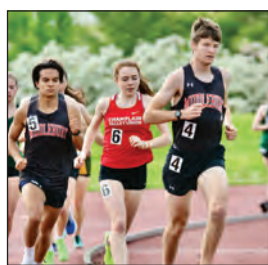




Falling in love

A 19th-century opera at the THT will remind you of a modern rom-com film. See Arts + Leisure.



Tracking action

A track meet, key lacrosse wins, and rivalry games on the diamond — it's all in Sports, Pages 1B-4B.



Remembering

Read about our fallen service members in the 16-page Memorial Day pull-out in this edition.

ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT

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YELLOW HOUSE RESIDENT Pierce Murray's passion for trains was the inspiration for the group's Memorial Day parade project: an adaptive electric bike transformed into a bubble-spouting steam train.

Independent photo/Megan James

'All aboard' for the parade

Yellow House resident's dream to come true Monday

By MEGAN JAMES

MIDDLEBURY — Everybody loves a parade — but the Middlebury Memorial Day parade could really use more creative floats. At least that's what the folks at Yellow House believe. So this year, they've created a real showstopper: a bright yellow, bubble-spouting steam train mounted on an adaptive electric bike.

Yellow House resident Pierce Murray inspired the creation. A lover of trains and big fan of

Thomas the Tank Engine, Murray often wears a well-loved blue and white striped engineer hat. He donned it on this past Friday afternoon, when the Yellow House team gathered on the lawn of their Middlebury home to paint the Memorial Day train.

Murray was also the key to making the float human-powered: He's the owner of a sweet ride from local adaptive bike manufacturer RAD Innovations. It's a recumbent, tricycle with electric

(See Memorial Day, Page 16A)

Legislators assess work in recently concluded session

Point to action on housing, environment, school funding

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — Local lawmakers on Monday listed a series of initiatives they believe will define the 2024 legislative session — including plans to address the state's housing crisis and make Vermont better prepared to deal with major storm events — though they said it remains to be seen how many of those initiatives will survive Gov. Phil Scott's veto pen.

Around a half-dozen Addison County legislators shared their 2024 session highlights at a gathering of the Addison County Democratic Committee at Middlebury's Ilsley Library. For the first time in its history, Addison County sent an entirely Democrat legislative delegation to Montpelier this biennium.

Those Democrats — most of whom will seek reelection this November — will face a voting public clearly discontent with education financing and rising property taxes. Only the Addison Central School District budget passed on its first try in March, as soaring health insurance premiums, the sunset of federal COVID relief funding, and Common Level of Appraisal factors helped drive double-digit education property tax rates in many towns.

Prior to adjourning earlier this month, lawmakers reached a deal on a bill that would raise the



REP. ROBIN SCHEU said at a Legislative wrap-up at Middlebury's Ilsley Library on Monday that local school budget requests across Vermont increased by \$182.2 million this year, compared to the typical \$40 million to \$50 million.

Independent photo/Steve James

average education property tax bill by roughly 14%. And that was after applying \$25 million in one-time funding to ease the blow of what had been projected as an 18.5% hike. In tandem with that agreement, lawmakers OK'd a

summer study committee that will propose strategies to reduce the financial toll of public education on taxpayers.

But lawmakers argued that school budgeting continues to be

(See Session, Page 8A)

3rd Mt. Abe budget set for vote

Latest plan cuts a total of \$1.9M

By MARIN HOWELL

BRISTOL — After cutting the ask from Bristol-area voters again, the Mount Abraham Unified School District Board this week OK'd a third budget proposal for fiscal year 2025, which voters will field on June 11

The plan approved on Tuesday

reflects \$35,381,196 in total spending. That's around \$1.9 million lower than the spending proposal voters rejected on Town Meeting Day, and \$576,205 less than the budget defeated April 16.

District officials expect the spending plan would lower the district-wide homestead tax rate. But due to how the state applies the education tax in individual Vermont towns, education property taxes are still expected to rise by

4-7% in three of the four MAUSD towns.

For example, according to district figures, taxes on a \$300,000 home in Bristol would rise by around \$390 under the revised plan. That's less than the anticipated tax impact of the budget proposals defeated on Town Meeting Day and April 16, which were expected to have raised taxes on the same Bristol home by about \$880 and \$553, respectively.

(See MAUSD, Page 15A)



By the way

Congratulations to Salisbury Community School teacher and Academic Interventionist Lili Foster, who was recently honored with the Michele Forman National Board-Certified Teacher Award by the Vermont chapter of the National Education Association. The award probably carried extra meaning for Foster, considering Michele Foreman — a former Middlebury Union High School social studies educator —

(See By the way, Page 11A)

Schlein, Walden create a legacy

Educator leaving behind innovative school in the woods

By MARIN HOWELL

MONKTON — Matt Schlein is one of several local educators who will retire from their respective positions later this spring.

Though the classroom he'll vacate when summer break arrives looks a bit different than others.

Schlein has spent the past 24 years leading the Walden Project, an outdoor, public education program run through Vergennes Union High School. Through the years, the program has served local 10-12th-graders in the woods of Monkton in partnership with the Willowell Foundation, a nonprofit also founded by Schlein.

"I feel so blessed to have had this been my life's work, and I wanted to end while my heart felt full and while things felt really complete," Schlein said during a recent interview.

The end of this school year will also mark the end of the Walden Project in its current form. The program was one of several items cut from the Addison Northwest School District's fiscal year 2025 spending plan amid a challenging budget season.

While the program will no longer be offered through VUHS, Schlein said members of the

Walden community hope to keep the program going in some way.

"There's a hope that some kind of Walden 2.0 will emerge," he said. "There are a lot of people

who've reached out who really, really care, who look back on their time at Walden and look at it as one of their formative educational

(See Walden Project, Page 10A)



MATT SCHLEIN HAS spent the past 24 years running the Walden Project, an outdoor, public education program offered through Vergennes Union High School. Schlein plans to retire at the end of this school year, which will also mark the end of the Walden Project in its current form.

Independent photo/Marin Howell

Lincoln's Albert running for House

By JOHN FLOWERS

LINCOLN — Lincoln's Jeanne Albert isn't afraid of putting in a ton of effort to scale new heights.

She is, after all, a "46er," a badge of honor worn proudly by the relatively few who've ascended the 46 Adirondack Mountain peaks exceeding 4,000 feet.

Her hiking experience will come in handy as she takes on a brand-new challenge: campaigning in her first-ever run for a Vermont House of Representatives. Albert, 62,

is a longtime math educator and Lincoln School District director who's hoping to be among the top two finishers when votes are tallied in the Addison-4 House race this fall.

It's looking like Albert will need to run the gauntlet of an Aug. 13 Democratic primary if she's to advance to the Nov. 5 general election. Three Democrats have formally announced plans to run in the two-seat district representing the towns of

(See Albert, Page 16A)

Work on city condos begins anew after permitting delay

By ANDY KIRKALDY

VERGENNES — Cornerstone Solutions LLC of Vergennes has resumed construction on two condominium/apartment buildings at 1-3 West Main St. This came after the District 9 Environmental Commission on April 29 granted the family-owned development

firm an Act 250 permit for the project, which overlooks Otter Creek and the Vergennes bridge that spans it.

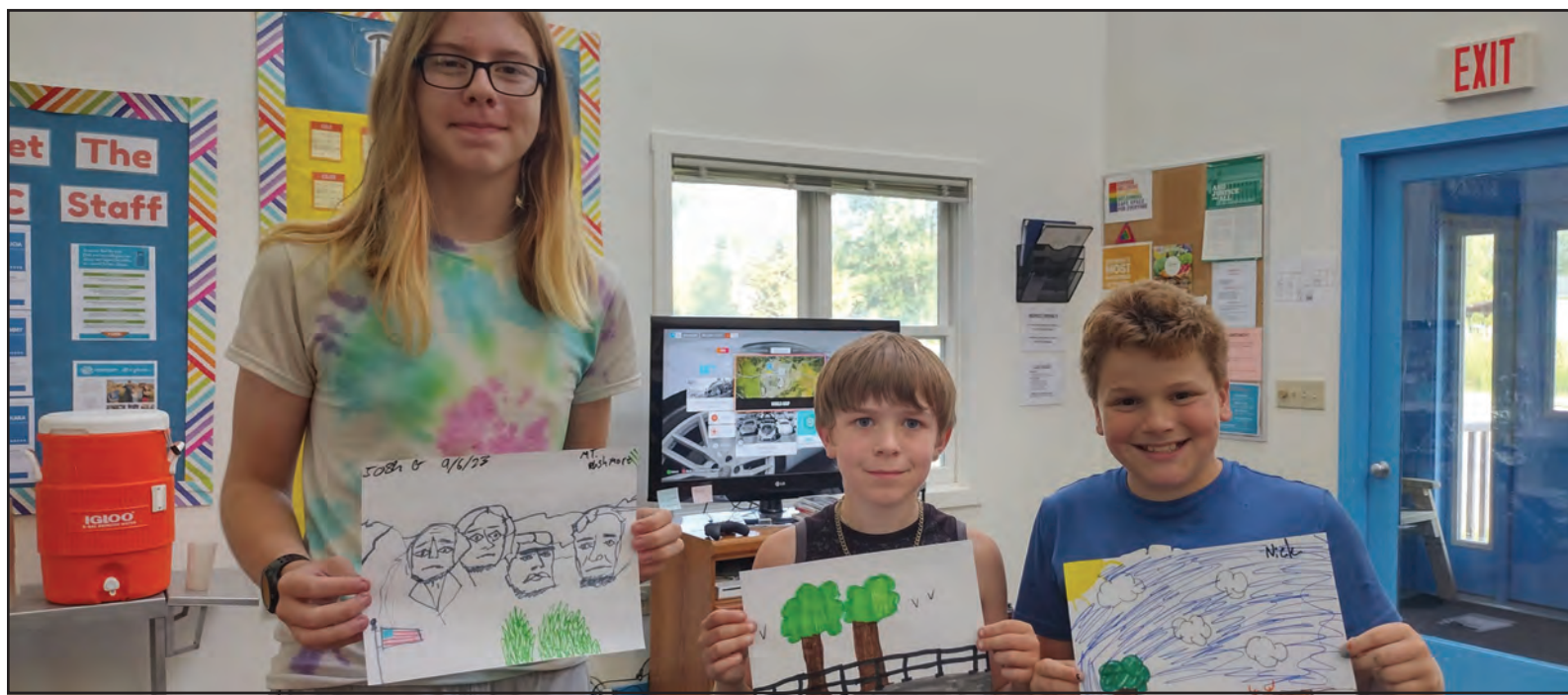
The development, known as the Portage Project, includes a five-unit condo building further from the road and a four-unit apartment

(See Housing, Page 11A)

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BOYS & GIRLS CLUB Member Josh Goff, left, pictured with Cooper Corcoran and Nicholas Fuller, helped inspire the Vergennes-area youth club's upcoming trip to South Dakota with his 2023 rendition of Mount Rushmore.

Photo Courtesy of the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Vergennes

Mayo reflects on 30-year career teaching math at Mount Abe high school

By MARIN HOWELL

BRISTOL — While the majority of her career has been spent inside math classrooms at Mount Abraham Union Middle/High School, Carla Mayo has always sought to teach her students about much more than numbers.

"For me, I see myself not only delivering the math content but also being a role model, as an active, kind and caring community member, role modeling those kinds of behaviors in the classroom," Mayo said during a recent interview.

The high school math teacher has imparted those lessons on the many students who've passed through her classroom over the years, and watching those pupils grow into world-ready adults is one of things Mayo has enjoyed most about her time as an educator.

That time is now coming to an end, as Mayo plans to retire from teaching at the end of the school year after a 30-year stint at Mount Abe.

"I wanted to leave school when I still loved what I was doing and not when I was sick of it and bitter," Mayo said with a laugh. "I loved what I was doing, and I feel like I have still time to do other things for myself."

Mayo began her teaching career at Rutland Middle School in 1992. She'd felt herself being pulled toward the profession a few years prior.

After graduating from the University of Vermont with a degree in mathematics, Mayo began working at the former Tutorial Assistance Program, or TAP, at Vergennes Union High School.

It was there that she discovered a passion for working with young people and decided to return to UVM to obtain her teaching degree. While at TAP, Mayo also crossed paths with longtime VUHS special educator Lee Shorey, who she's considered an educational

role model.

Mayo credits Mary Sullivan and Amanda Bodell as some of the other local role models and mentors that have inspired her over the years.

After securing her teaching degree Mayo took on the position at Rutland Middle School, where she stayed for two-and-a-half years. Eventually a position opened up at Mount Abe, offering Mayo an opportunity to work closer to her home in Vergennes.

Mayo began teaching seventh- and eighth-grade math at the Bristol school, a position she held for 17 years. While teaching in the middle school, Mayo was also working to get a Master's in Education from the former Trinity College in Burlington, as well as a Master's in Curriculum with a focus on mathematics leadership from the Vermont Mathematics Initiative through UVM.

"During that time a brand new position that was called a math specialist was brought into our district, and it coincided with the time to do my action research and thesis," Mayo recalled. "I thought if there's ever a time to do a leadership position now is the time, so I applied."

Mayo's role focused on middle school math intervention, or programs that help students in need of extra support. During the first few years in her new position, she worked with middle school math teachers, co-taught a class with a special educator and developed intervention programs at the Bristol school.

Eventually, the job evolved into an instructional coach position, or someone who works with educators to improve their teaching and students' learning. Mayo would work with teachers to identify what practices they wanted to change and how to make those changes sustainable.

(See Mayo, Page 3A)



LONGTIME MATH EDUCATOR Carla Mayo will retire from her post in the classroom at the end of this school year after 30 years at Mount Abraham Union Middle/High School.

Photo courtesy of Charlie Prouty and Brooklyn Ryersbach

City youth club nets grant, has big plans

By ANDY KIRKALDY

VERGENNES — Back on July 5, 1999, the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Vergennes first opened its doors under the guidance of founder Sam Allo. It was then based in the Vergennes National Guard Armory on Monkton Road.

The fateful events of Sept. 11, 2001, resulted in a series of moves that ended in 2018, when the club bought a permanent clubhouse not far from its first home — a one-story, 3,400-square-foot, former medical office at 20 Armory Lane.

Now under the leadership of CEO Alicia Grangent for the past two years, the club has big plans for its 25th-anniversary summer and has just received a \$20,000 donation from the M&T Bank to support its mission. Grangent said a fundraising campaign related to that gift raised another roughly \$10,000.

The club has also just brought

aboard longtime volunteer Cookie Steponaitis, who in 1999 worked with Allo to get the club off the ground. Steponaitis is serving as the club's Resource Development Coordinator, and Grangent said Steponaitis's skill in pursuing grants is especially welcome.

Looking ahead, a major highlight of the club's upcoming programming will be a five-day June visit to South Dakota, where club members will visit Mount Rushmore and the Badlands. In July and August the club has lined up many road trips to Vermont museums, parks and attractions, including an anniversary day visit to a Lake Monsters baseball game at which the club will be honored.

"There's a lot of stuff. A lot of good stuff," Grangent said.

Grangent added the club is "still not charging" its members for what it offers, possibly one reason why registration for summer

programs is already closed. The club had aimed to fully match the bank's donation to expand summer program capacity, but the fundraising campaign to go along with the M&T Bank donation did not fully meet its \$20,000 matching goal.

"In the climate that we're in everybody is looking for somewhere to go, somewhere to put their kids from fourth grade on, and our slots are full," she said. "We had hoped to raise the (match) so that we could open more slots."

In other words, more donations are always welcome.

"It's always a battle here. Costs are always going up, just like the schools," Grangent said. "We're staying afloat, but we need that support to stay on course."

SUMMER PLANS

Meanwhile, Grangent is excited about what the club is offering this summer.

"Every day is different. We're going to the Weston Theater ... We're going to a lot of the museums. We're currently collecting the eclipse glasses for Astronomers Without Borders to get those recycled," she said.

Other planned summer trips include laser tag, mini golf, an escape room, rock climbing, a look at a bee-keeping operation, Circus Smirkus, Ben & Jerry's factory, Fort Ticonderoga, Quechee Gorge, Shelburne Farms, and Button Bay State Park.

Museum visits include the Shelburne, Lake Champlain Maritime, Rokeby, National Guard and Montshire; the Fairbanks Museum and Planetarium; and The Leahy Echo Center.

The July 5 Lake Monsters game should be a highlight, and Grangent said someone related to the club will throw out the ceremonial first pitch, probably either a member of Allo's family or a club member.

The idea for the South Dakota trip cropped up last year during an annual program that links energy efficiency with a visit to a national park — in 2023 the club visited the Salem (Mass.) Maritime National Historic Site. In the program, club member Josh Goff painted a picture of Mount Rushmore, but lamented, "It's not like we would ever go."

But soon afterward good news arrived.

"Three days later I received a grant opportunity from KOA (Kampgrounds of America Get Out There)," Grangent said.

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Midd Summer Markets expand

Popular weekly event adds Saturdays and new manager

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — The Midd Summer Markets (MSM) will return to downtown Middlebury beginning June 1 for a three-month run that'll include a beefed-up schedule, a new market manager, entertainment, and plenty of family fun.

Now entering its third year, the markets will bring a variety of vendors offering produce, crafts, prepared foods and a whole lot more to the downtown's Triangle Park. And if you miss the main event each Wednesday, from 4-8 p.m., you can come back on Saturdays, from 9 a.m. to noon. Organizers have added Saturday mornings to the Midd Summer Markets rotation this year, hoping they serve as an additional magnet for downtown shopping.

"We're hoping it becomes a spot for people to come together after work, or after camp," said Kelly Flynn, co-director of the Better Middlebury Partnership (BMP).

"We have enough momentum, we have enough vendors," she added. "We're excited."

Thanks to a \$25,000 grant through the non-profit charitable organization Table 21, the 2024 markets will have resources for part-time staff, a nice lineup of musicians, and children's activities. Ashley Betton has been hired as market manager, while Hannah Hoopaugh will be assistant manager.

Each market will be able to accommodate up to 50 vendors. As of late last week, 35 vendors had signed up for one or more dates "and they keep on coming," Flynn said of the keen interest being generated by Midd Summer Markets, or MSM.

She noted that unfortunately, the BMP was unsuccessful in bringing

the long-running Middlebury Farmers Markets into the MSM fold. Those Farmers markets used to be staged Saturday mornings in Waterfront Park in the Marble Works complex. But organizers in 2016 shifted the weekly markets to the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 7823 at 530 Exchange St., in anticipation of disruption caused by the massive downtown rail tunnel project construction, which was wrapped up in 2021.

Farmers market leaders have touted ample parking and the ability to hold indoor markets at the VFW during the colder months. Last year, organizers elected to decline an invitation to make Triangle Park their summer home, citing an inability to secure the venue for 26 consecutive Saturdays — stretching from May into late October. Flynn said Farmers market leaders gave no reason for their rejection of this summer's offer of Triangle Park. She said a major reason the BMP added the Saturday market this year was to make Triangle Park more attractive for Farmers market participants.

"We were really hopeful they would come downtown and partner with us. We had a lot of good conversations with them and thought they were moving along," she said. "We believe the addition of a Farmers market would have bolstered our market, and it would have been beneficial to our

community."

So as it currently stands, there'll be simultaneous Saturday morning markets in Middlebury. But Flynn doesn't see it as a competition; she said MSM organizers will send folks to the VFW for any produce-related items they might not find at Triangle Park.

"We wish them the best," she said. "I think our markets are going to be quite different."

J a n i s McWayne, a leader of the Middlebury Farmers Market, said her organization declined to collaborate with MSM because "there are no guarantees of any kind at Triangle Park June 1-Aug. 31."

She added she's not concerned about potential Saturday competition.

"What will be will be," she said, adding, "I wish them the best."

Flynn and her colleagues hope many vendors will make a firm commitment to MSM, and they're providing a financial incentive to make that happen. Vendors who sign up for sporadic appearances are charged \$40 per market. The rate goes down to \$35 for those who commit to at least 10 appearances.

"It's just a way to get some consistency and diversity" in the vendor mix, according to Flynn.

The markets will run, rain or shine, from June 1 through Aug. 31. The Wednesday editions are set for June 5, 12, 19 and 26; July 3, (See Markets, Page 7A)



ASHLEY BETTON

BGC

(Continued from Page 2A)

the club's generous lot allows for outdoor activities.

"We do a variety of different things," Grangent said.

The return of Steponaitis is also a full-circle moment for the club. Grangent said one of the first things Steponaitis did was show her the sign-up sheet for the club's opening day in 1999, something Grangent called a meaningful moment.

"It's been a true blessing, because it's the 25th year of this place, and with her here having started it with Sam Allo," Grangent said.

What does the landmark anniversary mean to Grangent?

"For me it's learning about why Sam wanted to start this club. And I still think about it and get goosebumps," she said. "The fact that I'm here and able to help see that through is a blessing for me."



M&T BANK RECENTLY donated \$20,000 to the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Vergennes. Pictured are, from left, Bank Vice President Kathy Schirling, Club CEO Alicia Grangent, and Bank Vice President and Club Board Chair Shanon Atkins.

Photo Courtesy of the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Vergennes



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Mayo

(Continued from Page 2A)

She continued in that role for several years, but ultimately felt the job pulling her further away from working with students.

BACK TO THE CLASSROOM

Mayo returned to the classroom three years ago, this time teaching math to high schoolers at Mount Abe. It was a familiar role, but a new age group for Mayo.

"I think what I was intrigued by is in middle school you need to be really thoughtful about channeling the enthusiasm of middle schoolers in productive ways, and in high school it's almost the polar opposite. It's trying to get them to bring out their enthusiasm," she said.

Creating a positive environment for students has been another key part of her work over the years, and one of tasks Mayo has enjoyed most.

"If you're going to be a good teacher, you really need to establish a safe, supportive space before you can move kids forward academically," she said. "Trying to make connections with even the most challenging students, that's always been positive."

While she's enjoyed teaching, Mayo acknowledges it's not easy work. She said learning communities have faced various issues throughout her teaching

career, with current challenges including navigating the pandemic's impact on students' social skills and ability to persevere in their schoolwork.

She sees another challenge of the profession as attracting new educators to the job, especially amidst a period of turbulence for education funding.

"In Vermont where we have schools and taxes kind of interlinked together, it's really put the profession of teaching in a tricky situation in that the public obviously doesn't want to pay higher taxes, and schools are taking the brunt of it," she said.

Mayo added that it's particularly worrisome when Reduction in Force (RIF) notices come into play.

"It completely demoralizes not only teachers but also the staff in general, and it makes us feel like the staff are not valued. While people can say it's taxes not the teachers, it's really linked, especially when your job is on the line," she said. "Given the (RIFs) and all that schools are being asked to do now, if we don't wrap as much support as we can into the profession, we're not going to have people coming into it at all."

Despite the various challenges facing educators, Mayo's time teaching has been filled with lots

of joy. More recently, those joys have included the opportunity to reconnect with familiar faces and families.

"What's fun for me is that I'm teaching a lot of the kids of students that I had 20 to 25 years ago," Mayo said. "It's really nice when we have an open house or parent teacher conferences, it's always a nice full circle moment."

As a fan of numbers, Mayo figured 30 was a nice one to round out her time at Mount Abe. Leaving at the end of this school year will also give her a chance to depart alongside her senior advisees.

What will Mayo miss most about her time in the classroom?

"The people," she said. "The students, all of the adults that I've had the opportunity to work with over the years and form relationships with and learn from."

Though, she's also looking forward to the adventures ahead. Mayo plans to continue diving into hobbies like hiking and gardening, as well as find a seasonal, part-time job.

"It's a time in my life to try things I've never done before, like working in a nursery or a chocolate shop," she said of the opportunities ahead. "Things that keep me active and use a different part of my brain."

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Guest editorial

Pat Leahy: The Leahy Law should be applied to Israel

Requiring Israel to respect human rights does not imply 'moral equivalence' to Hamas

By Sen. Patrick Leahy

In the 1980s and '90s, the United States gave training, weapons and ammunition to Latin American security forces with a long history of violating human rights. In Guatemala and El Salvador, soldiers trained and equipped by the United States killed hundreds of thousands of civilians with near-total impunity. I conceived and introduced the Leahy law in 1997 because our Latin partners, and security forces in many other countries, were violating the basic principles that the United States stands for, and we were complicit.

Today, people are asking whether the law should apply to Israel.

The law prohibits U.S. aid to any unit of a foreign security force if the secretary of state has "credible information" the unit has committed a gross violation of human rights: murder, rape, torture, forced disappearance or other flagrant denials of the right to life, liberty and personal security. Aid can resume if the foreign government is taking "effective steps" to bring the responsible members of the unit to justice.

The Leahy law is not a panacea. But it is a vital tool to remind foreign officials — and our own — that American taxpayers do not want to fund human rights violations. Faced since its passage with repeated arguments that "engagement" with foreign forces is essential and that human rights problems are the result of "a few bad apples," I have responded, in effect: "Let's agree not to arm and train the worst bad apples until our partners clean them up." This is hardly a pie-in-the-sky standard. In fact, it is a bare minimum about which there should be no disagreement.

Over the years, the Leahy law has been applied to many countries, and secretaries of state and defense of both political parties have affirmed its importance as a practical and effective tool to shield the United States from involvement in horrific crimes and to build forces that respect human rights and the laws of armed conflict. But while the Leahy law applies the same requirements to every country, it has not always been equally enforced. Israel, among the largest recipients of U.S. military aid, is a glaring example.

Beginning in the early 2000s, I wrote to successive secretaries of state about the failure to apply the Leahy law to Israel. The responses were either inconclusive or inaccurately claimed the law was being applied to Israel the same as to other countries, which the State Department continues to insist today.

Unlike for most countries, U.S. weapons, ammunition and other aid is provided to Israeli security forces in bulk rather than to specific units. The secretary of state is therefore required to regularly inform Israel of any security force unit ineligible for U.S. aid due to having committed a gross violation of human rights, and the Israeli government is obligated to comply with that prohibition.

Since the Leahy law was passed, not a single Israeli security force unit has been deemed ineligible for U.S. aid, despite repeated, credible reports of gross violations of human rights and a pattern of failing to appropriately punish Israeli soldiers and police who violate the rights of Palestinians.

Recently, Secretary of State Antony Blinken determined that four Israeli security force units had committed gross violations of human rights of Palestinians in the West Bank, months or years ago, but that Israel had taken effective steps to bring those responsible to justice, so the Leahy law was not applied. Yet two of those cases involved the fatal shooting of unarmed Palestinians for which the Israeli soldiers served little or no time in prison.

In the case of a fifth unit, in January 2022, soldiers of the Israeli Netzhah Yehuda Battalion falsely detained a 78-year-old Palestinian American citizen, Omar Assad, bound his hands behind his back, gagged him and left him facedown on the ground. He died from a stress-induced heart attack. Israel cleared the soldiers of any wrongdoing, and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu praised Netzhah Yehuda and pledged to thwart any U.S. attempt to implement the Leahy law. Although Blinken determined that Netzhah Yehuda had committed a gross violation, the Leahy law has not been applied.

Thus, according to the State Department, in the decades-long history of the Leahy law, only five Israeli security force units have committed a gross violation of human rights, of which four were appropriately punished. That not only begs credulity; it also makes a mockery of the law.

I have condemned Hamas's barbaric attack on Oct. 7. The perpetrators of those atrocities should be tracked down and held to account. Applying the Leahy law to Israel would not suggest "moral equivalence" with Hamas. Nor will faithfully applying the Leahy law to Israel weaken its security. Our aid to Israel will continue to flow to Israeli units that respect human rights and international law.

The secretary of state should urgently give Israel a list of ineligible Israeli security force units, including Netzhah Yehuda, regularly update the list with units that commit gross violations of human rights and thereby demonstrate that no country whose security forces receive U.S. aid is above U.S. law.

Note: Sen. Patrick Leahy served as a U.S. senator from Vermont for 48 years. He retired in 2022.



Picker

PAUL WAGNER OF Bridport was one of many antique hounds at Ralph Farnsworth's old barn in New Haven on May 11 to check out the sizable collection of gasoline pumps on auction. He was searching for a suitable old pump to put in his garage with his vintage Dodge pick-up. See more photos of the pumps on Page 13A.

Independent photo/Steve James

Money changed Boeing trajectory

You could say that I owe my life to Boeing. Until the advent of Amazon and Microsoft, it was the largest employer in the Seattle area, even in the early years of World War II, as the Depression came to an end. My mother had begun college, but could not manage it financially, so she took a job at Boeing. My father had grown up on a small midwestern farm and began college, studying aeronautical engineering. He too was struggling financially, so decided to move out to Seattle and get a job — at Boeing. Co-workers got the two of them together, and they got engaged just before my dad headed to Naval flight school. Without Boeing, how else would the two of them have met?

After the war, my father completed his engineering degree, but did not return to Boeing. Mom and Dad always maintained allegiance to the company, but not out of nostalgia: Boeing prided itself on safety, taking great effort for their airplanes to be the safest ones in the sky. If possible, my parents would always book flights on Boeing jets. The company grew and flourished, becoming the only manufacturer of large planes in this country and one of only two in the world.

Airplane design and manufacturing is expensive. Events in the late 1990's led to a change in culture, where the so-called "bean counters" won out over the engineers for corporate leadership. This had been occurring in many U.S. manufacturing businesses. While it is always necessary to pay attention to the financial side of things, paying out big dividends to

stockholders may not be the ideal focus. Perhaps if you manufacture shoes, you can accept a small percentage of defects. You can always just repair or replace a faulty shoe. But in any industry, permitting defects to occur is not a winning strategy.

You probably are aware that Boeing's safety record is no longer as stellar as it once was. Sure, out of the vast number of their planes in use, few have had problems. Luckily, some recent issues, while scary, did not involve actual crashes. If there were multiple companies in this business, however, those problems might well have put Boeing out of business, but they are one of two in the world.

The company has made changes now, realizing that safety needs to take the forefront — even over money-making. But this is just one example when focus on money has given people leadership power in arenas where they lack the basic knowledge, skills, and competence. In general, companies and organizations that succeed are started and managed by people who have administrative skills and financial knowhow. Coupled with that, these people possess mastery in the production and delivery of their product. As such enterprises grow, they often are purchased by or turn their management over to people who lack that mastery. Instead, the focus is on making money, saving money. It becomes all about money. Where does that take us, we who are trusting these products and services?

We have all seen problems arise from this kind (See *Ways of Seeing*, Page 5A)

Ways of Seeing

By Laurie Cox



Addiction seen through new eyes

I used to be biased against people with a substance disorder. But my recent experience as a guardian ad litem caused me to change my mind.

Since the 1980s, when a close friend was mugged at her doorstep in New York City, I'd felt that people with substance use disorders must be lazy because they weren't trying hard enough to overcome their addiction. And they must be stupid because, not wanting to work real jobs, they turned into drug dealers who mug you and rob you. How else could I explain why my friend, a childhood polio victim who walked with metal leg braces, could be treated so cruelly? It was a bitter irony that, professionally, my friend was a social worker who worked at a drug rehabilitation center.

In 2021, after moving to Vermont from Massachusetts, I volunteered and trained to be a guardian ad litem. My first assignment was a two-month-old baby boy. I was required to visit him monthly, attend court hearings, and report to the court concerning "the best interests of the child." The baby's mother was young, and since she'd been a teen she'd used illegal drugs and experienced chronic mental health problems. Hospital medical staff are required to file a report to the Vermont Department for Children and

Families (DCF) about patients who are illegal drug users and giving birth. This begins a lengthy legal court process in order to ensure the baby's safety.

Because the mother had used opioids during pregnancy, the baby had to receive methadone after birth to avoid withdrawal symptoms. At hospital discharge, the foster parents took the baby home with them, although the family court judge allowed daily visits for the mother to breastfeed. Then, a few months later, the mother and her boyfriend, the baby's father, were arrested for drug dealing. A search of their apartment found drugs, a weapon, and a lot of cash. The mother later overdosed and was hospitalized for many weeks for her mental health needs.

At this time, I didn't think the DCF plan to reunite the baby with his mother would work. There was little evidence she wanted to live without drugs or that she had much attachment to her baby. I didn't know how she felt about being separated from her child or if she even cared.

I visited the baby monthly, as required by the court, at the foster parents' home and at a DCF office. I shared my observations about his development with the baby's lawyer and his (See *Forum*, Page 5A)

Community Forum

This week's writer is Anne C. Sullivan, M.Ed., a Hinesburg resident who has worked in schools and human services for five decades.



Letters to the Editor

Still searching for a home

I've noticed that housing is an issue. Well, I can tell. I can relate. I'm homeless and I have no home. I can't find housing for myself, my dog or my husband. All the housing here is for people 65 or older. But what about people who aren't 65 or older. What about those people? I'm out here sleeping in the cold. I do work but it takes so much to save and with rising prices on everything it's extremely hard. Homeless need to be helped. Vermont is ranked number two in the U.S.A. for having a high rate. California is number one. This is a huge problem, and it needs to be addressed before no one wants to live here anymore.

Stephanie Carmo Vergennes

There's beauty in solar panels

In response to the Panton solar project, I find all solar panels and wind generators to be beautiful whether they are residential or solar or wind farms. They produce clean renewable energy over which no wars will be fought.

David Rosen Bristol

Remember those who sacrificed

We used to sing "God Bless America, Land that I Love." I still do when I think that we live in the most generous country in the world.

I think of all the wars in which we have been engaged. I counted at least 10, not to mention mini engagements.

Not one of them was fought for our country's personal gain but for the freedom for those people who long for it.

This Memorial Day may we remember those who sacrificed their lives for the freedom we enjoy.

I will continue to sing "God Bless America."

Jean Panicucci Middlebury

Morley 'can't catch a break'

Regarding both sides of the story. And is the story more interesting than the truth? Marv Morley can't catch a break. And the trial is over, by the way. And he was offered a plea deal, and refused, and chose to go to trial. And he was proven innocent. I know Marv. He and his wife Julie are friends of mine.

I suppose that the way things are today, the passengers had a right to expect the worst, but nothing happened to them. If they were traumatized and terrified, then they deserve to be heard, but it's obvious to me that Marv had no intention of harming anyone, and was trying to help one of the passengers, who he perceived as having difficulty with her employment and her housing. I've known him for years. He tends to problem solve. And sometimes no good deed goes unpunished. It's just the way it is. Probably he knows better than to spontaneously try to help a stranger, especially a woman, ever again. Too risky, and motives are too easily misunderstood.

So, can we leave him alone now? Take a lesson from what happened, and learn from it, and maybe not instantly brand someone a pariah until they get to tell their story? Hope so.

Steve Birkett Monkton

Orwell readies for budget vote

Dear Slate Valley Unified Union School District Community Members,

On May 30, 2024, voters will be asked to go to the polls for the fourth time to approve the 2024-2025 school budget of \$30,810,135. This budget is (See *Beaumont letter*, Page 5A)

ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT

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The Addison Independent USPS 005-380

Forum

(Continued from Page 4A)

Family Services Worker from DCF. My hour-long visits at the DCF playroom (where the mother was supervised by a DCF worker) weren't promising. During my first visit, the mother questioned my presence and asked me to leave. After I explained why I was there, she changed her mind. During other visits, she was quiet and often seemed tired. She'd sit on the floor with her infant son, her cell phone in her hand. I didn't see her change a diaper, feed him or begin to play or talk with him.

These visits reminded me of my professional Early Intervention work in Massachusetts. E.I. is a state-funded program for children ages birth-3 who qualify for treatment. In Massachusetts, I visited a residential treatment center for mothers in recovery from illegal substance use and their babies. I saw mothers individually with their babies and in a group. Some mothers slept during the group. Some mothers often didn't make eye contact; others looked tired or uninterested. It seemed they'd rather be on their phones. They'd complain about the staff and the rules; sometimes about missing their older children, who were often in foster care. Working with these mothers would often leave me feeling drained and annoyed. Although I knew they weren't being discourteous — they were mostly tired and withdrawn — it was hard to get them involved or interested.

Now, as a guardian ad litem, I was skeptical about how a mother could begin to form an attachment or bond with a baby she was separated from. I knew that infant attachment gradually forms through the senses of both baby and mother during feeding, diaper changes, comforting, dressing, and transitions between sleep and waking. I wondered if this was happening between the mother and her infant. Although the baby was safe, well cared for by the foster parents and developing normally, the mother's behavior was still unstable. She had to undergo drug screens, remain in medically assisted treatment, get a job, complete lots of paperwork, and report to DCF. On one visit at DCF, after her hospitalization, she told me she'd had a lot of stress during the postpartum period weeks after giving birth, and that this had led to a relapse. I knew how significant the postpartum period is for all new mothers and how much support they need. I wondered how much support she'd been able to find for herself. Clearly not enough.

Many months later, the mother was accepted at a residential treatment center. The court

allowed the baby to live there with her after the transition. By now, the baby was a toddler, walking, using words and eating table food. During his transition to living with his mother, I watched as the foster parents handed the boy over to his mother. He'd cry, but over time he became familiar with the routine. In the center playroom, I could see his mother beginning to play and talk with him more often. She also began to talk with me when we'd go outside for a walk. She was alert and focused. I remember the day she told me she didn't want to lose her son ever again.

Her words brought to mind an incident from a few years back, when I witnessed the trauma of a mother-child separation. One day in Massachusetts, I had an E.I. appointment with a very young mother and her infant at the residential treatment center, when two DCF social workers entered the room. One social worker took the baby out of the mother's arms while the other explained why they were taking him. Then they left with the baby. The mother was distraught and crying. Other mothers there were watching. The staff said the child's removal was due to a relapse, meaning they had found illegal substances in the mother's room, and they're required to report this to DCF to protect the baby. The baby was eventually returned.

Now my guardian ad litem reports to DCF and the baby's attorney described the baby's positive development I'd observed during monthly visits. His mother now talked to him, kept her eyes on him and moved around with him in the playroom. She even apologized to me for the "very rocky start" she thought we'd had during our initial meetings.

The mother attended court hearings and conferences all held via Zoom during the past two years, answered questions from the family court judge, and listened to reports about herself by several attorneys, the FSW, and mine about the baby. She remained at the treatment center for almost a year with her baby. She completed housing applications and searched for an apartment.

When I last visited the boy, now two years old, he was living with his mother in an apartment. He was talking, playing, sitting in her lap and she was alert and more talkative. She'd been discharged from residential treatment and found affordable housing with a voucher. I saw that the child was meeting all developmental milestones and thriving despite having been exposed to substances and dealing with many transitions.

Shortly after that visit, a status conference was held in court via Zoom. I reported on the boy's great progress and said I didn't see any indications of trauma in his behaviors. Then, since the lawyers agreed there were no longer any safety concerns, the judge closed the case two months early. In court, everyone praised the mother for staying in recovery and congratulated her many times.

She deserves this. Mothers addicted to opioids, when giving birth in the hospital, are often treated as bad mothers and criminals. They are discharged from the hospital without their babies, who are taken away from them. There aren't enough treatment centers and support for them to stay together. Unfortunately, relapses are inevitable and not a sign of weakness.

Since this legal case has now been closed by the Family Court I will no longer have contact with the mother, who texted me after the hearing: "Thank you for everything you've done to help us."

Now, when I talk with neighbors or friends about illegal drug users, I think about the struggles they face. I better understand why a safe recovery and success are so hard to achieve.

Anne C. Sullivan, M.Ed., a child development specialist and guardian ad litem, was a play therapist and teacher in Massachusetts for 50 years, in schools, hospitals and agencies. In 2021 she received a Senior Heroes award from the Framingham Council on Aging and the Massachusetts House and Senate for her Environmental Justice volunteer work.

Beaumont letter

(Continued from Page 4A)
unchanged since the last budget vote.

We are maintaining the same spending figure because we believe that this is the absolute minimum amount of money needed to run our educational programs, keep our facilities from falling into further disrepair, and maintain a safe learning environment.

This budget will result in a per pupil education spending of \$11,294.83. The state average as of 3/22/24 is \$13,396. We are asking to spend \$2101.17 less per equalized pupil to provide each student with the same education, an equal education. How can we do this by continuing to reduce our budget?

The 2024-2025 Homestead Tax Rates range from Fair Haven at \$1.3299 (a 5.55% increase), to Benson at \$1.5709 (an 18.48% increase). Tax rates for our other member towns are Castleton at \$1.6305 (11.5% increase), Hubbardton at \$1.6782 (12.35% increase), Orwell at \$1.4868 (13.05% increase), and West Haven at \$1.6277 (8.83% increase). With the exception of Benson, all these towns have an

increase less than the average tax rate increase of 13.8% statewide, as cited by Governor Scott this week. For every \$100,000 we decrease our budget, the tax rate above is reduced by less than one cent. A property valued at \$100,000, therefore, would save the taxpayer \$1.61.

Do you really want us to eliminate our fifth and sixth grade sports programs at \$73,250 and/or our bus monitors at \$91,550 to save less than \$2.00 per \$100,000 of property value? You elected us, fellow property taxpayers, to develop and successfully pass a budget. This is the role of the school board, not the administration. Their job is to provide us with recommendations. We accepted some of their suggestions, but not others, because we believe the amount we requested is the least amount possible to provide the appropriate education for our students.

We have asked you to reach out to your legislatures to express your concerns with the high cost of Vermont education. These are the people who can make change! And I remind you that they did make changes

in the form of Act 127, which increased our "weighted pupils" to produce an equalized tax rate that is close to past year figures. Hence, although our budget increased from \$28,056,400 to \$30,810,135, our equalized tax rate has decreased. We need to take advantage of the additional money we will be allotted by the state educational fund.

If you remain dissatisfied with our decisions, please, come to the table. Civic engagement is everyone's responsibility, but this type of engagement cannot happen behind the scenes or screens. We need to have the hard conversations in person, at our school board meetings. SVUUSD will hold our fourth Informational Meeting on Wednesday, May 29, at 6:30 p.m., in the Fair Haven Union Middle High School Band Room. Voting will be conducted the following day, May 30. You can pick up an absentee ballot at your Town Clerk's office. Please vote!

Pati Beaumont
SVUUSD Chairperson
Benson

Ways of Seeing

(Continued from Page 4A)

of decision-making, whether in hospital administration, or hedge funds buying up small veterinary clinics, the loss of in-country steel production, or corporate ownership of prisons and charter schools. Everyone wants to make a buck or save a buck, but sometimes that results in a decided lack of quality. It can make hiring and retaining skilled employees difficult. Sometimes it creates environmental degradation. Sometimes it leads to loss of life.

The CEOs who prioritize revenue and profit above all else may have many positive attributes, but their vision lacks an understanding of the true mission of the company or agency

they are to lead. Unless it is a hedge fund, that mission is rarely to simply make or save money. When such mistaken goals are evident in the leadership of local service providers, those leaders have not lasted. With capitalism, the primary goal is to make money. In the corporate world, accordingly, there is an accepted factor of greed and power in the leadership. Unfortunately, the craving for money and power can supersede the goals of good services and quality products.

We want goods that hold up, planes that don't crash, and schools and service agencies that attract and keep great employees who will serve us well. Sure, that costs money, which we don't always want to spend. But

our nation's current trajectory of ignoring the public good in order to save money sends more and more money into the pockets of fewer and fewer people. We increase the power and influence of those people; we allow them to make the decisions we should be making.

Boeing traditionally focused on excellence, safety, and ingenuity. Apparently, that was costing them too much money — thus, it cost some people's lives.

Laurie Cox is a retired school counselor and longtime Ripton Selectboard member. Besides occasional writing she pursues art, gardening, hiking with her dog, and is always striving to build stronger communities.

The Addison Independent office will be closed on Monday, May 27th in observance of Memorial Day.

ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT

Please note, the ad reservation deadline for the May 30th edition will be Friday, May 24th.

Letters to the editor

The Addison Independent encourages readers to write letters to the editor. We believe a newspaper should be a community forum for people to debate issues of the day

Because we believe that accountability makes for responsible debate, we will print signed letters only. Be sure to include an address and telephone number, too, so we can call to clear up any questions.

If you have something to say, send it to: Letters to the Editor, Addison Independent, 58 Maple St., Middlebury, VT 05753. Or email to news@addisonindependent.com.

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Obituaries

Bruce Kirk Byers, 90, of Cornwall

CORNWALL — Bruce Kirk Byers, 90, of Cornwall, Vt., passed away peacefully, surrounded by family and his dog, Maple, on May 9, 2024.

Born in New York City on Oct. 3, 1933, to John R.B. Byers and Marjorie Newman Byers, Bruce grew up in Rutherford, N.J., with summers spent in Green Pond, N.J. He graduated from Blair Academy (1951), Middlebury College (1955) and Cornell Law School (1958). He was in the Army Reserve from 1958-1964.

At Middlebury College Bruce met the love of his life, Suzanne Heyer, to whom he was married for 67 years. A stellar college athlete, he played basketball, baseball, and soccer, helping a classmate who in 1954 organized the first Middlebury soccer team, which won every game that season. He excelled in his studies at college and law school, and was active in a variety of clubs and committees. Bruce loved his time at Middlebury College, so much so that he and Sue retired to nearby Cornwall in 2000.

In 1962 Bruce started his own law firm in Ridgewood, NJ. He and Sue very quickly, as with everything in their lives, got involved with all things Ridgewood. Bruce was deeply committed to public service. He was attorney for the Planning Board, a town councilman, and mayor. He always said his favorite role as mayor was performing marriage ceremonies. His generosity extended to pro bono legal work for numerous organizations. He was board chair of Holley Child Care Center and spearheaded a large senior citizen housing project and town park restoration. This dedication to community continued after Bruce and Sue moved full-time to Cornwall after being weekenders since 1986. As described by Middlebury



BRUCE KIRK BYERS

College President Laurie Patton, in presenting him with the John and Bonnie McCordell Citizen's Award in 2016, the Middlebury community is "privileged to have Bruce's selflessness and zest for life in our midst." Over the years, beneficiaries of this zest were Porter Hospital, Charter House, Open Door Clinic, Meals on Wheels, Habitat for Humanity, Middlebury Dog Park, Cornwall Planning Board, and HOPE. One of his passions was the Town Hall Theater restoration. He served on the board, helped raise funds, and provided pro bono legal work for anything needed to bring this historic town jewel back to life.

Gratitude to his alma mater was reflected over the years in his serving on the Alumni Board, as alumni interviewer for hopeful applicants and as class agent, as well as co-chair with Sue of several reunions. At his 50th reunion he was the Alumni Association recipient of the award for Outstanding Service to the College. An annual highlight for the past 20 years was Alumni College at the Bread Loaf campus, with a cohort of dear classmates from near and far.

Bruce was good at checking

things off his bucket list, including getting his Town Hall Theater bartending license in his 70s, diving into woodworking and pottery classes, hosting legendary Kentucky Derby parties to benefit Porter Hospital, pitching for the Natural Foods Coop's co-ed softball team, driving a succession of convertibles, and hosting Middlebury College international students (who have become "family"). He loved his sports, especially any one involving competition and a ball: tennis, golf, softball, paddle tennis. His paddle court was open to all.

He had a knack for making people feel comfortable. He will be remembered for his unbridled laughter, energy, generous spirit and friendship, his love of maple creamers and chocolate, and springer spaniels. He never lost his inner child, sharing his sense of fun with his children and later his grandchildren, such as treating them to one-on-one summer outings to a game arcade, mini golf, go-cart tracks, with always a grand finale at an ice cream and candy shop.

Bruce leaves a legacy of kindness, community service, and a love of life. He is survived by his wife, Sue; daughter, Anne Lockwood (Michael); son, Christopher Byers (Stephanie); grandchildren, Chris Lockwood (Caroline), Kyle Lockwood (Michelle), Cara Lockwood Rohrer (Jeff), Keely Lockwood, and Natalie Byers. He was so loved by his extended family and many dear friends. He will be deeply missed.

A celebration of Bruce's life will be held at American Flatbread, 137 Maple Street, Middlebury, Vt., on June 1, from 4-7 p.m. All are welcome.

Contributions in Bruce's name may be made to Charter House Coalition or Town Hall Theater, both in Middlebury. ◊

Howard Daniel Clark, 78, of Addison

ADDISON — Howard Daniel Clark passed away on May 15 at Helen Porter Nursing Home, after a long period of failing health.

He was born at Thorne's Nursing Home in Vergennes, Vt., on Dec. 12, 1945, to Archie E. and Catherine (Briggs) Clark. He was raised on the family farm in Addison, where he attended elementary school, and later went on to high school in Vergennes.

Well-known in the Vergennes community, Howard was fortunate to have many people who looked out for him. He could be found walking or riding his bike around town, sitting on the wall by the falls, hanging out at the Barber Shop or socializing by Kinney's.

Howard worked for many years with cattle dealer Bill Cassidy, and at various farms around Addison



HOWARD DANIEL CLARK

County. He also had several unofficial jobs such as raising the flag at area establishments.

He is survived by his sisters

Mary Jerome (Donald) of Waltham, Vt., and Nancy Vaughn (Bob Taft) of Leesburg, Fla.; his brother Alan Clark (Jean) of Bristol, Vt.; and several nieces, nephews and cousins.

Howard was predeceased by his brother Donald Clark Sr., and his sisters Barbara Cardany and Katherine Jimmo.

The family would like to thank Helen Porter Nursing Home for the excellent care Howard received during his stay.

Calling hours will be Tuesday, May 21, at the Brown-McClay Funeral Home in Vergennes from 5 to 8 pm.

A celebration of life will be held at the Brown-McClay Funeral Home on Wednesday, May 22, at 10 a.m., with burial following at the Grand View Cemetery in Addison. ◊

Laurie A. Jerger, 56, of Middlebury

MIDDLEBURY — Laurie A. Jerger passed away on May 16, 2024, at the University of Vermont Medical Center in Burlington.

Laurie was born in Burlington on July 11, 1967, the first daughter of Wilhelm and Marjorie (Scott) Jerger. She graduated from Vergennes Union High School in 1985.

Laurie spent her childhood days surrounded by aunts, uncles, cousins, friends and neighbors on the family farm in Ferrisburgh. Anyone would tell you that she was a farmgirl true and true. She did all the chores, drove tractor, and had many farm heroism encounters. If you ask any family member, they'll tell you a tale or two.

After high school Laurie left the farm life and got one of the best gifts that she treasured the most, her daughter Ashley and years later, her granddaughter Peyton.

Laurie enjoyed cooking for anyone and everyone. If you were



LAURIE A. JERGER

in her presence, you left with something tasty that she made. Laurie made her special dishes with love and enjoyed making you smile. Laurie loved her family and friends.

Laurie is survived and will be dearly missed by her mother, Marjorie Jerger of Ferrisburgh; her daughter, Ashley Jerger

and her significant other Ryan West; her siblings, Cary Davis (Sean), of Ferrisburgh, Jeffrey Jerger (Pilar), of Ferrisburgh and Bradley Jerger (Stacy), of Ferrisburgh; her granddaughter, Peyton "Boober" West; several aunts and uncles; nieces, Albee "Alba" and Jade Jerger; nephew August Jerger; and numerous cousins. She also leaves behind her favorite companion, Smokey.

Visiting hours will be held on Saturday, June 8, from 10 a.m. till 11:30 a.m., immediately followed by a ceremony at 11:30 a.m. at the Sanderson-Ducharme Funeral Home, located at 117 S. Main Street Middlebury, Vt. In lieu of flowers memorial contribution may be made to the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation at 13770 Noel Road, Suite 801889, Dallas, TX 75380.

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

Arthur W. Huestis, 76, of Bridport

BRIDPORT — Arthur W. Huestis passed away on May 15, 2024, at the age of 76 (although he perpetually said he was 29).

Arthur was born on Oct. 18, 1947, the first son of Daniel and Eleanor (Blacklock) Huestis. He graduated from Middlebury Union High School in 1965. He was a proud member of the FFA of Middlebury, where he was Vice President in 1963-1964 and Treasurer in 1964-1965. While in the FFA Arthur was awarded a State Star Farmer award for an article on hoof trimming.

Arthur married the love of his life, Joan, on June 26, 1971. They purchased the family farm in Bridport in 1977 from his parents, where they resided to this day. Arthur was an innovator in the farming industry, raising registered Holstein cows. He was the first to install a bunk silo in the county and to have a computerized milking system. He was President of the Northern Milk Producers (which later merged with Eastern Milk Producers) and a key member of several other farming organizations. Arthur was a dairy farmer through and through who loved what he did, especially milking cows and baling



ARTHUR W. HUESTIS

hay, having had the first large square baler in the area.

Arthur was baptized at the United Methodist Church of West Addison, where he was a member at his death. He was a member of the Bridport Fire Department for 20 years. He retired from dairy farming in 2019. He enjoyed attending Project Independence in person or by Zoom and made many wonderful friends.

Arthur is survived and will be missed by his wife, Joan, of 52 years; his daughters, Claire Huestis

of Bridport, Katie (Chuck) Welch of Bridport and Amy (Kyle) Emens of Golf, Ill.; by his beloved fresh air daughter, Nerva (Jeff) Horne of Albany, N.Y.; his cherished grandchildren, Chaz, Zach, and Sophia Welch and Daniel Emens; and his siblings, Richard, Ronnie, Debbie and Sherrie. As a family farmer his farm hands always became part of the family and remained close friends no matter where life took them. He was predeceased by his parents and his in-laws, Henry and Clara Briggs.

Calling hours were held at Brown-McClay Funeral Home in Vergennes on Monday, May 20, from 5-8 p.m. A celebration of life was held at the United Methodist Church of West Addison at 18 Church St., at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, May 21. Burial followed at the Bridport Central Cemetery with a luncheon at the Bridport Masonic Hall.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the United Methodist Church of West Addison, C/O Doris Roberts, 826 Walton Lane, Addison, VT 05491, or Bridport Fire Department, 125 Crown Point Rd, Bridport, VT 05734. ◊

SPRINGFIELD — Frank J. Lengyel, 93, of Springfield, Vt., passed away on April 12, 2024, at the Gill Odd Fellows Home in Ludlow, Vt.

He was born on Feb. 19, 1931, in Middlebury, Vt., to the late Michael and Mary (Puh) Lengyel.

Frank attended school in Middlebury and graduated from Middlebury High School in 1949. In 1955 he enlisted in the United States Army until 1958.

He then went on to work for the Springfield Post Office as a window clerk.

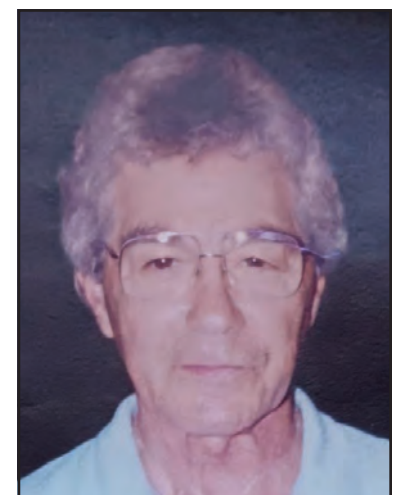
Frank is survived by two sisters, Pauline Novak and Barbara LaFontaine; and many nieces and nephews.

He was predeceased by his brothers, Charles and Michael Lengyel; and his sisters Helen Cook, Theresa Taylor, Mary Knight, Josephine Billings and Anne Walsen. He was also predeceased by his nephew, Robert LaFontaine III.

A graveside service will be held on Saturday, June 8, at 11 a.m., at the St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery in Springfield.

Memorial donations may be made in Frank's memory to the Springfield Humane Society, 401 Skitchewaung Trail, Springfield, VT 05156.

Arrangements are entrusted to the care of the Davis Memorial Chapel, Springfield. ◊



FRANK J. LENGYEL

Robert Jean Many, 92, of New Haven

RUTLAND — Robert Jean Many, 92, passed away Saturday, May 18, 2024, at The Pines of Rutland.

He was born on Sept. 13, 1931, in New Haven, the son of Jean and Clara Cry Many.

Robert is preceded in death by his parents; a daughter, Phyllis; and siblings Raymond, Peter, Helen, Mary, Doris and Agnes.

He had a love of music and played many instruments: guitar, violin, mandolin, banjo and harmonica. Also, he played baseball and horseshoes, and bowled and hunted.

He served in the army during the Korean war.

He is survived by sons, David and spouse Liz, Darrell and spouse Diane, Mike and spouse Diane, Paul and spouse Deb; daughter Cathy; siblings Paul Many and Theresa; and several grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

A Mass of Christian burial will be held at 10 a.m. on Friday, May



ROBERT JEAN MANY

31, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Middlebury. Interment will be at St. Mary's cemetery in Middlebury with a reception following at the VFW in Middlebury. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to The Pines of Rutland, 99 Allen Street, Rutland, VT 05701. ◊

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.

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Maryann Margaret Donnelly Turpin, 85, of Vergennes

VERGENNES — Maryann Margaret Donnelly Turpin of Vergennes, died on May 15, her 85th birthday, following a short illness. As she passed into Jesus' arms she was surrounded by family and love at home.

She was born in Waterbury, Conn., to Eugene Donnelly and Margaret Reilly Donnelly on May 15, 1939. Maryann joins her twin brother Martin "Butchy" Donnelly, who died at the tender age of four. As a young teen, Maryann moved to Vermont from Connecticut with her family.

Maryann was known as Mimi, mom, mama, and Mickey and was loved by many. She was always happy to help others, no matter if she knew them or not. Religion was especially important to Maryann. She was happiest when she was in church. Prior to getting sick she would attend Mass almost daily. Maryann loved being part of St. Peters Parish in Vergennes.

Maryann and husband Joe owned two restaurants over the years. The first was Mary and Joe's Country Kitchen in Ferrisburgh and later the Park Restaurant in Vergennes. Maryann loved garage sales, furniture, bingo and fake flowers, or silk flowers as she referred to them. She took immense pride in her



MARYANN MARGARET DONNELLY TURPIN

family and her home. The woman loved her rouge and lipstick.

Maryann married the love of her life, Joe Turpin, on April 15, 1961. Together they raised their daughters, Lisa, Joanne, Liz, and Amy in Shoreham, Ferrisburgh, Vergennes, Middlebury and finally back to Vergennes. A foster child, Doris, joined the family, and we were complete.

Maryann is survived by her five daughters and their families, Lisa Turpin and Mark Robert, Joanne Turpin-Wernhoff and husband Dale Wernhoff, Liz Warden, Amy

Turpin-DeFilippo and husband Mark DeFilippo, and Doris Gallipo and husband Joe Gallipo; her brother, John Donnelly and wife Melinda Donnelly; cousin, Mary Beth Reilly; and nieces and nephews.

Mimi loved her grandchildren and was just as excited about the birth of the first grandchild as she was about the birth of her last grandchild. Her grandchildren are Sheena, Stephanie, Mary Margaret, Emily, Annie, Jonas, Cooper, McKenzie, Luigi, Dominic, Joe, Mike, Matthew, Jonathan, Jeffrey, and Justin. Great-grandchildren are Noah, Daniel, Adler, Elizabeth, Hunter, Scarlett, Celia, Ender, Evelyn, and Lochlin.

Maryann was predeceased by her beloved husband, Joseph Turpin; treasured son-in-law Jeffrey Warden; and great-grandchild, Hannah. She is also predeceased by her parents; sisters Joan Bushey and Nancy Bushey; and brothers William Donnelly and Martin Donnelly.

Calling hours will be held at Brown McClay Funeral Home in Vergennes on Sunday, June 9, from 5 to 7 p.m. Maryann's funeral will be held at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Vergennes on Monday, June 10, at 11 a.m. ♦

Investigation results in felony charges

ADDISON COUNTY — Vermont State Police were involved with the investigation that this week led to charges against 83-year-old Wentworth C. Comes Jr. of Hancock. Comes on Monday pleaded not guilty in Addison County Superior Court, Criminal Division, three felony counts of possession of child sexual abuse material and two misdemeanor counts of possession of child sexual abuse materials, according to the Vermont Attorney General's Office.

The charges are the result of a criminal investigation conducted by the Vermont Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force (VT-ICAC), including staff from the Attorney General's Office, Homeland Security Investigations, State Police, and Randolph Police Department.

The investigation was initiated when VT-ICAC received three CyberTipline reports from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. The tips were reported by Microsoft after an individual uploaded files of suspected child sexual abuse materials onto their cloud storage servers. Based on investigation of those tips and a search of his home, Comes was identified as a suspect. Officers said they located the suspected child sexual abuse material on Comes's laptop and SD card.

On Monday, Judge David Fenster released Comes with conditions that restrict his access to minors, electronic devices and the internet.

To make a report to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, call anytime 1-800-843-5678 or visit report.cybertip.org. Additionally, if you are recovering from child sexual exploitation, you do not have to navigate it alone. NCMC can help with emotional and peer support, removing content from the internet, and locating mental health professionals. For more information, visit missingkids.org/gethelpnow/csam-resources or call 1-800-843-5678.

In other recent activity, Vermont State Police cited two different people in separate domestic violence cases.

In the first incident, on May 17 at a few minutes before 6 p.m.,

Vt. State Police Log

troopers responded to a report of an altercation occurring at a home on Hooker Road in Leicester. Police report that Kevin A. Betourney, 60, of Leicester attempted to cause serious bodily injury to a family member.

Troopers took Betourney into custody, transported him to the New Haven barracks, and cited him for first degree aggravated domestic assault.

In the second case, state police on May 18 at 8:43 p.m. took a report of an assault involving a household member on Plank Road in Ferrisburgh. Troopers arrived at the scene and found Heather Rule, 33, of Orwell. Police said evidence indicated Rule assaulted several parties known to her during a reported family fight.

Police cited Rule for domestic assault, burglary and simple assault. State police were also busy on the roads last week.

On May 17 at approximately 8:23 a.m., troopers responded to a crash involving a motorcycle and two cars on Bristol Road near East View Road in Monkton. Police report that Michael Brown, 81, of Essex Junction was driving a 2017 Honda Civic northbound, followed by a 2009 Subaru Outback and then a 2019 Harley-Davidson motorcycle.

Police said that the motorcycle driver, Wesley Doner, 53, of Middlebury, attempted to pass both cars when Brown activated the Honda Civic's turn signal and initiated a left turn. As a result, the motorcycle struck the rear-end of the Subaru. Doner was ejected from the motorcycle and the Bristol Rescue Squad transported him to UVM Medical Center. Nobody else was injured in crash.

State police expected to issue a traffic ticket to Doner.

Troopers were assisted on scene by the Monkton Fire Department.

A few hours later, police dealt with another crash, this one on Monkton Road in Bristol.

At around a quarter after noon on the 17th, troopers responded to a report that a vehicle had struck a pedestrian riding a lawn mower in the front yard of a home on Monkton Road. Police said their investigation showed that Hunter Poquette, 22, of Bristol was driving a 2005 Ford F-350 pickup truck northbound when he crossed the centerline and left the roadway off the southbound lane. His vehicle struck Bruce Duncan, 67, who was riding a lawn mower in his front yard.

Bristol Rescue rushed Duncan to UVM Medical Center for suspected serious bodily injuries.

While on scene, troopers discovered Poquette had an active warrant for his arrest. So police arrested Poquette, issued a citation for negligent driving and took him to Addison County Superior Court in fulfillment of the warrant. They also issued Poquette a traffic ticket.

Troopers were assisted on scene by members of the Bristol police and Bristol fire departments.

In a different kind of traffic case, state police on May 19 at a minute past midnight stopped a vehicle on Court Street in Middlebury after multiple observed violations near the Mobil gas station. Police ended up citing Brandon R. Yandow, 27, of Burlington for driving under the influence, fifth offense, driving with a criminally suspended license and violation of condition of release.

Police also issued tickets for violations they called "misuse of number plates," "tail lights," "operating without liability insurance," "persons required to register" and "passenger possessed open container." In total, these misdemeanors could carry fines of \$638.

ADDISON COUNTY School News Briefs

Elinor Ross of Brandon, a member of the class of 2024 majoring in Electrical and Computer Engineering at Worcester Polytechnic Institute, recently completed a senior thesis that is required of all graduating seniors as part of the university's distinctive project-based educational experience. The project, Shunt Current Sensor

for Ground Fault & Arc Fault Detection, was Elinor's Major Qualifying Project, one that is usually team-based and often focuses on very specific issues or needs of an organization that has partnered with the university to sponsor the student's work.

Ross received her bachelor's degree at the WPI commencement ceremonies on Friday, May 10.

Austin M. Taylor, 86, of Shoreham

SHOREHAM — Austin M. Taylor 86, died Friday morning, May 17, 2024, at Porter Medical Center in Middlebury after a brief illness.

He was born on Dec. 14, 1937, in St. Johnsbury, Vt., the son of Orange William Taylor and Viola Lillian (Clements) Taylor.

Austin was a graduate of St. Johnsbury Academy Class of 1955 and later earned an associate degree from Merrimack Valley College.

He was a United States Army Veteran. He enjoyed his time abroad as well as his time in the reserves following active duty.

He was a member of the Champlain Valley Fiddler's Club, National Skeet Shooting Association and the American Legion. He also enjoyed camping and spending winters in Florida, as



AUSTIN M. TAYLOR

well as spending time with friends and family.

Survivors are his niece, Karen Mather; nephew, William Bailey;

brother-in-law, Charles Bailey; and stepdaughter and caregiver, Ella Mae Ash; as well as numerous other family members and close friends.

He was predeceased by his parents, by his first wife, Charlotte North Taylor; by his second wife, Elsie Munson; and by his sister, Sylvia Bailey, and brother, Richard Taylor.

Graveside services will be held on Wednesday May 29, at 11 a.m. at St. Genevieve Cemetery, Shoreham.

In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to Platt Memorial Library, 279 Main St., Shoreham, VT 05770.

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

Markets

(Continued from Page 3A) 10, 17, 24 and 31; and Aug. 7, 14, 21 and 28.

The Saturday editions are scheduled for June 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29; July 13 and 20; and Aug. 3, 17 and 31. It should be noted there will be a special Saturday, Aug. 10, market featuring Middlebury nonprofits. And on Saturday, Aug. 24, there'll be a "youth market," highlighting young entrepreneurs and services related to youth activities — such as camps, clubs, lessons and education.

Organizers pledged to work with groups staging events on the same day as some of markets. For example, the market on Wednesday, July 13, will coincide with the Festival on the Green. It will be a busy day, so please be prepared for potentially higher sales. There will be a concurrent plant sale on June 1. There will be no market on July 6, in deference to the annual St. Stephen's Peasant Market.

Betton is excited to begin her stewardship of MSM. She was previously involved with "Bundle," a COVID-era, pop-up events space in downtown Middlebury that gained a nice following and prompted devotees to dine and shop at other area businesses.

"I'm so dedicated to making sure the market is for everyone in our

community," Betton said, citing the upcoming markets dedicated to nonprofits and youths as ways to showcase more of what Middlebury has to offer.

She's also reaching out for volunteer help to set up and dismantle each market. As an inducement, MSM is assembling swag bags and coupon booklets that will include discounts — and perhaps Middlebury Money — to folks who help out.

Betton and her colleagues are recruiting a solid cast of entertainers for MSM, folks who'll perform in the Triangle Park space, as opposed to in the gazebo. Musicians signed up thus far include Elizabeth Reed, Kai Stanley and Jimmy Goodwin. Performance spots are still available. Interested musicians should email BMPmarkets@gmail.com.

Children will have plenty to do while their parents shop. Betton said this year's MSM will feature a kids' zone, with around six different yard games, face painting, and plans for a balloon artist, bubble machine and other diversions.

"There will be a lot of experience for people coming to the market," she promised.

Reporter John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.



SHARON BASSETT BUTTERFIELD

Sharon Bassett Butterfield, 71, of Middlebury

MIDDLEBURY — Sharon Bassett Butterfield, 71, passed away after a long battle with cancer on Tuesday, May 21, 2024. Sharon graduated from Fair Haven Union High School in 1971. She married Edgar Butterfield in 1975. She is the mother to three sons: Eric, Jamie and Jeremy.

A full obituary will appear in a later edition of the Addison Independent. Please check with Sanderson Funeral home for memorial service details. ♦



JOAN KORDA

Joan Korda celebration of life

ORWELL — The family of Joan Korda, who passed away unexpectedly on Nov. 15, 2023, invite you to Joan's celebration of life, to be held at the Orwell Congregational Church Reception Hall on Saturday, June 15, from 2-5 p.m. Please join us for sharing memories and reflections of this amazing lady, some tasty eats and refreshments, and time with family and friends. We look forward to spending time with you.

Please contact Suzy at 802-453-5978 for more information. ♦

Pet of the week

Send us your pet!
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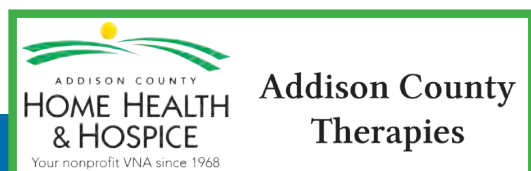
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Session

(Continued from Page 1A)

a local decision; the Legislature receives the totality of the voter-approved school spending requests and then parses out the requested resources.

“The Legislature isn’t deciding your budget; your town is deciding your budget,” said Rep. Robin Scheu, D-Middlebury, the vice chair of the House Appropriations Committee.

According to Scheu, school budget requests collectively increased by \$182.2 million this year. The yearly increase has typically been \$40 million to \$50 million, according to Scheu.

In addition, she noted special education funding requests are up almost \$33 million.

“We’re talking about almost \$215 million more than we normally have to fund, and that’s why property taxes are going up,” Scheu said, while warning “we’re going to face this (problem) again next year” barring cost cutting or systemic changes in the way schools are funded.

Local school budget planners, Scheu said, are focused on their own district’s needs and are understandably not preoccupied by what other districts across the state are proposing to spend.

“We’ve designed a system that relies on humans to behave in ways they don’t usually behave,” she said. “We don’t think about our neighbors, we think about our own school budget.”

Reps. Peter Conlon, D-Cornwall and Diane Lanpher, D-Vergennes, have been deeply immersed in school funding issues. Conlon chairs the House Education Committee, while Lanpher chairs House Appropriations.

Conlon, former chair of the Addison Central School District board, described how fiscal year 2025 became an atypical school budgeting year in Vermont.

“When we started the session, we thought it would be business as usual, but then we became very aware that school budgets



DIANE LANPHER, D-VERGENNES

“We’re talking about almost \$215 million more than we normally have to fund, and that’s why property taxes are going up. (And) we’re going to face this (problem) again next year,” barring cost-cutting or systemic changes in the way schools are funded.

— Rep. Robin Scheu

were coming in much higher than expected,” he said.

At one point, it was looking like a \$240 million bump in overall school spending. A 1-cent bump in the statewide education property tax rate raises around \$10 million.

“We have an obligation to (fund) budgets that are voted and approved,” he said. “We had to figure out how to address it.”

Schools began to build budgets based on Act 127, which limits the increase in a school district’s spending per pupil did not increase by more than 10%.

Rather than “throwing money at the problem” when emergencies arise, Conlon said he wants to see some major changes in the state education funding that could bring more stability and predictability for communities and schools. It’s laid out, along with creating a summer study commission in H.887, a bill that he hopes Scott will sign.

“We need to look at the root causes here; why does education cost so much in Vermont compared to our neighbors in New England?” he said.

The aforementioned “Commission on the Future of Education” will bring together

“all the stakeholders and outside thinkers to the table to take a deep dive and (sort out) the myths and the facts,” Conlon said.

Embedded in that commission will be a group that will focus on education cost-containment strategies, according to Conlon.

Fortunately, the state’s Education Fund was flush with cash this year, noted Lanpher, who chairs House Appropriations. This was the first year the state’s Education Fund (\$2.4 billion) was more robust than the General Fund (\$2.3 billion), she said.

The Legislature passed a total FY’25 budget of \$8.6 billion, she noted.

But she called it a “tight” budget-building process and was pleased lawmakers found \$25 million to soften the education property tax increase.

Mother Nature played a role in the state’s budget bind, according to Lanpher.

“We never saw the flood coming in July. But for the flood, there would have been \$100 million more on the table this year,” she said.

LEGISLATIVE HIGHLIGHTS
What follows are 2024 legislative session highlights offered by lawmakers at Monday’s gathering.

Rep. Amy Sheldon, D-Middlebury
Signature bills:

- Bill H.289, known as the Renewable Energy Standard, which sets Vermont on a path to delivering 100% renewable electricity across all the state’s utilities by 2030.

- The Act 250 bill, known as H.687. The bill, according to VTDigger, “relaxes the reach of Act 250 ... in existing development centers, a move proponents hope will clear red tape and encourage more housing growth amid an acute housing shortage. It also lays the groundwork for extending Act 250’s protections over to-be-determined ecologically sensitive areas.”

Sheldon, who chairs the House Committee on Environment and Energy, said H.687 also removes the program through which municipalities could apply for official “downtown designations,” which in turn made them eligible for various state economic development perks.

Instead, the bill “allows regional planning commissions and local



REP. AMY SHELDON, D-MIDDLEBURY

planning processes to drive where towns want to have their denser development,” Sheldon said, noting they’d receive help from the Agency of Commerce & Community Development “in a reimaged way.”

H.687 would promote “location-based jurisdiction in the review of proposed development. That means where we want development and there’s good development oversight, you’d get relief from Act 250 jurisdiction in the bulk of the state.”

Sen. Chris Bray, D-Bristol

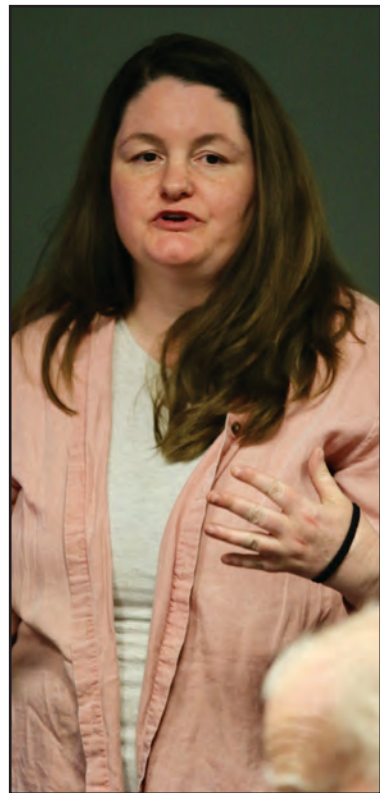
Bray, who chairs the Senate Natural Resources & Energy Committee, also cited passage of H.289 as a 2024 legislative highlight.

“We already have the cleanest (power) grid in the U.S.,” Bray noted. “We’re really making good on cleaning up and decarbonizing how we heat our homes and move around. It’s a major milestone.”

And like Sheldon, Bray was pleased to see passage of the Act 250 bill, which he believes will promote more housing development without trampling environmental concerns.

“There was tremendous pressure on the entire Legislature to come up with a way of supporting more housing. Our job was to add affordable housing into the mix for that bill,” he said.

Lawmakers should also be



REP. JUBILEE MCGILL, D-BRIDPORT

proud of their work on the new “Flood Safety Act,” aka S.213. Among other things, S.213 calls for state regulations to keep future development away from flood-prone areas, promotes protection of wetlands that help contain floodwaters, an updates dam regulations.

“We need to look at the root causes here; why does education cost so much in Vermont compared to our neighbors in New England?”

— Rep. Peter Conlon

The power of wetlands can’t be underestimated, according to Bray, who said Middlebury avoided roughly \$3 million to \$3.5 million in additional damage due to floodwater containment in its wetlands.

Sen. Ruth Hardy, D-Middlebury

Hardy, who chairs the Senate Government Operations Committee, provided a lengthy list of what she considers lawmakers’ top accomplishments for 2024.

- S.310, referred to as the “natural disaster government response, recovery, and resiliency” initiative. Among other things, the bill creates a “Community

Resilience and Disaster Mitigation Grant Program” to award grants to communities to support storm-related repairs and disaster-mitigation projects.

- H.644, which helps foster care children access their records after they become adults.

- S.55, which clarifies the manner in which public bodies are allowed to meet in the now-post-COVID era. State government granted local boards and commissions permission to meet virtually during the pandemic to limit contagion. Now that social distancing restrictions are gone, S.55 requires “all local, non-advisory public bodies” to resume meeting with a “physical presence,” while advisory committees can continue to meet in a manner of their choice.

- H.72, which among other

(See *Lawmakers*, Page 15A)



SEN. RUTH HARDY, D-MIDDLEBURY



REP. PETER CONLON, D-CORNWALL



REP. MATT BIRON, D-VERGENNES



SEN. CHRIS BRAY, D-BRISTOL

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Longchamp had impact on students in Shoreham

By JOHN FLOWERS
SHOREHAM — Some folks don't pick a career until they're long-done with schooling.

Tracy Longchamp made her decision while attending elementary school.

"I had a specific moment in second grade in Mrs. Hatstat's class at Beeman Elementary School (in New Haven)," she recalled during a recent interview. "I was sitting there, doing my work, and I thought to myself, 'This is how I want my classroom to sound when I'm a teacher.'"

"From that moment on, it's all I wanted to do," Longchamp added. "It was this feeling of, 'This is the right place; it feels good here.'"

Her childhood dream became reality.

Longchamp next month will cap an almost 40-year career as an educator, 33 of them spent as a classroom teacher at Shoreham Elementary School.

Longchamp was born and raised in New Haven. After completing her studies at Beeman, she went on to Mount Abraham Union High School, graduating in 1983.

After two years at Johnson State College, she transferred to Alfred University in Alfred, N.Y., where she earned a degree in Early Education.

Her first job out of college was as a math teacher at the (now defunct) Children's Home of Kingston — a residential school for boys, grades 4-12, in Kingston, N.Y.

After two years there, Longchamp signed on as a preschool teacher at Blue Mountain Union School in Wells River, Vt. She and her family were living in Fairlee at the time, and after two years she felt the pull to her roots in Addison County.

Longchamp checked out public school jobs in the area and was offered a position teaching third-graders Shoreham Elementary.

It proved a successful match. "I came here and I said to my husband, 'This school is the last I'm ever going to teach in; this is where I want to be,'" she recounted.

When she started in Shoreham during the fall of 1991, there were around 130 students at the school. That number is now around 80.

"There were some pretty snug classrooms back then," she recalled with a smile.

As a general education teacher, Longchamp has taught multiple subjects to her students, including reading, writing, math, science and social studies. This requires being proficient in many disciplines, and that's not easy.

"We're lucky; our district offers a lot of professional development," Longchamp said.



TRACY LONGCHAMP KNEW early on she wanted to be a teacher, and Shoreham Elementary School helped her realize that dream. She'll retire next month after a 33-year career at the school. Independent photo/John Flowers

"The (Addison Central School District) is helping us with a lot of things through the International Baccalaureate (curriculum)."

Asked to name her favorite subjects to teach, Longchamp quickly cited math and Vermont history.

"The relationships with the kids and seeing them grow throughout the years (is most rewarding). It's so cool to run into them later in the community."

— Tracy Longchamp

"It was great fun teaching the kids about settlers in Vermont," she said, noting the plethora of historical sites near the school. They include Fort Ticonderoga, Fort Saint-Frédéric and Mount Independence. The Lake Champlain Maritime Museum in Ferrisburgh has also been a popular field trip through the years.

"It was so much fun doing that and having the kids know so much about Vermont," Longchamp said. "That's one of the things that I miss, with the change to IB."

Longchamp was part of the Vermont Mathematics Initiative at the University of Vermont and contributed to development of the Bridges in Mathematics curriculum used in the ACSD.

"Some of us flew out to Oregon and spent time with the author and helped create it. It was a chance to work with teachers from other parts of the country. It was really fun," she said.

Tracy Longchamp's students got a good, early introduction to computers, thanks to her spouse, Peter, whom she affectionately referred to as "kind of a computer nut."

"While the district would provide one computer, I had 10, because my husband had them and my class could use them," she said.

Computer technology wasn't the only upgrade Longchamp has witnessed during her time at Shoreham Elementary. When she started, there was no school lunch program.

"Kids brought all of their food from their house and we had a

microwave in every classroom. Kids would go out to resources and there was this long line of food to microwave," she said with a chuckle. "It was pretty funny."

"It was a big deal when we got a hot lunch program," Longchamp added.

Longchamp has made an impact on children both inside and outside of the classroom. She started — and led — an informal ice skating club for Shoreham children, taking them for outings at Middlebury's Memorial Sports Center. The club lasted for around 11 years before being halted by COVID.

"There were a couple of kids here that needed something else," she said about her motivation for starting the club. "It was one of the most wonderful things for kids. They started as preschoolers. They would learn how to skate, would have fun with their buddies. Some of the high school hockey players would come and help."

What has she found most rewarding about her teaching career?

"The relationships with the kids and seeing them grow throughout the years," she said. "It's so cool to run into them later in the community. It's not that infrequent that I hear, 'Are you Mrs. Longchamp, and are you

still in Shoreham?'"

Yes she is, for at least a little while longer. She's proud to have taught two generations of some Shoreham families. Longchamp looks forward to spending more time with family, along with traveling and gardening, but she'll feel a little out of place when next fall rolls around.

"I go away on vacation and I come back (to Shoreham Elementary) and it's like, 'I'm home.' Coming back to school after the summer, it's like coming back to a vacation home you've always treasured. I'm going to miss that," she said.

Shoreham Elementary School Principal Jennifer Urban said Longchamp should feel proud of the affect she's had on students and colleagues.

"Tracy is an incredible educator whose knowledge, kindness and talent has positively impacted hundreds of students in the Shoreham community," she said. "We are so lucky to have benefited from Tracy's collegiality both in our school as well as district wide. I can't imagine Shoreham School without Tracy Longchamp — however, I am excited for her to have some well-deserved rest and relaxation after an astounding career."

Reporter John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.

Controversial bill on Vt. wildlife fails

By EMMA COTTON, VT Digger.org

Over the last several years, a debate over how to manage wildlife has become a symbol of a broader cultural divide in Vermont. During the recently concluded legislative session, that debate culminated in S.258, a bill that would have changed the state's wildlife management structure.

Many supporters of the measure saw it as a pathway to create common ground between those who want to protect wildlife from certain hunting practices and those who fear the implications of a cultural shift away from hunting in Vermont.

Some lawmakers who opposed the bill — or didn't want to vote on it — feared it would prompt more division. That appears to be the reason the bill failed.

It became a "lightning rod for some of the intensity around" the wildlife debate, said Rep. Katherine Sims, D-Craftsbury, co-chair of the bipartisan Rural Caucus.

S.258 focused largely on the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Board, a citizen group in charge of creating rules to manage the state's game species. At present, it is stacked with hunters, trappers and anglers. While the governor currently appoints its 14 members, the bill would have added two new members appointed by the Legislature. All board members would have been required to meet a list of qualifications and participate in training.

Moreover, the bill would have made the Fish & Wildlife Board advisory and transferred power to the state's Fish & Wildlife Department to make rules that govern hunting, trapping and fishing. It would have also banned the controversial practice of hunting coyotes with dogs.

Sims said the rural caucus did not take a formal position on the issue and that members from rural districts and more populous areas were hesitant to support the bill. The caucus heard from stakeholders who advocated for and against the bill, she said.

Representatives were "hearing loudly from a lot of constituents with lots of different diverse perspectives," she said. "And

I think that's my sense of why the bill didn't move forward: that many members felt like they would be taking a vote on a bill that might divide their community."

Sims also pointed to a process that had played out before the session. In response to two laws passed in 2022, the Fish & Wildlife Board created rules to govern trapping and hunting coyotes with dogs. When the Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules argued that the board's rules didn't go far enough, the board approved them anyway. Then came S.258.

"I think we do our best work when everyone comes together and finds consensus and moves forward together," Sims said. This time, the bill felt like a "reaction to frustration about the LCAR process and the rules," she said.

"I don't think it was the right bill at the right time," she said, adding that she's "committed to continuing to be a part of these conversations."

Patti Koline, a lobbyist with Downs Rachlin Martin, represented the group Animal Wellness Action, which supported the bill. She said she's worked on controversial issues, including gun control, but that this one got people particularly "fired up."

"People told us they got a thousand emails, about equally split, both for it and against this bill," Koline said. "And really, what legislators felt is, they didn't want to go into an election cycle where they're alienating half the people. There was no right vote to take on this."

Sims is among the legislators who could face political implications. The Craftsbury Democrat recently entered a race for an open state Senate seat in rural Orleans County.

Lawmakers couldn't simply split the bill and remove one part of it to make it more politically appealing, Koline said, because people were divided over both of its major parts: the changes to the board and the ban on coyote hounding.

Before it faced opposition in the House, the bill saw a strong show of support in the Senate — but not at first. The original version called for an even split (See Wildlife bill, Page 10A)

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You're welcome to vote using both methods AND vote for multiple pets. Winners will be announced in the **May 30th edition of the Addison Independent**. The top winner from each category will receive a prize from **Middlebury Agway**.

Sponsored by MIDDLEBURY FARM & GARDEN

Each category winner will receive a gift certificate from Agway

Walden Project

(Continued from Page 1A)
experiences and want to see it continue.”

INTO THE WOODS

Prior to starting the Walden Project in 2000, Schlein spent several years teaching English, drama and psychology at VUHS. He enjoyed his work in the classroom but longed to be spending more time out in the surrounding landscape.

“I remember one fall day looking out and seeing all of these out-of-state tourists coming by and just enjoying the fall and we were all stuck inside,” he recalled.

Schlein began bringing his classes outside as much as possible.

“I found that there was a qualitative difference in the conversations when they took place in a different setting,” he said. “What can often happen in high school classes, in classes anywhere, is that there can be an absence of context for what it is that you’re learning.”

Being outdoors provided more of that context for students, especially when studying the work of authors like transcendentalist Henry David Thoreau.

“I found that being in nature, particularly a lot of the writers and writing that I would teach, it just made sense,” Schlein said. “To talk about Thoreau but to do it while sitting in a classroom with florescent lights overhead, it almost seemed cruel and antithetical to the real teaching we’re trying to do.”

Seeing gaps in the public school system and the benefits of outdoor learning, Schlein approached then-VUHS Principal Peter Coffey with the idea for Walden.

“He was amazingly receptive. Part of that was fueled on the fact that there were two kids that the district was spending over \$100,000 on out-of-district placement services,” Schlein said. “The idea was we’d pilot it for a year and if I took these two kids on, we’d give it a go and then we

could evaluate if this makes sense and if we wanted to continue it.”

An outdoor education program wasn’t a new concept, and there were similar offerings in and around Vermont at the time, Schlein said. However, those programs could cost students and their families thousands of dollars each semester.

The Walden Project made such learning opportunities more accessible for students in the public school system.

“There was this idea of ‘OK, this works,’ but also this notion of equity, how working class Vermonters could be able to have these kinds of experiences,” Schlein said. “I think we all need to feel connected to the earth. I think that’s the existential struggle for our species right now, so I didn’t want it to be a privileged experience.”

A pilot version of the program kicked off with 17 students. Those students played a key role in shaping the program early on, Schlein said.

“One of the things we did in those early years was that we really let the kids co-create the curriculum with us,” he said. “We knew we wanted to read a lot of Thoreau, we knew that writing was going to be a core piece of what we did, we knew we wanted to be immersed in nature. But in terms of the day to day, it was an honest conversation with the kids; what’s working, what’s not working, what do you want your education to look like?”

No one knew what would become of the program after that first year, Schlein said.

“There were these magical, wonderful moments and then there were some moments where it was like, ‘This is not what I envisioned when I started this thing,’” Schlein said. “But, by the end of the year I was sold on the magic of this approach to education.”

Over the decades, Walden, its founder and the many young

people it touched have grown and evolved.

Connecting with students and other members of the Walden community are among the many things Schlein will miss about the program.

“These guys give me hope every day,” Schlein said. “People like to say all sorts of stuff about young people, but there’s a lot of them that are so awesome that are out there. I feel like the experience of being the Walden teacher has furthered my sense of hope for humanity.”

A LASTING LEGACY

Schlein plans to remain active in the Willowell Foundation, which since its founding has grown to include several projects and outdoor education programs for preK-12 students.

“Although Walden was a program out of VUHS that ran in collaboration with Willowell, the Willowell Foundation is still running stronger than ever and has no plans of closing or changing,” said Tasha Ball, Willowell’s administrative director. “With Matt’s retirement, we hope to have the executive director even more present as we expand our educational offerings such as Pond Brook Project, Wren’s Nest Forest Preschool, and summer camps in the coming years.”

Schlein said he and others hope the program will continue in some iteration. He noted Peter Houskeeper, a Walden alum, and Camie Thompson, an AmeriCorps service member at Willowell, make up a new generation of educators poised to take over the Walden Project upon Schlein’s retirement.

Now Schlein and others are working to figure out what the program’s future could entail.

“This chapter with Vergennes is sadly over for now, which I have bittersweet feelings about. I think overall it’s been a really positive relationship, and I’ve been very supported by the Addison



OAK FONTE, RIGHT, and Kimari Collins, standing next to a portrait of Henry David Thoreau, are among the many local high school students who’ve taken part in the Walden Project over the years. The project will end its 24-year run this spring, when Walden founder and teacher Matt Schlein, left, retires.

Independent photo/Marin Howell

Northwest community,” Schlein said. “Whatever we do, this idea of connection to nature, of equity, of authentic community are still relevant. That still matters.”

There’s certainly more day to dawn, as Thoreau once wrote, and Walden students are optimistic about what that day might bring.

“It’s kind of a beautiful thing to know that whatever comes next gets to get rid of all of our rules and all of our things that we do and forge something entirely new, which is a really beautiful thought that has been keeping me sane about this whole thing ending,” said Oak Fonte, a current student at Walden.

Whatever is in store for the program, there’s no question that Schlein has had a lasting impact on the community through the Walden

Project. “Matt has fundamentally changed the landscape of education in Addison County, Vt., and internationally,” Ball said.

“Through 24 years of Walden, Schlein showed us what is possible in public education. For many, Walden saved their lives and gave them a place to be their authentic selves. Walden brought together a diverse group of students — there was never anything homogeneous about the community around the fire in the woods.

“Some students were on honor rolls and needed something different; some were on the verge of dropping out; some were queer; some straight; some went on to college and graduate school; some joined the military;

others were simply surviving school, and found the great outdoors was a place where they could thrive and find their voices amongst the chaos of adolescence,” Ball continued.

Ball added many took to Facebook to share their appreciation for the program following the announcement of it ending.

“Parents, colleagues, and alumni wrote long notes of love and appreciation about how Walden changed the lives of young folks throughout Addison County,” she said. “Each one with the same tone of: ‘Thank you, Matt. You leave a lasting legacy. Learning together around a fire was a beacon in our lives.’”

Community members are invited to celebrate Schlein and the Walden Project with an evening of poetry, art and music at the Willowell property on July 13.

Those interested in attending the celebration can RSVP at mattswaldenparty@gmail.com.

Wildlife bill

(Continued from Page 9A)

of hunters and non-hunters on the Fish & Wildlife board. When other senators expressed concern about that proposal, Sen. Chris Bray, D-Addison, the bill’s author, walked it back, adding the two legislative appointees to the board instead.

With that change, S.258 passed the Senate with enough votes to override a likely veto by Gov. Phil Scott. But after it moved to the House, it became stuck in its first committee, House Environment and Energy.

As the session approached its end, Rep. Amy Sheldon, D-Middlebury, who chairs the House committee,

said the bill didn’t have the votes to override a veto in the House and that the committee had stopped taking testimony on it.

“We’re not going to move it if it doesn’t look like it has a future,” Sheldon said in an interview on May 1.

Bray told VTDigger he isn’t sure yet whether he’d take the issue up again in another session.

“I realized it was hard on my colleagues,” Bray said. “So, you know, I’m not going to jump back in without being really clear and intentional and have conversations with folks.”

Walden Project offered a unique education

By MARIN HOWELL
MONKTON — The Walden Project, an outdoor, public education program run through Vergennes Union High School, was started 24 years ago by VUHS educator Matt Schlein. With his impending retirement, Walden as it has developed will close at the end of the school year.

The program has remained grounded in that approach as its evolved through the years. A few years after its start, the Walden Project moved to its current home on the Willowell Foundation’s 230-acre Monkton preserve.

Today, students in the program make their way down a one-third mile path to an outdoor classroom nestled in the woods. Lessons often take place around a slow-burning fire, underneath a canopy of cedar trees and amidst the sounds of chattering birds and scurrying chipmunks.

The program offers participants “an interdisciplinary, holistic and immersive curriculum emphasizing writing, philosophy, and environmental studies,” according to Willowell’s website.

No two days at Walden are the same.

“How to sum up Walden is impossible because it changes every day you come down to the cedar grove,” said Oak Fonte, a current student at Walden. “You never know

what local artist, tracker, naturalist, poet, who’s going to be around the circle when you come down.”

There are a few key parts of the Walden curriculum, such as studying 19th-century writer Henry David Thoreau. Walden is named after Thoreau’s famous book of the same name, which centers around the writer’s time living at Walden Pond in Massachusetts.

Like Thoreau, Walden students are encouraged to deepen their sense of self through exploration of their interests, the natural world and the broader community, such as through internships.

“A big part of Walden is the internship process and finding your own individual drive and what you want to do, your passions,” Walden student Kimari Collins said. “I go to the Middlebury Studio School, and I’ve been doing pottery this year, Oak does the (Lake Champlain) Maritime Museum building boats.”

Throughout the year, students also take trips to places like New York City and Walden Pond.

“This is my second year, and I have found how important the trips are for community building, just in the sense of being out in the

middle of the woods and you’re cold and you’re wet and you’re sick but you’re with all these people,” Collins said.

Community is one of the key threads that ties the Walden Project together.

“This is a program that you enter by choice, and you really see that. You see how close people get,” Collins said. “It’s really important to me how everyone here shows up as themselves, very vulnerably. A big part of what makes Walden is the community, and I’ve never really seen anything like it.”

At the end of each year, students share what they’ve learned through portfolios that exhibit different projects and document lessons absorbed from internships and other learning experiences.

Some lessons are harder to capture but stick with students all the same.

“Walden has been really, really important to me,” Collins said. “I started gardening here, and I’ve really found myself through Walden.”

Former students have also found the program to be impactful.

“Matt is a talented and unique educator who has helped clear the

brush obscuring the life paths of many people.”

— Ian Gramling



WORK ON A two-building, nine-unit condo/apartment project on Otter Creek in Vergennes began again this month after its developer, city firm Cornerstone Solutions LLC, obtained an Act 250 permit. The company halted work on the so-called "Portage Project" almost a year ago when state officials ruled an Act 250 permit was required. An unsuccessful appeal of that decision further slowed progress on the West Main Street development.

Photo courtesy of the City of Vergennes

Housing

(Continued from Page 1A) building. Cornerstone halted construction on the structures in late June of 2023, when company owners said they learned for the first time their plans required an Act 250 permit.

An earlier version of the project under different ownership had once received an Act 250 permit, but according to state officials because Cornerstone had developed three condominiums in the nearby Country Commons project, the new units pushed the company over a 10-unit Act 250 permit threshold.

By July of 2023 a new statewide law regulating zoning replaced the 10-unit limit with a 25-unit limit for projects, such as Cornerstone's, that are within Designated Downtowns or Neighborhoods. But Act 25 officials said the law could not be applied retroactively to projects on which construction had started before it took effect.

Cornerstone last summer appealed the District 9 decision to require a permit, but lost. Thus its Act 250 permit application, and ultimately the project's permit award and further construction, was delayed further.

One of the company principals, Anna Charlebois Ouellette, described the project to the *Independent* this past summer. The five-unit building, which is further from the road, is 7,335 square feet. Four of its condo units contain three bedrooms and two bathrooms, and one has two bedrooms.

She said by this past June most of the interior work had been completed on that building, and at that point she said Cornerstone planned to market its three-bedroom townhouses in that structure for up to around \$575,000.

Charlebois Ouellette also described the four apartments in the 5,850-square-foot second building, as "high-end," and said they will have two or three bedrooms.

One issue remains to be worked out with the city. Officials learned after the Vergennes Development Review Board granted a permit that one corner of the smaller building infringed on the city's sidewalk right of way. The sides have since operated on an understanding that an agreement will be reached to resolve the matter. City Manager Ron Redmond said the city council during a May 14 executive

session worked on details for what he hopes will be a final written arrangement.

Cornerstone's Act 250 permit contains 47 conditions, most of them routine, but many of them specific to the site and the project.

They include that Cornerstone: • And any future owners follow the "Riparian Management Plan" Cornerstone submitted in November.

• Limit construction hours to Monday through Saturday from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.

• Install a privacy fence along the southwestern line of the property to screen the project from the neighboring property.

• "Fund the production and installation of a Vermont Historic Marker" along West Main Street, to be designed in consultation with the city and approved by Division for Historic Preservation.

• "Maintain an undisturbed, naturally vegetated Class II wetland and 50-foot wetland buffer zone on the Project Tract," and it must be "permanently marked with fencing, and use "Non-mechanized" means to place split-rail fencing along that 50-foot wetland buffer line.

By the way

(Continued from Page 1A) was the 2001 National Teacher of the Year. The honor is awarded each year to an educator who has "demonstrated exemplary commitment to the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards and the certification process, and strong leadership in their school, district, state and union for accomplished teaching." Salisbury Principal Bjarki Sears praised Foster. "Lili is passionate about student well-being, constantly inquisitive, and deeply committed to her responsibilities as a professional," he said. "All of us at SCS are incredibly proud of her and feel so fortunate that we get to work together."

Addison County's unemployment rate in April was 2%, an increase of two-tenths of one percentage point compared to March, according to the Vermont Department of Labor. There were 388 people seeking jobs out of a Middlebury-area labor pool of 19,692, according to the state. For comparison, the local jobless rate for April of 2023 was 1.6%. Meanwhile, the statewide jobless rate in April was 2.1%, while the national rate last month was 3.9%. The April unemployment rates for Vermont's 17 labor market areas ranged from 1.7% in Burlington-South Burlington to 4.4% in Derby. Vermont's civilian labor force in April increased by 860 compared to March.

State revenue collections for April 2024 showed Vermont's

Another "Community

Conversation on Affordable Housing for Addison County" is scheduled for Sunday, June 9, at 4 p.m., at St. Peter's Catholic Church Parish Hall in Vergennes. Attendees will learn about three initiatives that could help alleviate Addison County's housing shortage: HomeShare VT, "Tiny Homes," and Accessory Dwelling Units. Attendees will be presented with case studies and receive a valuable resource brochure. This community conversation is similar to one held last year in Middlebury. For more information email Mike Greenwood at mike802vt@comcast.com or visit cvuus.org/news.

A "Weekly Honk and Wave for Ceasefire" in the Middle East has been scheduled for Thursday afternoons in Middlebury. Folks interested in joining should turn out from 4-4:30 p.m. at the top of the Middlebury Green (across from the Middlebury Inn, near the Vermont Federal Credit Union). Organizers said the symbolic action is meant to support "Palestinians of Gaza and the West Bank and to protest the daily bombings, ground invasions and denial of food, water and health services by the Israeli military." Bring a sign or one will be made available to you. According to organizers, these are intended as peaceful gatherings, and "no hate of any kind will be tolerated."

State revenue collections for April 2024 showed Vermont's

General, Transportation and Education Fund receipts were a combined \$475.2 million, exceeding the \$408 million consensus target by \$67.2 million, or 16.5%, according to Secretary of Administration Kristin Clouser. General Fund revenues for April totaled \$385.4 million, \$67.0 million (or 21.1%) above the target. Education Fund revenues were \$63.8 million — \$1.3 million (or 2.1%) above the target. Meanwhile, the Transportation Fund failed to achieve its \$27.1 million April target by around \$1.1 million (or 4.3%), yielding \$26 million. Lagging vehicle Purchase & Use taxes and gasoline taxes were the main reasons for that small monthly deficit, according to Clouser. She said she was optimistic: "The annual spring personal income tax filing season was clearly beneficial to state revenues, and with only two months remaining in the fiscal year, we are well placed to finish well above forecasted revenues."

Average gasoline prices in Vermont have fallen 1.1 cents per gallon during the past week to \$3.60, according to GasBuddy's survey of 626 stations in Vermont. Prices in Vermont are 0.5 cents higher than a month ago and 12.2 cents higher than a year ago. The cheapest station in Vermont sold a \$3.39, the most expensive at \$3.84. The national average price of gasoline fell 3.5 cents to \$3.55.

ADDISON COUNTY School News Briefs

Three local students at Worcester Polytechnic Institute have completed their junior research-driven, professional-level project applying science and technology to address an important societal need or issue.

Environmental Engineering major **William Crawford** of Ferrisburgh, was part of a project

titled Environmental Education Materials for Students in Gualaco **Reagan Kayhart**, from North Ferrisburgh was part of a project titled E-resources for the London Project Center. Kayhart is an Aerospace Engineering major. **Fraser Milligan**, a Mechanical Engineering major from Middlebury, was part of a project

titled Recommendations for Local Nature Recovery Strategies

The projects offered the three students the opportunity to apply their scientific and technical knowledge to develop thoughtful solutions to real problems that affect the quality of people's lives and make a difference before they graduate.

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Lincoln

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Call Dawn Mikkelsen at 453-7029

NEWS

LINCOLN — Pulling the invasive wild chervil from roadsides will be held on Saturday, June 1 from 9 a.m. until noon. Stopping the spread of invasive plants encourages diversity of other plants. That in turn helps conserve pollinators, who are often species specific.

Please meet at 9 a.m. at the Lincoln Sports pavilion to get road assignments and answers to any questions you might have. There will be several shovels available to borrow. Wear long sleeves and pants, good shoes, and gloves. Bring your own specialized plant-removal shovel if you have one. Lunch will be provided by the Lincoln General Store.

Are you looking for a Saturday morning activity during the summer? Lincoln Sports is hoping to get a friendly game of pickup soccer going on Saturday mornings at 10 a.m. at the Lincoln Sports field. The goal is FUN and adults and big kids are invited. Younger kids are welcome to have their own fun on the sidelines as well.

FROM THE TOWN

The Lincoln Gap Road is open as of Wednesday, May 15. Please be

aware of bicyclists and hikers, and drive with caution.

FROM LCS

Thank you to all who supported the Lincoln Community School's "You Plant, We Plant" spring fundraiser. Individual tree kits have officially been ordered. For those of you who have donated, expect to receive an email or phone call as soon as they arrive and are ready for distribution.

Our 3rd and 4th graders are thrilled to share the news that with the donations we have collected, upwards of 500 trees will be planted in Tanzania by ForestNation. This fundraiser has also provided a generous start to help us establish LCS's up and coming sustainable vegetable garden.

Do you have any leftover plant starts? LCS would be glad to take them off your hands. Interested in volunteering your green thumb or other skills, tools, materials for this project? We'd love to have you. Please contact food service manager and project organizer Saige Nimblett at snimblett@lincolnsd.org for more details.

SAVE THE DATE

Once again, the Lincoln

Library will be offering their summer program called "Pop-In People." There will be activities featuring different presenters every Wednesday afternoon between 3 and 5 p.m. The activities are supported with books, and snacks for all around fun, literacy and activity. The kickoff begins Wednesday, June 19.

Until next time ... Success Is Getting What You Want, Happiness Is Wanting What You Get. May Your Troubles Be Less And Your Blessings Be More. Every Flower Blooms In Its Own Time.

ADDISON COUNTY

School News

Kaitlyn McNamara of Middlebury, a senior majoring in Environmental Engineering, was named to the dean's list for the spring 2024 semester at Clarkson University. Dean's list students must achieve a minimum 3.25 grade-point average and also carry at least 14 credit hours.



SHOREHAM'S SHYANNE WEDGE, right, took home fifth place at the recent 4-H Horse judging contest in Colchester.

Photo by Amanda Turgeon

Wedge places at 4-H horse judging

BURLINGTON — Shyanne Wedge of Shoreham placed fifth in the recent 4H Horse Judging contest, held May 5 at Destiny Morgan Farm in Colchester.

Contestants were asked to judge

classes of Sport Horse Morgans in Hand, Western Pleasure, Stock-Type Horses in Hand and Open English Pleasure. Afterwards, they moved to the Champlain Valley Exposition grounds in Essex

Junction for oral reasons, required of participants ages 12 and up, and the presentation of rosette ribbons to the Top 10 scorers in each age group. The first-place finishers also received a weight tape.

Timothy Geist of Orwell and **Ryan Marcotullio** of Bristol have been named Presidential Scholars for the spring 2024 semester at Clarkson University.

With GPS's of 3.5 or more, **Tracey Orvis** of Bristol and **Kimberly Trombley** of Ferrisburgh have been named to

the dean's list in the LPN program at Vermont State University for winter 2023.

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May 30, 2024

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katyf@addisonindependent.com



Tom Van Sant
tomvs@addisonindependent.com

802-388-4944



Fill 'er up!

THE LATE RALPH FARNWORTH went all over collecting interesting things that he stored in his New Haven barn and showed as a quirky museum. After he died in 2022, his family started deacquisitioning some of the stuff, and brought Bridport auctioneer Tom Broughton out of retirement to do much of the job. Broughton auctioned a bunch of antique gasoline pumps at the farm on May 11. At right, his son, Michael, shows off a beauty. Below, Bridport's Paul Wagner hunts for an old pump to go with his antique Dodge.



Independent photos
Steve James

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Rogers Road speed bumps get good reviews

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — The Middlebury selectboard on Tuesday received positive reviews from some Rogers Road residents about two seasonal speed bumps recently installed on their road to help slow traffic in the neighborhood. The residents have in recent years lobbied for speed calming measures, in large part due to the many children who live there and the large number of students who use Rogers Road as part of their daily walks to local public schools.

The speed bumps — which will be removed during the winter to allow for snowplow service — were part of a series of traffic calming measures included in a resolution passed back on Jan. 22 by the Public Health & Safety Committee.

The resolution reads: “That the Public Health & Safety Committee make a recommendation to the selectboard that the town paint a white line and appropriate stenciling to delineate a bike/pedestrian walkway on the east side of Rogers Road, to install 2 speed ‘bumps’ on Rogers Road, and 2 speed ‘humps’ at crosswalks

on Buttolph Drive.

Middlebury selectboard Chair Brian Carpenter said that while he supports the spirit of the resolution, he voiced concern that the traffic calming requests should flow through the town’s committee review process before being enacted. For example, he said he was skeptical that the proposed 3-foot-wide stenciling of a bike/pedestrian walkway on the east side of Rogers Road would conform to state and/or federal highway regulations.

Town officials — including Director of Public Works Operations Bill Kernan — said they’ll continue to work with the neighborhood on their traffic calming requests.

In other action on Tuesday, the Middlebury selectboard:

- Unanimously endorsed Middlebury Police Chief Jason Covey’s request for creation of a new lieutenant’s position, a move that he said would enhance the department’s day-to-day operations, while giving him more time to do “strategic” planning for the force.

“It would better serve the agency

and the town to have that additional link in our chain of command,” Covey told the board. “Right now, there’s a bit of a disconnect in the way we do things. We get along OK, but there needs an intermediary step in the ladder, and I think it would be much faster and more efficient, with more accountability, (with a lieutenant). For me to supervise operational-level issues is not really my job. The chief’s is a strategic position; the lieutenant would be a tactical leader... It just makes sense.”

The department currently has four sergeants, one of which one will be eliminated to make way for the new lieutenant post. It will be a non-union position, with 12-hour shifts. Compensation will be at a level 5% higher than the sergeants’ pay scale. The current budget savings from the two vacancies in the department will help offset the increased costs for the post.

- Heard from U.S. Forest Service representatives of the Rochester & Middlebury Ranger Districts & Finger Lakes National Forests, regarding a possible “prescribed fire.” The prescribed fire — which must still undergo a National

Environmental Policy Act review and could happen by 2026, at the earliest — includes an area north of Route 125, between Partridge Road and the nearby mountain ridgetop.

Chris Matrick, district ranger, also touched upon the storm-ravaged portions of the Abbey Pond Trail. He said two powerful rainstorms last summer took out a pedestrian bridge and washed out graveled portions of the trail.

“Around a 25-foot section of the trail is gone,” he said.

Matrick said the Forest Service — with input from Middlebury officials, area landowners and hikers — will need to make some tough decisions about the future of the popular trail. Does the federal government invest thousands of dollars to bring it back to its pre-flood condition, or does it relegate Abbey Pond Trail to “Class 1” status — which essentially means walking away from the pathway and advising hikers to use it at their own risk?

The Forest Service will make a decision about Abbey Pond Trail this fall, according to Matrick.

Reporter John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.



Uh-oh, I’ve been spotted

A RACCOON CAN’T resist the draw of a suet feeder in a Weybridge yard recently. Perhaps it knew it was coming down and wanted to get one last free meal.

Photo by Susan Humphrey

ADDISON COUNTY

School News Briefs

Carrico wins scholarship for rural students

BRISTOL — Mount Abraham Union High School student Desmond Carrico has been awarded a \$2,500 scholarship from the Foundation for Rural Service.

The FRS Scholarship Program awards one-time scholarships to students from rural communities for their first year of college, university, or vocational-technical school. Each student is sponsored by an NTCA Rural Broadband Association member company that may also contribute a portion of the scholarship award. This year, FRS awarded a total of \$173,000 for fifty-five scholarships to students across the country.

Founded in 1994, FRS is the philanthropic arm of NTCA, of which Waitsfield and Champlain Valley Telecom is a member.

“Being selected to receive one of this year’s FRS scholarships was not an easy accomplishment. This was an extremely competitive process, with over 1,300 applications received. A big congratulations to Desmond and we wish him the best of luck as he starts his college career this fall at Saint Michael’s College,” said Kurt Gruendling, Vice President of Marketing and Business Development for WCVT and FRS board member.



MT. ABE SENIOR Desmond Carrico, second from left, has been awarded a \$2,500 scholarship from the Foundation for Rural Service. Carrico will put it towards costs to attend St. Michael’s College in the fall.

Photo courtesy of Loraine Keener

Register for Open Farm Week

VERMONT — For a decade, farmers have been throwing open their barn doors and inviting Vermonters and visitors alike to experience the magic of Vermont’s farming heritage. It’s been a decade of sharing stories, savoring flavors, and celebrating the hard work of our farming community.

This year’s Open Farm Week is set for Aug. 4-11. Registration is now open, so join in and celebrate the 10th anniversary of this Vermont tradition.

Open Farm Week is all about connecting people with the roots

of their food — introducing them to the farms and the farmers who make it all happen. From cozy on-farm dinners to hands-on workshops and captivating tours, there’s something happening at every participating farm.

The Open Farm Week Committee is on hand to lend a helping hand with technical assistance, information, and resources to help participants craft an unforgettable on-farm experience.

Register by July 1 at tinyurl.com/VT-open-farm-2024.

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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:

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| 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 |
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| Button cell batteries | Latex paint | Parts cleaner | |
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MAUSD

(Continued from Page 1A)

MAUSD Superintendent Patrick Reen presented the new spending proposal to board members on Tuesday. The board last week instructed Reen to draft an around \$35.3 million spending plan that would preserve as many student-facing positions as possible while identifying other savings.

BUDGET REDUCTIONS

The newest spending proposal factors in a revised yield of \$9,893, based on current estimates, an increase of \$63 from April budget figures. The yield estimate is a measure of how much in education taxes the state will collect to distribute to towns.

“Yield increasing decreases the tax rate, so yield going up is good. Yield going down is bad,” Reen explained. “An increase of \$63 is not the savior, but it helps.”

The plan reflects the around \$1.3 million in budget reductions identified ahead of the April 16 vote. Those savings would come from not filling 6.5 vacant positions, reducing teletherapy support due to filling related positions, eliminating \$250,100 in funds for construction services and removing \$160,000 earmarked for creating alternative programming at the elementary school level. Additional savings would be achieved by using \$305,000 from the district’s Education Reserve Fund, which has a balance of \$1,024,563.

That wave of cuts would have also included not filling a vacant Social and Emotional Learning intensive coach position. Though, board members on Tuesday discussed and ultimately agreed to ask that funds for that position (roughly \$100,000) be taken from the construction services line instead, in order to preserve the student-facing role or one similar to it.

“I think that this moves us in a direction to address the concerns that we’re hearing and really

focus on our students and our teachers,” board member Melissa Laurie said of the request.

The newest spending proposal also reflects an additional \$576,205 of reductions since the first budget proposal. Those savings would be achieved by:

- Not filling a 1.0 FTE (full-time equivalent) math instructional coach, a 0.4 FTE social worker and a 0.3 FTE special educator position.

- A \$250,000 reduction in funds for construction services.

- Additional savings from reduced out-of-district placement costs, interpreter costs, special education travel and physical therapy costs.

TAX IMPACTS

According to district estimates, the proposed spending plan would lower the district-wide homestead tax rate by around 7.1 cents, or 4.74%, from \$1,4991 per \$100 of assessed property value to \$1,4281.

However, property taxes in three of the district’s member towns are still expected to rise due to low Common Level of Appraisals (CLAs).

School district officials don’t control the CLA, which is a ratio the state uses to adjust locally assessed property values to reflect the estimated fair market value. The goal is to make the level of taxation equal among all Vermont towns and ensure they’re paying their appropriate share into Vermont’s Education Fund.

If a town’s grand list (the list of the value of all its properties) is less than 100, that indicates that fair market value for the properties is higher than the grand list values, so then the tax rate is increased.

Currently, the only MAUSD town expected to see a falling tax rate is Starksboro. That’s because Starksboro is expected to finish a town-wide property reappraisal before the beginning of the next fiscal year and as a result the CLA

would not drive up the property tax rate.

So even there, though, education tax bills will likely be higher since the slightly lower district tax rate will be applied to higher property tax values.

Monkton has also been conducting a town-wide reappraisal. Reen told the *Independent* last month that town officials felt it was “likely” the town would have an updated CLA, and that district officials would need to consider how to include that new information going forward.

According to the figures presented by Reen on Tuesday, after CLAs are applied:

- Bristol would see a 13.08-cent increase in its FY’25 tax rate, or an additional \$130.80 per \$100,000 of assessed home value.
- Monkton: 12.66-cent increase, or an additional \$126.60 per \$100,000.
- New Haven: 8.24-cent increase, or an additional \$82.40 per \$100,000.
- Starksboro: 51.86-cent decrease, or \$518.60 less per \$100,000.

“We’re looking at, percent changes, somewhere in the 4-7 percent range (post CLA),” Reen said. “When we look historically that 4-7 range is pretty much at or below where we have passed budgets in the last five years.”

According to district estimates, the proposed spending plan is expected to result in an increase of around \$225 in taxes, or 11.35%, for the approximately two-thirds of residents who pay education taxes based on their income. That estimate is based on the Addison County 2021 median income of \$77,978.

The board ultimately voted unanimously to adopt the \$35.3 million spending plan. Board members last week had agreed on June 11 as the date for the third budget vote.



Do we smell dinner?

THREE FOX KITS lift their heads in anticipation of an incoming meal. The kits and their mother were spotted in Lincoln this past weekend.

Photo by Dale Cockrell

Lawmakers

(Continued from Page 8A)

things would pilot an “overdose prevention center” in Burlington. The center would provide a supervised setting for people to use pre-obtained drugs and substance use disorder medications in conjunction with addiction treatment and medical services.

“It’s controversial, but it’s very effective and nobody has ever died in an overdose prevention center, worldwide,” Hardy said.

- H.121, which creates more data privacy protections to Vermonters.

“It is a monumental bill, and puts Vermont at the forefront of protecting consumer data from large tech companies that are taking our data and selling it for their own profit,” she said.

Hardy said she is working on a legislative recap document that will provide a broader account of her thoughts on the 2024 session.

Rep. Jubilee McGill, D-Bridport, and a member of the House Human Services Committee.

McGill’s highlights included:

- S.23, which, among other things, prohibits the manufacture, sale, and distribution in Vermont of textiles containing perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS); as well as barring installation of any new athletic turf field containing those same substances. PFAS are also known as “forever chemicals” and the federal EPA has acknowledged

exposure to certain PFAS “may lead to adverse health outcomes.”

McGill also touted two initiatives that she supported, but ultimately failed to advance: H.879 — which would have replaced the state’s General Assistance Emergency Housing Program with a more robust “Emergency Temporary Shelter Program” — and H.829, which would have created “eviction protections and other rental housing policies to preserve housing stability for both tenants and property owners.”

“It created a vision for tackling the affordable housing crisis for low-income Vermonters,” she said of the two bills. “It was a 10-year plan that was very well-thought-out. At first we would invest in shelter and move away from the motel voucher program ... and then, over the years, it invested more in affordable housing.”

McGill said the plan also called for shelters to eventually be converted into supportive housing for people requiring extra supports. “Affordable housing is something you need to invest in,” she said. “We haven’t been building it fast enough.”

More from Rep. Robin Scheu

Scheu was of course immersed in money issues during the session, but spoke of several initiatives her committee supported and sent to the Senate. They included:

- Assistance for people shifting from Medicaid to Medicare

healthcare coverage.

She explained that currently, people enrolled in the Medicaid program are shifted to the Medicare program when they turn 65. The Medicare program covers fewer healthcare costs than Medicaid, Scheu noted. She and her colleagues supported a plan to create Medicare savings plans to blunt the added expenses for people transitioning from the Medicaid program.

Ultimately, the Legislature found only \$4.9 million to assist with the transition, but supporters are hoping to fortify the program in future years.

- An additional \$1.2 million in “recovery housing” for detainees who, but for the lack of an abode, would be out of prison, where their keep is costing taxpayers around \$95,000 annually, according to the Vermont ACLU.

“We are spending a lot of money for people who don’t need to be in our corrections system because we don’t have places for them to go,” Scheu said. “If you leave it to the market, they’re going to build houses that make a profit, and that’s not affordable housing. Affordable housing will only be built with government subsidies.”

- Increased funding to compensate EMTs for dispensing healthcare that isn’t transport-related, and for public transportation entities to assist in medical transport.

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Albert

(Continued from Page 1A)

Bristol, Starksboro, Lincoln and Monkton. They include incumbent Rep. Mari Cordes of Lincoln, Herb Olsen of Starksboro and Albert.

Incumbent Addison-4 Rep. Caleb Elder, D-Starksboro, recently announced he won't seek re-election; instead, he'll vie for one of the two state Senate seats representing Addison County, Huntington, Rochester and Buel's Gore.

A GOP primary is also brewing in Addison-4.

As the *Independent* went to press, Republicans Chanin Hill of Bristol and Lynne Caulfield and Renee McGuinness — both of Monkton — were busy collecting petition signatures to get on the Aug. 13 primary ballot.

The top two finishers in each of the primaries will move on to the Nov. 5 contest, where they'll square off in a field that could include additional independents or minor party candidates.

"It's been on my radar for a while," Albert said on Tuesday of her House run.

She cited two reasons for the timing of her bid.

First, she believes it coincides with what'll likely be major legislative scrutiny of Vermont's education funding law during the next biennium. One-third of the state's school budgets failed at the polls this past March amid taxpayers' concerns about big education property tax increases.

Second, she'll get to run in tandem with Cordes, a good friend and fellow Lincolnite. Albert helped with Cordes's 2018 and 2020 House campaigns.

"The opportunity to run when Mari was still running, and when there was also an open seat, was attractive to me," she said. "It provides us the opportunity to reconnect and think of ourselves as a team."

Albert said she likely wouldn't have run had Elder decided to seek re-election.

So who is Jeannie Albert?

She's lived in Vermont for the past 37 years, the last seven of

them in Lincoln.

Albert has always been a numbers person. During her 30-year teaching career, the Dartmouth College grad has taught math at her alma mater, Castleton State College and, most recently, at Middlebury College.

While at Castleton, she collaborated with members of the Education Department to design a new multi-disciplinary major for future elementary teachers, and also developed and taught courses for aspiring teachers that focused on environmental problem solving, interdisciplinary approaches to teaching, and of course, learning mathematics.

At Middlebury, she was the director of STEM and Quantitative Support for the college's Center for Teaching, Learning and Research. She oversaw programs for students and faculty in mathematics, the sciences and social-science disciplines. Albert also led the institution's Social Science peer tutoring program, designing and presenting professional development workshops for teachers across many disciplines.

Albert recently ramped back her work schedule. She continues to teach math part-time at Middlebury College and remains incredibly active in state and local civic pursuits.

One of her most high-profile civic contributions: Her recent service (2021-2022) on the Vermont Legislative Apportionment Board (LAB), a seven-member panel that crunched the most recent U.S. Census numbers to recommend changes to the state's House and Senate districts, based on population changes during the prior 10 years. Albert's proficiency in math and quantitative analysis made her a valuable player on the LAB.

The Legislature took the Apportionment Board's work



LINCOLN DEMOCRAT
JEANNE Albert is a longtime educator and Lincoln School District leader who hopes to become one of two legislators representing Bristol, Lincoln, Monkton and Starksboro in the Vermont House.

and, in some cases, created new House and Senate district boundaries. Several Addison County districts were altered, though the Addison-4 district remained intact.

Her LAB work required her to occasionally testify at the Statehouse, which she enjoyed doing. She returned there in 2023 to give input on a different issue: Lincoln's bid to become an autonomous school district. It proved a successful effort, in part due to Albert's ability to compute and analyze school finance numbers to aid Lincoln's independence application. Albert currently chairs the Lincoln School District board.

"The Save Community Schools group that formed in Lincoln was a wonderful mix of people with different backgrounds and strengths," she said. "I ended up learning a lot about the education finance system and helped with initial (Lincoln school) budgeting."

"Because Vermont is such a small state, you can influence (how governmental actions) affect people's lives."

— Jeannie Albert

LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Her Apportionment Board and Lincoln school experiences whetted her appetite for an expanded role representing her community — as well as the other three Addison-4 towns — in the Vermont House. She believes boosting the state's housing stock, making healthcare more affordable, reforming the state's education funding system and transitioning to green energy will be high on the General Assembly's to-do list.

"I've been wondering what those conversations would be, and how I could be involved," she said.

She believes her experiences solving problems at both the municipal and statewide levels make her a good fit for the Legislature.

"It's helped me think about the role that state and local government play in people's lives," she said. "And because Vermont is such a small state, you can influence (how governmental actions) affect people's lives."

Albert said she continues to study up the issues that will shape her campaign. But she acknowledged being supportive of universal primary care, studying alternative funding options for education (including the income tax), and reducing some of the regulatory hoops for housing sited in town centers.

Albert would also like to see the state's school systems apply for federal money to switch from diesel to electric school buses.

If elected, she vowed to put her math skills to good use and become an ardent supporter of schools.

"Education transforms people's lives," Albert said. "It's a powerful field and an engine for democracy."

The *Independent* will interview all challengers for local House and Senate races, and will also conduct candidate Q&A's prior to the elections.

Reporter John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.



BIP BROWN APPLIES a fresh coat of paint to the Yellow House train frame, which will sit atop an adaptive recumbent e-bike, as part of Monday's Memorial Day parade in Middlebury. Brown has her own adaptive bike, which the organization hopes to transform into a caboose next year.

Independent photo/Steve James

Memorial Day

(Continued from Page 1A)

assist that two people can ride at once.

So how did the Yellow House crew manage to transform the bike into a train?

They reached out to the Middlebury Makerspace at Middlebury College. Yellow House Sidekick Henry Johnson and resident Jeb Plouffe — who had already been visiting the space "just to see what we could do," said Johnson — connected with college student Talia Trigg, who worked with the duo over the course of about five weeks to design and build the float.

Plouffe had worked in a woodshop before, and Johnson has experience building parade floats (he also works with Zeno Mountain Farm, another local organization supporting folks with developmental disabilities, and also renowned for its spectacular presence at the Bristol Fourth of July parade). Trigg helped them solve engineering dilemmas, such as making sure the train would fit on the existing bike, and adapted tools to their needs.

They built the structure out of wood in the college's shop. Then they used the Makerspace's 3-D printers to create the funnel on top (for the bubble machine), and laser-cut the wheels.

"It's really great that this all came together," said Johnson, while smoothing on a coat of bright yellow paint.

The folks at Yellow House are excited about the parade, and they're already hatching plans for next year. Another resident, Bip Brown, has her own RAD adaptive bike, which could be transformed into a coal car, a caboose or even a yellow submarine.

Look for three local Memorial Day parades this weekend. The first steps off in Orwell at 1:30 p.m. on Sunday, May 26.

The Middlebury parade begins its march down South Main Street at 9 a.m. on Monday, May 27. The big Vergennes Memorial Day parade begins at 11 a.m. at the high school.

Bristol will host a Memorial Day ceremony at the veterans memorial on the town green at 1 p.m.

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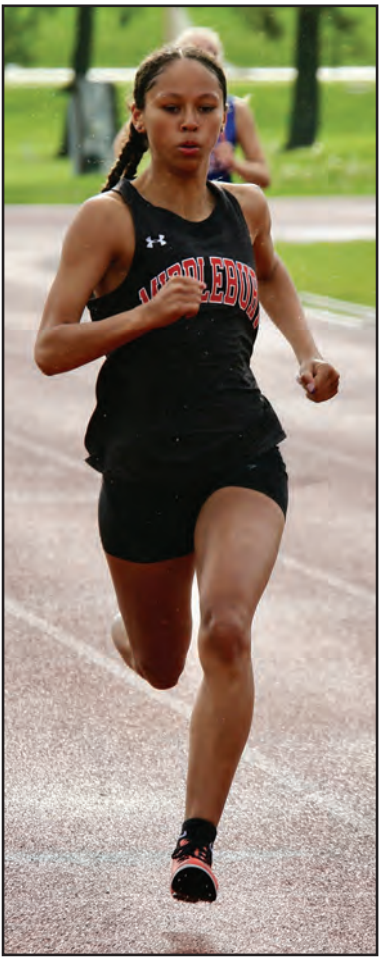


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SPORTS

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MUHS JUNIOR JAZMYRN Hurley cruises to the win at 200 meters in the Wednesday, May 15, track & field meet the Tigers hosted at Middlebury College. She also won the 100.

Tigers, Commodores run well
Hurley takes two races, VUHS, MUHS, relays excel

By ANDY KIRKALDY
MIDDLEBURY — Winning performances by Tiger junior sprinter Jazmyrn Hurley and one Tiger and two Vergennes relay teams highlighted local high school teams' efforts at a Wednesday, May 15, track and field meet the Middlebury Union team hosted at Middlebury College.

Five schools sent teams, and the Division I Champlain Valley boys and girls both took top honors. Hurley cruised to victory in both the girls' 100- and 200-meter races, while her teammates Alixis Williams, Sawyer Witscher, Navah Williams, Sawyer Witscher, Navah Williams and Solstice Binder prevailed in the girls' four-by-100-meter relay.

The Commodore boys' 4X800 team of Calvin Gramling, Riley Gagnon, Grey Fearon and Calder Rakowski bolted to victory, as did the VUHS girls' 4X400 group of Jing Williams, Tryphene Miguel, Ava Francis and Isabelle Van Voorst. Rakowski and Gagnon also (See Track, Page 4B)



MUHS RUNNERS ETHAN Spritzer, front, and Kaden Hammond, run on May 15 near the beginning the 3,000 at a meet hosted by their team on the Middlebury College track. Running between them is CVU's Estella Laird (of Ripton), winner of the girls' race. With few entrants, organizers combined the girls' and boys' races.



MAV MIDDIE ANNA Stillwell calls out a play as Tiger Lila Cook Yoder defends during Tuesday's girls' lacrosse game in Vergennes.

MAV lax cruises past MUHS in programs' initial meeting

By ANDY KIRKALDY
VERGENNES — In what was the first-ever regular-season meeting between Addison County's two high school girls' lacrosse programs, the Mount Abraham-Vergennes cooperative team claimed the victory on Tuesday over visiting Middlebury, 17-4, in a game delayed twice and then cut short by thunderstorms in the area.

Commodores right from the start. That only happened after the teams warmed up in the Vergennes gym for a half-hour because of rain and then sat for about 45 minutes in school hallways while the Commodore baseball team, which had been rained out, took the gym over. When the action at last started the teams played on even terms for the first few minutes, but then the Commodores scored 10 straight goals to close the first half and lead, 13-2 at the break.

Score BOARD

Table with columns for High School Sports (Softball, Baseball, Boys' Lacrosse, Girls' Lacrosse, Girls' Tennis, Ultimate) and College Sports (Baseball, Women's Lacrosse, Men's Lacrosse).



TIGER SENIOR MIDDIE Brady McDonough adds a late insurance goal vs. CVU in this past Friday's 11-6 win by the MUHS boys' lacrosse team.

Tiger boys' lax topples CVU

By ANDY KIRKALDY
MIDDLEBURY — The Middlebury Union High School boys' lacrosse team rode strong defense and goaltending and a gritty all-around effort on Friday, May 17, to its biggest win of the season, an 11-6 home decision over previously undefeated visiting Champlain Valley.

defenders. And while ground ball statistics were not available, three MUHS goals directly resulted from ground ball wins, another indicator of the game flow. Senior long-stick defensive middie and co-captain Gavin McNulty said effort probably made the difference against the first-place Redhawks.

team for that." He added the Tigers were motivated because they lost at CVU, 9-8, back on April 18, a game in which they trailed by seven goals at the half before rallying. "The last game we played against them was not us. It was our first game, and we weren't comfortable yet. I think today was our good full four quarters of lacrosse," McNulty said.



THE MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE women's lacrosse team was all smiles on Sunday after whipping Pomona-Pitzer, 16-1, on Kohn Field. In winning the NCAA Division III Regional, the Panthers earned their way into the Final Four, which will be played in Virginia this coming weekend.

Women's lax takes 21-0 mark on to Final Four

By ANDY KIRKALDY
MIDDLEBURY — The Pomona-Pitzer women's lacrosse team came from California for an NCAA Division III Regional playoff games hosted by top-ranked Middlebury on Saturday and Sunday. The Sagehens enjoyed the warm weather, their 17-9 win over Ithaca on Saturday, and the first two minutes of their Sunday NCAA quarterfinal against the Panthers, when Fiona Lewis cashed in a nice Shoshi Henderson feed to give them a 1-0 lead.

Schedule

Table with columns for High School Sports (Softball) and College Sports (Baseball, Women's Lacrosse, Men's Lacrosse).

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Wild birds and beasts live in wastewater treatment

Our morning nature walk took us on a three-quarter-mile round trip along the small river beneath ponderous southern hardwoods including bald cypress and live oak. The forested area with its thick canopy — known in the wetlands of Florida as a hammock — provided some shade from the Florida sun, but we were still hot. A whittail doe with her young spotted fawn wandered along the depression below the boardwalk to our right, but most of our attention was on the spring-fed river to our left. High in the treetops, a trio of American black vultures kept their nostrils and eyes open for dead animals. Cormorants, anhingas (which are similar to cormorants, but with a longer neck and more spear-like bill), and wood ducks perched on logs in the river or dove below the surface looking for food. Several boat-tailed grackles floated from tree to tree squawking rudely, or perhaps just warning the local wildlife of intruders. One red-shouldered hawk soared in circles over the treetops while another rested on a thick branch draped with Spanish moss until the grackles chased it off. Largemouth bass, gar,



Outdoor column
MATTHEW DICKERSON

bowfin, catfish, a few small tarpon, and some invasive tilapia all swam in the 72-degree crystal-clear water below us.

Deborah and I arrived at Blue Spring State Park around 9:30 a.m., hoping to beat the worst of the Florida heat. Before starting our leisurely riverside wildlife walk to the park's namesake spring, we stopped and read one of the informational signs: 100 million gallons of water pour out of Blue Spring every day. The number was staggering. I had to read it several times (and count the zeros) to be sure I wasn't misreading. According to USGS data from a New Haven measuring station, that's more water than was flowing down the New Haven River on May 14. Except instead of all that water gathering from myriad little mountain streams and springs over a watershed spanning 116 square miles in Lincoln, Starksboro and Bristol, the entire little river was pouring out of one hole in the ground.

The Blue Spring Run flows only about 650 yards from the spring to the much larger St. Johns River, which winds on a mostly northerly course along the edge of the Ocala National Forest and Wildlife Management Area, through Lake George, and on past Jacksonville into the Atlantic Ocean. Along the way, it is fed by myriad more springs, as well as its major tributary, the Ocklawaha River. Just a few weeks earlier, about 800 manatees had swum up the St. Johns to Blue Spring, to enjoy its steady year-round temperature. Although we were too late in the season to see large numbers of manatees, we were hoping to see at least a few, as well as birds, fish, turtles and maybe some

alligators. We were not disappointed with the bird and fish watching, the latter of which was made very easy by the clarity of water. We also saw several turtles, tentatively identified as pond sliders, out sunning. Sadly, we saw no manatees or gators.

Twenty-four hours later, however — 45 miles to the south and farther up into the headwaters of the St. Johns in the town of Christmas, Fla. — we were taking another morning walk along a dramatically different sort of water: a large swampy wetlands lake with a large grove of cypress trees known as a dome. One of numerous sad stories of environmental devastation in Florida has been its many efforts spanning well over a century to drain its wonderful wetlands, including even the famed Everglades. So it's encouraging to hear stories of creative problem-solving, healing and restoration. The Orlando Wetlands is one of those hopeful stories. According to its history page, in the early 1800s the area was a wet prairie and part of the St. Johns River Floodplain. In 1837, the U.S. Army built a ford there as part of its war against the Seminole people, and settlers soon followed and began to drain the wetlands for agriculture and cattle grazing.

Jump forward to the 1980s when the city of Orlando was looking for a solution to its wastewater problem — a solution capable of handling 35 million gallons a day of reclaimed water. So they purchased 1,650 acres of land and created an artificial wetland by digging 17 interconnected shallow ponds, planting over 2.3 million wetland plants including 200,000 trees, and creating three distinct wetland plant communities. As the wastewater (with the solids removed) slowly makes its way through the system from cell to cell (a process taking

more than 30 days), the plants slowly filter the water removing the nitrogen and phosphorus: what in large quantities is "pollution," but which to the plants in these communities are nutrients. By the time the water flows out through the 100-acre lake that is the final cell, it is several times cleaner than the St. Johns River into which it flows.

And as we all learned from the film "Field of Dreams," if you build it they will come. Though no animals were transplanted into the human-made wetland, they began finding their own way there. Over the last several years it has become one of the best birding locations in Florida. On our walk along a dirt path and then out along a long boardwalk over the lake and around the cypress dome, we saw large numbers of the largest variety of wading shore birds I've ever seen: great blue heron, little blue heron, cattle egrets, snowy egrets, wood storks, glossy ibis, sand hill cranes and (most unique and beautiful of all) roseate spoonbills. We also saw black breasted whistling ducks (which didn't appear to have black chests, and which I never heard whistle), common gallinules, wood ducks and anhingas. And



BLACK-BELLIED WHISTLING DUCK



WOOD STORK

more alligators than we could count, ranging from one- and two-year-old baby alligators under a foot long (a favorite food of the dinosaur-like great blue heron), to four-foot-long swamp puppies, to a few larger cruising eight-footers. Though we didn't see them, we also learned that otters and bobcats have also moved into the area.

It's not a perfect solution. More natural wetlands and wastewater without the toxins would be better. But the creative approach really did make dramatic progress on two problems at once. And taking a morning walk through the resulting wildlife sanctuary listening to the loud cacophony of bird calls from the large cypress rookery, one would never know they were strolling through a wastewater treatment.

As for the manatees, we did eventually see several of them. But that will have to wait for my next column.

Men's lax falls to Bowdoin in NCAA quarters

ROCHESTER, N.Y. — Bowdoin went on a 6-0 fourth-quarter run in a Saturday NCAA Division III quarterfinal played in Rochester on the way to ousting the Middlebury College men's lacrosse team from the tournament, 12-7.

The Polar Bears improved to 15-5, while the Panthers finished their season at 12-9, a record that included two NCAA wins and five losses to ranked teams, including two to the Polar Bears. Middlebury also defeated six teams ranked in the top 20, including Bowdoin once.

On Saturday, the Panthers led after the first half, 5-4. Russell Thorndike scored the only goal of the first quarter, and the teams traded scores in the second period, with Will Zink, Patrick Jamin, Thorndike and Jamin again finding the net for Middlebury.

Scores by Liam Tasker and Matt Ward in the first 3:09 of the second half gave Bowdoin its first lead, which stood until Thorndike leveled the score at 6-6 early in the fourth.

Then Bowdoin surged. Jason Lach scored four goals in the decisive run, and Sam Raye-Steiner and Casey Ryan added one goal each to make it 12-6 with 1:30 left. Panther Billy Curtis created the final score with a late strike.

Panther goalie Hayden Kern made 14 saves, and Bowdoin's Robert Hobbs made eight.

Middlebury, a NESCAC tournament finalist, was making its 19th appearance in the NCAA tournament after earning an at-large berth. The program advanced to the quarterfinal round for the 14th time and second straight season.



SAND HILL CRANE

Rivalry games highlight recent high school baseball slate

By **ANDY KIRKALDY**
ADDISON COUNTY — Rivalry games highlighted the baseball schedule in the past week: Middlebury stayed hot and defeated Mount Abraham, but the Eagles recovered to knock off Vergennes. Elsewhere, the Commodores, Eagles and Tigers all picked up victories, but Otter Valley came up short during a tough stretch in its schedule. Meanwhile weather defeated most teams on Tuesday.

RIVALRY GAMES
On May 16 the host Tigers stunned the Eagles, 10-0, in five innings as **Tucker Morter** tossed a one-hit shutout, whiffing three. Meanwhile, Tiger batters roughed starter **Brook Barnard** and reliever **Gavin Conrad** for nine earned runs

on 11 hits. **Carter Paquette** drove in three runs with two hits, Morter had two hits and scored twice, and seven other Tigers had a hit apiece, with **Aidan LaDuke** driving in two runs, and **Ryan Brouillard** and **Ethan Sweet** each scoring twice. **Aricin Griffin** poked the Eagle hit, and **Stefan Johnson** walked twice. The Eagles bounced back to defeat host VUHS on Saturday, 5-2. Johnson earned the pitching win, allowing both runs and striking out six in six innings. **Evan Corrigan** pitched a scoreless seventh for the save. **Abe Ready** doubled, singled twice and drove in two runs to head the Mount Abe offense, and Griffin

chipped in two hits and an RBI. **Tyler Kimball** went the distance on the mound for VUHS, allowing eight hits and two walks while fanning 10 batters. **COMMODORES**
On Thursday the Commodores knocked off one of D-II's top teams, Missisquoi, 3-2, as **Eyon Tembruell** tossed a complete-game five-hitter and belted a go-ahead two-run homer in the fifth, part of a three-hit game. **Reese Paquette** and **Izaak Wolniewicz** added two hits apiece for VUHS, which improved to 3-9. Losing pitcher AJ Dennett struck out nine in six innings. The Commodores' Tuesday game at Milton was moved to Wednesday after deadline for this edition.

EAGLES
On Friday the Eagles wrapped up a 9-6 victory over visiting Enosburg. The game had been suspended from the previous Tuesday with Mount Abe leading, 6-4, in the fourth inning. **Tyler White** went five innings for the pitching win, striking out three. Griffin and Johnson each had two hits for the Eagles, and Ready knocked out an RBI single. The Eagles' Tuesday game at Missisquoi was postponed to Friday, leaving them with a 6-5 record heading into the home stretch. **TIGERS**
On Saturday the Tigers remained hot with their fourth win in five outings, an 11-1, five-inning decision at Milton. **Gabe Velez**

earned the pitching win, allowing one unearned run on one hit. A nine-run fourth inning keyed the victory. The Tigers took advantage of eight walks and stole six bases. **Velez**, **Brouillard** and **Cole Warren** each poked two hits, with Brouillard knocking in two runs, as did **Tim Whitney**. Warren, Paquette, **Ethan Sweet** and LaDuke also drove in runs. **Alex Sperry** scored three runs, and Paquette and Brouillard each scored twice. The game was the Tigers third straight win, all by at least 10 runs. The 4-7 Tigers' Tuesday game at Enosburg was moved to Wednesday. **OTTERS**
On Saturday host Brattleboro edged OV in eight innings, 3-2, plating the winning run on a

squeeze bunt. OV plated both of its runs in the first inning: **Isaiah Wood** knocked in in **Nolan Tripp**, and **Jackson Howe** came home on a wild pitch. Wood tossed the first 5.1 innings for OV, whiffing seven, and Howe went the rest of the way, striking out three, but taking the loss. On Tuesday Hartford defeated OV, 10-0, as Hurricane hurler Wyatt Chambers tossed a two-hit, five-inning shutout and also homered in the game. **Max Potter** and Wood had the hits for the Otters, who dropped to 7-6. The Hurricanes moved to 9-4 with the season sweep of OV, which has dropped three straight, two against Division I teams before Tuesday.

Tiger girls' tennis earns two victories, clinches winning record

By **ANDY KIRKALDY**
MIDDLEBURY — The Middlebury Union High School girls' tennis team earned a pair of recent home victories to improve to 7-2, clinching a winning record for the program's regular season with four matches remaining. On May 17, the Tigers defeated Harwood, 5-2, and on Monday they bested St. Albans, 6-1. As of Wednesday morning the Tigers were in fourth place in Division II and in line for a home quarterfinal playoff match.

The Tigers have a busy week due to rescheduled dates. They were set to visit Montpelier on Wednesday afternoon, and then host North Country on Thursday and U-32 on Friday, both at 3:30 p.m. This Thursday match is scheduled for the team's usual home courts at the Middlebury Recreation Park, but Friday's match will be played at Middlebury Indoor Tennis because the Tiger boys' tennis team was already scheduled to host that afternoon. The Tiger girls will wrap up with a

visit to D-I Colchester this coming Wednesday, and playoff pairings will be announced soon afterward. In an email after the Harwood win, Coach Dan Comar said, the MUHS girls "continue improving their play, strategy and ability to close out matches." **TIGERS 5, HARWOOD 2**
The individual match scores vs. Harwood were:
No. 1 singles, Lily Catlin, H, defeated Audrey Carpenter, MUHS, 3-6, 6-4, 10-4.
No. 2 singles, RYTE Akramaite,

MUHS, defeated Aspen Linskey, H, 6-3, 6-1.
No. 3 singles, Sophia Boise, MUHS, defeated Savannah Fulton, H, 6-1, 6-4.
No. 4 singles, Caroline Nicolai, MUHS, defeated Mae Murphy, H, 6-4, 6-1.
No. 5 singles, Piper Farnsworth, MUHS, defeated Hadley Anderson, H, 5-7, 7-5, 10-6.
No. 1 doubles, Maryam Khan/Amelia Coburn, MUHS, defeated Eleanor Hume/Haley MacDonald, H, 7-5, 6-2.

No. 2 doubles, Nina Henzel/Sophia Desanto, H, defeated Subia Khan/Olivia Kearley, MUHS, 1-6, 6-1, 10-5. **MUHS 6, St. Albans 1**
St. Albans was shorthanded and forfeited No. 5 singles, with Maryam Khan getting credit for the win. The individual match scores were:
No. 1 singles, Shelby Bechard, St. A, defeated Carpenter, MUHS, 7-5, 7-6 (5).
No. 2 singles, Akramaite, MUHS, defeated Maura

Thompson, St. A, 6-1, 6-0.
No. 3 singles, Boise, MUHS, defeated Lily Zekos, St. A, 6-0, 6-0.
No. 4 singles, Nicolai, MUHS, defeated Sophia Oszeriek, St. A, 6-0, 6-0.
No. 1 doubles, Farnsworth/Coburn, MUHS, defeated Taylor Olds/Ava Dumont, St. A, 6-0, 6-0.
No. 2 doubles, Subia Khan/Clara Chant, MUHS, defeated Molly Bernard/Clara Ayuson, St. A, 6-0, 6-0.



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COMMODORE SAFI CAMOURA cuts with the ball while Tigers Ada Weaber, left, and Isla Weaber try to slow her down during Tuesday's girls' lacrosse game in Vergennes.

Independent photo/Steve James

Lacrosse

(Continued from Page 1B)

Ada Weaber won the opening draw for the Tigers and raced down the field and scored in the first minute. The Commodores answered with strikes from Nell Harvey; Meredith Dufault, assisted by Anna Stilwell; and Annie Dufault, after she won the draw, to lead by 3-1 with just 2:20 gone.

The Tigers cut the lead to 3-2 three minutes later when Alice Livesay cut to the goalfront from the left and converted a feed from Ava Schneider. Before and after that goal, however, MAV goalie Carley Cook denied two Livesay bids, and after the second save in that sequence the Commodores took over.

Annie Dufault made it 4-2 at 5:10, and added two more goals later in the period. Stillwell tucked in a rebound off a save by Tiger goalie Ida Blackwell, Thompson Davis scored in transition, and Meredith Dufault netted a free position. It was 9-2 at the end of the quarter.

The assault continued in the second period, and with four minutes to go in the half MAV scored to make it 12-2, and the rest of the contest was played under the running-time mercy rule.

MAV led by 15-3 when thunder was heard with 5:24 remaining in the third period, and a 30-minute delay was called. When play resumed, and before lightning was detected 20 seconds into the third period, and the rest of the game was called off at 17-4.

The Tigers got a goal apiece for Kenyon Connors, Livesay, Weaber and Quinn Doria; Schneider

assisted two scores; and Blackwell made four saves.

The Tigers dropped to 5-6, the first time this season the team has dipped below .500. They face a challenging home stretch, including games against to D-I teams South Burlington, Essex and Champlain Valley.

Annie Dufault finished with seven goals and two assists to lead MAV, and Meredith Dufault scored twice. Scoring a goal each were Siena Stanley, Stillwell (plus an assist), Esme Visco-Lyons, Thompson Davis, Zoey Johnston, June Yates-Rusch (assist), Harvey (assist) and Ruby Hellier. Cook finished with five saves.

MAV improved to 11-2 and remained in second place in D-II behind Hartford. The Commodores also have a difficult schedule remaining, against U-32 (in third-place in D-II, also with two losses), fifth-place Spaulding, and D-I Rice.

Commodore Coach Marikate Kelley said she welcomes the remaining challenges as good way to get ready for the D-II postseason, especially with the goal of honing her team's less experienced defense.

"I'm glad we have some tough games at the end of the season in terms of preparing us for playoffs. Some of the (one-sided) games we've had haven't helped us to improve," Kelley said.

Overall she has seen improvement, citing in particular the Commodores' decision-making with the ball.

"I'm feeling pretty good," she said. "We seem to be coming

together at the right time."

EARLIER GAMES

On May 16 the Commodores edged D-I St. Albans, 15-13, as Annie Dufault poured in nine goals and set up one. Stillwell added three goals, and Stanley scored twice and added an assist. Cook made 10 saves.

Adi Hughes tossed in six goals for the Comets, and Amelia Pinkham made four saves.

On May 17 MAV defeated host Colchester, 19-7. Annie Dufault led the way with four goals and two assists, Meredith Dufault scored three goals, three Commodores scored two goals apiece, Stillwell (adding three assists), Harvey and Hellier; and Stanley, Kennedy Denecker, Yates-Rusch and Scout Jacobson chipped in a goal apiece. Cook made nine saves.

Anya Davis led the Lakers with three goals, and Sarah Palmer made 14 saves.

Also on May 17, host Champlain Valley defeated the Tigers, 13-4. Schneider led MUHS with two goals, and Livesay and Isla Weaber added a goal apiece. Blackwell made 11 saves.

On this past Saturday St. Albans visited MUHS and edged the Tigers, 10-8. Hughes and Amber Poquette each scored four times for the Comets, and Pinkham made eight saves.

Schneider and Ada Weaber led MUHS with two goals apiece, Livesay scored a goal and set one up, and Pela Slayter, Ronan Young, and Connors added a goal apiece. Blackwell made eight saves.

Panther nine vies in NCAAs

By ANDY KIRKALDY

DALLAS, Penn. — The Middlebury College baseball team won two games at a four-team, double-elimination NCAA Division III regional at Misericordia University this past weekend, but the host school defeated the Panthers in the regional final, 6-4, on Sunday.

The Panthers finished 32-13, with the number of wins setting a new highwater mark for the program. The program was making its third straight NCAA appearance after winning its second NESCAC title in the past three years.

KEYSTONE, 11-5

Middlebury opened play in the regional on Friday with an 11-5 loss to Keystone. The Giants broke the game open in the top of the eighth inning, scoring five times to take an 8-1 lead.

Middlebury closed the gap with four runs in the bottom of the inning, a rally highlighted by Sam Smith's three-run homer. But Keystone responded with two more runs in the ninth to create the final score.

Beau Root doubled and scored on a Kyle McCausland single in the first inning, and Baker Angstman drove in the other Panther run. Justin Lessing (5-1) went six innings and took the loss, surrendering eight hits and three runs, two earned.

PANTHERS, 9-8

The Panthers bounced back on Saturday to win vs. St. John Fisher, 9-8, in 10 innings, after Fisher scored twice with two outs in the bottom of the ninth to force extra innings.

The Panthers scored three runs in the top of the first. Beau Root tripled and scored on a Chris Borter single, and Lucas Flemming doubled to score Borter and Mitchell Schroeder. Middlebury made it 4-0 in the second on a Nathan Samii double and a Root RBI single.

The Cardinals got one run back in the second, and then took the lead with four unearned, two-out runs in

the third. A walk and an error set the stage for three straight hits.

Middlebury retook the lead in the fourth on a Samii walk, a Root RBI double, and Borter RBI single.

St. John Fisher knotting the contest at 6-6 the sixth on two walks and back-to-back sacrifice bunts.

The Panthers went back in front 7-6 in the top of the eighth, when a Root single drove in Samii.

Middlebury added a run in the top of the ninth with a McCausland homer.

The Cardinals leveled the contest in the bottom of the ninth off winning pitcher Gavin Gattuso, relieving starter Owen Tross. The runs scored on a two singles, a walk and a wild pitch that brought the tying run in.

In the 10th, the Panthers' winning rally started with back-to-back singles by Zip Malley and Root that put runners on first and third. St. John Fisher threw out Malley on one ground ball, but Root scored the game-winning run on a fielder's choice hit by McCausland. Gatland allowed two baserunners in the ninth, but struck out the final batter for the saves.

The Cardinals put runners on the corners in their half of the inning, but reliever Andrew Gatland worked out of the jam, striking the final batter to earn the save.

Tross's eight innings made him the program's single-season record holder, with 74.2.

PANTHERS, 11-6

Middlebury's defeat of St. John Fisher was the only game played on Saturday due to rainy weather. Sunday play opened with Misericordia beating Keystone, setting up a Panther-Keystone rematch. This time Middlebury prevailed, 11-5, to reach the regional final.

The Panthers' key inning was the fifth, when they scored four times to take an 8-5 lead. Flemming and Zip Malley stroked RBI singles, and Samii poked an RBI double.

The rally made a winner of reliever Dylan Knightly, who tossed 1.2 innings and allowed one run. Anthony Pellagrini threw the final three innings for the save and didn't allow a baserunner.

Offensive contributors included Root, who homered, singled twice, scored twice, and stole three bases; Andrew Ashley, who homered, scored twice, and drove in four runs; McCausland, who doubled, singled, scored twice and drove in a run; Flemming, who doubled, scored twice and drove in two runs; and Samii, who tripled and doubled.

MISERICORDIA, 6-4. The Panthers needed to defeat Misericordia twice to advance out of the regional, but the 11th-ranked host school completed its undefeated march through the regional with the 6-4 victory.

Misericordia (36-9) scored once in the first and twice in the third to take a 3-0 lead before the Panthers broke through for a run in the fifth on an Ashley single, a walk to Schroeder, and a Zip Malley RBI hit.

But Misericordia answered with three runs in the bottom of the inning on two hits, a walk, a hit batter and an error to take a 6-1 lead.

Middlebury got one back in the sixth on a walk to Flemming and singles by Ashley and Schroeder.

And the Panthers made a run at their hosts in the eighth, scoring twice after loading the bases with none out. Flemming and Ashley walked, and a Schroeder single loaded the bases. A wild pitch scored Flemming, with the other runners moving up. Ashley scored on a Samii fly ball to make it 6-4 with two runners on, but the next two batters flied out as the threat fizzled, and the Panthers went quietly in the ninth.

The Panthers' most effective pitcher was Kunal Handa, who closed the game with three scoreless innings to give his team a chance to rally.

MAV boys lax splits two games

By ANDY KIRKALDY

BRISTOL — The Mount Abraham/Vergennes cooperative boys' lacrosse team split two recent games; their record stands at 6-4, good enough to maintain a hold on second place in the Division III standings behind Green Mountain Valley, which as of Tuesday was 6-1.

On May 15 visiting Division II Harwood edged the Eagles, 10-8.

Noah Ladeau tossed in three goals to lead the Eagles, Andrew Nolan scored twice and assisted a goal, Jamison Couture scored twice, and Jack Senecal added one goal.


On Saturday the Eagles topped visiting Colchester in a defensive battle, 7-3. Asa Pratt's two goals led MAV, which received a goal apiece from Jake Kadar, Connor Kelly, Chase Atkins, Ladeau and Nolan. Atkins and Nolan added assists,

and Walker Forand backstopped the win with 11 saves.

Three Lakers scored a goal apiece, and goalie Kieran Phillips matched Forand with 11 stops.

The Eagles had been scheduled to visit winless Otter Valley on Tuesday, but that game was postponed due to the threat of thunderstorms.

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Track

(Continued from Page 1B)

earned second-place finishes in individual events, as did teammate Chance Koenig.

The Tiger girls' three wins helped them to the highest point total, 72, among the four local girls' and boys' teams, but they still trailed CVU (153), Rice (150) and St. Albans in the team standings. The VUHS girls were close behind the Tigers at 56.

On the boys' side, the scores were CVU, 148; St. Albans, 131; Rice, 105; VUHS, 53; and MUHS, 32. Louis Klein of the North Branch School also competed and scored 2 points with a 7th-place finish in the boys' javelin.

GIRLS' RESULTS

The Tiger and Commodore girls who posted top-10 finishes and their results, and the winners in those events, are as follows:

- 100 meters: 1. Hurley, MUHS, 12.91; 4. Binder, MUHS, 14.01; 5. Eva Borah, VUHS, 14.59; 6. Williams, MUHS, 14.60; 7. Francis, VUHS, 14.61; 8. Beth McIntosh, MUHS, 14.74; 9. Miguel, VUHS, 14.84.

- 200: 1. Hurley, MUHS, 26.52; 3. Borah, VUHS, 30.55; 4. Miguel, VUHS, 30.72; 5. Francis, VUHS, 30.78; 6. Grace Ritter, MUHS, 31.15; 7. Alaina LeBeau, VUHS, 31.24; 9. McIntosh, MUHS, 32.39; 10. Torrey Hanna, VUHS, 32.42.

- 400: 1. Elizabeth Cunningham, Rice, 1:03.89; 3. Van Voorst, VUHS, 1:06.27; 6. McIntosh, MUHS, 1:09.1.

- 800: 8. Jing Williams, VUHS, 2:46.07.

- 1,500: 1. Alice Kredell, CVU, 4:54.29; 9. Madeleine Stroup, VUHS, 6:18.43.

- 3,000: 1. Estella Laird, CVU, 10:34.72; 3. Mary Harrington,



COMMODORE JING WILLIAMS leads a pack of runners, including Tiger Beth McIntosh, on May 15 around a bend on the Middlebury College track during the girls' 800.

Independent photo/Steve James

MUHS, 11:48.52.

- 110 hurdles: 1. Zoe Martinez, Rice, 17.77; 5. Laila Sunderland, MUHS, 20.92; 6. Gina LeBeau, VUHS, 22.77.

- 4x100 relay: 1. MUHS, 55.01 (William, Witscher, Glikman, Binder); 2. VUHS, 56.29 (Borah, Faith McCallister, A. LeBeau, Francis); 3. MUHS, 57.6 (Sunderland, Vivian Mott, Ritter, Maya Breckenridge).

- 4x400: 1. VUHS, 4:44.6 (Williams, Miguel, Francis, Van Voorst); 3. MUHS, 4:54.40 (Binder, Williams, Witscher, Ritter).

BOYS' RESULTS

The Tiger and Commodore boys who posted top-10 finishes and

their results, and the winners in those events, are as follows:

- 100 meters: 1. Avery Rogers, CVU, 11.55; 9. Keil Broderson, MUHS, 13.06; 10. Koenig, VUHS, 13.11.

- 200: 1. Jacob Kunin, CVU, 25.27; 2. Rakowski, VUHS, 25.63.

- 400: 1. Ethan Barbieri, St. A, 55.41; 2. Gagnon, VUHS, 56.4; 5. Koenig, V, 1:01.95.

- 800: 1. Jacoby Soter, St. A, 2:07.25; 3. Fearon, VUHS, 2:11.56; 6. Gramling, VUHS, 2:22.57; 8. Broderson, MUHS, 2:28.26; 9. Gabe Schmitt, MUHS, 2:45.3; 10. Lucas Flinger, MUHS, 2:45.74.

- 1,500: 1. Dan Knight, CVU, 4:05.2; 3. Ethan Spritzer, MUHS,

- 4:31.55; 5. Kaden Hammond, MUHS, 4:50.66; 7. Flinger, MUHS, 5:34.98; 8. Schmitt, MUHS, 5:35.96.

- 3,000: 1. Teddy Tremblay, St. A, 9:13.03; 3. Spritzer, MUHS, 10:10.29; 4. Hammond, MUHS, 10:52.49; 5. Aaron Carr-Perlow, 11:30.2.

- 4X800: 1. VUHS, 8:58.8 (Gramling, Gagnon, Fearon, Rakowski).

- Javelin: 1. Stanislav Zuk, Rice, 118'9"; 3. Gagnon, VUHS, 113'; 6. Teddy Manning-Lonczak, MUHS, 76'.

- Triple jump: 1. Rogers, CVU, 11.58 meters; 2. Koenig, VUHS, 10.69m.

Panthers

(Continued from Page 1B)

Those weren't boos coming from the Middlebury fans — they were chanting "Suuz."

Panther Coach Kate Livesay started subbing, the final was 16-1, and Middlebury was heading back to the final four, seeking its fourth NCAA title in as many attempts. The program claimed the crown in 2019, 2022 and 2023, but COVID wiped out its 2020 and 2021 campaigns.

Meanwhile, the Sagehens kept their spirits up, but had to settle for their 19-2 season and a quarterfinal appearance.

The 21-0 Panthers will next take on Franklin & Marshall (19-3) in Salem, Va., at noon on Friday, May 24, in one semifinal. The Panthers defeated F&M, 18-9, at a neutral site on March 19. Salisbury (17-3) and William Smith (20-3) will square off in the other semi at 3 p.m. Middlebury did not meet either of those teams this spring. The final will be played on Sunday, May 26, at noon, at the same site, Kerr Stadium in Salem.

After Sunday's game, Livesay explained how her defenders had disrupted a Sagehen offense that had scored 17 times against eighth-ranked Ithaca the day before. The Panther coach said her team can vary its approaches defensively, and chose the one that would be most effective against the Sagehens — aggressive and extended pressure on the ball to break up their passing game.

"This was a big feeding time, so we wanted to get out and pressure them. And the defense we played today, which was different than the defense we played yesterday, really allowed us to do that and break up the rhythm of their offense," Livesay said. "Yesterday you saw a lot of assisted goals, a lot of really nice timed sequences from their offense. So our big goal today was just to disrupt that, put them under pressure that they may not have seen yet this year."

The Sagehens also tried to play aggressive defensively, but the strategy backfired with a series of infractions that led directly to free possession goals (Middlebury converted seven of eight) or to players being sent off for stick fouls or physical contact — the officials carded the Sagehens eight times and the Panthers twice.

Middlebury first-year Kate Motley responded to the early Sagehen goal by converting a free position 46 seconds later, the first of seven first-period Panther goals.

Next, at 9:25 Motley netted a transition feed from senior middle Sara Ellinghaus, and solo efforts by Rowley and junior Hope Shue 25 seconds apart made it 4-1 at 8:06. Three minutes later Rowley set up junior Kelcey Dion to make it 5-1.

The Panthers closed the quarter with two goals directly following interceptions by defenders Madison Paylor and Kylie Wilson, one strike by Rowley and one by Shue. Wilson

picked off another pass in the late going, but in the final seconds Sagehen goalie Ruby Loesch made one of her five saves to deny sophomore Caroline Messer in transition.

Junior defender Grace Mumford, Messer, senior defender Chloe Newman and senior middle Niki Mormile also came up with clean steals and caused turnovers as the Panther back line dominated. Mormile and Caroline Adams also controlled four draws apiece as the Panthers also ruled that category, 14-5.

But Rowley provided the most dominant stretch, with four straight goals in the first five minutes of the second quarter. The first three came on free position shots as the Panthers' quick ball movement forced shooting space infractions.

The fourth came after Mormile picked off a pass in the defensive end, leading to a fast break in which Rowley netted a Motley feed to make it 11-1 and start running time. Before the quarter ended Jamee Numan added another free position, and it was 12-1 at the half.

In the third quarter Motley netted a free position, and Adams scored in transition after a long Ellinghaus clearing run. Also in the period Panther first-year goalie Elizabeth Savage made two of her three saves and caused a turnover.

In the fourth quarter Numan added her second goal, and Maddie Ackerman netted a Burdine Atherton feed. Senior goalie Gina Driscoll took over in goal, and fittingly the game ended with her picking off a Sagehen pass into the fan.

In Saturday's regional semifinal the Panthers bolted to a 10-3 lead after one period on the way to a 20-9 victory over Colorado College. Colorado finished its season at 16-6. Shue and Rowley each scored five goals and assisted one, and Ellinghaus (three goals) and Motley (two goals) also racked up multiple scores. In goal Savage made two saves in the first three periods, allowing eight goals, and Driscoll surrendered one goal and stopped five shots in 15 minutes.

Sofia Mancino led the Buffalos with four goals, and goalie Cassidy Schnauffer made 10 saves.

Livesay said Sunday's game meant a lot to the Panther seniors, who were playing their last game on their home turf of Kohn Field. And she said the team's seniors — most notably Rowley, Mormile, Ellinghaus and Newman — have in turn meant a lot to the team.

"They're just a special group that cares so much," Livesay said. "It's the seniors who are the heart and soul of what we do."

Now their careers and the Panthers' season is down to the final weekend, where the competition will be tougher.

"I'm so excited to see what this group is capable of," Livesay said. "It's a gritty group. I think we're ready for the next step and to be challenged."

Tigers, Eagles win softball rivalry outings

By ANDY KIRKALDY

ADDISON COUNTY — In recent local high school softball rivalry games Middlebury knocked off Mount Abraham, while the Eagles bested Vergennes. Elsewhere, the Tigers and Otter Valley won once before games scheduled for Tuesday were all rained out.

RIVALRY GAMES

On May 16 the host Tigers pulled out what was a close game with runs in the fifth and sixth innings to defeat the Eagles, 8-4. Emma Deering earned the pitching win, tossing a complete game and allowing only two hits and one earned run. In the fifth Skyler Choiniere laced a two-run double to snap a 1-1 tie, and in the sixth back-to-back triples by Deering and Lexi Orleans sparked what proved to be the decisive rally after the Eagles tied the game.

Orleans finished with two hits and two RBIs to lead the Tigers.

Gretchen Toy took the complete-game loss for the Eagles, allowing six hits in six innings.

On Saturday the Eagles had little trouble with the one-win Commodores in a 17-3, six-inning victory. Gen Forand had a big day at the plate for Mt. Abe with a homer, double, two singles and five RBIs. Abba Parker also homered in a three-hit day and drove in three runs. Joanna Toy drove in two runs with a pair of hits, Morgan Larocque doubled and singled twice, and Sarah Heath had two hits and an RBI. The Eagles improved to 7-4. Their Tuesday game at Rice was moved to Saturday at noon.

Losing pitcher Savannah Blaise belted a double for VUHS (1-9).

OTTERS

On May 16 visiting Springfield outslugged the Otters, 23-21. OV scored early, taking a 13-5 lead, and late, rallying for seven runs

in the bottom of the seventh. But the Cosmos dominated the middle innings, including scoring 11 times in the fourth and adding seven runs in the fifth. Sophia Parker led OV with three hits and pitched the first three innings.

On Saturday the Otters cruised at Brattleboro, 17-7. Sierra Cormany went the distance for the pitching win, walking one and fanning four. Ady Humiston sparked the offense with five hits, including two doubles, and three RBIs. OV improved to 5-6 with the victory.

OV's Tuesday home game with Hartford was postponed with no makeup date immediately announced.

COMMODORES

On May 16 visiting Rice topped VUHS, 15-2 in five innings. Rory Couture and Acaisa Visser each had two hits for the 1-9 Commodores, while Rory Hendee and Asher

Jewell poked RBI singles.

Finley Strong and Lyndsey Nagle each had three hits and two RBIs for Rice, and Molly McGibney had two hits and three RBIs.

The Commodores' Tuesday game at Milton was moved to Wednesday after deadline for this edition.

TIGERS

On Saturday the Tigers picked up their fifth straight win, defeating Milton, 7-1. The Tigers erupted late to break open a close game and reward the pitching effort of Deering, who went the distance, allowing one earned run and striking out eight.

Lexi Whitney's two-run double snapped the tie, Choiniere tripled, doubled twice, singled and drove in two runs, and Ireland Hanley doubled and singled. MUHS improved to 7-3.

The Tigers' Tuesday home game vs Enosburg was moved to Wednesday after deadline for this edition.

Tigers

(Continued from Page 1B)

courage, and play with heart.' That's kind of the key to this game at any level," Rizzo said. "Usually the team that wins is the team that plays the hardest, and we've got the athletes, too."

The Tigers also executed well defensively, he said, while freshman goalie Levi Nuceder was again solid.

"Everybody played really, really well. They were prepared. We worked a lot on it in practice," Rizzo said. "Levi played well, and the team defense was really good today. The slide package was there. When our guys got beat, the slide was there."

CVU took a quick 1-0 lead: Redhawk standout Peter Gilliam scored 51 seconds after the opening draw.

But the Tigers responded with the next three goals to lead by 3-1 after the first period.

Junior Angus Blackwell scored two of them in the next three minutes, both on feeds from senior midfielder Jackson Gillett to the goalfloor from the left side.

Nuceder preserved the lead with a stop on Redhawk Ben Rutherford, and then the Tigers survived a penalty with 4:33 to go by pressuring CVU shooters into firing wide. In the period's final minute MUHS senior leading scorer Toby Draper broke loose from the close attention the Redhawks defense was giving him and dodged in from the left side and picked the right corner from a

sharp angle.

Two minutes into the second period Blackwell pulled off a nimble spin past a defender and found the lower right corner, and it was 4-1. The teams traded goals for a spell, with Redhawk Asher Vaughn scoring in transition, Blackwell whipping home a transition shot, and Matias Williams sweeping across the top of the box and firing the ball in from long range to make it 5-3, Tigers, midway through the period.

"They weren't unforced errors. They were forced errors. It was a bit of a defensive battle."

— Coach Rizzo

At 2:36 Williams picked the upper right corner from the left side, and CVU had closed to 5-4. Nuceder denied a good Williams bid shortly afterward, and that score stood at the half.

And the score stood for another 6:25 of the third quarter, as both teams struggled with turnovers against stout defense.

Rizzo agreed the game at times looked sloppy, but that outcome was more the result of defensive

effort by both teams rather than careless offensive play.

"They weren't unforced errors. They were forced errors," he said. "It was a bit of a defensive battle."

Finally the Tigers came up with a pivotal sequence. Junior defender George Devlin bolted with the ball up the right sideline, and twice the Redhawks knocked the ball loose. But twice Devlin battled to win the ball back and keep advancing into CVU territory. Finally, he moved the ball to sophomore attacker Logan McNulty, who quickly relayed to Blackwell cutting to goal. Blackwell tucked the ball inside the right post at 5:35 for what was probably the key goal of the game.

And at 3:03 Blackwell won a groundball battle out in front of the CVU goal and found the back of the net again, and the Tiger lead was 7-4 entering the final period.

Blackwell finished with six goals, prompting praise and a bit of amazement from his teammates.

"This is truly his legacy game," Gavin McNulty said, "and I'm really proud of him for it."

CVU came no closer in the final frame. After freshman middle Brady Lloyd hit the post early in the period, the Tiger defense forced a turnover, and junior long-stick middle Cam Whitlock scooped the ball, bolted two-thirds of the length of the field and at 7:48 found the lower left corner while still in full stride to make it 8-4.

At 6:11 Williams scored to make it 8-5, and CVU won the draw, but



TIGER GOALIE LEVI Nuceder makes a save against CVU on this past Friday, when the MUHS boys' lacrosse team defeated the Redhawks, 11-6.

Independent photo/Steve James

the Tigers again put the clamps on the Redhawks, notably with sophomore Luke Nuceder shutting down Gilliam, who had spent most of the game being frustrated by sophomore defender Marshall Eddy. Sophomore Cooke Riney, Devlin, Luke Nuceder, and junior short-stick middle Tassilo Luksch all did good work in the back.

After that stop the Tigers moved the ball to the other end, and at 4:57 Draper picked up another

ground ball near the goal and fired it home to make it 9-5. Senior Brady McDonough soon afterward dodged in to make it 10-5, and a Draper solo effort pushed the lead to 11-5 with 1:41 to go. Williams scored his fourth goal for CVU to create the final score. Levi Nuceder made nine saves, and Redhawk goalie Will Kearney made 13.

The Tigers had been set to take on D-II Rice on Tuesday, but bad weather led to a postponement.

Their next game will be home on Friday vs. defending champion South Burlington, as of Tuesday afternoon in third place with an 8-4 record.

McNulty said the Tigers can keep doing well if they play the way they did vs. the Redhawks.

"I think we're going to keep riding this train, keep going," he said. "We need to keep doing what we're doing. If we stay on this track it looks like it's going to work."

community calendar

may 23 THURSDAY

Honk and wave for ceasefire in Middlebury. Thursday, May 23, 4-4:30 p.m., green across from the Middlebury Inn. Stand up for the Palestinians of Gaza and the West Bank and protest the daily bombings, ground invasions, and denial of food, water and health services by the Israeli military. You are welcome to bring a sign, or we can provide them. This is a peaceful event; no hate of any kind will be tolerated. Continues weekly throughout the summer.

Plant Medicine Workshop in Monkton. Thursday, May 23, 5:30-8 p.m., Russell Memorial Library, 280 Monkton Ridge. Join herbalist Julie Mitchell to learn about sustainable, ethical and accurate wildcrafting, plus garbling (a.k.a. sorting), drying and plant identification. She will also show how to harvest and store herbs for the best nutritive and medicinal value. Cost \$20. Limit 12 students. More info at russellmemlibrary@gmail.com.

may 24 FRIDAY

Vermont State Historic Sites opening day. Friday, May 24, Chimney Point, Mount Independence, and Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Sites. Head online to historicsites.vermont.gov for more info.

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.

Town-wide yard sale in Monkton. Saturday, May 25, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., locations around Monkton. Sponsored by Monkton BSA Troop 802. There will be a map showing the location of area yard sales available. Get your yard sale posted on the map until May 20. For \$15 you get the location of your sale and a sign to put at the end of your driveway. Contact Karen at puccidog@live.com to sign up or questions.

Plant, bake and craft sale in Monkton. Saturday, May 25, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Monkton Friends Methodist Church, Monkton Ridge. A wide selection of hardy perennials from local gardens, flowering and shade plants, plus herbs, berry bushes, shrubs, bulbs and lilac bushes. Pastries and desserts and a few extras will adorn the tables for your pleasure at the bake sale. At the craft sale you will be able to find that special gift you've been needing or something for yourself among baby items, potholders and much more.

Crafting supply giveaway in Monkton. Saturday, May 25, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Monkton Town Hall, 92 Monkton Ridge. A local 4-H'er will be giving away arts and crafts supply as part of her 4-H project, which focuses on recycling, reusing, etc. She has collected an impressive amount of donated items to hand out to visitors, including knitting supplies, items to make a wreath, painting supplies, craft kits, markers, colored pencils, fabric and more.

Plant and bake sale in Brandon. Saturday, May 25, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Brandon Congregational Church, 1 Carver St. All kinds of perennial and annual plants for sale, including house plants and vegetable starters. Children are welcome to plant and bring home a flower for free. Bake sale inside of Fellowship Hall featuring homemade pies and other baked goods including singles. Coffee available and tables to sit and relax while having a treat.

Middlebury Farmers Market 50th Year Anniversary Grand Opening in Middlebury. Saturday, May 25, 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m., VFW, 530 Exchange St. Join in celebrating the 50th Year of the Middlebury Farmers Market with market members, guest vendors, and live music by O'hanleigh featuring Cindy Hill and Tom Hanley.

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.

King Pede card party in Ferrisburgh. Saturday, May 25, 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 Pede involves "trick-taking" such as in Hearts and Spades or Pitch. This is a game of skill so come prepared to use your strategic thinking.

Plant enthusiasts
MIDDLEBURY GARDEN CLUB members will be on the Middlebury Green on Saturday, June 1, from 9 a.m. to noon for their annual plant sale. Stop by and see what these avid gardeners have cultivated for you — annuals, perennials, vegetables, houseplants and more will be available.
Photo courtesy of Wally Elton

battlefield flags will be raised to full-mast and tribute paid at the battle monument to the soldiers of Hubbardton. More info at historicsites.vermont.gov/hubbardton-battlefield.

Memorial Day parade in Middlebury. Monday, May 27, 9 a.m., downtown. Middlebury American Legion Post 27 and the Town of Middlebury will once again hold a Memorial Day Parade honoring the memory of men and women who have lost their lives defending the United States of America.

Tiny House open house in Middlebury. Monday, May 27, 10 a.m., 89 Main St., on the traffic circle. Come and see the (nearly) complete first tiny home constructed by the Hannaford Career Center 2nd Year Construction Students before it becomes an affordable home for an Addison County resident. Come and celebrate — and admire the first community-supported and funded home!

Memorial Day ice cream social in Cornwall. Monday, May 27, 10:30 a.m.-2 p.m., Ethan and Mary Baker Allen DAR house, corner of Routes 30 and 74. Visit the DAR's historic library, museum and meeting house and enjoy ice cream while you do.

Memorial Day parade in Vergennes. Monday, May 27, 11 a.m., downtown. The largest Memorial Day parade in the state. Hosted since 1946 by American Legion Post 14, the parade honors all the men and women who have served our country during times of conflict. Plan your viewing spot along the 1.5-mile route, which begins at the high school, and enjoy this year's parade.

Memorial Day ceremony in Bristol. Monday, May 27, 1 p.m., town green. Bristol's American Legion Post 19 Commander Ron LaRose will emcee a ceremony that will feature a guest speaker from the Vermont Army National Guard at the Veterans Memorial on the green.

may 28 TUESDAY
Tiny House Tour in Middlebury. Tuesday, May 28, 9 a.m., Counseling Service of Addison County parking lot, Cross St. Tour the tiny house being constructed by Hannaford Career Center for Homes First. Learn about three solutions to alleviate the housing crisis: Adding an Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) to a property, home sharing with HomeShare VT, and small/tiny homes.

Milk & Honey Quilters Guild meeting and potluck in Middlebury. Tuesday, May 28, 6 p.m., Champlain Valley Unitarian Universalist Society, 2 Duane Ct. Bring a dish to share and your own place setting. The guild will provide beverages. Bring show and tell, too. Limited parking in church lot; overflow parking available at the Mary Johnson Children's Center and at the high school.

Financial Aid & Managing College Costs virtual presentation. Tuesday, May 28, 6:30 p.m., Zoom. Join VSAC Outreach Counselor Carrie Harlow, who will provide an overview of how families pay for college costs and the different types of financial aid. She will also outline the application process and timelines for high school juniors and sophomores and their families. Register in advance for this meeting at tinyurl.com/VSAC-Fin-Aid-wkshp.

may 29 WEDNESDAY
Great Decisions series "U.S.-China Trade" in Middlebury. Wednesday, May 29, 3 p.m., Eastview at Middlebury, 100 EastView Ter. Middlebury College Professor Jessica Teets gives this eighth in a series 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.

may 30 THURSDAY
Thursdays on the TAM in Middlebury. Thursday, May 30, 8:30 a.m., Wright Park; Seymour St. Help MALT clean up the trails in advance of the busy summer season. MALT Trails & Volunteer Manager Liam Hickey will be at the trailhead in the mornings with doughnuts, coffee and tea for volunteers. Enjoy a warm drink and chat, then get to work. Hike the section of trail yourself and return tools on the way back, or wait until 9:30 a.m. to hike as a group. Work includes clearing dead branches and small fallen trees, pruning new growth, and picking up trash. Free.

may 26 SUNDAY
Memorial Day parade in Orwell. Sunday, May 26, 1:30 p.m., North Orwell Road and through the village. Come watch this quintessential small town Vermont parade with bands, kids, clowns, antique cars and tractors, horses and veterans. Kate Hunter is parade marshal this year. This Memorial Day Parade honors those who have lost their lives defending the United States of America.

may 27 MONDAY
Memorial Day ceremony in Hubbardton. Monday, May 27, Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site, 5696 Monument Hill Rd. At noon



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may 31 FRIDAY

Celestial Soirée in Vergennes. Friday, May 31, 7-11 p.m., Bixby Memorial Library, 528 Main St. Come to the Bixby annual fundraiser — a night to remember under the storied stained-glass dome in Bixby's magnificent marble rotunda. Tickets \$75, include live music and dancing with The Grift, a welcome drink and cash bar, local gourmet eats, and a curated live, silent, and online auction of items and experiences. More info at bixbylibrary.org.

may 31 SATURDAY

Middlebury Garden Club plant sale in Middlebury. Saturday, June 1, 9 a.m.-noon, on the Green, next to St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. Get your garden and house plants — annuals, perennials, vegetable starts, shrubs, and more — for the coming season. Plants will be in pots and labeled by name, color and basic care. There will be a table with books and gardening accessories, too. Trays and boxes will be available to carry your selections home.

Rhubarb Festival in Middlebury. Saturday, June 1, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Champlain Valley Unitarian Universalist Society, 2 Duane Ct. Come purchase rhubarb and strawberry-rhubarb pies, assorted sweet and savory preserves, and confections — all made with rhubarb. Shop for fun and colorful bling, browse gently used books, and enjoy rhubarb crisp with ice cream, while listening to live music. Limited handicapped parking is available on site and there is ample parking at the high school.

The Poetry of Henry Thoreau in Bristol. Saturday, June 1, 7 p.m., Lawrence Memorial Library, 40 North St. Jim Stapleton and Diana Bigelow will present a one-hour performance piece with commentary featuring the poetry of Henry David Thoreau, the 19th Century New England author. A Q&A will follow. No registration required. Donations to the Library appreciated, but not required. More info at 802-453-2366.

may 31 SUNDAY

Taste of Summer gathering in Ferrisburgh. Sunday, June 2, 11 a.m.-6 p.m., Ferrisburgh Union Meeting Hall, Route 7. FUMH seeks farmers, makers, artists and bakers to join the Vendor Market for this event, which features live music, food and fun for all ages. For more information about participation, email to lab@ibewlocal300.org for details.

Addison Town Historical Society meeting in Addison. Sunday, June 2, 2 p.m., Addison Community Center (formerly Addison Central School), Rt. 17 West. What was it like to move from a small, one-room schoolhouse to the "new" Addison Central School? AHS has saved the framed roster of students who made the transition from grades one through seven. All members of the first classes are invited to attend and share their memories and memorabilia of the transition. The school presentation will be followed by a brief business meeting and the election of officers.

Create Your Own Pollinator Gardens: One Step at a Time in Bristol. Sunday, June 2, 3 p.m., Holley Hall, 1 South St. Come to this talk by UVM Extension Master Gardener Marijke Niles. A guided garden tour at Bristol Co Housing will follow at 4 p.m. More info at pollinatorpathway.addisoncty@gmail.com.

may 31 MONDAY

Vergennes City Band rehearsal in Vergennes. Monday, June 3, 7-9 p.m., Vergennes Opera House. All instrumentalists welcome. For more information contact Sue O'Daniel at 802-349-5906. Additional rehearsal and June 10.

CALENDAR ONLINE
addisonindependent.com

VSAC meeting on financial aid to be held on May 28

MIDDLEBURY — VSAC Outreach Counselor, Carrie Harlow will present a free virtual Financial Aid & Managing College Costs presentation on Tuesday, May 28 at 6:30 p.m. The presentation is geared toward high school juniors and sophomores and their families and will provide an overview of how families pay for college costs and the different types of financial aid, as well as the

application process and timelines. Harlow will also share several websites that can help you research the true cost of colleges and get ready to file financial aid forms. This event is publicized and geared towards families and students who live in Addison County.

Register in advance for this meeting at tinyurl.com/VSAC-Fin-Aid-wkshp.

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Community Playgroups

Middlebury 9:30 - 11 am Saturdays at the Addison County Parent/Child Center 126 Monroe St.

Vergennes 9:30 - 11 am Thursdays at the Congregational Church 30 S. Water St.

Helping Young Families Get The Right Start

Reader Comments

Here's what one reader has to say about us!

A subscriber from Shoreham writes:

"We value the paper a lot! It keeps us up to date on the community."

Quotes are taken from reader comments submitted with subscription renewals.

ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT

'Up for Discussion'

Youth sports in the community

MIDDLEBURY — The third installment of Vermont Book Shop and Town Hall Theater's "Up for Discussion" series will feature Middlebury Athletic Director Erin Quinn, Carol Weston, and author and journalist Alex Wolff for "Youth Sports in the Community and Beyond." This salon-style talk will take place on Tuesday, June 11, from 5:30-7 p.m. at Town Hall Theater.

The angle taken by the talk is that we can agree that our system of youth sports should serve young athletes first and foremost. But are we falling short? Many of the same debates about emphasis, spectator behavior, age appropriateness, travel teams, and "pay to play" that mark youth sports nationally also take place right here in Addison County. Per the format for "Up for Discussion," the topic will be introduced by panelists: Erin Quinn, an athletics professional whose kids participated in rec and school sports in Middlebury; Carol Weston, a Mount Abe product who went on to a Hall of Fame ice hockey career and now referees locally; and Alex Wolff, a veteran sportswriter.

Afterward, audience members will gather in small groups to swap perspectives and then share their findings. Whether you're a parent, a fan, or a young athlete still lacing them up, come join the conversation.



ERIN QUINN



ALEX WOLFF

"Participating in sports can give young people the feelings of agency and mastery that offer a glimpse into adulthood — even if youth sports sometimes make adults act like children."

— Alexander Wolff

"Participating in sports can give young people the feelings of agency and mastery that offer a glimpse into adulthood — even if youth sports sometimes make adults act like children," says Alexander Wolff, the former *Sports Illustrated* writer who'll serve on the panel. "I have really high hopes for the appeal of the topic. Anyone who has spent a fall Friday night at Doc Collins Field knows that sports engage Addison County-ites of every stripe. The broader the cross-section of the community we can attract, the more representative the discussion will be," says Wolff.

ABOUT THE PRESENTERS
Erin Quinn served on local sports boards and as a youth sports coach while his children went through the Middlebury schools, and he continues to be involved

today. A former NCAA Division III championship winning lacrosse coach, he sees the fruits of the youth sports system nationwide in his current role as athletics director at Middlebury College.

Carol Weston starred in ice hockey, soccer and track at Mount Abe before becoming a lynchpin of UNH's ECAC powerhouse ice hockey teams of the late 1980s and early 1990s and going on to coach at Cornell. A member of the Vermont Sports Hall of Fame, she interacts regularly with local coaches and athletes as a hockey and soccer official. She lives in Bristol and works at Elderly Services.

During 36 years on staff at *Sports Illustrated*, Alexander Wolff reported often on youth sports, writing about such topics as the 10-year-old athlete, abusive coaching, and the decline of the three-sport star. He lives in Cornwall and watched his children play basketball, field hockey, lacrosse and field hockey in the ACSD.

4-H members do well at Hippology contest

VERMONT — Two local 4-H members placed in the 2024 State 4-H Hippology Contest on April 29 and May 5. Aliyah Bradford of Addison came in second in the Juniors 8-9 division and Tessa Buskey of North Ferrisburgh took home seventh in the Juniors 12-13 division.

The first phases of the competition — the written exam, slides and identification stations — took place on April 29 at the Danville School in Danville. Topics included breeds, colors, markings, teeth, the digestive system, types of fences and horse events, among others.

4-H'ers reconvened on May 5 in Colchester at the Destiny Morgan Farm for the judging phase, judging Sport Horse Morgans in Hand and Western Pleasure classes. For some participants, it was a busy day as they also competed in the annual State 4-H Judging Contest, judging additional classes at the same table.



4-H'ER ALIYAH BRADFORD of Bridport, center, took home second place at the recent 2024 State 4-H Hippology Contest, held in both Danville and Colchester.

Photo by Amanda Turgeon

Rhubarb Festival to be held June 1

MIDDLEBURY — Champlain Valley Unitarian Universalist Society will celebrate spring with its 15th Annual Rhubarb Festival on June 1, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. — or whenever the last pie is gone.

Come purchase rhubarb and strawberry-rhubarb pies, assorted sweet and savory preserves, and confections — all made with rhubarb. Shop for fun and colorful "bling", browse gently used books, and enjoy rhubarb crisp with ice cream, while listening to live music. Cash, checks, and

credit cards will be accepted and the event will be held indoors.

The Rhubarb Festival is an important fundraiser for CVUUS. Funds are used for general operating expenses, and a portion is shared with a local charity, per CVUUS's custom of sharing the weekly worship offering.

In addition to supporting CVUUS, the Rhubarb Festival is a beloved community event where people connect with old friends and make new ones. Organizer Lise Anderson said, "As a relative newcomer to

Cornwall, I joined the pie bees before the Rhubarb Festival my first year in town. It was a great way to get to know people and make new friends. Saturday is a heart-warming social time, and it's a nice walk from the Middlebury town green!"

CVUUS is located in Middlebury at 2 Duane Court, between Middlebury Union High School and the Mary Johnson Children's Center. Limited handicapped parking is available on site and there is ample parking at the high school.

ADDISON COUNTY School Briefs

Nathan Depatie of Brandon is set to graduate magna cum laude from SUNY Potsdam with a

Bachelor of Music degree in Music Education. The State University of New York at Potsdam honored

Nathan and the other candidates for graduation at Commencement 2024, on Saturday, May 18.

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK FROM AREA HIGH SCHOOLS

Middlebury Union High School

Micah Voorhees

Middlebury Union High School introduces Micah Voorhees as our final Student of the Week for the 2023-24 school year. Micah lives in Middlebury with his parents, Annie Nessen and Dylan Voorhees, and siblings, Mari, who attends the Bridge School, and Ollie, who is in 9th grade at MUHS. The family has two cats, Lilly and Wendell.

Our teachers use words like compassionate, motivated, thoughtful, and artistic to describe Micah's talents as a student. A member of the school's art club, Micah has been active in our theater productions as part of the tech crew and had two roles in the senior musical, "Legally Blonde." An aspiring illustrator, Micah and his classmates hosted a show highlighting their creative works at the Town Hall Theater's Jackson Gallery earlier this year as part of the requirements for the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program. Micah states that the show was a true highlight of his artistic journey while at MUHS and he credits Ms. Wolmagott for "always being there." He has also been involved with the production of MUHS's yearbook and was the recipient of the Mathematics Department's 21st Century Award in 2023. He was honored as a recipient of the National Rural and Small Town award by the College Board, the organization that administers the SAT.

Micah's love of art began in his toddler years, when he would put together story lines that eventually turned into cartooning. Ultimately he turned his attention towards digital artwork. Micah says that he consistently dabbles in art and enjoys working in a wide range of media. He has sold some of his works to local friends and family members.

Reflecting on his time at our school, Micah says that he felt immediately at home in a new community of friends when he transferred to MUHS in 10th grade. He is appreciative of the warm welcome he received upon arrival from teachers, staff, and students. Micah has spent his summers with friends and family and working as a babysitter. As he looks ahead to college in the fall, Micah plans to enroll in an institution where he can focus on art, animation, and possibly major in game design. We wish him well in his future endeavors and know that a bright future awaits.



Micah Voorhees
MUHS

Madelyn Giroux

The daughter of Jennifer Rakwitz and Bryan Giroux and sister to Amelia, Sebastian and Scarlett Giroux, Madelyn has really enjoyed VUHS' small community and unique culture. She says the school has done a wonderful job at bringing students of all backgrounds and interests together. Madelyn's interests lie science and math. Her favorite classes have been AP Biology and AP Calculus. Of the VUHS Faculty, she says she has most appreciated Sarah Thompson, Lynn Kayhart and Rebecca Coffey. She says their passion for educating and their love for their subjects creates the perfect environment for learning. Because of her academic excellence and her community activity, Madelyn was inducted into the National Honor Society. VUHS also had the benefit of her participation on its varsity girls' soccer team, the class senate, the green team, and the Commodore Singers.

Outside of school, Madelyn is on Atria Collectives Youth Advisory Board as part of the Adult Facing subcommittee. She is also a member of the Vergennes Swim Team. She holds down several jobs as well during the summer — at Basin Harbor, Champlain Bridge Marina and babysitting. Her free time involves many interests, walks, enjoying nature, skiing, boating, yoga, cooking and baking, and spending time with her family.

She says the most important thing VUHS has taught her is the impact confidence has on your performance and attitude. "If you aren't confident or push yourself to "act confident" enough in class to participate, you're not taking advantage of the opportunities you have to learn," she says. "Once I realized this and pushed myself to participate, my retention greatly increased. I was also more excited about going to class because I was actively engaging." She also says that letting go of self-judgement is crucial in succeeding. "Lots of high school students think that everyone is judging you at every moment and that's just not the case," she says.

Madelyn will be heading to the University of Vermont in the fall to major in Biology. All of us at VUHS wish her the best of luck.



Madelyn Giroux
VUHS

Kimari Collins

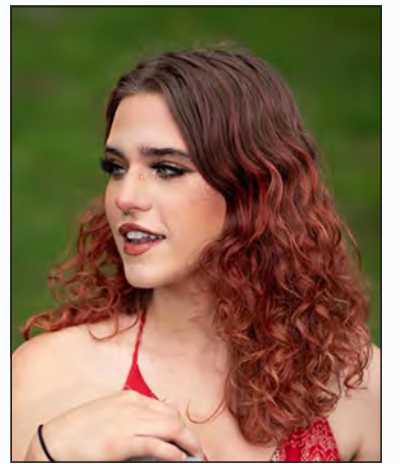
Kimari Collins is the daughter of Gerry Farrington and Aaron Collins. Her family moved to North Ferrisburgh from the Northeast Kingdom nine years ago. For the past two years Kimari has been enrolled in the Walden Project through Vergennes Union Highschool. Through this program, she has found a love for poetry, painting, and pottery. Being part of such a close community has given her the confidence to begin to share these art forms with those around her. For the past three years she has received high honors and completed two Walden Portfolios. She exuberantly credits Walden teachers Matt Schlein and Cami Thompson not only for the immense amount they have taught her about philosophy, world religion, psychology, environmental science, etc., but also because both have been very strong supports when she has struggled with different obstacles in her way. She says they have taught her lessons that she will take with her for the rest of her life.

Kimari was involved in the band and choir prior to joining Walden, and more recently planned a school-wide poetry celebration in hopes of sharing these art forms with the rest of her peers outside of Walden.

She waitressed at Park Squeeze in Vergennes and works as a camp counselor at the Willowell Foundation during the summer, teaching younger kids about the environment around them while playing games in the sun in Willowell's cedar grove. She has developed and interest in gardening and small-scale agriculture and loves anything that has to do with being outdoors, including backpacking, hiking and swimming. She also can be found at the wheel in Middlebury Studio School's pottery studio.

She encourages her peers not to be afraid to stand out. Walden taught her to embrace her own quirks and discover that there were quite a few things that she liked about herself. Though it's not always easy to find it, there's always a place for individuality.

In the fall Kimari plans on attending Vermont State University at the Lyndon Campus, enrolling in the "Outdoor Education, Wilderness Leadership & Tourism Management" major. She says she is incredibly excited to go back to the Northeast Kingdom and spend the next four years of her education with other young adults interested in the same things. All of us at VUHS are excited for her too, and wish her well.



Kimari Collins
VUHS

Vergennes Union High School has selected two Students of the Week for its final week, Madelyn Giroux of Pantton and Kimari Collins of North Ferrisburgh.

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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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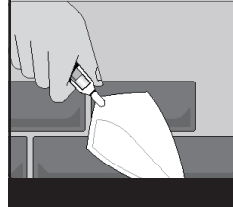


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802-388-4944

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sargentstreeservice.com

- Tree Removal
- Tree Pruning
- Storm Damage Clean up
- Stump Grinding

Serving all of Addison County

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MeganSwaseyDVM@gmail.com
addisoncountyvet.com
Addison County Mobile Veterinary Services
Megan Swasey, DVM
Mobile Veterinarian • Shoreham, VT

WINDOW TREATMENTS

Your local source for window treatments from the nation's most popular brands.
Free in-home consultations!
Vermont Window Treatments LLC
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802-989-1531 | 3333 Case Street, Middlebury
vermontwindowtreatments.com

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Advertise your business on these pages for under \$10 per week.
Call 802-388-4944 or email advertising@addisonindependent.com for details.

CLASSIFIEDS

Public Meetings

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

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

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

Public Meetings

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

Public Meetings

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

Services

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

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

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!

Garage Sales can be found on Pages 9B and 10B.

Help Wanted

Garage Sales

LARGE YARD SALE May 25th and 26th 9-4. 141 King Hill Rd in Addison. Bicycle parts and accessories, computer equipment, tools, fishing equipment, kitchen items, clothes, audiovisual equipment, books, furniture, gardening/indoor grow equipment.

MAY 25, 26 AND 27. 8am-3:30pm. 941 Richville Road, Shoreham. Many items including glass top electric range (induction heat), Sears table saw, china set (occupied Japan), Griswold/Wagner cast iron ware, Budweiser steins, antiques. No early birds.

Garage Sales

MULTI - FAMILY YARD SALE and cleaning out 100 years of items! Radial arm saw, Table saw, 4 drawer file cabinet, 6 door metal cabinet, 5' metal desk, 4 1/2' wooden desk, twin bed, exercise bike with computer program, upright freezer, 5' console with record player, 22" tv (not flat screen), doll house (19" X 31"), screen house, weed trimmers, HP printer, kid's bike, Pampered Chef, puzzles, diverse CD collection, hardware, toys, bowling balls, microwaves, lots of kid's clothes, and so much more! May 24-26: Friday and Saturday, 9-5, Sunday, 9-1. 91 Seymour Street, Middlebury.

Garage Sales

MULTI FAMILY YARD SALE. Kids, teens & adult clothing; sports gear; household items; books and more. 141 Pleasant View Ter. Weybridge. Saturday 5/25 9:00-1:00 only.

SAT. - 5/25 - 9AM TO 4PM - 1931 Wheeler Road, Brandon. Multi-family Yard Sale - many household items, brand name clothing, puzzles, motorcycle helmets, boots, leather-wear, bedding, curtains, insulated dog house. (Rain date - 5/27).

Help Wanted

CDL-B/HAZMAT DRIVER
Hart & Mead Energy and All Star Fuels in Hinesburg/Bristol area is looking for an individual with a clean CDL-B/Hazmat endorsement. Must be able to pass federally mandated drug screening. DOT physical required. Competitive wage, paid holidays & sick time.

APPLY NOW!
hartmeadllc@gmail.com
or 802-482-6666

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 dbailey@addisoncountypcc.org](mailto:Donna.Bailey@addisoncountypcc.org)

Addison County Parent/Child Center

VAN DRIVER JOB OPENING
Addison County Parent/Child Center

We are seeking a van driver who will transport children, youth, and parents to our center from around Addison County.

Strong candidates must have a clean driving record and experience with children and families.

Great working environment and benefits. This is a 20-hour position with hours split between mornings and afternoons.

Please contact **Donna Bailey** at [dbailey@addisoncountypcc.org](mailto:d Bailey@addisoncountypcc.org)

Opportunities

Opportunities

Opportunities

Opportunities

Opportunities

Opportunities



Green Mountain Foster Grandparent Program

The Foster Grandparent Program is seeking classroom aides to assist in educational settings throughout Addison County. The Foster Grandparent Program (FGP) is a federally funded program that has successfully placed thousands of volunteers in educational settings nationwide. Individuals must be at least 55 and willing to work a minimum of 10 hours per week. Participants receive travel reimbursement, fifty paid vacation/sick days, and a tax-free hourly stipend if they are income eligible.

If you are interested or would like more information, please contact [RSVP at 802-468-7056.](mailto:RSVP@802-468-7056)

AmeriCorps Seniors

AGWAY

Positions offer generous, twice a year bonuses as well as an employee discount on all products!

Warehouse Worker
Loading and assisting with customer orders from the yard, warehouse and store; Stocking shelves and Filling propane tanks. Skills/Qualifications: Ability to lift 50 lbs repeatedly throughout the day. Ability to demonstrate strong organizational skills. Valid Driver's License. Weekends and dependability a MUST! Forklift & Skid steer experience a plus. Preferable age 18+.

Cashier - Customer Service
Immediate Openings available. Must be able to work until 6pm. 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.

In print or online, find your dream job with help from the Addy Indy.

addisonindependent.com/help-wanted

ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT

Addison Independent CLASSIFIED ORDER FORM

ADDISON INDEPENDENT
58 Maple Street, Middlebury, VT 05753
802-388-4944
addisonindependent.com • email: classifieds@addisonindependent.com

Cash in on our 4-for-3 rates! Pay for 3 issues, get 4th issue free! An ad placed for consecutive issues runs the 4th time for free!

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____

Or, submit your classified ad on our website: addisonindependent.com

DEADLINE: Monday at 5 p.m.

RATES

- 25¢ per word • minimum \$2.50 per ad
- \$2 internet listing for up to 4 issues • minimum 2 insertions

• Special 4 for 3 rates not valid for the following categories: Services, Opportunities, Real Estate, Wood heat, Attn. Farmers, For Rent & Help Wanted

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Notices | <input type="checkbox"/> Work Wanted | <input type="checkbox"/> Att. Farmers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Card of Thanks | <input type="checkbox"/> Help Wanted | <input type="checkbox"/> Motorcycles |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Personals | <input type="checkbox"/> For Sale | <input type="checkbox"/> Cars |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Meetings** | <input type="checkbox"/> Trucks |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Free** | <input type="checkbox"/> For Rent | <input type="checkbox"/> SUVs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lost 'N Found** | <input type="checkbox"/> Want to Rent | <input type="checkbox"/> Snowmobiles |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Garage Sales | <input type="checkbox"/> Wood Heat | <input type="checkbox"/> Boats |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lawn & Garden | <input type="checkbox"/> Real Estate | <input type="checkbox"/> Wanted |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Opportunities | <input type="checkbox"/> Animals | <input type="checkbox"/> Real Estate Wanted |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Adoption | | <input type="checkbox"/> Vacation Rentals |

** no charge for these ads Spotlight with large ✓ \$2

PLEASE PRINT YOUR AD...

Number of words: _____
Cost: _____
of runs: _____
Spotlight Charge: _____
Internet Listing: **\$2.00**
TOTAL: _____

The Independent assumes no financial responsibility for errors in ads, but will rerun classified ad in which the error occurred. No refunds will be possible. Advertiser will please notify us of any errors which may occur after first publication.

Addison Independent CLASSIFIEDS

Garage Sales

STUFF FOR SALE. A little bit of everything for all ages and interests. Family is downsizing and has priced things to move. Saturday, May 25th from 9:00am-3:00pm at 6466 VT Route 125 in Addison.

Garage Sales

YARD SALE, MAY 24 and May 25, 9am-4pm. 2841 Watch Point Road, Shoreham. Assortment of treasures, baby items, old bottles, household items, furniture.

MOVING SALE AT the home of Amy Oxford and The Oxford Rug Hooking School. 4174 Route 30 in Cornwall. Hooked rugs, chair pads, wall hangings, and other hooked items. Rug hooking supplies, rug yarn, antique rug hooking tools, antiques, kitchenware, furniture, jewelry.

Help Wanted



Cook, Full-time with Benefits

Middlebury College is seeking individuals to join our Culinary Team!

As a Cook, you'll play a crucial role in preparing, cooking, and serving dishes for our campus while ensuring the highest standards of quality, safety, and sanitation.

These are full-time positions that come with fantastic benefits including paid time off, medical, dental, vision, retirement, dependent tuition benefits.

\$18.63-22.83 per hour plus shift differentials for evening and weekend hours. 6PM-12AM is an additional \$1.50/hr and weekends is an additional \$1.00/hr.

To apply, visit: <https://apptkr.com/5270205>

THE RESIDENCE
at Otter Creek

RN/LPN
\$8,000 FT sign on bonus

Ask about our:
PT and FT travel allowance
Free meals
Competitive Benefits
On call with pay
No uniforms required!

Are you looking for work life balance? Need to be home during week and only available on the weekends?
Just looking for a few hours a week or even a month? We have per diem positions!

We have fun!
Feel appreciated and valued!
Apply today.

Scan the QR code or go to our website to apply

The Residence at Otter Creek
350 Lodge Road, Middlebury, VT 05753
www.residenceatottercreek.com

Part-Time Office Assistant

WowToyz, a successful and established manufacturer of high-quality, educational toys for over 30 years, is looking for a motivated individual to be part of our growing company! The successful candidate must be dependable, eager to learn new processes, and willing to jump in when a need is observed. This is a position for a detail-oriented team player with confidence, energy, and great organizational and communication skills.

Retirees are welcome and encouraged to apply! We offer flexible work schedules and competitive wages.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Enter purchase orders into our proprietary computer software system
Answer phone, transfer calls, and assist with customer service
Friendly, professional, and service-focused positive attitude

SKILLS & REQUIREMENTS

Ability to organize and prioritize tasks with minimal supervision
Ability to communicate and collaborate effectively with all levels of the organization
Analytical abilities and aptitude in problem-solving
Experience in Microsoft Office Suite or data entry software is beneficial but not a requirement

Part-Time Warehouse

WowToyz in Vergennes is seeking part-time help for the morning shift in our warehouse, picking and packing orders and unloading trucks. Ideal candidates are organized, dependable, and able to work 20-30 hours/week, Mon-Fri. **Retirees are welcome and encouraged to apply!** We offer flexible work schedules and competitive wages.

Proof of COVID-19 vaccinations required for all employees

To apply email contact information and work history to: resumes@wowtoyz.com

Help Wanted

AMERICAN FLATBREAD MIDDLEBURY Hearth is seeking a part time Bartender to work both independently and alongside our talented Head Bartender. We are looking for a mature, energetic individual who enjoys the excitement of a busy restaurant, loves wholesome food & creative beverages, a warm fire and interesting conversation. Must be available nights and weekends, have a positive attitude, and enthusiasm for learning new things. Prior bartending experience is preferred. We are an inclusive environment and encourage applicants from all legally working age groups, races, and gender identities. Stop in for an application or send resume to joe@americanflatbread.com.

Help Wanted

ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR (HALF-TIME), Opera Company of Middlebury. Salary: \$25,000 - \$30,000. Deadline: 6/1/24. Seeking an organized individual to manage fundraising efforts, financial tracking, website and social media oversight, liaison duties with artistic organizations, and manage staff team to steer the company through a growth phase. Learn more: bit.ly/AdminOCM.

Help Wanted

LAUNCH A CAREER WITH US.

Now Hiring:
Service Manager

Apply online at:
agandturf.unitedequip.com/careers/

UNITED
Ag & Turf

1137 U.S. 7 - Middlebury, VT • (802) 388-4482

Seeking a driver for Thursday paper delivery.

Must be available from 5:30am to 3:00pm on Thursdays.

Potential for additional hours as needed and on a flexible basis.

Competitive wages/a great way to make extra money!

ADDITION COUNTY INDEPENDENT

Contact Harris Gerner
(802)388-4944 ext. 104 or frontdesk@addisonindependent.com

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.

Real Estate

PREMIER MIDDLEBURY COMMERCIAL INVESTMENT PROPERTY

Fully Leased and Now Available for Sale

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.

Please visit the link below or scan QR code for additional details.
<https://www.vtcommercial.com/listings/156-south-village-green-middlebury-for-sale>

For Rent

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.

SHARED LIVING PROVIDER sought for a man with Asperger's Syndrome. Looking for a non-smoking home in Middlebury, Bristol or Vergennes. Friendly dogs and cats OK, either no children or older respectful children. Would like to be part of the family and have some privacy. Good high speed internet is a must as he is a gamer and likes to watch TV. Can spend limited amounts of time home alone in the day. Tax-free annual stipend of \$30,000, monthly R&B payment of \$814, and annual respite budget of \$9,000. Please contact Jennifer Murdoch at Community Associates/Counseling Service of Addison County. (802)388-4021.

SHARED LIVING PROVIDER sought for a woman in her 60's with a mild developmental disability. Seeking a home with first floor bedroom, as she uses a walker to get around. She is an avid quilter, likes to watch movies and enjoys pets. Support is needed in managing health conditions. Excellent boundary setting skills are important. Annual tax-free stipend of approximately \$35,000 plus room & board payment of \$9770, and a respite budget. Call Miranda Rickert at Community Associates. (802)388-4021 Also check out other Shared Living opportunities at www.csac-vt.org/careers/shared-living-provider.html

For Sale

4 TIRES 185/55 R15 82H. Best offer, like new. 802-989-7090.

ANTIQUE DROP LEAF TABLE. Spindles with leg curve out. Hard maple. \$700. Ask for Jerry at 802-388-4134. Please leave a message with your name and number.

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.

Real Estate

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.

COMMERCIAL/OFFICE SPACE - 3000 sq ft - Middlebury. Loading dock. Tall ceilings. \$2,500.00 p/month. 802-558-6092.

CORNWALL: SHARE A HOME with lovely views with senior gentleman who enjoys classical music and reading. Negotiable rent dependent on cooking a few evening meals/week and lending a hand around the house/yard. Private bath. 802-863-5625 or HomeShareVermont.org for application. Interview, references, background checks required. EHO.

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.

GOSHEN: HOUSESITTING OPPORTUNITY, periodically shared with the home owners, in scenic rural spot, 14 miles to Middlebury. \$650/month, plus light snow removal. Large space for gardening! 802-863-5625 or HomeShareVermont.org for application. Interview, references, background checks required. EHO

HISTORIC 2 BEDROOM APARTMENT. Newly renovated in 1860's farmhouse in Shoreham. Furnished and available mid-August. \$2500/month plus utilities. Non-smoking and no pets please. Call for info and photos 802-897-2448.

MIDDLEBURY, OFF CAMPUS HOUSING available. 802-388-4831, AJ Neri Property Rentals.

SUDBURY: SHARE HOME with avid reader in her 60s who enjoys volunteering and classical music. \$500/month plus sharing companionship. Must be cat-friendly! Private bath. 802-863-5625 or HomeShareVermont.org for application. Interview, references, background checks required. EHO.

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 Rent

VERGENNES VALLEY VIEW APARTMENTS is currently taking wait list applications. Occupants must be 62+ years of age. No smoking/ No pets. Income limits apply - Rent based on income. Equal Housing Opportunity. 802-247-0165 TTY: 800-253-0191 www.SummitPMG.com.

Wanted

REWARD

STOLEN FOUR WHEELER

MIKE GRAVES, OWNER

TAKEN OCTOBER 2023 NEAR MIDDLEBURY TOWN HALL

PLEASE CONTACT MIKE AT 802-353-2543 WITH ANY INFORMATION.

AUCTIONS

MARKET REPORT
ADDISON COUNTY COMMISSION SALES
RT. 125 • EAST MIDDLEBURY, VT
Sales for 5/16/24 & 5/20/24

		COST	
BEEF	LBS. /LB		\$
A. Brisson	1705	1.39	\$2369.95
Vorsteveld	1860	1.35	\$2511.00
Blue Spruce	1885	1.25	\$2356.25
Woodnotch	1940	1.22	\$2366.80
Iroquois Acres	1635	1.62 (B)	\$2648.70

		COST	
CALVES	LBS. /LB		\$
M. Churchill	90	9.50	\$855.00
Goodrich	89	9.50	\$845.50
A. Brisson	86	6.00 (H)	\$516.00
K. Gray	93	5.80 (H)	\$539.40
Nop Bros	92	5.80 (H)	\$533.60

Total Beef - 133 Total Calves - 216
We value our faithful customers.
Sales at 3 pm - Mon. & Thurs.
call 1-802-388-2661

TOWN OF ORWELL REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Town of Orwell is requesting proposals for installation of seven (7) concrete pads for new benches in the Town Green, by qualified concrete and excavation professionals.

This project includes excavation for, and installation of 5 foot by 10 foot by 6-inches thick concrete pads with wire mesh at various locations within the Green. The Green is located within the village district of Orwell.

Completion date is August 30, 2024.

Interested contractors can request the complete RFP by contacting the Orwell Town Office at 802-948-2032 or by emailing the Town Clerk at selectboard@townoforwellvt.org.

RFP submission deadline is 6:00p.m. Friday, June 7, 2024. Proposals may be submitted to the Town Clerk's office at 436 Main Street, PO Box 32, Orwell, VT 05760. Envelope shall be marked "Bench Pad Proposal" on the exterior.

VERMONT STATE HOUSING AUTHORITY PUBLIC NOTICE

Starting May 17, 2024, the Vermont State Housing Authority seeks comments on its FY2025 Annual Plan, 2024-2028 Five Year Plan and substantive updates to the Administrative Plan.

These documents can be viewed, by appointment, during regular business hours, at the VSHA Administrative Office located at One Prospect Street, in Montpelier, VT or on VSHA's website at www.vsha.org. You may also request a copy of these documents be sent via email, fax or USPS mail by contacting Jennifer Gray at jennifer.gray@vsha.org or 802-828-3020.

Written comments on these documents can be emailed to elizabeth.whitmore@vsha.org or mailed to VSHA, Attn: Liz Whitmore at One Prospect Street, Montpelier, VT 05602.

A public hearing and opportunity to comment will be held on Tuesday, July 2, 2024 at 1:00pm. This public hearing will be held virtually via Microsoft Teams.

Meeting ID: 284 757 385 965
Passcode: g38KzD
or
Call: 1-469-998-7644
Conference ID: 190 401 756#

For additional details, please contact Robert Abbott at (802) 828-4154.

Wood Heat

DRY OR GREEN firewood for sale. Delivery available. 802-349-4212.

Att. Farmers

WHITNEY'S CUSTOM FARM WORK Pond agitating, liquid manure hauling, drag line aerating. Call for price. 462-2755, John Whitney.

Att. Farmers

HORSE BLANKET WASH and repair. Accepting non-leather (for now) horsewear of all kinds for cleaning and repairing at my Weybridge location. Call or text Sue Miller at 802-377-5945 or email svdwmiller@icloud.com with "horse" in the subject line for more information.

Motorcycles

2017 HARLEY-DAVIDSON ROAD KING. 8,000 original miles. Many extras. Excellent condition. \$13,900. 860-690-7617.

Cars

TOYOTA AVALON XL sedan 2006. 79k, excellent condition, \$7,800., one owner, all service records, no rust or body damage, includes mounted snow tires, pass thru back seat for skis or lengthy items. VT state inspection through end of May 2025, 802-388-0551. Pictures on request.



TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY to learn about birding with Otter Creek Audubon Society and Middlebury Area Land Trust when the organizations host "Taking Flight! An Introduction to Birding," in Middlebury's Wright Park on Saturday, June 15, from 9 to 11 a.m. Like these folks last year, you might spot an Osprey along Otter Creek.

Go birding with the Audubon Society on June 15

MIDDLEBURY — Nature enthusiasts of all ages are invited to take part in a beginner's bird walk through Wright Park, a segment of the Trail Around Middlebury. The annual event will take place from 9 to 11 a.m. on Saturday, June 15, and is hosted by the Otter Creek Audubon Society and Middlebury Area Land Trust.

Walking through Wright Park is a pleasant way to enjoy a summer's

day and to sample the diverse natural landscapes of Addison County. The route begins in a shrubland then leads into a forest, passing the evidence of former beaver activity. Walkers will enjoy their exploration in small groups led by local expert birders. One group will be geared to families with young children. There is much to explore: an unusual footbridge, woods filled with birdsong, the peaceful banks of the Otter Creek, and the rich diversity of trees and ferns. Along the way local naturalists will offer a station with a discovery activity. There will even be a "trail appropriate" snack available for hungry hikers.

Walkers may bring binoculars or borrow a pair from OCAS. The walk is family-friendly and suitable for all ages, but not appropriate for strollers or wheelchairs. Meet at 9 a.m. at the Wright Park parking lot north of Pulp Mill Covered Bridge. (Go northwest from the Middlebury Green on Seymour St., then just before Pulp Mill Covered Bridge turn right on Seymour St. Extension to the parking area at the end.) The walk will go rain or shine, but if you have questions please call 713-818-7033.

City resident cited for domestic assault

VERGENNES — Vergennes police on May 18 cited into court a Hillside Drive apartment resident for domestic assault.

Vergennes Police Log

Police allege that on Saturday Jose Ulloa Segovia, 26, struck a domestic partner during a dispute at their residence.

In other action between May 13 and 19, Vergennes police also conducted 13 patrols, 12 by cruiser and one on foot, and seven traffic stops; processed four pre-employment fingerprint requests; responded to two false alarms; and:

- On May 13:
 - Looked unsuccessfully for a man with mental health issues who was upsetting downtown passersby.
 - Took a report that one person allegedly registered a truck in another's name without permission. Police said the caller did not request any action, and that regardless it was a civil issue.

On May 14:

- Took a report from the Vergennes Union Elementary School administration that a student had made a general threat toward other students.
- Were told of a case of possible internet fraud by a Ferrisburgh resident.

On May 15:

- Checked the welfare of a Main Street resident on behalf of the Department for Children

and Families. Police found the individual to be OK.

- Searched unsuccessfully for a four-wheeler reported to be driving around VUES and in the Hillside Drive area.

On May 16:

- Spoke to the owner of a dog that was reportedly being left overnight in a car when the owner was visiting a First Street home.

- Following a neighbor's complaint went to speak to a West Main Street construction crew about loud music; the crew was not on the scene when police arrived.

- Took a report of a fender-bender in the Shaw's Supermarket parking lot.

On May 17 met with a Vergennes Union High School student.

On May 18:

- Helped a game warden look for someone alleged to be shooting fish near Panton Road, but found no one.

- Began investigating an alleged theft from Kinney Drugs. Police said two men apparently walked out with several cans of Twisted Tea. Police are reviewing video from the store.

Monkton

Have a news tip? Contact Liz Pecor at rascal0406@gmavt.net

NEWS

MONKTON — There is a flurry of activity going on in Monkton this week and weekend! Starting on Thursday, May 23, the Russell Memorial library will host Ethical Wildcrafting-Plant Medicine Shop 2 featuring Julie Mitchell. In this class, Julie will be teaching you how to harvest and store herbs for optical and medicinal value along with learning about sustainable, ethical and accurate wildcrafting, plus garbling, drying and plant identification. You can attend this workshop even if you did not get to the first one. Email russellmemlibrary@gmail.com to sign up for \$20. This class is limited to 12 people so don't delay.

If you are in need of some crafting supplies a young lady has organized a free crafting supply giveaway at the Monkton Town Hall on Saturday, May 25, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. As part of her 4H project, which focuses on recycling, reusing, etc. to help keep waste out of the landfills, she has collected an impressive amount of donated items to hand out to visitors. Among the items are knitting supplies, items to make a wreath, painting supplies, craft kits, markers, colored pencils, fabric and more! Whatever is not taken at this great event will be offered to shelters, elderly programs, and similar places for their use. Come support this mindful 4H'er and maybe find something you need. This event is sponsored by Critter Creek4-H Club.

The 25th is a busy day in town. The annual town-wide yard sale will be from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. on Saturday. There will be maps available with area garage sales listed at the East Monkton Church on Church Road, 265 Mountain Road and at the Monkton Friends Methodist Church. This event is once again hosted by Scout Troop BSA 802. For questions email Karen at puccidog@live.com .

Another event on May 25 is the Monkton Friends Methodist Church annual Plant, Bake and Craft sale from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Hardy perennials from local gardens will be available including flowering and shade plants, herbs, berry bushes, shrubs, bulbs plus lilac bushes. A wide variety of pastries and desserts await for your purchase at the food sale, plus an array of great items to purchase at the craft sale. The church members will accept cash and checks for all purchases plus this year will also be accepting credit cards for the first time. So bring your cash, card or checkbook and get some great deals for your own home while supporting the church! The church will still be collecting the black plastic plant containers which are not accepted for recycling on this day. For questions, contact Marilyn at 802-453-5192.

TOWN OF MONKTON APPOINTMENTS TO ADDISON COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

At its May 28, 2024 meeting the Monkton Selectboard will be considering candidates for appointments to Addison County Regional Planning Commission positions for the July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025 term.

ACRPC Full Commission – Two Delegates and two Alternate Delegates
ACRPC Transportation Advisory Committee – One Delegate and one Alternate Delegate

If you are interested in serving in any of these positions, please send an email to Selectboard@monktonvt.com, attend a Selectboard meeting, or reach out to any member of the Selectboard.

Public Notices

can be found in this ADDISON INDEPENDENT on Pages 10B, 11B and 12B.

SALISBURY PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Salisbury Development Review Board (DRB) will hold Public Hearings in the Town Office (25 Schoolhouse Road) at 6:00 PM on Wednesday, June 19, 2024, to consider the following:

Application 2024-03
This proceeding involves review of an application for a Conditional Use submitted by Property Owner/Applicant, Christopher Griggs, Parcel ID #0704180-2, located at 232 West Shore Road, in connection with a proposed permit to construct a 44' x 36' 3 bay garage with attic storage located at the northwest corner of the lot, at the above-referenced location. This property is located within the Lake Shore District 2, (LS2), with a residential structure which was permitted under DRB permit 2021-06. This application requires DRB approval under §2.4.4 D of the Salisbury Uniform Development Regulations.

This application is pursuant to §2.4.4 D, §3.4.1-§3.4.8, and of the Salisbury Unified Development Regulations.

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

These hearings will be conducted with in-person and remote access. Those wishing to participate remotely must obtain the necessary remote access codes. Access codes (for on-line or phone) are available by contacting the Salisbury Town Clerk during regular business hours prior to 3:00 PM on June 18, 2024, 2024. The Salisbury Town Office is open on Tuesdays from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM and Thursdays from 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM.

Application materials are available for inspection in the Town Office during regular business hours.

Anna Scheck
DRB Clerk

TOWN OF MIDDLEBURY SELECTBOARD RETREAT MEETING

ROOM 116 – LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM
TOWN OFFICES – 77 MAIN STREET
WEDNESDAY, MAY 29, 2024 - 5:30 P.M.

Also available via Zoom:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87460504155>
By Phone: +1 646-558-8656 (not toll-free)
Webinar ID: 874 6050 4155

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

- 5:30 1. **Call to Order
2. *Approval of Agenda
3. *Selectboard Retreat
3.a. Board Operations
• Board Member Roundtable: Each member to give a brief introductory bio and share their priorities with the Board
3.b. Strategic Planning Focus for Retreat
• Parking
• Addison Independent's importance to the community and a resident's request for the Town to allocate funding from the local option tax to sustain its operations
3.c. Discussion of other strategic planning matters and whether to address these issues as a dedicated agenda item during regular Selectboard Meetings and/or in additional retreat(s)
• Asset Management Plan for the Water Department will be completed by early August and could serve as the basis for a second retreat in the second half of the year
- 7:15 4. **Other Business
7:30 5. *Adjourn

* Decision Item ** Possible Decision

TOWN OF MIDDLEBURY SELECTBOARD MEETING ROOM 116 – LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM TOWN OFFICES – 77 MAIN STREET TUESDAY, MAY 28, 2024 - 7:00 P.M.

Also available via Zoom:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89421488173>
By Phone: +1 646-558-8656 (not toll-free)
Webinar ID: 894 2148 8173

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 May 14, 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 Grant Agreement with State of Vermont Department of Public Safety for Buyout of 83 Court Street
3e. Approval of Federal Highway Administration Request for Reimbursement for August Flooding (High Street)
3f. Consent Agenda Placeholder
3g. Consent Agenda Placeholder
3h. Town Manager's Report
4. *Citizen Comments (Opportunity to raise or address issues not otherwise included on this agenda)
- 7:05 5. *Agenda Placeholder
7:10 6. *Emmalee Cherington Director, of Public Works Planning - Updates & Recommendations from the May 23, 2024 Infrastructure Committee Meeting
6a. *Recommendation on Application for 2024 VTrans Bike/Ped Grant Program
6b. *Award of Construction Contract for Halladay Road Culvert
6c. **Brief review of project updates
- 7:20 7. *Bill Kernan, Director of Public Works Operations - Requesting Approval of Award of Contracts
7a. *Reconditioning and painting of two tennis courts in Recreation Park (nearest the Teen Center) and reconditioning and painting of basketball court and pickleball court in Recreation Park
7b. *Purchase of Pool Piping & Fittings
- 7:40 8. **Emily Harris, Lands & Grants Manager, Middlebury Area Land Trust - Update on the Vermont Outdoor Recreation Economic Collaborative Grant Program for Wright Park
- 7:55 9. **David Sophrin, Assistant Town Manager - Updates and recommendations, if any, from the Policy Review Committee's meeting of May 23, 2024
9a. **Management & Oversight of Security Cameras
9b. **Naming/Renaming of Public Spaces
- 8:05 10. *Jason Larocque, Otter Creek Engineering, on behalf of Jack Brown - Regarding the donation of the ballfields at the Daisy Lane Development to the Town of Middlebury
11. *Jason Larocque, Otter Creek Engineering, on behalf of Jack Brown - Regarding a request for the Town to accept a conservation easement associated with the Daisy Lane Development (tentative)
- 8:25 12. **Agenda Placeholder
8:30 13. **Agenda Placeholder
14. *Approval of Check Warrants
15. **Board Member Concerns
16. *Executive Session - Anticipated - Contracts
17. **Action on Matters Discussed in Executive Session
8:50 18. *Adjourn

* Decision Item ** Possible Decision

STATE OF VERMONT SUPERIOR COURT PROBATE DIVISION ADDISON UNIT DOCKET NO.: 23-PR-03958

IIIN RE ESTATE OF: AGNES JAMES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
To the Creditors of: Agnes James, late of Weybridge, Vermont. I have been appointed to administer this estate. All creditors having claims against the decedent or the estate must present their claims in writing within four (4) months of the first publication of this notice. The claim must be presented to me at the address listed below with a copy sent to the Court. The claim may be barred forever if it is not presented within the four (4) month period.
Dated: 05/20/24

Peter C. James, Co-Executor
754 Hamilton Road
Weybridge, VT 05753
802-343-2863
peter.james@monumentfarms.com

William Everett, Co-Executor
754 Hamilton Road
Weybridge, VT 05753
919-667-8354
bill@everettconsultingnc.com

Publication: Addison Independent
Publication Date: 5/23/24
Address of Probate Court:
7 Mahady Court
Middlebury, VT 05753

TOWN OF BRISTOL PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE ANNUAL WATER DISTRICT AND SEWER DISTRICT MEETING

Monday, June 10, 2024, 7:30pm
in person at Holley Hall and via Zoom
Remote Access: Join Zoom Meeting
<https://zoom.us/j/87912810018> Passcode: 619003
Phone In: 1-646-558-8656

The Bristol Selectboard, acting in its role as the Water Commission and the Sewer Commission, will be holding a public hearing on Monday, June 10, 2024 for the purpose of receiving input regarding the proposed annual budgets and annual rents or charges for the Water Department and the Sewer Department, as well as potential amendments to the Bristol Water Use Ordinance. The meeting starts at 7:00pm; however, this item is expected to commence around 7:30pm in person at Holley Hall and via Zoom. When available, copies of the proposed budgets and other information can be found on Bristol's website at <http://bristolvt.org/meeting-minutes/fy-2023-2024-meetings/> in the Selectboard meeting materials section. They can also be obtained at the Town Office, or provided upon request by calling (802) 453-2410 or by e-mail to townadmin@bristolvt.org.

For more information, contact Town Administrator Valerie Capels at townadmin@bristolvt.org or (802) 453-2410 ext. 1 or Town Treasurer Justin Bouvier at treasurer@bristolvt.org or at (802) 453-2410 ext. 7.

ARTS FEATURE

The Addison Inde

May 23, 2024



The Opera Company of Middlebury will present Gaetano Donizetti's "La Fille du Regiment" on the Town Hall Theater stage in Middlebury May 31-June 8. Pictured left to right: Yihao Zhou (pianist), Patrick Bessenbacher (Tonio), Richard Bernstein (Sergeant Sulpice), and Sarah LeMesh (Marie).

INDEPENDENT PHOTO / STEVE JAMES

IT'S AN OPERA! IT'S A ROM-COM!

IT'S 'LA FILLE DU REGIMENT!'

In 19th century France, "La Fille du Regiment" was called an opera comique, but today's audience will instantly recognize it as a rom-com. It begins the way all rom-coms do: Two single people "meet cute." Picking flowers on a mountainside in the Tyrolean Alps, Marie, sung by soprano Sara LeMesh, topples off a cliff, but has the good luck to fall safely into the arms of Tonio (tenor Peter Bessenbacher), a local peasant. Their love is instant, intense and lyrical.

But the real world stands in love's way. Marie is not free to choose her love. She is the vivandiere, or canteen girl, of a French army unit, the 21st Regiment of Grenadiers. Led by Sergeant Sulpice (bass Richard Bernstein), the soldiers consider Marie, a foundingling they



THEATER PREVIEW

BY **DAVID WEINSTOCK**

rescued and raised from infancy, as their daughter, mascot and cheerleader, the heart of the unit. Sulpice says she may not marry some random dude from the occupied territory. Why not choose a husband from the 21st Regiment?

Hearing this, Tonio instantly enlists as a soldier, but too late. Another obstacle appears, the Marquise of Berkenfeld (contralto Alissa

Anderson) accompanied by her butler Hortensius (bass-baritone Andy Papas). Claiming to be Marie's aunt and her only living family member, the Marquise dictates that Marie must give up her carefree tomboy military life, leave the regiment and be re-educated as a properly feminine lady of the aristocracy so she may marry a wealthy nobleman.

That's the rom, but don't forget the com. Doug Anderson, founder and artistic director of the Opera Company of Middlebury, feels strongly. "Comic opera should actually be funny, laugh-out-loud funny. And funny is hard. You really need to fuss over every measure to make it truly funny." To support the comical challenge, the set and costumes are cartoony and two-

SEE OPERA ON PAGE 2

OPERA

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

dimensional. "And we created a kind of festival in the mountains: Tyrolean men in lederhosen, with their kneecaps showing, women in dirndls, the dances they do. We want to squeeze very bit of comic juice out of it."

OCM brings world-class singers to every production, and performing opera requires many different skills, physical and mental. Comic opera includes more spoken dialogue than grand opera, and speaking French is a different skill set than singing it. For example, spoken French features a guttural "r" sound which is not permitted when singing. Sara LeMesh is conversationally fluent in French from years living abroad. Richard Bernstein, a regular cast member at the Metropolitan Opera, is quite fluent in Italian. But when he was called to this role on three week's short notice, he felt his French needed work and spent every available minute working with the Met's diction coach Bénédicte Jourdois.

DETAILS

**LA FILLE DU REGIMENT
(THE DAUGHTER OF THE REGIMENT)
BY GAETANO DONIZETTI**

**A COMIC OPERA IN TWO ACTS
MUSIC BY JACQUES OFFENBACH**

**LIBRETTO BY HECTOR CRÉMIEUX
AND LUDOVIC HALÉVY**

DIRECTED BY DOUG ANDERSON

**MUSICAL DIRECTION BY
FILIPPO CIABATTI**



Another required skill is hitting the high notes. "Fille" includes one of the best-known Olympic challenges for tenors. The first-act aria "Ah! mes amis," best known for performances by Luciano Pavarotti, requires the tenor to sing eight high Cs, and then, if feeling strong enough, adding a ninth. Patrick Bessenbacher performed this feat in his first Middlebury rehearsal and you'll hear it in the show.

Not every performer on the opera stage is a singer, and this piece includes a famous exception. The Duchess of Krakenthorp is a speaking part, often given as a cameo role to a non-singer. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, comedienne Bea Arthur, and actress Kathleen Turner have all taken the role. In this production, Shelburne resident Angelica
CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

MUSIC WITH THE MUSEUM RETURNS TO ROKEBY

To raise funds for Rokeby Museum's Education Department, the organization will host the second annual Music with the Museum on Thursday, May 30, at 6 p.m., at the Ferrisburgh Town Hall and Community Center.

The Meat Packers will headline an evening with food and a silent auction.

This event raises funds for educational programming at Rokeby. The Education Department at the Museum hosts year-round activities, including tours, talks and lectures, hands-on learning, and summer camps. This event supports these activities and ensures they remain affordable for all.

Tickets are \$30 for Rokeby Museum members or \$45 for non-members. Tickets can be purchased in advance or at the door. To see a full list of silent auction items and to purchase tickets, visit rokeby.org/music-with-the-museum.



McLennan will appear, lavishly costumed, fur-wrapped and bejeweled, as part of the ultimately unsuccessful scheme to steal Marie from Tonio and the regiment. And the story ends in classic rom-com fashion: Marie and Tonio marry and all is well. It's an uplifting love story and should not be missed.

La Fille du Regiment (The Daughter of the Regiment) will be fully staged. Director Doug Anderson, music director Filippo Ciabatti.

The opera will be presented at Town Hall Theater in Middlebury, with English supertitles. Showtimes are Friday, May 31, at 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, June 2, at 2 p.m.; Thursday, June 6, at 7:30 p.m.; and Saturday, June 8, at 2 p.m. Pre-show talks will be held one hour ahead of curtain at Memorial Baptist Church, 97 S. Pleasant St., Middlebury. Tickets cost \$61 / \$77 / \$94 and are available at townhalltheater.org.



Richard Bernstein, Sarah LeMesh and Patrick Bessenbacher (pictured from left to right above and to the left) rehearse with pianist Yihao Zhou for the upcoming performance of "La Fille du Regiment" at Middlebury's Town Hall Theater. This Opera Company of Middlebury performance begins May 31.

INDEPENDENT PHOTOS / STEVE JAMES

Artists open their studios this weekend in Vermont

Artists all over the state will open their work spaces to share their talents, tools, and inspirations on May 25 and 26 from 10 a.m.-5 p.m.. Whether in small towns or at the ends of back roads, studios are interesting places to visit because they reflect the dynamic yet organized process used to design and produce a finished work of art.

Twice a year the self-guided tour features both long time participants and those new to the tour, giving faithful Open Studio visitors new destinations. Small galleries, and art centers that take part in this event, show a unique collection of hand made and local artwork, including special events and exhibits.

Martha Fitch, the director of the Vermont Crafts Council that organizes the event, said the allure of the Open Studio tour is that "it takes you through small towns and backroads, with

the yellow Open Studio signs and the Vermont Studio Tour map easily guiding visitors to the studio location." This year's tour includes the work of

glassblowers, jewelers, printmakers, potters, furniture makers, weavers, metal workers, painters, sculptors, and fiber artists working with silk and felt.

Pick up a free tour guide from Vermont Welcome Centers, galleries, and studios, or download a pdf from the website vermontcrafts.com.



Pets In Need HOMeward BOUND

Addison County's Humane Society

Chula

My name is **Chula** and I am a sweet and shy 2-year-old girl. I am a young mom and my two kids (Mellow and Nube) are all grown up. It may take some time for me to warm up but I am very affectionate and love to eat! I also enjoy wand toys, especially ones with feathers. I get along well with cats and I have been cautious with the dogs I have met at the shelter.



Hades

My name is **Hades** and although the name is intimidating, I am a very sweet boy! I am a long and lanky 5-year-old panther and I love playing with wand toys. If I hear the can opener, I come running for tuna and I also enjoy eating beef jerky out of your hands! I have been an indoor-only cat and although I lived with 2 female cats, I don't get along with most cats. I have never met a dog before.

Iris

My name is **Iris** and I am a lovely 1.5-year-old girl. I am an indoor-only cat and I get along well with cats and kids but I have never met a dog. Toys are one of my favorite things and I also enjoy lots of treats. I was surrendered with my sister Willow and although we get along well we do not need to be adopted together.



Sammy

My name is **Sammy** and I am a lively 6-year-old boy. I am very affectionate and really like toys! My past is unknown because I came to Homeward Bound as a stray, but I am now ready to find a forever home! I get along with other cats and with all people. I have been very friendly and unafraid of the dogs I met at the shelter.

Lily

Hi! I'm **Lily!** I'm a 10-year-old Labrador Retriever lady, looking for a quiet home where I can live out my golden years. I'm a friendly, food-motivated dog with a happy, wagging tail. I prefer spending my days, being a couch potato, but I also enjoy activities such as hiking and swimming. I'm very nervous around small children and will do best in an adult-only home. Older teenagers would be fine. I'd prefer to be the only dog in the house. I have not interacted with cats.



Want to learn more?

Call or check our website. We may have a pet for you!
802-388-1100 | HomewardBoundAnimals.org
236 Boardman Street | Middlebury, VT

Cash for Paws Radio-Thon raises over \$6,000

On Friday, May 17, WVTK 92.1FM held a 24-hour radio-thon to benefit Homeward Bound, Addison County's Humane Society. In exchange for a donation of \$10 or more, deejay Bruce Zeman played donors' song requests. The one-day event brought in \$6,107, all of which benefited Homeward Bound.

recently moved to Delaware and made the eight-hour trip to make it all happen; he's the one who deejayed for 24 hours and deserves the vast majority of credit! We're also super thankful to FOX44/ABC22 for broadcasting live from WVTK on Friday morning, the local businesses who underwrote the air time so that all 24 hours could be devoted to the Cash for Paws effort, and Purple and Sage Property Maintenance who put out a challenge to other local businesses and provided us with a big boost."

"I AM ECSTATIC THAT THIS YEAR'S CASH FOR PAWS WAS A SUCCESS."

— Hannah Manley

"I am ecstatic that this year's Cash for Paws was a success," said Homeward Bound's director of development Hannah Manley. "The date for this annual fundraiser was only determined one week in advance, so the fact that we met our goal was pretty incredible! Bruce Zeman

Did you miss the 24-hour window? Don't worry, you can always donate to Homeward Bound. Learn more at

homewardboundanimals.org/donate or call 802-388-1100, ext. 101.

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Vote Now! 2024 Addy Lady Pet Photo Contest



Voting is now open for the 2024 Pet Photo Contest!

There are two ways to vote:

1. Visit each of the 5 contest category albums on Facebook and "like" your favorite photos
 2. Login to your subscriber account and then cast your votes at addisonindependent.com/pet-photo-contest.
- Vote using both methods AND vote for multiple pets. Voting will end on Sunday, May 26, at 11:59 p.m. Winners will be announced in the May 30th edition of *The Addison Independent*. The top winner from each category will receive a prize from Middlebury Agway.

ART ON EXHIBIT

ART ON MAIN

25 Main Street, Bristol

For more info visit artonmainvt.com or call 802-453-4032.

"MAUSD Student Art Exhibit." Come meet Bristol-area up-and-coming artists. This exhibit features work by senior and junior students in various mediums including paintings, drawings, ceramics and jewelry. On view through May 31.

BIXBY MEMORIAL FREE LIBRARY

258 Main Street, Vergennes

For more info visit bixbylibrary.org or call 802-877-2211.

"A Panoply of Landscapes," a solo exhibit by Ken Corey, on display for the Bixby's Celestial Soirée, the library's annual fundraiser on Friday, May 31. From pastels, paintings, and prints, much of Corey's work is done en plein air. The exhibit features a painting of a planetary nebula inspired by Corey's love of Astronomy. On view through early summer.

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.

SEE EXHIBITS ON PAGE 10



Bringing Essential Veterinary Care to You and Your Pet!

Offering veterinary care for dogs and cats including annual wellness/prevention, sick or injured treatment, and end of life care with in-home euthanasia.

Dr. Megan Swasey earned her Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine from Purdue University and served in the U.S. Army as a veterinarian. Dr. Swasey lives with her husband on a dairy farm in Shoreham and offers care throughout Addison County and neighboring towns.



Addison County
Mobile Veterinary Services

Call for an appointment: (802) 522-9718

meganswaseydv@gmail.com | addisoncountyvet.com

Facebook: Addison County Mobile Veterinary Services



ARIES: March 21/April 20. You may have a chance to get to know someone better this week, Aries. Trust your instincts rather than listening to what is running through the rumor mill.

TAURUS: April 21/May 21. Taurus, you may be ready to shake things up in regard to your social life or even with a professional pursuit. Work out the path you want to take.

GEMINI: May 22/June 21. Following your curiosity may lead you down some interesting paths, Gemini. Things can change on a moment's notice, so be prepared to respond.

CANCER: June 22/July 22. An intellectual debate could grow somewhat tiresome this week, Cancer. You need to know when to pull out of the conversation to help maintain your mental well-being.

LEO: July 23/Aug. 23. Have an important conversation with a loved one, Leo. You need to clear up a misunderstanding that has been growing more significant. Once you take care of this, smooth sailing awaits.

VIRGO: Aug. 24/Sept. 22. You may want to rely on someone else to bring some stability and comfort to your life, Virgo. Now may be the time to seek out a new relationship.

LIBRA: Sept. 23/Oct. 23. Libra, have a good time over the next couple of weeks. You deserve it. Recognize that fun interactions do not

necessarily have to be shallow experiences. You can learn something new even while being entertained.

SCORPIO: Oct. 24/Nov. 22. It might feel like your peer group has shifted in a way that no longer gels with you, Scorpio. It may be time to find some new friends who share your current interests.

SAGITTARIUS: Nov. 23/Dec. 21. You may seek validation from peers or even people on social media if you feel like you are being inhibited by current insecurities, Sagittarius. Others can corroborate your value.

CAPRICORN: Dec. 22/Jan. 20. Proactive changes you make this week may improve your love life, Capricorn. That can be a good thing if you have encountered relationship issues lately.

AQUARIUS: Jan. 21/Feb. 18. Aquarius, setting out on an impulsive adventure could be worth the effort right now. It can be refreshing to spend time outside your usual surroundings.

PISCES: Feb. 19/March 20. Putting up a tough front may be a protection strategy right now, Pisces. Over time, you may need to let your guard down and ask for some help if the situation is chronic.

We just received a huge restock of local VT yarn!

Wed-Thurs 11am-5pm
Fri 11-7pm, Sat 10am-5pm
Sun 12-4pm
Closed Mon-Tues

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FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

MAY 24 — Bob Dylan, singer-songwriter (83)
MAY 25 — Octavia Spencer, actor (54)
MAY 26 — Miles Davis, Jazz trumpeter (d)

MAY 27 — Rachel Carson, marine biologist, author (d)
MAY 28 — Thomas Moore, poet (d)
MAY 29 — Tenzing Norgay, mountaineer (d)
MAY 30 — Gale Sayers, football player (d)

CALENDAR

MAY 23-JUNE 7
2024



THURSDAY, MAY 23

PLANT MEDICINE WORKSHOP IN MONKTON. Thursday, May 23, 5:30-8 p.m., Russell Memorial Library, 280 Monkton Ridge. Join herbalist Julie Mitchell to learn about sustainable, ethical and accurate wildcrafting, plus garbling (a.k.a. sorting), drying and plant identification. She will also show how to harvest and store herbs for the best nutritive and medicinal value. Cost \$20. Limit 12 students. More info at russellmemlibrary@gmail.com.

FRIDAY, MAY 24

GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB TRAIL WORK IN RIPTON. Friday, May 24, 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.

GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB HIKE IN RIPTON. Friday, May 24, Frost Mountain. "CANCELED" Moderate hike of 5.4 miles round trip up National Forest Road 234, on the west side of Frost Mt. with nice views of the Adirondacks. Meet at the parking lot in East Middlebury on the uphill side of Sand Hill Bridge, on Route 125 over the gorge. There is an option to end our outing with popping into the Waybury Inn for a beverage and snack.

Contact Anne Christie at 802-388-4347 (home) or 802-989-9771 (cell) for more information and to sign up. More at gmcbreadloaf.org.

VERMONT STATE HISTORIC SITES OPENING DAY. Friday, May 24, Chimney Point, Mount Independence and Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Sites. Head online to historicites.vermont.gov for more info.

ART OPENING IN MIDDLEBURY. Friday, May 24, 5-6:30 p.m., Edgewater Gallery on the Green, 6 Merchants Row. Come to the opening reception of "Uncle Woody & Me: Family Ties," and exhibit of work by Rory and Woody Jackson for the 50th anniversary celebration of Woody Jackson's first exhibition. Free.

SATURDAY, MAY 25

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.

ARTFUL ESCAPES IN PANTON. Saturday, May 25, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Panton Town Hall, 3176 Jersey St. Discover a world of creativity at this art exhibition presented by the Panton Art League and featuring a variety of artistic styles and mediums. Experience a range of artworks including oils, acrylics, mixed media, ceramics, monoprints, and felted sculptures created by local artists.

ART RECEPTION BRUNCH IN MIDDLEBURY. Saturday, May 25, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Edgewater Gallery at the Falls, One Mill St. An opening reception for "Borders & Boundaries: Works by Alexis Serio & Homer Wells."

SUNDAY, MAY 26

SUNDAY SESSIONS IN MIDDLEBURY. Sunday, May 26, 4-7 p.m., Ralph Myhre Golf Course, 317 Golf Course Rd. Unwind and groove to the sounds of local talent at the golf course Tavern on the Tee patio. Set against the backdrop of the Green Mountains, the sessions offer a perfect blend of lively music, spectacular views, and unique flavors. Continues every Sunday.

TUESDAY, MAY 28

GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB HIKE IN BRISTOL. Tuesday, May 28, 9 a.m., Bristol Trail Network. Plan for 2.5-3 hours for the 3.4-mile section around Bristol's historic areas. Total elevation gain is under 100 feet. Excellent options for snacks/lunch in Bristol before or after the walk. Contact Porter Knight at knight@gmavt.net or 802-343-3920 for more information. More at gmcbreadloaf.org.

THURSDAY, MAY 30

THE MEAT PACKERS IN FERRISBURGH. Thursday, May 30, 6 p.m., Ferrisburgh Town Hall, Route 7. Rokeby Museum's first Music with the Museum event of the season. An evening of food and music with a community favorite, The Meat Packers. Silent auction to raise funds for Rokeby Museum's Educational Programming.

FRIDAY, MAY 31

CELESTIAL SOIRÉE IN VERGENNES. Friday, May 31, 7-11 p.m., Bixby Memorial Library, 528 Main St. Come to the Bixby annual fundraiser — a night to remember under the storied stained-glass dome in Bixby's magnificent marble rotunda. Tickets \$75, include live music and dancing with The Grift, a welcome drink and cash bar, local gourmet eats, and a

SEE CALENDAR ON PAGE 12

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 24 Through the Night: 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. Public Affairs Saturday, May 25 Through the Night: 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 26 Through the Night: State House, Public Affairs 5:50 a.m. Selectboard 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 27 - Memorial Day Middlebury Parade and Commentary Live, then repeated throughout the day Tuesday, May 28 Through the Night: 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 29 Through the Night: 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 30 Through the Night: Public Affairs 4:30 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 10 p.m. Dr. John Campbell Channel 1091 Friday, May 24 7 a.m. Chair Yoga 8 a.m. All Things LGBTQ 9 a.m. Yestermorrow - Local & Global Approaches 10:10 a.m. Ask Verma Avian Advice 11:04 a.m. Up For Discussion (at THT) 12 p.m. School Board Meeting/s 5 p.m. Yestermorrow - Affordable Housing 6:09 p.m. NE Center for Circus Arts 8 p.m. First Tuesdays - Chris Lincoln 8:52 p.m. Poem City - Rootstock Poets 9:45 p.m. Poem City - An Evening Porsha Olayiwola Saturday, May 25 6:30 a.m. "Up For Discussion" 7:30 a.m. NE Kingdom Community Choir 8:35 a.m. Tai Chi 9 a.m. Yestermorrow 10:10 a.m. Circus Arts 12 p.m. School Board Meeting/s	5:30 p.m. All Things LGBTQ 6:30 p.m. Cyrus Shaol - What is Artificial Intelligence ? 7:30 p.m. Circus Arts 9:30 p.m. Ask Verma 10:30 p.m. Norma Dream at the Heart Rose Club in Brattleboro Sunday, May 26 5 a.m. Ask 5:54 a.m. Yestermorrow 7:03 a.m. Norma Dream 7:27 p.m. Circus Arts 9:34 a.m. Ask Verma 10:28 a.m. Cyrus Shaol 11:30 a.m. Boys Varsity Ultimate vs Middlebury 1 p.m. School Board Meeting/s 7 p.m. Conversation with Julia Alvarez 8 p.m. Yestermorrow 9:09 p.m. First Tuesdays - Chris Lincoln 10:01 p.m. All Things LGBTQ 11 p.m. All Brains Belong Club Monday, May 27 5:50 a.m. Yestermorrow 7 a.m. Tai Chi 7:25 a.m. Nature and Science Programs 12 p.m. School Board Meeting/s	5 p.m. Yestermorrow 6:09 p.m. Circus Arts 8 p.m. Chris Lincoln 9 p.m. Poem City Tuesday, May 28 7 a.m. Chair Yoga 8 a.m. Tai Chi 8:35 a.m. Middlebury Memorial Day 12 p.m. School Board Meeting/s Wednesday, May 29 7 a.m. Tai Chi 7:30 a.m. School Board Meeting/s 4 p.m. Yestermorrow 4:10 p.m. Moccasin Tracks 4:50 p.m. Ask Verma 6 p.m. Middlebury Memorial Day 9:36 p.m. VT Women in the Civil War - Howard Coffin 11 p.m. Chris Lincoln Thursday, May 30 5 a.m. Yestermorrow 7 a.m. Tai Chi 7:25 a.m. Kids Yoga 8 a.m. Chair Yoga 9 a.m. School Board Meeting/s 4 p.m. Boys Varsity Ultimate 5:30 p.m. All Brains Belong Club 6:30 p.m. Middlebury Memorial Day 9:30 p.m. All Things LGBTQ	

Town Hall Theater Presents

Saturday, June 15,
6:00pm



LIGHTS!

CAMERA!

AUCTION!

**Tickets
\$25**

**Fun, Food,
Music,
100+ Auction
Items!**

Event Sponsor



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Box Office

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Lights! Camera! Auction! is no ordinary event – it’s also a party with great food, drink, entertainment, and enticing items in the live and silent auctions. This is a guide to the silent auction, how it works and what items we will have for you to bid on!

Everything from getaways, to art, to gift baskets, there is something for every person!

6:00 p.m.

FRONT DOORS OPEN

Guests greeted with complimentary flute of sparkling wine.

6:00 to 7:30 p.m.

SILENT AUCTION OPEN ON LOWER LEVEL

Hors d’oeuvres & cash bar.

Flamenco guitar by Toby Aronson.

7:30 p.m.

SILENT AUCTION CLOSES

Head upstairs & pick up your LIVE AUCTION paddle.

Downstairs bar closes.

Cash bar open in theater!

8:00 p.m.

LIVE AUCTION & ENTERTAINMENT

Auctioneer Bruce Baker.

Live music from Vanessa Dunleavy, vocals, and Ronnie Romano, piano.

9:00 p.m.

CHECK OUT AND ITEM PICK UP

Entertainment and cash bar during check out!



Categories

Town Hall Theater’s Events Committee has scoured the state to bring you the best items to bid on. We have broken those items into seven categories:

1. ACCOMMODATIONS & STAYCATIONS
2. ART & CRAFT
3. FOR THE KIDS
4. FOOD & DRINK
5. FUN WITH FRIENDS & FAMILY
6. HOME, GARDEN & MORE
7. TREATS & GIFTS

LIVE AUCTION PREVIEW!

- SEASIDE HOME IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA
- WHISTLEPIG WHISKEY LUNCH & TOUR
- SAILBOAT OUTING ON LAKE CHAMPLAIN
- WASHINGTON, DC PENTHOUSE APARTMENT
- FIVE COURSE ITALIAN DINNER FOR 8
- HURRICANE OSPREY 109 KAYAK
- MARY LYNN O’SHEA CUSTOM JACKET
- PASADENA, CALIFORNIA TOWNHOUSE

SILENT AUCTION ITEMS

The following is a comprehensive list of the items that will be available in the silent auction on June 15th, starting at 6pm. This guide can be used to plan your evening, but don't worry, we will have more on hand in the days leading up to the auction.



Accommodations

- 2 Nights at a Cornwall Airbnb
- 3 Nights on Lake Dunmore
- Basin Harbor Getaway
- Isle LaMotte 3 Night Getaway
- Stone Mill Overnight
- Weekend Getaway at a Snake Mountain Rd Cottage
- 3 Nights at a Romantic Stowe 2-Bedroom Cabin
- 4 Nights at Lake Dunmore

Art & Craft

- Original Design Quilt "A Blaze of Color"
- Framed watercolor "Alone"
- Acrylic and collage on wood panel "Fact Check #10" by Jane Davies
- Acrylic and collage on wood panel "Fact Check #11" by Jane Davies
- Acrylic and collage on wood panel "ReAssembly #7" by Jane Davies
- Gold and Diamond Twig Necklace
- Acrylic on Wood "Abstracted Landscape" by H. Keith Wagner
- Sterling Silver Opal Ring
- Bill Holway Carved Giraffe and Framed Study Drawing
- Chuck Herrmann Wetland Scene Sculpture
- "Eights on the Lake" by Sandra Morris
- Cristine Kossow Pastel "Cedric"
- 13X19 Signed Print by Caleb Kenna
- Custom Pet Oil Portrait
- Framed photograph "Middlebury: Dark plays with Light"
- Framed Prindle Whistler Print
- Max Kraus Framed Landscape Photograph
- Tom Munschauer's Framed Oil "Snowbirds"
- Wood Carving "Bird Catching Tadpole"
- Michael Mode Bowl "Force Field"

Food & Drink

- Dinner for 4 with Wine Pairings at Jessica's at Swift House Inn
- Pizza and Music Night for Two at Blueberry Hill
- 2 Cooking Class Coupons from Cafe Provence
- Apples and More from Sunrise Orchards

- At Your Home Themed Wine Tasting
- Cabot Cheese Gift Box
- Guaranteed Reservation for 2 at an Arcadian Pasta Pop-Up
- Middlebury Co-Op \$50 Gift Certificate
- Plymouth Artisan Cheese Gift Box
- TRIPLE Chocolate Mousse Cake
- Woodchuck Cider Swag and \$25 Gift Certificate
- Stone Leaf Teahouse Basket
- Sweet Vermont Sampler
- "Can't Get These From Here" Wine Sampler
- 2007 Le Clarence De HautBrion Bordeaux

For the Kids

- Maple Landmark Train Set
- \$50 Gift Certificate for Maple Landmark
- Vintage 1964 Barbie Case, Dolls and Clothes
- Vintage 1966 Barbie Case, Dolls and Clothes
- Park Ranger Vermont Teddy Bear
- One Week of MALT Summer Camp
- Native American Doll
- Vintage Celestron Telescope

Fun with Friends & Family

- Pontoon Boat Tour of Lake Dunmore for 6
- 2 Snowbowl Lift Tickets and Midd Hat and Pint Glass
- 3D Printing Workshop
- Private Rental of Notte
- Greens Fees for 2 at the Ralph Myhre Golf Course and Midd Sweatshirt
- Guided Naturalist Tour of the Pitch Pine Trail for 10
- Mahjong Lessons
- Middlebury Marquis Theater Rental - upstairs
- Middlebury Marquis Theater Rental - main theater
- MNFF 10th Anniversary Festival Pass (x2)
- Paint and Sip Class at Middlebury Studio School
- Private Curator Tour of "Invitation to Awe"
- Pickle & Pool Party for 8!
- Pickleball Lessons from Woody Jackson including 2 Paddles and Balls
- Private Birdwatching Event
- Private Golf Cart Tour of Shelburne Farms

- Shelburne Museum Family Day Pass
- Tour of the VT Statehouse with Former Gov. Douglas
- Two Tickets to Maiden Vermont's November Show
- Flatbread Cocktail Making class for 6
- Throw a Party in the Anderson Studio

Home, Garden & More

- \$50 Fuel Card for MacIntyre Fuel (x4)
- 1.5 hour Garden Consult
- Antique Decorative High Chair
- Computer CleanUp!
- Pick Your Own Flower Share at Elmer Farm
- Feathered Friends Pottery Bowl
- Framed "Vintage VT Travel Poster" Autumn
- Framed "Vintage VT Travel Poster" Summer
- 4 hours of Interior Design Services
- Gardener's Delight Basket
- Integrity Handyman Services
- Living Vermont Miniature Landscape
- \$1,000 "Never Expires" Woodware Gift Certificate
- One Hour Garden Consult with Leslie Galipeau
- Pet Lover's Basket!
- Pottery Garden Rabbit
- Pewter "Skipper" Oil Lamp
- Photo session with Caleb Kenna
- Spalted Maple Hall Table by Wright Hartman

Treats & Gifts

- 90 Min Yin Yoga & Reiki for Two
- Autumn Gold \$250 Gift Certificate
- Digital Photography Lesson
- Eileen Fisher Woven Scarf
- Flower arrangement \$100 Gift Certificate
- Flowers! Felted and Real
- Middlebury Fitness Enrollment Fee + 1 Month Dues!
- One Hour PT Session with Julie Dunbar
- Trio Hair Salon Gift Certificate
- Vergennes Basket
- Waterfall Day Spa \$50 Gift Certificate
- Wildlife Camera and Tutorial from a Wildlife Expert
- \$100 Gift Certificate for Parlour
- \$100 Gift Certificate for Middleton
- Thuja Burrow Hoodie (Men's Med)
- Thuja Burrow Hoodie (Women's Med)
- Clint Bierman: Personalized Celebration Song
- 2 House Seats to Hadestown the Musical
- Great Art Wednesday Series Pass

20

1

THANK YOU!

Town Hall Theater would like to thank all the donors, without whom this event would not have been possible!

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- Danforth Pewter
- Diddle & Zen
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- Elmer Farm
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- Integrity Handyman Services, Jake Griffith
- Yoga Grace LLC
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- Maiden Vermont
- Malabar
- MALT
- Maple Landmark
- Middlebury Agway
- Middlebury College Snow Bowl
- Middlebury College Store
- Middlebury Fitness
- Middlebury Floral & Gifts
- Middlebury Marquis
- Middlebury Natural Foods Co-op
- Middlebury New Filmmakers Festival
- Middlebury Studio School
- Middlebury Sweets
- Middleton
- National Bank of Middlebury
- Otter Creek Audubon Society
- Otter Creek Bakery
- Parlour
- Plymouth Artisan Cheese
- Ralph Myhre Golf Course
- Round Robin
- Shelburne Farms
- Shelburne Museum
- Shiretown Marketplace
- Stone Leaf Teahouse
- Sunrise Orchards
- Sweet Cecily
- Swift House Inn
- Ten Stones/Willow Tree
- The Middlebury Shop
- The Stone Mill
- The Vermont Book Shop
- Three Squares Café Vergennes
- Thuja Outdoor Clothing
- Tracking Connection
- Trio Hair Salon
- Two Brothers Tavern / Notte
- Vermont's Own Gifts & Goods
- Waterfalls Day Spa
- WhistlePig Whiskey
- Woodchuck Cider
- Woodware

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FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE SILENT AUCTION, LIVE AUCTION, ITEMS FOR BIDDING, AND THE EVENT ITSELF PLEASE VISIT TOWNHALLTHEATER.ORG.



PUZZLES

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ACROSS

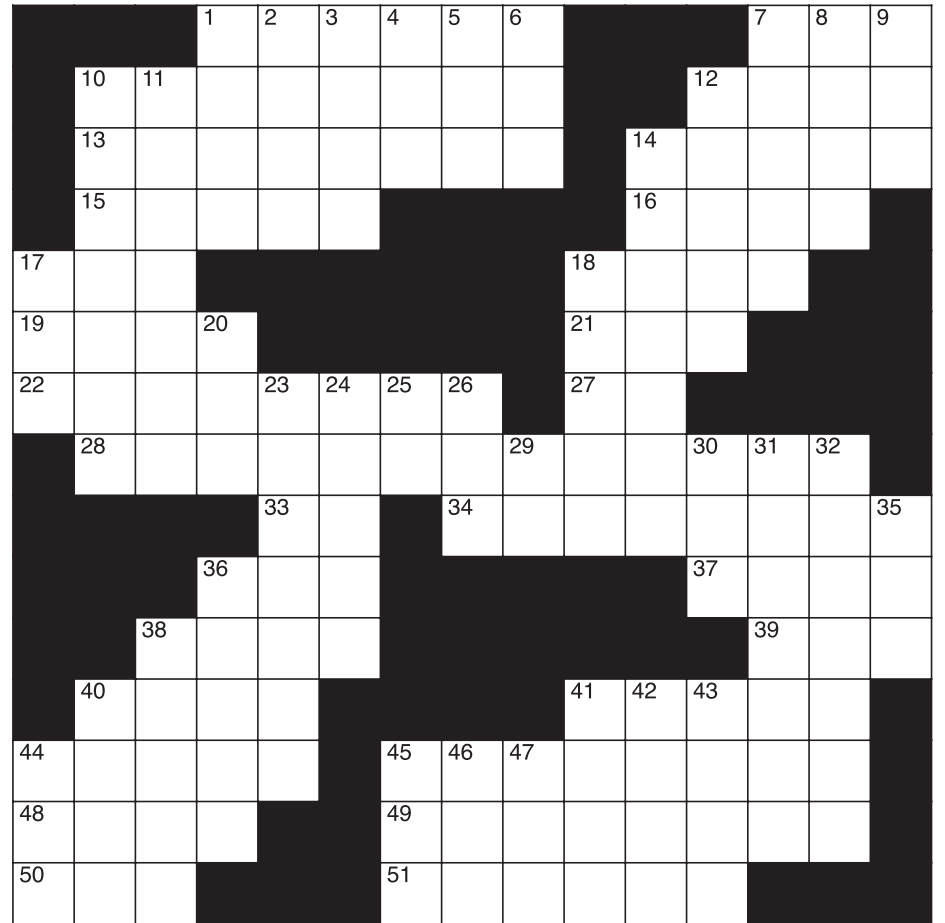
- 1. Lunatic
- 7. Doctor of Education
- 10. Able to make amends
- 12. Tight-knit group
- 13. Gland
- 14. Intestinal pouches
- 15. Fungal spores
- 16. Erstwhile
- 17. Engine additive
- 18. Nasal mucus
- 19. Fit a horse with footwear
- 21. Consumed
- 22. Settle
- 27. Larry & Curly's pal

- 28. Basketball's GOAT
- 33. Exclamation of surprise
- 34. Made tight
- 36. Before
- 37. Actor Nicolas
- 38. Not hot
- 39. Talk
- 40. Pledge
- 41. Abandon a mission
- 44. Trims by cutting
- 45. Aspects of one's character
- 48. Boxing GOAT's former surname
- 49. Holy places
- 50. Body art (slang)

51. Attributes

DOWN

- 1. How one feels
- 2. American Nat'l Standards Institute
- 3. Information
- 4. Licensed for Wall Street
- 5. Keyboard key
- 6. Born of
- 7. Choose to represent
- 8. Small European freshwater fish
- 9. Everyone has their own
- 10. Line from the center of a polygon



		6		4				1
			1					6
2					9	5		7
	8					1		2
				5	6			
		4				7		8
9	4		5					
	7					9	2	
8		3						5

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

- 11. Lebanese city
- 12. Type of watercraft
- 14. A way to twist
- 17. Soviet Socialist Republic
- 18. Greek island
- 20. Medical practitioner
- 23. __ DeGaulle, French President
- 24. Partner to
- "oohed"
- 25. Atomic #52
- 26. Santa's helper
- 29. Rapper __ Rule
- 30. Month
- 31. Word formed by rearranging letters
- 32. Nullifies
- 35. Young woman ready to enter society
- 36. Unemployment
- 38. Weight unit
- 40. Formal party
- 41. Computer language
- 42. Residue formula in math
- 43. Duty or responsibility
- 44. Part of (abbr.)
- 45. Time zone
- 46. Body part
- 47. Nucleic acid

This week's puzzle solutions can be found on Page 9.



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Delightful Lake Dunmore Cottage

Affordable & cute, this seasonal cottage offers easy summer living. Updated with newer windows, vinyl siding, ceiling fans, and flooring. Vaulted knotty pine ceilings and fireplace punctuate the character. A sweet screened porch is the perfect spot for al fresco dining, summer afternoon reading, and games galore. Two comfy bedrooms sleep six. Shared private lakefront showcases a striking mountain & lake view. Fish, boat, swim, and sail away lazy summer days on the clear waters of Lake Dunmore. Watch the resident loons and eagles! The Sunset Hill Condo Association HOA includes water, electricity, trash, landscaping/mowing, and common ownership of 33 acres. Cottage can be B&B'd anytime summer and fall. With a location mid-way between Middlebury & Brandon there are nearby golf courses, great dining, lots of hiking trails around the Green Mountain National Forest, art & theater venues, and picturesque biking through Vermont countryside.



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This week's property is managed by Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices. More info at vtregroup.com.

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1641 Frosty Lane, Bridport, VT

Charming country home on 3.83 acres. There is plenty of room for you to create a gardener's paradise. This property has full sun all day and plenty of level ground for gardens, orchards, or to raise some animals. The quiet road has little traffic and phenomenal sunset views. On cold days, the family room will be the perfect place to cozy up to the wood stove. Just 15 minutes to Vergennes or Middlebury.

Price: \$375,000

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**MIDDLEBURY NEW LISTING!
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2 BD | 1 BA | 864 SF

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**MIDDLEBURY NEW LISTING!
9 WOODBRIDGE LANE**

MLS #4995769 | \$215,000
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EXHIBITS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

DEBORAH HOLMES OPEN STUDIO

24 Garfield Street, Bristol
For more info visit Deborah Holmesart.com or email deborahholmesart@gmail.com.

New works of blooms in the Vermont landscape. Come see Deborah Holmes new work at her home studio in Bristol. Giclee prints, cards and images of the eclipse, refreshments and more. May 25 & 26, 10 a.m.- 5p.m.

EDGEWATER AT THE FALLS

1 Mill Street, Middlebury

For more info visit edgewatergallery.com, call 802-458-0098 or email info@edgewatergallery-vt.com.

"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

For more info visit edgewatergallery.com, call 802-989-7419 or email info@edgewatergallery-vt.com.

"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

For more info visit townhalltheater.org/jackson-gallery or call 802-382-9222.

"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

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE MUSEUM OF ART

72 Porter Field Rd., Middlebury

For more info visit middlebury.edu/museum/exhibitions or call 802-443-5007.

"Apocalypse Road Show: On Tour with the Bread & Puppet Theater."

An exhibit of photographs by Garrett MacLean (Middlebury College, Class of 1999), a professional photographer who traveled with the company for more than three months in the fall of 2022. This exhibit, which coincides with both Peter Schumann's 90th birthday and the 50th anniversary of the theater group performing in Glover, will also include several of the over life-size puppets used in previous performances, as well as various posters and banners produced over the years by the Bread and Puppet Press. On view May 24-Aug. 11.

"Hunter Barnes: A World Away," offers a rare glimpse into a largely visually undocumented period in Sri Lankan history by photographer Hunter Barnes. On view May 24-Aug. 11.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

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.

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.



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‘Get the picture:’ artists’ work benefits local art studio

MIDDLEBURY STUDIO SCHOOL CELEBRATES 15 YEARS WITH SILENT AUCTION, POTTERY SALE & COMMISSIONS

Middlebury Studio School will celebrate its 15th anniversary with the annual “Get the Picture” fundraiser. “Get the Picture” gives donors the opportunity to commission local artists to create a custom work of art. This year, the options include portraits, landscapes, custom pottery, pet portraits, and even furniture and garden design.

The format of the fundraiser this year is an online auction that will be live May 25-June 9. The auction is kicking off in person at MSS’s annual Spring Pottery Sale on Saturday, May 25, from 9 a.m.-1 p.m., at our Clay Studio at 2377 Route 7 South.

“This fundraiser is one of a number of events MSS is holding to celebrate 15 years of supporting our community with quality arts education,” said MSS Executive Director Sarah

Briggs. “To represent this accomplishment, 15 artists are participating to create one-of-a-kind artworks for donors.”

Middlebury Studio School’s rich 15-year history began at Frog Hollow. Since then, MSS artists have crafted educational programming for all ages in partnership with local schools, organizations, and students.

For more info visit middleburystudioschool.org.

CALENDAR

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

curated live, silent, and online auction of items and experiences. More info at bixbylibrary.org.

DONIZETTI’S “LA FILLE DU RÉGIMENT” IN MIDDLEBURY. Friday, May 31, 7:30 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. Witness Marie’s spirited journey in Opera Company of Middlebury’s production. Raised by soldiers, Marie falls for a rebel, facing war, family tensions and revelations about her nobility. A charming operatic tale of love and loyalty in the Tyrolean Alps. Tickets \$94/\$77/\$61, available at townhalltheater.org.

SATURDAY, JUNE 1

MIDDLEBURY GARDEN CLUB PLANT SALE IN MIDDLEBURY. Saturday, June 1, 9 a.m.-noon, on the Green, next to St. Stephen’s Episcopal Church. Get your garden and house plants — annuals, perennials, vegetable starts, shrubs and more — for the coming season. Plants will be in pots and labeled by name, color and basic care. There will be a table with books and gardening accessories, too. Trays and boxes will be available to carry your selections home.

GREEN MOUNTAIN BICYCLING CLUB GRAVEL GRINDER IN HINESBURG AND MONKTON.

Saturday, June 1, 9:15 a.m., meet at Hinesburg Park and Ride behind Hinesburg Town Offices. The ride heads south from Hinesburg on rolling gravel hills. These are mainly very quiet roads with little traffic. To cut the ride short, there is an easy mid-point turnaround. More info contact leader Brian Howard at 802-304-0610 or bjhowd@gmail.com, or co-leader Karl Garen at 802-318-0116 or kgaren@gmail.com.

GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB HIKE IN BRISTOL.

Saturday, June 1, 1 p.m., Bristol Trail Network. Plan for 2.5-3 hours for the 3.4-mile section around Bristol’s historic areas. Total elevation gain is under 100 feet. Excellent options for snacks/lunch in Bristol before or after the walk. Contact Porter Knight at gnavt.net or 802-343-3920 for more information. More at gmcbreadloaf.org.

THE POETRY OF HENRY THOREAU IN BRISTOL.

Saturday, June 1, 7 p.m., Lawrence Memorial Library, 40 North St. Jim Stapleton and Diana Bigelow will present a one-hour performance piece with commentary featuring the poetry of Henry David Thoreau, the 19th Century New England author. A Q&A will follow. No registration required. Donations to the Library appreciated, but not required. More info at 802-453-2366.

SUNDAY, JUNE 2

“LA FILLE DU RÉGIMENT” IN MIDDLEBURY.

Sunday, June 2, 2 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. See May 31 listing.

CREATE YOUR OWN POLLINATOR GARDENS: ONE STEP AT A TIME IN BRISTOL.

Sunday, June 2, 3 p.m., Holley Hall, 1 South St. Come to this talk by UVM Extension Master Gardener Marijke Niles. A guided garden tour at Bristol Co Housing will follow at 4 p.m. More info at pollinatorpathway.addisoncty@gmail.com.

MONDAY, JUNE 3

VERGENNES CITY BAND REHEARSAL IN VERGENNES.

Monday, June 3, 7-9 p.m., Vergennes Opera House. All instrumentalists welcome. For more information contact Sue O’Daniel at 802-349-5906. Additional rehearsal and June 10.

TUESDAY, JUNE 4

AUTHOR ROBERT BRODER IN MIDDLEBURY. Tuesday, June 4, 6

p.m., Ilsley Public Library, 75 Main St. Broder’s book “Reading Together: A Heartwarming Story about Bonding with Your Child Through the Love of Reading” is a positive book to read to your child over the years. It tells the story of a family’s love for picture books and the special bond formed through reading together. Broder, who lives in Shelburne, will talk about this wonderful book.

“LA FILLE DU RÉGIMENT” COVER PERFORMANCE IN MIDDLEBURY.

Tuesday, June 4, 7 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. Join Opera Company of Middlebury for a night with the “La Fille du Régiment” covers (understudies) as they perform the leading roles. Tickets \$39, available at townhalltheater.org.

PhotoPlace Gallery 3 Park St. Opening for “Sense of Place,” which highlights images that communicate the essence of a place — what it’s like to be there. More info at photoplacegallery.com.

“LA SCALA DI SETA” (THE SILKEN LADDER) IN MIDDLEBURY.

Friday, June 7, 7 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. Join Opera Company of Middlebury for this fully staged opera farce, by its talented group of Spring 2024 Young Artists. Sung in Italian with English supertitles.

SEDUCTION SHOWCASE IN VERGENNES.

Friday, June 7, 7-9:30 p.m., Vergennes Opera House, 120 Main St. Kick off PRIDE Month with an evening of sultry sass and Queeralicious fun.

TOP PICK



PLANT SALES ARE EVERYWHERE THESE DAYS! IF YOU NEED A FEW MORE GARDEN FRIENDS, CHECK OUT THE MIDDLEBURY GARDEN CLUB SALE ON JUNE 1, FROM 9 A.M.- NOON, AT ST. STEPHEN’S IN MIDDLEBURY.

THURSDAY, JUNE 6

DONIZETTI’S “LA FILLE DU RÉGIMENT” IN MIDDLEBURY.

Thursday, June 6, 7:30 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. Witness Marie’s spirited journey in Opera Company of Middlebury’s production. Raised by soldiers, Marie falls for a rebel, facing war, family tensions and revelations about her nobility. A charming operatic tale of love and loyalty in the Tyrolean Alps. Tickets \$94/\$77/\$61, available at townhalltheater.org.

FRIDAY, JUNE 7

PHOTOGRAPHY OPENING RECEPTION IN MIDDLEBURY. Friday June 7, 4 p.m.,

Some of your favorite Queer Drag and Burlesque performers will grace the stage to bring you laughs, sighs and make your temperature rise. Hosted by comedian Meredith Gordon, who brings her infamous character Thelma Forbanks to life. Partial proceeds of this event will go to the PRIDE Center of Vermont.

PETER STUMPF AND JOHN BLACKLOW IN ROCHESTER.

Friday June 7, 7:30 p.m., Federated Church of Rochester, North Main St. The duo will play Beethoven’s Sonata in F Major Op. 5, No.1, a Debussy Sonata, and a Chopin Sonata. Admission by donation. No tickets required. More info at rcmsvt.org or call 802-767-9234.



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ROGER LAYN



HELEN LAYN

Monkton couple served in World War II

By MARIN HOWELL

MONKTON — Helen and Roger Layn were well-known and well-loved members of the Monkton community.

Married in 1947, the pair settled in the Addison County town and ran the family dairy farm Roger grew up on. Throughout their lives, they remained plugged into the community in many ways — helping out neighbors, volunteering around town and taking part in the antique equipment

exhibits at the Addison County Fair & Field Days.

In addition to their local contributions, Roger and Helen were among the Addison County residents who served their country during World War II; Roger as a B-17 pilot, and Helen as a nurse in the Army Nurse Corps.

Monkton resident Candace Polzella, one of the couple's three children, shared

(See The Layns, Page 3C)

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The Layns

(Continued from Page 2)

with the *Independent* some of the details of her parents' service.

The pair both grew up in the Addison County area and attended Bristol High School.

After graduating high school in 1940, Helen, then Helen Burritt, went on to complete her nurse's training at the former Mary Fletcher Hospital in Burlington. She graduated in 1943 and enlisted in the Army Nurse Corps the following year.

Helen was sent to France, where she served with the 5th Field Hospital as part of the 7th Army. During the war, field hospitals would closely follow combat troops and set up in tents near the front to treat wounded patients.

According to the U.S. Army Center of Military History, these hospitals were typically assigned 18 nurses and could handle 75-150 patients. Doctors and nurses would perform triage and immediate care on patients at the field hospital and could conduct around 80 operations each day.

The field hospital Helen served in was among those that supported troops during the Battle of the Bulge, also known as the Ardennes Offensive. The Battle of the Bulge was Germany's last major offensive on the Western Front during the war, a campaign that was ultimately unsuccessful for German forces, but was very costly in terms of lost lives. Lasting six weeks, the battle was the largest and
(See The battle, Page 4)



LONGTIME MONKTON RESIDENT Roger Layn, second in from top left, served as a bomber pilot during World War II. He is pictured here with fellow crew members of the B-17 plane "My Prayer" in 1943. Helen Burritt, who later married Roger, also served in the war as a nurse in the Army Nurse Corps.

Photo courtesy of Candace Polzella

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The battle

(Continued from Page 3)

bloodiest for American forces on the Western Front during the war.

Helen was promoted to 1st lieutenant in August of 1945 and separated from the Army Nurse Corps a few months later. For her service, she was awarded the European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal with two Bronze service stars, the American Campaign Medal and the World War II Victory Medal.

Helen also received a citation from a brigadier-general for outstanding service beyond the call of duty.

Roger entered the service in 1941, first serving as a bomb service truck driver and automotive mechanic for the Aviation Ordnance Company in Manchester, N.H. He went on to complete elementary flying training in Decatur, Ala., in 1942, was promoted from 2nd lieutenant to 1st lieutenant and assigned to a heavy bomb crew as a co-pilot.

After graduating as a pilot from advanced flying school in Seymour, Ind., in 1943, Roger was stationed in Basingbourn, England. He served as a B-17 pilot in the 91st Bombardment Group of the 8th Army Air Force.

Among the missions Roger took part

in was the Schweinfurt-Regensburg Raid. The strategic bombing mission took place on Aug. 17, 1943, and targeted two sites deep in Germany: the Messerschmitt aircraft factory at Regensburg and ball bearing production plants at Schweinfurt.

The operation was intended to weaken the German aircraft industry and was a two-pronged strike in which two large forces attacked the separate targets.

Roger Layne and Lt. James D. Judy stayed onboard with Sgt. Earl Cherry, and as the pilot flew, Roger and Cherry worked to put out flames and hold off German fighters.

Though the raid was successful in hitting its targets, the mission only temporarily hindered the Germans and resulted in significant losses for American crews. According to the National Museum of the United States Air Force, 60 of the 376 bombers, or around one out of six of those dispatched, were shot down and more than 600 airmen were killed, missing

or captured.

Roger was a co-pilot on one of the B-17s sent to Schweinfurt. During the mission, his aircraft was attacked by German fighters near Frankfurt. The aircraft caught fire, went into a dive and fell several thousand feet before Roger and the pilot, Lt. James D. Judy, could level it out. Due to the damage, Judy ordered the crew to bale out, which most did. However, the crew's top-turret

gunner, Sgt. Earl Cherry could not jump out of the aircraft as he was wounded and his parachute was too burned to use.

Roger and Judy stayed onboard with Cherry, and as the pilot flew, Roger and Cherry worked to put out flames and hold off German fighters. While Judy tried to bring the aircraft home, Roger threw overboard remaining ammunition and other items to lighten the plane, tried to repair control cables to the rudder and attempted to close the jammed bomb bay doors.

The aircraft ultimately landed in Manston, England, and Roger was awarded a Silver Star Medal for his actions during the mission. The three crew members were all recommended for the Congressional Medal of Honor, though they were not awarded it.

Around six months later, Roger was serving as a gunner on a mission when the aircraft was shot down near Frankfurt. He and other crew members baled out, and Roger spent the next 15 months as a prisoner of war in Stalag Luft 1, a camp for captured airmen near Barth, Western Pomerania, Germany. Roger remained in the camp from Feb. 4, 1944, until it was liberated on May 1, 1945.

For his service, Roger received an Air Medal, a Prisoner of War Medal and a Vermont National Guard Commendation Medal.

In the years after returning to Addison County, Helen and Roger were married and started a family that remains deeply



ROGER LAYN WAS awarded a Silver Star Medal for his actions in the Schweinfurt-Regensburg Raid during World War II. Layn was a B-17 co-pilot in the mission, during which the aircraft he was on was attacked by German fighters and caught fire.

Photo courtesy of Candace Polzella

invested in the Monkton community.

Helen died at home in Monkton in 2011, at the age of 89. Roger also died at home in Monkton — this was in 2020, at the age of 100.

Prior to his death, Roger would at times share his experiences in the war with community members through interviews and presentations. He'd also attend the annual banquet for ex-POWs hosted by the Bristol American Legion Post 19, which members of the family still attend today.

Dr. Robert Austin,
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Middlebury's Memorial Day Parade hits the road at 9 a.m.

MIDDLEBURY — The annual Memorial Day parade in Middlebury will, of course, be held this coming Monday, May 27.

Legion Post 27, the town of Middlebury and the large number of guests attending will honor the more than 1 million men and women who have lost their lives defending America since the Revolutionary War.

The parade, which will include its usual accompaniment of military color guard, fire trucks, bands, civic groups and cute kids, will assemble in the Middlebury Arts Center parking lots at 8:30 a.m. and commence at 9 a.m. Marchers will proceed from Porter Field Road off South Main Street, through the traffic circle, around the green and end at Court Square. There will be a ceremony following the parade at the Soldier's Monument in front



of the Town Hall Theater.

There is still time for those wanting to participate. Contact the Middlebury American Legion Post 27 at 802-388-9311 ext: "0" or at legionpost27@aol.com indicating the name of the group or organization, the number and nature of participation (walkers, vehicle, float, etc.), and a contact name and telephone number.

Bristol to host Memorial Day ceremony

BRISTOL — Bristol's American Legion Post 19 will host the 2024 Memorial Day Ceremony on the Village Green at 1 p.m. this coming Monday, May 27.

Post Commander Ron LaRose will emcee a ceremony that will feature a guest speaker from the Vermont Army National Guard. Details on the name and more about the speaker are in Section A of this edition.

LaRose has led Post 19 for a number of years. He served in the U.S. Army and the Army National Guard for 39 years, retiring in 2005 at the rank of lieutenant colonel.

Monday's ceremony will include the laying of a wreath on the Veterans Memorial in the park.

All are welcome at Bristol's Memorial Day Ceremony.

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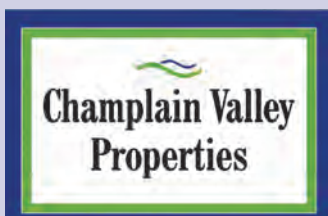
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ALMOST 80 U.S. servicemen were killed when this submarine, the USS Flier, was sunk on its way to engage a Japanese convoy in World War II. A memorial to the men stands at the Veterans Administration in White River Junction, Vt.

Memorial dedicated to those lost on submarine

VERMONT — At the Veteran Administration in White River Junction there is a distinct memorial dedicated to the Submarine *USS Flier*, formally classified as SS 250. The ship was lost during World War II.

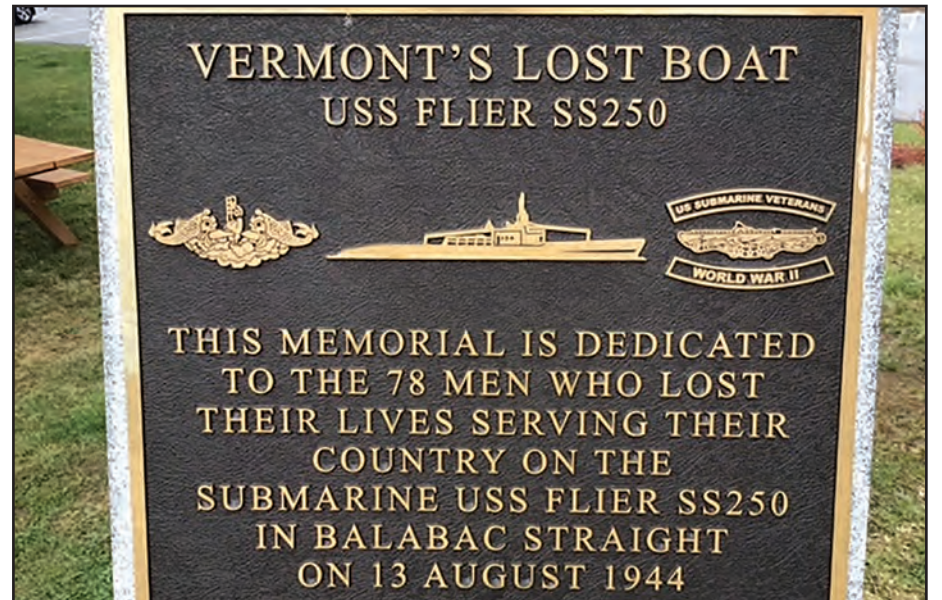
The United States Submarine Veterans Inc., or USSVI, is ever mindful of lost shipmates, friends and family that have served in the submarine service of our country. It assigned each state one of the 52 lost submarines from World War II, with California and New York receiving 2 each of the lost submarines. Vermont was assigned the *USS Flier* (SS 250). The Green Mountain Base Chapter of USSVI cares for the memorial and sees the significance of fellow submariners

that were lost.

Flier's keel was laid down on Oct. 30, 1942, in Groton, Conn. She launched on July 11, 1943. During combat in the South China Sea, her crew sank 10,380 gross tons of Japanese shipping. *Flier* stuck a naval mine on Aug. 13, 1944, near the Balabac Strait in the Philippines, and sunk. Seventy-eight sailors and officers were killed.

Read more about the *Flier* online at tinyurl.com/FlierSub.

If you are ever at Vermont's VA hospital and outpost, the memorial is in the park where the U.S. flag is flown along with several other significant memorials at the park dedicated to our veterans. The submariners in Vermont remember the



USS Flier and the men lost and on Eternal Patrol this Memorial Day.

For more information about the Green

Mountain Base Submariners and the USSVI, contact Bill Mattoon at email: cmattoon@vermontel.net.

MEMORIAL DAY 2024



The American Legion - Middlebury Post 27

REMEMBER THAT FREEDOM IS NOT FREE.

Jackman

(Continued from Page 5)

service, and the United States military. A member of American Legion Post No. 14 for more than half a century, he served his nation in the Vermont Army National Guard from 1968-1991, retiring as a first sergeant.

Daniels has been a member of the Vergennes Fire Department since 1968, serving as captain and deputy chief. His municipal services included over five years on the Vergennes City Council and as Vergennes mayor for seven years in two different terms. In addition, he serves as the superintendent of the Prospect Cemetery.

For Daniels, Memorial Day is a time of remembrance for all who have served, both those who are walking the earth today and those who paid the ultimate sacrifice.

For Parade Marshal Jackman, Memorial Day is also important as a veteran.

“It’s a very special day to me and means a lot for the community to thank us for what we’ve done,” he said. “In these times with everything so topsy turvy, we need to come together and if Memorial Day can do that, that’s great.”

Jackman was born and raised in the

Little City and has been a member of the American Legion for more than 50 years, including the past 42 at Post No. 14 in Vergennes. He served in the roles of historian, chaplain, service officer and second vice commander at Post No. 14. Before moving back to Vergennes, he

was a member of American Legion posts in North Carolina and in Middlebury.

He is also a life member of Middlebury VFW Post No. 7823, where Jackman served as adjutant.

Jackman has been active in service with Meals on Wheels and many projects over the years with the Legion and VFW.

Jackman feels that Memorial Day is more than just remembrance. It is realizing what all the men and women who serve have done and the time they are away from friends and family. It is understanding the sacrifice of those who gave their lives.

“It’s a very special day to me and means a lot for the community to thank us for what we’ve done. In these times with everything so topsy turvy, we need to come together and if Memorial Day can do that, that’s great.”

— Michael Jackman

During his years in the Coast Guard, Jackman was a commissary supply officer. He took care of payroll and worked closely with cooks in ordering of food and managing menus. He was stationed out of Boston on a 327-foot weather cutter.

He also served as “recreation officer,” which involved things like picking up and screening films on the ship while it was away from port. During an extended stop in Japan, when the ship was in drydock, Jackman planned a ski trip for fellow guardsmen that took them to the interior mountains of the island nation.

During the year in Vietnam, Jackman was directly involved in the war. His role was as a hotshelmer on a 38-inch gun mounted on the bow of the ship. He was stationed in the Tonkin Gulf in 1968.

“We were lobbing shells a mile or two inland to support our troops there,” he said.

Back in Vermont, Jackman worked at Miller’s Chevrolet in Vergennes for 40 years. Then he worked at Dennecker Chevrolet, and now sells cars for Wimett Trading Company in Leicester.

He also looked to serve the community. Coincidentally, a lot of what he did involved food, just like his job on the Coast Guard ship. He worked at Legion dinners. “I’ve worked on getting meals to shut-ins for as long as I can remember,” he said. “I enjoy that immensely.”

Jackman, 77, has also volunteered at the Legion’s Memorial Day parade for at least four decades. He was moved to be selected as parade marshal, in part recognizing his own years of volunteering, but also in solemn recognition of the service of men and women who sacrificed for their nation.



MICHAEL JACKMAN

“I was very honored to be asked,” he said. “It’s a very special day to me and means a lot for the community to thank us for what we’ve done.”

Anyone with questions about the Vergennes parade should feel free to email the American Legion Post No. 14 Parade Committee at marsulli75@gmail.com.

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Fort Ticonderoga to pay tribute to those who fought

TICONDEROGA, N.Y. — Fort Ticonderoga across Lake Champlain from Shoreham this weekend will pay tribute to the men and women who lost their lives during the American Revolution. Discover the story of the American Army in 1777 and how it defended liberty at Ticonderoga. Special living history programs and demonstrations will be presented throughout Memorial

Join a hive of activity as citizens-turned-soldiers reinforced extensive lines of defenses across the Ticonderoga peninsula and beyond to prepare for a renewed British invasion.

Day weekend, Saturday and Sunday, May 25-26.

Join a hive of activity as citizens-turned-soldiers reinforced extensive lines of defenses across the Ticonderoga peninsula and beyond to prepare for a renewed British invasion. Throughout the weekend, visitors will witness the labor of liberty

as Fort Ticonderoga staff portraying Continental Army soldiers bring to life this defining story through military drill, weapon demonstrations, historic trades, hauling timber with oxen and raising
(See Fort Ti, Page 10)



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Fort Ti

(Continued from Page 9)

huts for shelter,” said Stuart Lillie, Fort Ticonderoga Vice President of Public History.

Members of the public are invited to come enjoy narrated boat tours aboard the Carillon, a small pleasure boat, and cruise along the same shores of Lake Champlain that American soldiers and sailors sailed in 1777.

A full lineup of activities and programs offered throughout the weekend include daily tours within the fort, King’s Garden, and museum exhibition spaces; historic trades programs; ongoing living history programs; thrilling

weapons demonstrations; fife & drum performances; the Mount Defiance experience; and the Carillon Battlefield hiking trail. A full schedule can be found at fortticonderoga.org.

Sunday, May 26, will feature two special services:

- 11 a.m. Memorial Service at Fort Ticonderoga

Join the procession of a Continental Army Soldier’s funeral and see him laid to his final resting place. Pay respect to the numerous soldiers who did not receive a proper burial at Ticonderoga in 1777 and reflect on the ultimate sacrifice they made to secure our liberty today.

- Noon. Flag Raising Ceremony beginning atop Mount Defiance at 72 Defiance St.

Join the Ticonderoga American Legion as they renew the American flag atop Mount Defiance, as a salute to all those who have fallen in the service of this nation. From this breathtaking vista, remember their sacrifice with a 21-gun salute.

A 10% general admissions discount will be given to military members with proof of service for this special weekend-long event.

Welcoming visitors since 1909, Fort Ticonderoga is museum, historic site, major cultural destination, and center for learning, on-site and across the globe through Fort Ticonderoga’s Center for Digital History.



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those who
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THE NEXT GENERATION of Vermonters are instilled with respect for the sacrifices of the women and men in our U.S. armed forces. Here, during a previous Memorial Day observance, young Scouts gather around a memorial monument on the Orwell town green.

Orwell village gears up for Memorial Day Parade

ORWELL — If you want to see a Memorial Day parade, you can get start early and head out to Orwell for the community's annual Sunday before Memorial Day festivities. As usual, the annual parade in Orwell starts lining up on

North Orwell Road at noon and steps off at 1:30 p.m. this Sunday, May 26.

Many floats will be designed to reflect some of the many traditional Vermont activities and industries, and there will be plenty of just-fun floats and attractions.

American Legion Post 49 from Fair Haven will lead the parade and will honor our veterans with a 21-gun salute.


Organizers have lined up a great selection of marchers, players, riders and floaters. They will include the Catamount

Pipe Band, the Fair Haven Union High School marching band and various local youth.

And, of course, there will be plenty of vintage cars, trucks and tractors at (See Orwell, Page 12C)

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THE CAIRO SHRINER Northeast Clowns will return to Orwell's fabulous Memorial Day parade this year.

Orwell

(Continued from Page 11)

the 49th Annual Orwell Memorial Day Parade. Join in for this free event and parade through the village of Orwell to show the freedoms we enjoy and honor the veterans who fought for them.

Kate Hunter will be the 2024 Grand Marshal of the Orwell parade. In addition to being the librarian at the Orwell Free Library, Hunter is active in community events. Thanks go to Randy Kavet from Orwell, who will be giving Marshal Hunter a parade ride in his 2007 Corvette convertible.

Always a favorite, the Cairo Shriner Northeast Clowns are returning for 2024.

Keep an eye out for all those sluggers on the Orwell Little League teams on the May 26th Memorial Day Parade. Dancing in the Street will return this year with Rutland's Cast Off 8's Square Dance Club. Spectators will welcome two Orwell Devil's Bowl drivers will be in the parade: Jakabee and Ron Alger.

A returning crowd favorite will be Dan Brett of Whiting and the Hearthunder Art Collective. This group uses art and creativity to show support for environmental and social justice causes in an effort to inspire positive change.

Let's not forget those awesome tractors that come out every year.

In the spirit of fun for the entire family, 802 Ghostbusters are expected to return to the parade this year. Also returning is the 1st Vermont Calvary on horses!



**ORWELL PARADE MARSHAL
KATE HUNTER**

To register for a spot in the parade, head online to www.facebook.com/orwellmemorialday to get the latest contact information.

The parade will take the same route as in years past: beginning on North Orwell Road and running east to Main Street, before heading onto Church Street, circling Roberts Avenue, and then bending back to march west on Main Street. The parade will conclude on the town green, where many of the bands will perform for the crowd.

Lineup begins at 12 noon on North Orwell Road just north of the village green. All vehicles must obey posted traffic rules, no burnouts are allowed.

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What families can do to honor fallen service members

The freedoms people living in the United States are afforded would not have been possible to provide if not for the brave efforts and undying commitment of the many individuals who have served in the nation's armed forces. American military personnel have played vital roles in securing freedoms for their fellow citizens as well as individuals overseas.

Each year on the final Monday in May, the United States commemorates military personnel who lost their lives while serving in the armed forces. Those individuals made the ultimate sacrifice, and Memorial Day is a way to honor them and thank their families for their selfless acts. This Memorial Day, families can embrace various measures to honor fallen veterans.

• Visit a local veterans cemetery. The United Service Organization (USO) notes that most states have national veterans cemeteries. Though some veterans cemeteries are open only to family members of service personnel, others are open to the general public. Visiting a veterans cemetery is a great way to honor fallen military members and ensure the memory of their service and sacrifice is not forgotten on Memorial Day.

• Celebrate veterans over Memorial Day weekend. Memorial Day weekend is now synonymous with getaways and backyard barbecues. By taking time out during the weekend to honor fallen veterans, families can ensure the meaning behind the holiday is not lost in the midst of celebrations with family and friends. Take time out during



a family barbecue to discuss a family member who served or, if traveling, make an effort to visit a veterans memorial along your travel route.

• Help raise funds for veterans organizations. Fun runs or community Memorial Day walks may benefit local veterans organizations that help service members in need. Many service members

may need help dealing with the deaths of friends or family members who died while serving in the armed forces, and veterans organizations may provide such help or direct funds to groups that do. That makes participation in events that benefit veterans organizations a great way to honor current military personnel and those who have served in the past, including those who

died in service of their country.

• Teach youngsters about the role of the armed forces. There's a lot competing for the attention of today's young people, and that can make it easy to overlook the very freedoms that make the United States such a unique country throughout world history. Parents and guardians can emphasize the
(See Veterans, Page 15)



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Memorial Day as
we remember and
honor our heroes.**




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Interesting facts

(Continued from Page 13)

American Civil War.

• Among the more notable postwar commemorations was one organized by former slaves in Charleston, S.C. That commemoration occurred less than a month after the Confederate forces surrendered in 1865. Despite that, History.com notes that in 1966 the federal government declared Waterloo, N.Y., the birthplace of Memorial Day.

• Postwar commemorations also were organized by northern veterans of the Civil War. General John A. Logan, who led an organization of Union veterans, called for a nationwide day of remembrance in May 1868. General Logan referred to the holiday as Declaration Day and chose May 30 because it was not the anniversary of any specific battle and therefore unlikely to be viewed by some as controversial.

• Early commemorations of Decoration Day, which gradually came to be known as Memorial Day, initially honored only those soldiers who died during

the American Civil War. However, that changed over time as American servicemen fought in various wars, including both World Wars, the Vietnam War, the Korean War, and other conflicts.

• The red poppy has become a symbol of Memorial Day. That red poppy can be traced to a poem by Canadian John McCrae, who served as a lieutenant colonel in World War I. "In Flanders Field" notes the red poppies that grew in fields where countless soldiers had been buried in modern-day Belgium. The poem was published in 1915, three years before the war ended. Sadly, McCrae himself was a casualty of the war, succumbing to pneumonia in France in 1918 while still in the service.

Memorial Day honors service personnel who lost their lives while serving in the U.S. military. The holiday's inspiration and lengthy history merits consideration as the nation prepares to commemorate countless soldiers' sacrifices once more.

— Metro Creative

Veterans

(Continued from Page 14)

role the armed forces play in procuring and protecting freedoms in the United States and emphasize the significance of the sacrifices of those who gave their lives to ensure a higher quality of life for all U.S. residents.

Memorial Day commemorates military personnel who died while serving in the armed forces. There is much families can do to ensure those sacrifices are never forgotten or taken for granted.

— Metro Creative



Summer kickoff

LINCOLN SIBLINGS GORDON Eastwood Smith, 6, and Fern Matthew Smith, 8, wave flags and cheer the 2023 Memorial Day parade on the porch of a Main Street business in Vergennes. Hopefully they get as good a vantage point at this year's parade.

Independent photo/Steve James



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never forget
that freedom
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