good and denying access when they can do the most harm.

Concerned about bugs, ticks and other pests? Chickens devour them. In the spring they'll happily aerate the soil hunting for tasty treats.

Chickens love to dig in the dirt and that can be a

They leave behind droppings high in nitrogen and work them into the soil. They'll scratch up or pull out young weeds and incorporate compost to help prepare your garden for the coming growing season.

If you plan to add a new garden bed in a grassy, weedy area, chickens confined in a fenced enclosure or chicken tractor will clear the area completely.

Once you're ready to plant, ban them from the garden. They'll eat newly sown seeds

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

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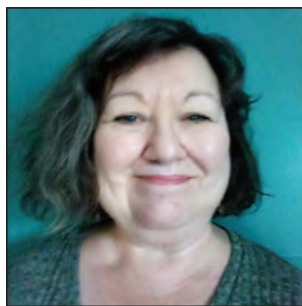
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Deborah J. Benoit is a UVM Extension Master Gardener from North Adams, Mass., who is part of the Bennington County Chapter.

and emerging seedlings. Their scratching in the soil can damage tender roots.

In the blink of an eye, they'll defoliate young plants, dooming your planned crop before it's had a chance to grow. More mature plants may not suffer significant harm from allowing chickens access to the garden, but chickens won't hesitate to peck at an interesting looking cucumber or vine-ripening tomato.

While protecting crops from chickens' mischief is important, so is protecting chickens from the dangers the garden can present. If you'll be treating the garden with fertilizers, fungicides, pesticides or other chemicals (organic or otherwise), they may be harmful to the chickens, so it's best to keep the birds at a safe distance.

In addition, be sure to practice good biosecurity by keeping your chickens away from areas where wild birds gather, such as bird feeding stations and duck ponds, to avoid transmission of avian influenza and other diseases.

Food crops such as tomatoes, peppers, potatoes and eggplant are all part of the nightshade family and eating them can be harmful to chickens. Other crops unsafe for chickens to consume include rhubarb, onions and dried beans. At the



Having a flock of chickens can be beneficial to gardeners as they will eat bugs, ticks and other pests and aerate the soil as they hunt for tasty treats.

end of the growing season, after you pull up the plants that aren't chicken-friendly, let the flock loose in the garden to clean up remaining plant material.

If you grow berry bushes or fruit trees, chickens can help clean up fallen fruit and insect pests. Of course, like other birds, chickens love blueberries and similar fruit. Watching a chicken eyeing a

ripening berry on an overhead branch and jumping straight up to grab a beak full is sure to bring out a laugh — and thoughts of how to preserve the berry harvest.

Portable fences can discourage chickens, and row covers or bird netting can provide a barrier between chickens and a forbidden feast. Wire clothes can protect small plants.

If you prefer to keep all your plants safe and chickens out of the garden but would still like to use chickens for pest control, consider a double fence spaced about four feet apart around the garden. The flock can patrol the area between the fences and intercept any pest crossing their path on its way to the garden. Bird netting across the top will keep chickens contained and on patrol.

Chicken manure is a great benefit for gardeners who own chickens. Because chicken manure is considered "hot" and can damage plants, coop litter and manure need to be composted before use.

It makes a good addition to your compost pile, or it can be applied to the garden in the fall and allowed to compost over the intervening months until spring. For more information on composting chicken manure, visit go.uvm.edu/poo.

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- Best Pals
- Action Shot
- Couch Potato
- Model Shot
- Work Companions

Entering the contest is easy! You can submit via email to contests@addisonindependent.com, online at 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 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

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THE HOME

A LOOK INSIDE AREA HOMES FOR SALE

History meets modern convenience

Built in 1818, this historic home on a spacious one-acre parcel near Middlebury College offers in-town privacy and convenience. Outside, the home retains its classic appearance. Inside, the house has been renovated from floor to ceiling. Once inside the front entrance foyer, with its lovely wainscoting and natural wood staircase, one is instantly impressed by the craftsmanship. To the left one enters the formal living room, and to the right is the primary bedroom suite with full bath. Beyond the living room are the dining room and a fabulous kitchen with a DeLonghi professional gas range flanked by soapstone countertops. The original barn that is attached to the back of the house has been tastefully converted to a two-bedroom, one bathroom apartment with a two-car garage below. A descending staircase provides access to the back entrance and mudroom, as well as the garage and voluminous dry basement. A separate barn has potential for many uses. The outdoor patio with fireplace provide additional space for entertaining friends.



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*This home is listed by Irene Poole of Coldwell Banker Hickok & Boardman.
For more information contact 802-861-4757 or visit IreneVTRE.com.*





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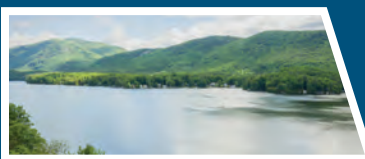
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4	2	1	7	9	5	3	6	8
9	3	8	4	6	1	7	5	2
5	7	6	3	2	8	1	4	9
6	4	7	5	3	2	8	9	1
3	1	2	9	8	4	5	7	6
8	5	9	6	1	7	2	3	4



**SALISBURY NEW LISTING!
396 WEST SHORE ROAD**

**MLS #4993857 | \$209,500
2 BD | 1 BA | 444 SF | SHARED
ACREAGE**

Make it your permanent summer vacation spot! Your buy in on Lake Dunmore is a mere fraction of what others pay for the benefits of a lakeside lifestyle. This seasonal camp is furnished and ready to enjoy this summer. Newer stove, fridge and microwave, 3/4 bath, and a screened porch from which to watch the activity on the lake. Minimal yearly fee covers lawn care, water shutoff during the off-season and septic maintenance. Lake access is across the road and includes a sandy beach and concrete deck. Act now and be in by July 4!



**STARKSBORO NEW LISTING!
3950 VT ROUTE 17**

**MLS #4994347 | \$389,000
4 BD | 2 BA | 2448 SF | 1.77 ACRES**

Sited nicely on a 1.77 acre lot at the base of Mt. Ellen, this is the perfect opportunity for recreational enthusiasts. Mad River Glen, Sugarbush, and mountain and road biking surround, but if your heart is in your own back yard, there's plenty you'll love there, too. The landscape is ready for gardening with plenty of sunny yard space. You'll anticipate the spots of color from daffodils, poppies, and lilies. Care for your cherry, pear, and crab apple trees. Enjoy the campfire pit, make use of the potting shed, and grow that flock of chickens you've always wanted to occupy the coop. Maybe reestablish the path to the screened cabin on the knoll! Inside the home you'll love the single level living with south-facing sun porch/entryway. A full basement under the whole house allows for expansion of your living space and already includes a 3/4 bath. The whole-house generator keeps the lights on when weather strikes!



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info@ipjrealestate.com | 802.388.4242

Community chorus offers spring concert

The Middlebury Community Chorus will offer a free community concert on Sunday, May 12, from 5- 6:30 p.m., at the Mahaney Arts Center, Olin C. Robison Concert Hall in Middlebury. This event is free and open to the public.

Under the expert direction of Ronnie Romano '20, the Community Chorus will captivate audiences with a stirring performance of Faure's "Requiem." Joined by talented Middlebury College students and faculty, a small chamber orchestra will accompany the chorus, enhancing the rich and emotive melodies of this timeless piece. In addition to Faure's "Requiem," the chorus will present a selection of complementary pieces, promising a diverse and memorable musical experience for all attendees.

Unable to attend in person? Don't worry! The Community Chorus Spring Concert will be live-streamed at youtube.com/@robisonhall.

BAG

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

community and artists any small business could ask for. I foresee another 25 great years in our future. I am just happy to have been a part of it."

Liza Myers, who participated in the first Pig Show, wrote, "The Brandon Artists Guild 'tipped' Brandon. Our lovely little village was having hard times, teetering on the brink of economic success or sliding into an economic morass. Our efforts with the arts brought new life and pizzazz back to the town. We were called the 'Art and Soul of Vermont' by *Yankee* magazine! I am very proud and grateful to have been part of that effort."

Robin Kent, a Brandon artist who now shows with Kimble and Medana Gabbard at the Vermont Folk Art Gallery on Park Street, joined the BAG's very first cohort of new members in 1997.

"It's like raising a kid," said Kent. "It takes on a life of its own. It's standing on its own two feet now."

New member Peter Root said at a recent event at the BAG, "People love this thing they created here. It's really special being invited to join."

"I think we've evolved into what's needed," said Kimble.

Editor's Note: This story was originally published in The Brandon Reporter on May 2, 2024. Reprinted with permission.



EXHIBITS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

SPARROW ART SUPPLY

44 Main Street,
Middlebury
For more info visit
sparrowartsupply.com
or call 802-989-7225.

"Green Gold," Sparrow Art Supply's debut exhibition at 44 Main Street, is a celebration of new beginnings. In this exhibit seven artists explore growth, transition and renewal. The exhibit will be on view through May 25

TOURTERELLE RESTAURANT & INN

3629 Ethan Allen Hwy, New Haven
For more information visit JanetFredericksStudio.com or tourterellevermont.com, or call 802-453-6309.

"Overview," featuring work by Lincoln artist Janet Fredericks. Included in the exhibit are hand-stitched textile pieces, cyanotype prints, mono prints, paintings, and drawings. Fredericks' drawings and paintings are intended to give the sense of entering into the landscape rather than a surface perspective. This follows her lifelong interest in the seen and unseen worlds; spirit and matter. On view at the restaurant Wednesday through Saturday 5:30-9 p.m., through May.

OPERA

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

him throughout the United States, Canada, and Europe. He has served on the opera faculties of the Juilliard School of Music and

the Mannes College of Music, as well as the accompanying staff of the Curtis Institute of Music, and the accompanying and chamber music faculty of the Cleveland Institute of Music.

Cailin Marcel Manson, inimitable baritone and music director of Barn Opera/Opera Vermont conducts the quartet in the vocal ensembles. He is the Associate Professor of Practice in Music and Director of Music Performance at Clark University, as well as Artistic Consultant for MidAmerica Productions, for whom he conducted Verdi's Requiem on the stage of Stern Auditorium at Carnegie Hall in Fall 2023.

The program will be repeated in its entirety on Sunday, May 19, at 3 p.m., at the Hubbard Hall Center for the Arts, in Cambridge, N.Y.

More info available at barnopera.com and hubbardhall.org. There will not be an intermission for this performance, but there will be concessions available for purchase before the performance.

DON'T MISS THIS 2023 BUILD!



471 Outback Road, Fairfax, VT

NEW LISTING! 3 BR 2 BA modern ranch situated on a tranquil 1.36 acre lot at the end of a cul de sac. Enter the home through the attractive 50ft. south-facing covered porch, ready for relaxing and entertaining. Once inside, you will be greeted by an open floor plan with 9 ft. ceilings and plenty of light, featuring a spacious kitchen with stainless appliances, quartz countertops and a large pantry. First floor laundry is conveniently located off the kitchen. The primary bedroom features an ensuite and walk in closet. Enjoy the private back deck overlooking serene woods that abut conservation land. The large, light filled walk-out basement is ready for your imagination. On cold days, enjoy the cozy warmth from the radiant floor heat. The finished oversized two-car garage includes a level 2 car charger and generator hook up!

MLS #4993470

Price: \$589,000



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HD LIVE ENCORE

2023-2024 SEASON

SECOND TUESDAYS ENCORE AT 1 PM

Sponsored by: Kathy & Bill Harm



2 Shows! MAY 28 & 29 | 7:30 PM



SATURDAY, JUNE 15 | 7:30 PM



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MAY 14

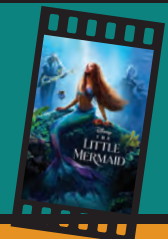


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SAT, JUNE 22 @ 7:30 PM

INDIANA JONES AND THE DIAL OF DESTINY



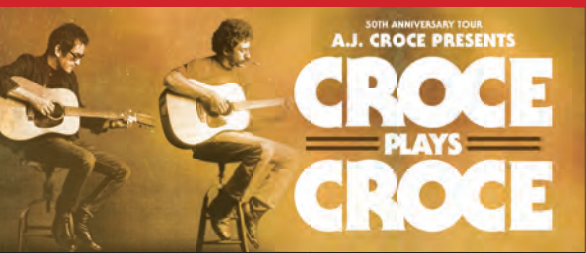
FRIDAY, JULY 12 | 7:30 PM



MONDAY, JULY 22 | 7:30 PM



THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12 | 7:30 PM



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14 | 7:00 PM



THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21 | 7:00 PM

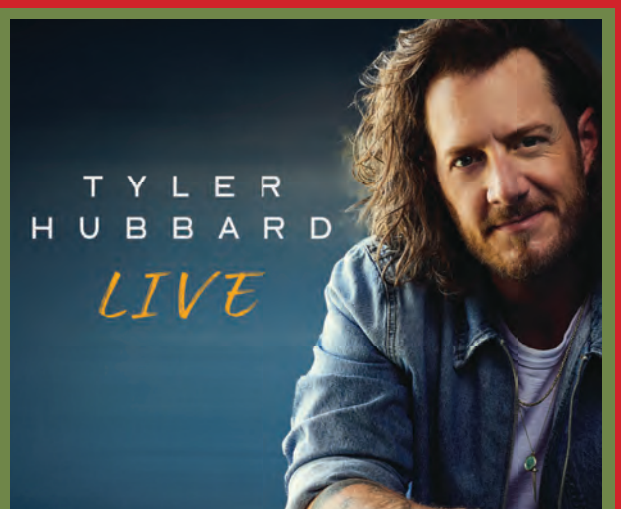


Summer at The Vermont State Fair

DIAMONDS AND MORE GRANDSTAND



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SATURDAY, AUGUST 17 | 8:15 PM

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