



Fantasy beasts

A Bristol artist's show features figures created from found natural materials. See Arts + Leisure.



Trio of titles

Three county teams won state crowns, and a fourth came ever so close. See Sports, Pages 1B-5B.



Graduation!

See stories from local high schools and photos of every local graduate in our special pull-out.

ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT

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\$1.50

More meals for kids offered this summer

Free food provided at several sites

By MARIN HOWELL

ADDISON COUNTY — Local youth will have more opportunities to access free meals this summer, after several factors reduced the number of places kids could eat for free once school let out for summer vacation last year.

Summer meal programs help ensure school-age children maintain access to nourishing, consistent meals when school is not in session. Last summer, opportunities to access such programs were limited in Addison County and in other parts of the

state for a variety of reasons, including the federal government tightening free summer meals rules that during the pandemic had increased funding eligibility and allowed more school districts to expand their year-round meal programs.

Without those pandemic-era allowances fewer communities in the county were able to offer meals for local youth throughout the summer, such as in the Vergennes-area Addison Northwest School District, which did not offer a
(See Free meals, Page 12A)

Council eyeing 3- or 4-cent city rate hike

By ANDY KIRKALDY

VERGENNES — At their next-to-last meeting to discuss the city budget and tax rate for the upcoming 2024-2025 Fiscal Year (FY25), Vergennes City Councilors on Tuesday edged toward adopting a spending plan that would raise the city's current \$1.06 municipal tax rate by 3 or 4 cents.

Some councilors expressed a hope that the increase could go as low as 2 cents, but the consensus at

"I'm praying global warming continues, because I cut the winter maintenance budget."

— City Manager Ron Redmond

the end of the meeting hovered between 3.5 and 4 cents. The council must set the municipal tax rate and an FY25 budget by June 30 and will meet again on Tuesday, June 25, with decisions expected.

A 4-cent increase to the current rate of \$1.06 per \$100 of assessed property value would mean an additional \$40 of property taxes for every \$100,000 of assessed value, or \$120 more annually on a home
(See Vergennes, Page 12A)

Slate Valley voters approve plan for FY'25 spending on the fifth try

ORWELL — Phew!

When the voters in the Slate Valley Unified Union School District considered a proposed spending plan for the upcoming school year on Tuesday, it was their fifth time in three and a half months doing so.

For the first time, they passed the budget.

The margin OK'ing the \$30,810,135 spending plan for

fiscal year 2025 was 930 yes to 794 no.

Superintendent Brooke Olsen-Farrell expressed her gratitude to the Slate Valley community, which includes the Addison County town of Orwell.

"I know this may not have been an easy decision for many, especially due to the funding challenges throughout the state," she said in
(See Slate Valley, Page 12A)



Out from under

SECOND-GRADER COOPER BUTLER emerges from under a rainbow-colored parachute that he and other Mary Hogan Elementary School kids were playing with on the Middlebury rec fields during the school's annual Field Day before school let out for the summer. See more photos on Page 11A.

Independent photo/Steve James

New book: CCV instills hope in higher ed

Weybridge author's oral history tells 50-year saga

By CAROLINE JIAO

WEYBRIDGE — Many young people today are deterred from higher education by the rising cost of college, and they choose to stay out or drop out, observed an article published in January in *The New York Times*. And the college degree that might have raised young citizens onto an equal starting point is not achieved.

This report does not stand alone in the scene of people's dimming hopes. When a four-year college degree becomes burdened by ever-growing stakes, the question becomes, is there another path? One, perhaps, less traveled by?

Weybridge author Doug Wilhelm explores one of those paths in his recently published book, "Kind of a Miracle: The Unlikely Story of the Community College of Vermont." The



DOUG WILHELM

college's universal access and its carefully catered programs.

Wilhelm acknowledges the significance of historical and present-day social context for understanding the opportunities and hope the

book employs an oral history method to document the various struggles and successes of CCV throughout its first half century. It features not only founders, presidents, faculty and staff, who all worked hard to will the institution into being but also many students who benefited from the college's universal access and its carefully catered programs.

Community College of Vermont brought to the community.

"To me this was a really interesting story, and an important one," he said.

"One of the biggest causes of the big division across America is there's a big gap in wealth, obviously, and an opportunity to earn a good living," he said. "A lot of people feel they've been left behind. There's a lot of anger about that. And it's understandable."

CCV was started in 1970. As an entry point into higher education, for many Vermonters it draws a picture of possibility.

"I think this is the story that matters," Wilhelm said. "Especially now, when we have so much division, and so many people in this county believed that there's no opportunity for them. They can never climb above their situation in life."

The statistics on the CCV website show that
(See Wilhelm, Page 10A)



By the way

The Forest Service closed Forest Road 59 in Ripton for the rest of the summer while it makes an upgrade that ultimately should be a plus for the environment and for flood management. The road is being closed so that an older traditional culvert can be replaced with a new aquatic organism passage (AOP) culvert that will the Forest Service believes will
(See By the way, Page 12A)

Historic Monkton church reviving as a community hub

Workshops, 4-H, other events return

By BARBARA BOSWORTH

MONKTON — A local cultural hub has come full circle over the past 157 years.

In its early decades, the East Monkton Church was not only a house of worship, but also the scene for standing-room-only concerts, festivals, plays, lectures, ice cream socials and oyster suppers.

After a period of decline and neglect, the church this year will again host a full season of events for a wide variety of interests and ages, in the sanctuary and out on its Church Road property.

In July, two local 4-H clubs, with the animals they have been raising and their other year-long projects, will visit with the public on the church lawn. The Friends Methodist Church of Monkton Ridge will hold Sunday services

at the East Monkton Church. Pianist David Feurzeig will present a concert as part of his Play Every Town Project.

Karey Ann French of Silver Spring Farm will lead a flower arranging workshop in August. After school starts, a gathering will give young and old a chance to share memories of attending school in Monkton. Other fall events: a build-your-own-scarecrow session, a gratitude observance in November, and a nondenominational holiday event called Songs of the Season in December.

The church has already served as a stop on Monkton's town-wide yard sale this spring. Recently the Monkton Museum & Historical Society and the church explored local history during an East Monkton Cemetery
(See Monkton church, Page 13A)



PAT POLZELLA AND Candace Layn Polzella stand on the steps of the East Monkton Church, where they are leaders of the historical buildings' resurgence in the community.

Photos by Barbara Bosworth

Index

Obituaries.....6A-7A
Classifieds.....10B-11B
Service Directory.....8B-9B
Entertainment.....Arts + Leisure
Community Calendar.....6B
Arts Calendar.....Arts + Leisure
Sports.....1B-5B



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Middlebury police plan to purchase new drone

With thermal imaging, device designed to help find missing persons

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — Middlebury police will soon boost their nascent Unmanned Aerial System program with a new drone equipped with thermal imaging technology, which will enhance the department's ability to find missing persons at night.

The Middlebury selectboard on Tuesday, June 11, voted unanimously to allow the department to buy an Adorna-brand drone at a cost of \$9,821. The drone will be purchased with unspent funds that had been earmarked for Middlebury's part-time parking enforcement official. The job was only recently filled after an extended vacancy period, leaving an anticipated budget buffer of \$12,076.

It was this past February that the selectboard gave Middlebury PD the OK to launch its first ever Unmanned Aerial System program, known as UAS, after Police Chief Jason Covey explained its benefits in finding missing persons, surveilling dangerous crime scenes without putting an officer at risk, and

chronicling accident scenes. Covey reported two of his officers have become licensed UAS pilots and have used their personal drones for three deployments — including one on May 23 that involved a search for an elderly man with memory loss.

While the man was found safe, Covey noted the search could have been more effective with a more sophisticated drone.

"In this case, the use of the drone was hindered by its lack of thermal imaging capability," he said. "The incident supervisor reported confidence that the missing man would have been located rapidly if the MPD drone had been equipped with such technology. The man had been sleeping in a field and was located almost two hours after being reported missing in an area that had been overflowed by a non-thermal equipped UAS."

Selectboard members endorsed the drone purchase with little debate. Covey reported Vermont State Police were preparing to buy 15 of the same Adorna drone model.

"This is a potentially lifesaving device," Covey said.

PARKING FINE INCREASE

With a new drone in the offing, Middlebury officials will soon revisit the issue of parking — particularly in the downtown. Covey has been working with Middlebury Assistant Town Manager David Sophrin on a potential update of the town's parking fines.

A recent study of Middlebury's parking fines, in comparison with others, show the shire town is somewhat of a "bargain" for scofflaws.

For example, Middlebury currently assesses a \$25 fine for parking violations involving legal spaces and parking in front of a fire hydrant or fire zone, compared to the statewide average of \$38-\$50. Middlebury charges \$5 for all other parking violations, compared to the statewide average of \$20. The selectboard will soon consider upping the municipal parking fines to the statewide averages in those categories.

Reporter John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.

Silver Lake lot closed

SALISBURY/LEICESTER — The U.S. Forest Service temporarily closed the heavily used Silver Lake / Falls of Lana parking lot off Route 53 / Lake Dunmore Road in Salisbury for 10 days this week. The parking area was barricaded prior to a paving and expansion project that will take place from June 19-28. The parking lot will reopen for public use before it is closed again for striping on July 15 and 16.

"We understand that this is a popular parking area for visitors seeking to hike to Silver Lake and the Falls of Lana and that the timing will impact access to the trailhead," said Chris Matrick, district ranger for the Rochester and Middlebury Ranger District of the Green Mountain National Forest.

"Our window of opportunity for projects like these closes pretty quickly here in Vermont and it is my hope that these significant improvements will benefit the public for many years to come."

During the time of the closure, public access to Silver Lake is still available via the Goshen Trail off Forest Road 27 in Goshen, via the Leicester Hollow Trail from the Minnie Baker trailhead in Leicester or the Leicester Hollow trailhead in Brandon.

Parking for Falls of Lana access is available at Branbury State Park for a small fee.

The Forest Service manages hundreds of miles of roads and trails as well as bridges, trailheads, and parking lots for public access to the more than 400,000-acre National Forest.

Pair charged with kidnapping a woman in Starksboro

Police catch suspects at a Hinesburg home

By CAROLINE JIAO

ADDISON COUNTY — Police late last week arrested a Hinesburg man and an Essex woman for allegedly kidnapping a woman from a Starksboro residence the preceding Saturday. The woman, who resides in Chittenden County, was released a few hours later and

alerted police to the incident on Wednesday, June 12.

Vermont State Police put out a request for the public's help in finding Anthony Seagroves, 32, and Katelynn Cannon, 28. Hinesburg police arrested Seagroves and Cannon without incident at a home on Richmond Road in Hinesburg at around 8:35 p.m. on Thursday, June 13.

Seagroves was cited for kidnapping and first degree

aggravated domestic assault. Cannon was cited for aiding in the felony and for first degree aggravated assault. Seagroves and Cannon both pleaded innocent to their respective charges in Addison Superior Court, criminal division.

Bail for Seagroves and for Cannon was set at \$2,500 apiece.

On June 12, Vermont State Police at the New Haven barracks received a call from a woman who reported that she had been kidnapped "a few days ago from her house in Bristol," according to an affidavit by Trooper Sean Haunter. The affidavit outlines how the woman took Seagroves's car to a farmhouse in Starksboro to do some cleaning for work. Haunter wrote that the home "was known to have heavy drug traffic."

The woman, who was reported to be the ex-girlfriend of Seagroves, told police she found methamphetamine in the car, and she hid it (the woman apparently at some point told police that she was a drug addict). While she was cleaning in the house, Seagroves and Cannon showed up, Seagroves with a baseball bat in hand. Trooper Haunter reported that Cannon punched her three or four times, and Seagroves "tapped" her on the head a few times with the baseball bat and made her show them where she had stashed the meth.

The woman alleged that Seagroves pinned her against the wall and asked, "Where's the meth?" followed by, "We are going for a ride," ordering her into his car with the bat.

The woman told police that the owner of the farmhouse had video footage of this incident, and there were multiple witnesses.

They drove for several hours and the victim was allegedly not

allowed to leave. The affidavit detailed how she smoked crack with both and was stuck with them because "she was too afraid to run." At one point, Seagroves strangled her against the car window while he was driving, to which she commented, "I didn't know how we didn't go off the road," according to the affidavit.

The pair ultimately forced her out of the car on Texas Hill Road in Hinesburg, and Cannon allegedly hit her at least 30 times. Police said the woman had significant bruising on her upper back and several red marks on her face, neck and shoulder. The affidavit noted that some of the red marks were "Xylazine injuries." Xylazine is a common veterinary drug used for sedation.

On the morning of June 13, police looked for Seagroves and Cannon at several addresses in Starksboro and Hinesburg where they were known to have been, but couldn't find them.

Later that day, troopers received a call from Burlington Probation and Parole saying Seagroves had a regularly scheduled appointment with them at noon, and that Cannon would likely be there because she normally gave him a ride.

At approximately 12:30 p.m., Seagroves's probation officer notified state police that he was at their 50 Cherry St. office in Burlington. When police moved in, Seagroves fled on foot and got into a grey Honda CR-V driven by a woman suspected to be Cannon.

Later that evening, police caught up with the pair in Hinesburg, and arrested them without incident.

Troopers were assisted by the Burlington, Essex, Hinesburg, Shelburne and University of Vermont police departments.

ADDISON COUNTY School News Briefs

Alyssa Whitcomb of Bristol and John Woodbury of Brandon have been named to the dean's list at Plymouth State University in Plymouth, N.H. Whitcomb is an Elementary Educations & Youth Development major, and Woodbury is majoring in Art Education.

Two Vergennes residents, Ella Hameline and Mykenzie Duffy,

were recently named to the dean's list at the College of Charleston in Charleston, S.C. Hameline is majoring in Marine Biology and Duffy is majoring in Management.

With GPAs of at least 3.5, Aiden DeBaise of Vergennes were named to the dean's list for the spring 2024 semester at Quinnipiac University.

Middlebury OKs hike in water & sewer rates

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — The Middlebury selectboard has endorsed new water and sewer rates for fiscal year 2025 that will add around 20 cents and 15 cents, respectively, to the daily cost of those services for the average customer.

Emmalee Cherington, Middlebury's director of public works planning, explained the higher rates are a product of the higher costs of providing water and sewer service to folks connected to those municipal systems. Some town residents have their own well water or on-site septic and therefore aren't subject to the costs.

Water charges

The new water rates — which will take effect July 1 — reflect a roughly 20% increase in the flat rate charged to in-town and out-of-town users, as well as a 9% bump in the per-1,000-gallons user rate. This will translate into an overall 16% increase in the cost of municipal water service for what the town describes as the "average customer," a household that consumes around 9,300 gallons per quarter (three months).

The selectboard on June 11 approved an FY'25 water base rate of \$82 per quarter for in-town users and a water base rate of \$89 per quarter for out-of-town users, along with a new usage rate of \$4.40 per 1,000 gallons for in-town users and \$4.72 per 1,000 gallons for out-of-town users.

This will mean the average in-town user will see roughly \$69 in additional water charges during the coming year (19 cents a day), with the average out-of-town users seeing an approximately \$75 bump (21 cents per day).

The new rates are designed to fuel an FY'25 water budget of \$2,224,791 — roughly a 14% increase compared to this year's budget.

Cherington cited a litany of causes for the water budget surge, including the hiring of an additional employee, increases in employee benefits and training expenses, higher maintenance costs for some of the town's hydrants and pump stations, a 14% increase in debt

retirement, a 15% jump in capital improvements, higher water-meter costs, and an increase for water testing obligations.

Major rainstorms last summer caused floodings that battered the town's water infrastructure, including some of its pump stations and a large box culvert near Dow Pond on Route 116. The town is in line for federal reimbursement for damages, but in the meantime has had to spend local resources to get by.

"We're working on reconciling these two budgets from the storm events last summer. (State and federal reimbursement) is slowly starting to trickle back into our accounts," Cherington said.

Sewer charges

The selectboard OK'd an FY'25 wastewater budget of \$3,264,309, representing a 5.6% increase compared to this year.

In order to harvest enough revenues to meet expenses in FY'25, the new sewer charges include a base rate of \$52 per quarter (a 30% increase compared to this year) and a usage rate of \$7.55 per 1,000 gallons (a 2% bump).

The new charges are expected to result in an overall 12% increase (\$53.21) in sewer charges in FY'25 for the average user, whose wastewater output is around 9,300 gallons per quarter. That's about 15 cents of addition sewer charges per day.

Cherington outlined other sewer-related increases that will largely affect commercial users:

- A septage rate increase to 13 cents per gallon, a 2-cent hike, the first such increase since 2017.
- A gray water rate increase to 6 cents per gallon, a 2-cent hike, first increase since 2017.
- A sludge rate increase to 15 cents per gallon, a 3-cent hike, the first since 2017.

What's driving the bump in wastewater expenses? Among the factors is a 16% increase in employee benefits, a 20% increase in training (new hires), a 7% increase in plant maintenance costs, 26% increase in pump station maintenance, 21% increase in water mains maintenance (See Water, sewer rates, Page 3A)

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June 20 - June 26

New art adorns Vergennes bus stop



VERGENNES — The re-imagination of the Tri-Valley Transit bus shelter in downtown Vergennes is blooming into reality.

In early 2023, Vergennes Partnership was awarded its first animating infrastructure grant through the Vermont Arts Council and the National Endowment of the Arts.

Ferrisburgh artist Kat Clear was chosen after a rigorous call for artists process last summer. Perhaps best known for the “Fabric of Life” sculpture at the University of Vermont Medical Center lobby, Clear was chosen for her proposal, a replication of oversized Vermont native wildflowers, destined to bring year-round color to the Little City’s downtown. The sculpture will be aptly named “Flower Stop.”

Clear partnered with Northlands Job Corp Advanced Welding students and has been working each week to finalize design, fabricate the pieces as well as determine the needs of installation, which took place at the beginning of this week.

The Tri-Valley bus shelter is at 5-7 Green St. in Vergennes. A dedication to the citizens of Vergennes will take place there next Thursday, June 27, at 4 p.m.

The public is invited to attend and will have an opportunity to meet the artist as well as Northland Job Corp welding students who collaborated in the making of “Flower Stop.”

ARTIST KAT CLEAR, above, consults with Northlands Job Corps welding student Juan Arroyo Parra as they fabricate the pieces of “Flower Stop,” an art installation recently mounted at the Tri-Valley Transit bus stop on Green Street in Vergennes, below. A formal dedication will take place June 27.

Photos courtesy of the Vergennes Partnership



Water, sewer rates

(Continued from Page 2A) and a 10% increase in capital improvements.

Selectman Fred Dunnington said the proposed water and sewer rate increases seemed fair, when compared to rates in other Vermont

communities. “People will be relieved, perhaps, to know we’re nowhere near the highest,” he said. “The key is to build resiliency in the system by taking steps to ensure the reliability of supply, to lessen

the amount of time the system is down and work towards preventing the unusual situation we had this past year.”

Reporter John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.



Leave it to beaver

A BEAVER TROLLS through a river near Middlebury recently, taking a break during dam-building activities.

Photo by Dottie Nelson

Vergennes considers winter parking changes

By ANDY KIRKALDY

VERGENNES — One plan discussed during both June 11 and June 18 Vergennes City Council budget deliberations would change how the city would handle overnight winter parking on its streets.

Currently street parking is outlawed by ordinance between 2 and 6:30 a.m. to allow the public works department a clean shot at removing snow if there is a storm.

But many residents, particularly apartment dwellers, are not provided parking spots. Thus that law is not convenient if there is no snow. Rumor has it city police in recent years have not always enforced the letter of the ordinance.

Now the council is considering authorizing the city to buy software, at a cost of \$5,000 a year, that can broadcast to apps on residents’ phones when they need to move their vehicles. City Manager Ron Redmond said the public works department and city officials can back up the app by spreading the word through Front Porch Forum and the city website.

Redmond said the council will also have to amend the ordinance to say the winter parking ban will only be enforced when the word is spread in that manner.

In other news from June 11, the council:

- Heard from Redmond that Macdonough Drive from Main Street to Northlands Job Corps will be paved this month. Work started this past Monday.

- Discussed where to post legal notices in the city limits. Three places are required by state law, and one traditional place, at the Maplefields bulletin board on Main Street, is proving problematic because notices are being ripped down.

After discussion that included councilors saying the post office is not ideal because the only place in the building is out of the sight line

of most patrons, the council settled for the time being on notices being placed on the information booth on the city green and on bulletin boards inside and outside city hall. Councilors said they would consider a different location, possibly a city business if its ownership stepped forward to volunteer a more secure location than Maplefields can offer.

They ruled out the Bixby Library because they said its hours of operation could prevent timely

posting of notices.

- Set a public hearing on a proposed zoning amendment that could allow significant housing development, particularly behind the police station where a large project is proposed. Specifically the amendment would change what amounts to an outright ban of most ground-floor housing to limiting that ban to property within 150 feet of North Main Street/Route 22A. The hearing is set for 6 p.m. on Tuesday, July 9.

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Guest Editorial

Gov. Scott misunderstood data privacy bill he vetoed

Editor's note: This detailed response by Vt. Attorney General Charity Clark of Gov. Phil Scott's veto of a bill, H-121, to protect Vermonters' data privacy is notable for several reasons, but chief among them is the misinformation Gov. Scott has spread about the bill and how he misunderstands what it says and does. It's also noteworthy that he and his administrative team were absent from the discussion; even though they were asked to be a part of the bill's creation. That's understandable on the one hand because the administration can't be part of every bill, but on bills of this importance, he should either be part of the process or defer to the state office that has jurisdiction, or at the very least, know the legislation well enough to explain why he is vetoing it without making false statements. One key aspect of the bill is that it helps protect Vermont's youth.

The legislature's veto session was to consider this and other vetoes on early this week. You will see on Page 9A that the Senate failed to override Scott's veto of H.121..

I am extremely disappointed in the Governor's decision to veto H.121. The process to arrive at this bill took years of public forums, research, broad and various testimony, and collaboration among the Legislature, my office, industry groups, non-profits, small and mid-sized businesses, and consumers. The Governor's Office and Administration were almost entirely absent from this process and may lack the relevant and important knowledge that would have been gained had they participated. All of the efforts made culminated in a strong and thoughtful bill Vermonters can be proud of. Indeed, the Legislature has already considered the issues raised in the Governor's veto letter. I would like to correct some misstatements and misunderstandings.

A private right of action. To say that the bill's private right of action — a right that Vermont consumers have had since the Consumer Protection Act was enacted in 1967 — “would make Vermont a national outlier, and more hostile than any other state to many businesses and non-profits” is simply false. Because I know the Governor is operating with the best of intentions and in good faith, I wonder if he may be responding to an earlier version of the bill, which made available statutory, or pre-determined, damages under a private right of action. Under the final version of H.121, individuals have a right to sue only for actual damages suffered and — significantly — only where a violation involves sensitive data, such as a Social Security number or biometric data, like your fingerprint or face.

Moreover, small and mid-sized businesses are removed completely from this private right of action. Only entities holding data for 100,000 or more consumers are subject to the private right of action. In addition, a private right of action generally vests after a minimum 45- to 90-day period during which a data holder has an opportunity to take corrective steps. To the extent small businesses are communicating fear, as the Governor states, my hunch is that they are responding to the same misinformation to which the Governor is responding. In contrast to this misinformation, this is a small-business-friendly bill. And, if that weren't enough, the private right of action provision sunsets in 2027, allowing time for reflection and reporting to occur to see if any fears are realized before the right is reinstated.

Moreover, without a private right of action, enforcement will fall solely to the taxpayers in the form of the Attorney General's Office bringing enforcement actions for violations of the bill. I firmly believe the costs of violating the privacy of your sensitive data should not be transferred solely to the taxpayer, rather than allowing Vermonters themselves to hold violators accountable when their data privacy is violated under the bill.

Age-Appropriate Design Code. I was perplexed by the concerns about the so-called “Kids Code,” given that the effective date of the relevant provision is pushed out to July 1, 2025, to allow for clarity from courts looking into these issues now, including the appeals court reviewing the lawsuit the Governor referenced. Furthermore, while the “Kids Code” provision of H.121 is similar in some ways to California's law, we had the benefit of the California court's ruling, allowing us to incorporate changes to the concept into H.121. Further, even if my office needs to defend the law, we do not anticipate needing additional resources, which I have already communicated to the Governor's Office. Again, I appreciate the Governor's concern, but as Attorney General, I am best positioned to determine the capabilities and needs of my office.

Defending a lawsuit based on H.121 would not present an additional expense to my office. Importantly, as my office has learned through our investigation of Meta and TikTok, social media's harmful impacts on the mental health of teenagers warrant this legislation. I am sure most policymakers and lawmakers have heard from parents and teachers what I have heard: a plea to act to protect children from the harmful impacts of social media. The “Kid's Code” provisions of H.121 are designed to do just that.

Small businesses. Turning to the Governor's concern about small businesses, my office is genuinely perplexed. As repeatedly described, small businesses are completely removed from the scope of the bill. The bill applies only to businesses holding the data of 25,000 or more consumers. This bill simply does not apply to mom-and-pop shops. To the extent that businesses already market and sell nationally, the elements of the bill are modeled on other jurisdictions, primarily Connecticut, the very law after which the Governor said he thought we should model H.121. The Legislature heard testimony from Connecticut (See Clark editorial, Page 5A)



Inscrutable chicken

THIS DOMESTIC LAYER emerges from the ferns and underbrush to surprise a visitor on a recent afternoon. Was she looking for food (always is) or for a cool spot on a hot day (boy, it's been hot!)? She's not likely to give a straight answer.

Independent photo/John S. McCright

House holds history of its tenants

Rene Morin, a fine mason, built my brick house and three neighboring ones. He lived next door when we moved here in 1979. An eight-foot long by eighteen-inch wide by one-and-a-half-inch thick slate bar in the basement gave us some indication of Rene's fondness for alcohol, especially when we learned of a replica basement bar next door. On the evening of election day in 1980, he staggered over, pounded on the door, and asked if we could drive to get him some pizza so he could continue celebrating Reagan's win. Thirty years later, we were renovating the bathroom when a builder found Rupert Knickerbocker Beer bottles behind the plaster wall. After he built the house, Rene and his family lived here for ten years.

For the next sixteen years, the Spencer family made it home. In the late sixties I knew Mary Spencer from her work in human services. I first stepped into the house in 1974 when Mary's son Sam had a drum set upstairs. My Swedish drummer friend Mats wanted to borrow it. I remember a lot of antique furniture and a desk in the alcove in the living room. Word has it that Mary somehow got the gazebo which now sits in my backyard, when an orphanage in Shelburne closed to make way for car dealerships or stores. Later, Mary Spencer's estate sold the house to some New York investors. For the next five years a series of renters moved in. I knew some of them and once attended a party there in the seventies.

Just before we bought the house in 1979, a person I knew was renting it. Thirty years later inside the bathroom wall, we found a postcard addressed to her with the signatures of Ben and Jerry and a photo of the

young ice cream hippies.

I bought the house from the New York couple, coming to an agreement in the gazebo whose foundation was sinking into the ground by then.

Later, during Covid, I was working in front of the house. A car slowed down but kept going. It went around the block and stopped across the street, watching us. The driver got out.

“I am Malcolm Spencer. I grew up in this house. Could I walk around the back yard?”

As we walked past the gazebo and the willow tree, I told him I knew his younger brother Sam. About 35 years ago, I bumped into Sam in an elevator at the medical center in Burlington while I was in nursing school. He asked me if we ever found the bullet shell in the house. I had never heard about a bullet shell in our house, so I asked Sam where it was. He told me it was in the downstairs bedroom inside the register.

This fascinated my teenage son and he searched until he found it. The bullet was twelve inches long and two and a half inches in diameter. “I think he still has it,” I told Malcolm.

“I brought that shell home from Vietnam. Always wondered where it was.”

For 45 years I have lived in a house with the energy of friends and acquaintances. I wonder what I might leave here. A Mongolian reindeer antler?

Sas Carey spends as much time as possible relaxing in her gazebo and enjoying the Vermont summer. Find her book “Marrying Mongolia” in print and audio for your pleasure at www.nomadicare.org/books-and-films.

Ways of Seeing

By Sas Carey



Bristol band is true ‘icon’ of park

It is inspiring to see the amount of interest recently shown for the bandstand on the park in Bristol. However, I am disappointed to hear of negative opinions from some. Without intending to hurt feeling of anyone, I would like to offer an alternate viewpoint.

First, no one should blame or accuse the Bristol Recreation Department of anything less than full devotion to the welfare and betterment of the town or its parks. Any consideration of changes to the bandstand originated from the Bristol Band as much as any other entity.

With that in mind, I suggest that the true historical artifact here is the Bristol Town Band, not the bandstand. Having joined the band in 1961, I think I can claim to have spent as much time on the bandstand as anyone. Over the years I have realized that the band and bandstand have been linked as one entity, with one not thriving without the other. Nothing displays this better than the town designating the Roy Clark Memorial Bandstand in eth 1980s.

Roy Clark directed the band for at least forty years. His name was attached to the bandstand not for what he did for the bandstand, but for how he kept the band functioning through some lean times.

I recognize that band music is considered “old

fashioned” by many. I accept that but would claim that both the band and its music represent the true “icon” for the park. Having been formed about 1879, the band has outlasted about three different “bandstands.” Instead of paint and lumber, the band is completely comprised of living, breathing souls. It is subject to the vagaries of people passing on, and of the varying amounts of commitment by members.

I believe I am speaking for the majority of the band members when I name some of the points in thinking this is a good time for change.

First, the band has grown recently, both in age and in numbers and its removal to the grass during COVID only emphasized the need for a better and larger space.

Secondly, it has become obvious that the bandstand no longer serves as an accessible space for elderly and those of limited mobility.

Thirdly, any change in a bandstand would not be unique, as the Veterans' Memorial to the east and the playground to the west both represent greater visual change to the park than would an upgraded bandstand, keeping the overall design, and the Roy Clark designation.

Letters to the Editor

Bandstand key part of Bristol

In response to Claire Corkins letter concerning the Bristol band stand.

Thank you!
Your letter was food for my heart.

You got it all right.
The bandstand *is* and historical structure and it *is* a symbol of the beauty of Bristol as a community and as a park.

As an older Bristolie, I have many great memories on the band concerts, and the bandstand, having lived here most of my life. As a young person, I applaud you for standing up for my memories, and it's wonderful to know that you also share them. But then again, we both grew up in Bristol, and that make all the difference.

Thank you, Claire.

Mary-Orvis Baker
Bristol

Neonic bill will help pollinators

How fitting that on June 17, the first day of National Pollinator Week, the members of the Vermont House and Senate overrode Gov. Phil Scott's veto of H.706, known as the Pollinator Protection Bill.

This bill will phase out the most harmful class of pesticides, neonicotinoids, from use in coated corn and soybean seeds and other agricultural and landscape uses over the next five years.

I listened on Zoom to much of the testimony from scientists, beekeepers, farmers and others, and it was clear that the harm done by neonics to beneficial insects and other wildlife far outweighs any benefits to farmers. Over 500 scientific studies confirm that use of neonics does not improve crop yield on farms.

Vermont now joins the Province of Quebec and New York state in banning neonics, and there are other states with similar legislation in the works.

I believe this is a great first step in protecting our native pollinators and our honeybees and will help these important insects to recover from recent rapid decline.

Fran Putnam
Weybridge

Vt. Dems should join boycott

Sen. Bernie Sanders and several members of the House and Senate have announced that they will boycott Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's scheduled address to Congress next month. We urge Sen. Peter Welch, Rep. Becca Balint and other Democrats and independents to join them.

The invitation to Netanyahu is cynically calculated by the Republicans to embarrass and pressure President Biden, divide Democrats and progressives, Jews, African Americans and Muslims, and enhance Donald Trump's election chances. Netanyahu's visit will shed no new light on the Israel/Hamas conflict and will do nothing to end the suffering, starvation and devastation in Gaza or bring home the Israeli hostages, dead and living, brutally kidnapped by Hamas terrorists. It will almost certainly lead to hostile or even violent demonstrations and clashes in our streets.

Senate majority leader Chuck Schumer courageously condemned Netanyahu's massacre of Palestinian civilians. What possessed him and House minority leader Hakeem Jeffries to concur in the Congressional invitation?

The United States must exert every effort to end the orgy of killing and destruction regardless of root causes and questions of who is more to blame. Rewarding Netanyahu with a priceless platform for self-justification while Gazans die and Israeli hostages languish (and while we drag our feet in aiding beleaguered Ukraine) mocks all our professed humanitarian values.

Judy and Michael Olinick
Middlebury

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The Addison Independent USPS 005-380

Time to start thinking about Open Farm Week

By TARA PEREIRA
Vermont Fresh Network

Calling all farmers! There is still time to register to participate in the 10th anniversary of Vermont Open Farm Week. This year's event is scheduled to take place Aug. 4-11.

Open Farm Week provides an excellent opportunity to connect with your community, engage with customers, and highlight the unique aspects of your farm. You can choose any day during the week to host an event, or host on multiple days during the week if

your schedule allows.

To ensure a memorable experience for visitors, Open Farm Week events must include an activity that is not part of the regular farm schedule. This could include tours of fields or barns, tastings, cooking demonstrations, workshops, direct product sales and more.

There are a range of registration fees available to make the event accessible to all farms. These fees cover coordination, planning, registration management, outreach, promotion through

various channels, marketing materials, and resources for each farm.

Registration closes July 1. Vermonters can't wait to visit you this summer!

The recommended fee for participation is \$50/farm. Neighboring farms interested in collaborating and marketing their events together can sign up together and receive a \$10 discount per farm.

Visit diginvt.com/blog/openfarmweekforfarmers to learn more and sign up today.

State senate candidate disagrees with veto overrides

Monday, June 17, set a new record in Vermont government. Not only did the General Assembly set a record for single-day vetoes, they set a new record for ignorance. The reason Gov. Scott is in office is because a vast majority of Vermonters agree with him. Overriding six vetoes is ignorance to the will of the people. For a party that advertises commitment to the principles of democracy, the supermajority really let us down.

Many Vermonters have been complaining about the laws coming out of Montpelier but we have to do more than complain. It is time for new representation. In Addison County you have no moderate Democrats on the ballot. All three candidates are incumbents in the General Assembly and all three voted to raise property taxes by 13.8% in one year, to raise the cost of electricity to Vermonters by hundreds of millions of dollars over the next 10 years, and to make

land development in rural Vermont more difficult and expensive. Given the explosion in housing costs in Vermont and rampant consumer price inflation on food and household goods, these are not ideas Vermont families can afford right now. Vermont only ranks 32nd out of 50 states for median household income.

The bottom line here is the supermajority is incapable and unwilling to make tough choices. Vermont families need to budget to live within our means, why does the supermajority get to act any differently? What the General Assembly needs desperately is lawmakers who will force compromise for the good of all of us, irrespective of party. Everyone who is patting themselves on the back right now for steamrolling the most popular leader in the entire state is getting it wrong.

Where do we go from here? I need your help, Addison County.

Someone has to stand up for common sense in Montpelier so I put my name in to run. If you agree with the points I am making, please consider taking a Republican ballot on Aug. 13 and checking my box. I have worked hard as a selectboard member to keep Huntington affordable without sacrificing the values of our community. In Huntington our year-over-year budget increases come out around 5%. We even managed to purchase a 260-acre forest without taxing for it. Our board never forgets the residents who work hard jobs and long days to barely get by and keep their homes. Please reach out, let me know what you think and how you feel. I would love an opportunity to earn your vote. New leadership for the Addison Senate District is now available!

Landel Cochran
Huntington

Clark editorial

(Continued from Page 4A)

lawmakers who advocated for improvements to their own law, some of which were incorporated. These changes were made in part in anticipation of similar changes occurring to Connecticut's own law.

Additionally, the Vermont law actually provides more flexibility to Vermont businesses in its data minimization provisions — something Vermont businesses requested. In other words, Vermont businesses themselves requested deviations from the Connecticut model, in contradiction to the Governor's assertion that blind conformity to the Connecticut model would benefit Vermont businesses. Importantly, businesses won't have to implement H.121 alone; we are going to do it together. My office's Small Business Advocate and attorneys will put out a guidance, templates,

and webinars, and, of course, be available for questions as we continue to be with past data privacy laws passed.

Urgent need for this legislation. Finally, the benefits that H.121 will bring to Vermont consumers and children are entirely overlooked in the Governor's veto letter. Instead, the Governor has chosen to focus on the "significant fear and concern among many small businesses" — again, a group that has been completely removed from the scope of the bill — rather than the significant fear and concern among many parents and consumers. Facial recognition can let strangers identify us on the street. Geolocation tracking apps and spyware can map our physical location.

Artificial intelligence tools create "deepfake" videos of political leaders, celebrities, and

children in sexual settings that are indistinguishable from reality. Social media algorithms collect data they sell and use to addict children to their screens. Data brokers sell our information, including predictions about our interests, our personalities, and our vulnerabilities, to anyone willing to pay for it.

The Legislature should be proud of the profound step they have taken to protect Vermonters, especially children. H.121 represents a paradigm shift: Our data belongs to us, not the companies that hold or process it. The bill also aligns our data privacy laws with Vermont's values of privacy and personal freedom. The Legislature has a tremendous opportunity to deliver to Vermonters the most impactful consumer law enacted in decades. I urge them to override this veto.

Letters to the Editor

Vermont Gas should pay for Middlebury land use

Editor's note: The writer sent this to the Middlebury selectboard and cc'd the Independent.

Dear Middlebury selectboard, Following our discussion about the request from Vermont Gas Systems (VGS) for an easement across town property at the last selectboard meeting, I wanted to take the opportunity to clarify my position since there appeared to be some confusion. While I am not happy with the decision of St. Stephen's to install a fracked gas fired boiler in their church, if that is the best decision the congregation can come up with, I can live with it. What I cannot in good conscience live with is the selectboard granting VGS use of town property to facilitate the build out of additional fossil fuel infrastructure without receiving compensation for the land conveyance.

Historically the only businesses granted free use of town rights-of-way have been utilities whose services have tended to greatly improved the quality of life for the entire community. Today, the benefits of Vermont Gas services can almost always be accomplished by other means, and the primary product that Vermont Gas is peddling contributes to the unraveling of the climate, which is creating extra problems and expenses for the town and its residents. Researchers have found that the carbon dioxide released from burning natural gas combined with the fugitive leakage

of methane from the fracking wells, transmission and service lines and end users, means that natural gas is often just as harmful to the environment as coal and sometimes worse. The idea that gas is the cleaner choice compared to coal and fuel oil is the result of a fossil-fuel industry misinformation campaign designed to delay the transition away from this dirty and destructive fuel.

Rather than receive handouts from the citizens of Middlebury, I believe that Vermont Gas and all the fossil-fuel companies that do business in Vermont should be paying the town of Middlebury to help us cover the additional costs associated with the extreme weather events we are enduring. This past year, even our state legislature passed legislation based upon this principal. It is time to let go of the idea that we need to be subsidizing the business model of the fossil-fuel industry. I cannot in good conscience sit idly by while the selectboard provides financial assistance in the form of free rights-of-way to a company that is building out additional fossil-fuel infrastructure. Since all taxpaying residents of Middlebury collectively own the town's land, if the selectboard decides to allow VGS access to use town property for their business, the company should be charged the fair market value for the access. I am committed to doing everything I can to see that this happens. VGS

is making large profits from their infrastructure and their parent company in Canada is a multi-billion-dollar company that can afford to cover the costs of doing business in Middlebury without the need for any form of corporate welfare; they don't need it and they don't deserve it. While the actual costs we are talking about here are not exorbitant, it's the principal of the thing that is important here.

Some suggest that the taxes VGS pays on its infrastructure is enough and we don't need to charge for land access as well. If that is the case then why don't we provide free rights-of-way to other businesses in Middlebury some of whom also pay significant taxes on their infrastructure and buildings? Why should VGS be the only business to pay taxes on its infrastructure in Middlebury and receives free right-of-way access to town land when they want it? There is no business person that I know of that would routinely give away valuable property to a vendor that provides their business with a service that contributes to creating more problems and expenses for their business. I am asking that you negotiate and receive fair compensation from Vermont Gas for use of town land and stop providing it for free. Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

Ross Conrad
Middlebury

CVUUS helps language learning classes flourish

On behalf of the students and tutors and teachers of the church, who have gone above and beyond to accommodate us by allowing us to have access to all the facilities. The students in the class are from Mexico and Central America we were able to have classes in the kitchen including a lesson on rhubarb, to share space with

along with members of the church, who have gone above and beyond to accommodate us by allowing us to have access to all the facilities. The students in the class are from Mexico and Central America we were able to have classes in the kitchen including a lesson on rhubarb, to share space with

the rug hookers, and to celebrate special occasions together.

CVUUS is a wonderful resource in our community, especially Laura, and we look forward to our next round of classes in the fall.

Joan Stephens
Middlebury

Elderly Services' ESI College Returns Summer 2024 In Person!

Scott Russell Sanders' Hunting for Hope

Tuesdays, July 2, 9 and 16
10:00-11:30 AM



When a hiking trip intended to bring him closer to his son instead led to an angry confrontation, essayist Scott Russell Sanders began to reflect on how his own despair had impacted his son. Hunting for Hope

explores his search for hope and his discovery of the healing found in nature, in culture, in community, in spirit, and within each of us. Michael Thomas has taught literature at the college level and currently teaches English and Humanities at Vergennes Union High School.

Why Paying Other People to Plant Trees Might Not Be A Good Solution

Wednesday, July 10
1:30-3:00 PM



A popular response to climate change has been to promote planting trees on "degraded" land, which raises interesting questions about exerting influence over places

we may never set foot. This course explores a tree planting boom in Western Uganda and share local perspectives on how the landscape is changing, who benefits, and who is harmed. Jessica L'Roe is an Associate Professor of Geography at Middlebury College.



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ADDISON COUNTY

Obituaries

Elizabeth 'Libby' Cram, 59, of Middlebury

MIDDLEBURY — On Sunday, June 2, 2024, our dear Elizabeth "Libby" Cram left us too soon, surrounded by her loving family.

Elizabeth was born in Middlebury, on July 9, 1964, the daughter of Carl and Anita (Munson) Cram. She graduated from MUHS, class of 1983. Elizabeth worked for the Counseling Service of Addison County. Her joy of cooking and entertaining led her to start her own catering business. She went on to become a private caregiver, developing close and personal relationships with her clients and their families.

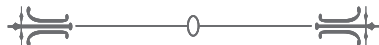
Her true passion was playing the fiddle and she was in various bands and groups throughout the years. She enjoyed making cherished memories with her talented musician friends at events she hosted at home. She loved to travel, especially to the ocean, and always



ELIZABETH "LIBBY" CRAM

had her fiddle with her in case she had the opportunity to meet other musicians.

She is survived by both of her sisters, Carla (Cram) Powers and her husband Kevin, and Lori Cram,



Ashley Windsor Hall, 44, of Johnson

JOHNSON — There is no easy way to say our beloved son Ashley Windsor Hall has passed away on June 11, 2024. The untimely death of a friend or acquaintance is disturbing and sad, but if that death is one of your children, it leaves a hole in your heart that we don't think will ever heal. The divorce of Cynthia and Wayne was disappointing, but Ashley received two people into his life, Peter Mix, a great stepdad, and Kitty Hall, a wonderful stepmom. They both treated Ash with care and love as if he were their own child. For that we are forever grateful.

He leaves his parents, Cythia Salter-Mix of Waterville, Vt., and Wayne G. Hall of Orwell, Vt.; his stepmother, Kathleen "Kitty" Hall; stepfather, Peter Mix; brother Eric Sterling Hall and wife Ashlie; brother DeWalt Mix and his sweetheart Irina Moon; and sister Sophia Ferning (Robin's twin) and her husband, Craig Ferning.

Ashley was predeceased by baby brother Robin Lancelot Salter-Mix; his grandparents, Glen Lancelot Salter and Alice Salter,

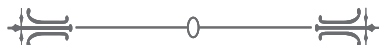


ASHLEY WINDSOR HALL

Windsor and Mary Hall, and Robin and Kendall Mix; and uncle Paul Tuttle and aunt Maria Hall.

Ash leaves as well his sweetheart of 10 years, Tiffani Tomlinson, surrogate father Brent Tomlinson, multiple cousins, aunts, and uncles in the Hall, Salter, Tuttle and Mix families and too many friends and mentors to enumerate.

Ash had an amazing work ethic with anything he took on, but especially as a painter, both



Joan (Drew) Clark, 90, of Salisbury

SALISBURY — Joan (Drew) Clark, 90, of Salisbury, Vt., passed away in the early morning hours on June 15, 2024, with her nieces and friends by her side.

She was born in Glover, Vt., the daughter of Alson Drew and Clara Peck. Joan graduated from Mount Ida College and began her career as a lab technician in Bennington, Vt. She lived in Pownal, Vt., with her first husband, Cliff Giroux. Joan and her second husband were the owners of World Wide Travel Agency in Middlebury, Vt., for several years. They enjoyed the benefits of the industry and traveled the world together.

Joan loved being an aunt, sister, wife and friend to so many people. If you were fortunate enough to have known her, she made everyone feel like you were her favorite. She would never forget



JOAN (DREW) CLARK

a birthday, anniversary or holiday without sending a handwritten note or card. She was the life of the party and enjoyed making people laugh with her poems, riddles and

both of Middlebury. The joy of her life were her nieces, nephews and grandnieces, Kirsten Taylor, Travis Huestis (his daughter Karlie), Kendra Powers (her daughters Amelia and Felicity), and Casey Powers. She also leaves behind many cherished cousins and friends. She is predeceased by her parents and her nephew, Kurtis Powers.

A graveside service will be held on Saturday, June 29, at 1 p.m., at Mt. St. Joseph Cemetery, Bristol, Vt. The Rev. Fr. Albert "Skip" Baltz will officiate. A celebration of her life will take place immediately following at the American Legion, Middlebury, Vt.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in her memory to the charity of one's choice.

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

exterior and interior. He was out go-to guy for projects around our home, helping move and rebuild a gazebo and build a pergola with Peter, paint our house along with his mumsie, as he referred to her, and so many other projects.

He enjoyed cooking, creating, hiking, camping, skiing, fishing and landscaping and gardening when he allowed himself free time.

Born on Valentine's Day 1980, Ash found heart-shaped artifacts everywhere he went — in nature and the clouds — and created hearts in the snow for Tiffani during our long Vermont winters.

Though he had difficulties in life, he had a heart of gold, a generous spirit, a beautiful smile and the hair ... Wow! When he would cast those sky-blue eyes your way when hi soul was happy, you had a better day because of him. He reached out in a loving, giving away to many, many people.

"Go rest high on that mountain, for your work on earth is done."

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to kidney and cancer research. ◊

great sense of humor.

She was predeceased by her two sisters, Jean Wisnowski and Jane Daisey. She leaves behind four nieces, Holly Hathaway, Pandora Daisey, Penney Adams and Pamela McMahon and a nephew, Tom Wisnowski. Also, she left behind all her wonderful grand nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Joan, (aka Chi Chi, Joanne, Joan, Joey and Dee Dee), will be sorely missed by all of her extended family members.

We want to thank Bayada Hospice for their caring love and support during the final week of her life.

There will be a celebration of life at the home of Holly and Eric Hathaway, 411 Quiet Lane, Salisbury, Vt., on Aug. 29.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the VFW in Middlebury or your favorite charity in memory of Joan Clark.

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

email us:

You can reach us at news@addisonindependent.com

Thomas Lawrence Volkert, 52, formerly of Middlebury

BELMONT, Mass. — Thomas Lawrence Volkert, born Dec. 9, 1971, in Middlebury, Vt., passed on June 7, 2024. Tom is survived by his wife, Angela; sons, Vincent and Dexter; parents, Larry, Susan, Sallie and Steve; brother, Aaron; sisters, Tamara and Kathleen; and many cousins, aunts and uncles.

Tom was a beloved figure in the scientific community, known not only for his professional achievements but also for his warm personality and dedication to his colleagues and friends. Tom's contributions to the field of genomics were significant, and he played a crucial role in advancing genome technology at the Whitehead Institute.

Tom served as director of Genome Technology Core at the Whitehead Institute in Cambridge, Mass., where he made substantial contributions to genomic research. He was deeply involved in the scientific community and was known for his expertise, innovation, and collaborative spirit. He was also an integral part of the Association of Biomolecular Resource Facilities (ABRF),



THOMAS LAWRENCE VOLKERT

which he considered family.

Tom also worked as Vice President of Genomics and Consultant at Paratus Sciences. His academic background was impressive; he graduated from Middlebury College with a B.A. in Biochemistry and earned his M.S. in Molecular Biology and Biotechnology from Tufts University.

For many who knew him, Tom

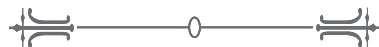
was more than just a colleague; he was a dear friend and a source of inspiration. His dedication to his work was matched by his commitment to those around him, always ready to lend a helping hand or share his vast knowledge.

Tom's personal life was centered around his love for his family and friends. He was a kind, compassionate and caring person with a great sense of humor. He loved nothing more than spending free time with his family, watching and playing sports, playing a wide variety of games and was especially fond of the Boston Celtics.

Throughout his life, Tom actively engaged in a variety of sports. He was the captain of the MIT softball team, the Biohazards, and won several championships over the years. He also played center for his rec. league hockey team, the Shooters.

A celebration of life will be held at the VFW in Middlebury, Vt., on Sunday, June 23 from 1-4 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, we ask that you please feel free to donate to a charity of your choice. ◊



John A. Hansen, 82, of Rochester, N.Y.

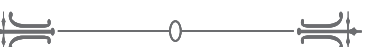
ROCHESTER, N.Y. — John A. Hansen, 82, of Rochester, NY, died February 15, 2024.

He was born in Brooklyn, N.Y., in 1941, to Adam C. Hansen and Dorothy L. Maxim, attending Fort Hamilton High School before leaving the NYC area to move "upstate" to Utica and eventually settling in Rochester. John proudly worked for the Rochester City School District as a Stationary Engineer and retired in 2007 having made lifelong friends of several colleagues. In his retirement years, he enjoyed woodworking and finishing furniture, visiting the RPO, trips to see baseball games, and sharing good food with family and friends — especially if it was BBQ or a good steak, baking a NY-Style Cheesecake, or making a huge pan of lasagna.



JOHN A. HANSEN

John was preceded in death by his parents and stepmother, Emily; close friend and former spouse Joyce Miller and her grandchildren Catherine and Joe; and his brother,



Anita S. Bilodeau, 86, of Whiting

WHITING — Anita S. Bilodeau, age 86, passed peacefully on Tuesday, June 18, 2024, at Shard Villa in Salisbury.

Anita was born in Whiting on June 24, 1937. She was the daughter of Aime and Gracia (Quesnel) Seguin. She grew up in Middlebury, where she received her early education and graduated from Middlebury High School, Class of 1956. On Oct. 22, 1956, she married Germain Bilodeau; a military man; and traveled with him to Germany. Following his honorable discharge, they returned to Middlebury and established Ideal Rooms on Court Street and ran it for several years. She also worked as a customer service agent at the Chittenden Bank in Middlebury from 1974 until 2002. She and her husband moved to Whiting in 1972. Mr. Bilodeau predeceased her in 1986. She belonged to Our Lady of Good Help (St. Mary's) Catholic Church in Brandon.



ANITA S. BILODEAU

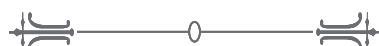
Surviving is her daughter, Suzanne Denis (Randy) of Whiting; three sons, Roger Bilodeau of Mt. Juliet, Tenn., Richard Bilodeau (Amy) of Beaverton, Ore., and Steven Bilodeau (Cathy) of Brandon. Seven grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren, and several

nieces, nephews and cousins also survive her. She was predeceased by two sisters, Angie Martin and Pauline Bilodeau; a grandson, Justin Bilodeau; and daughter-in-law Michele Bilodeau.

A Mass of Christian burial will be Celebrated on Wednesday, June 26, at noon, at Our Lady of Good Help (St. Mary's) Catholic Church in Brandon. Rev. Maurice Moreau, pastor, will be the celebrant. Following the mass, the family will receive friends, at Brandon American Legion for a time of remembrance. A private graveside committal service and burial will take place later in the day, in the family lot at St. Mary's Cemetery in Middlebury.

Friends may call at the Miller & Ketcham Funeral Home in Brandon on Tuesday, June 24, from 6-8 p.m.

Memorial gifts in lieu of flowers may be made in her memory to Shard Villa, 1177 Shard Villa Road, Salisbury, VT 05769. ◊



Shirley M. Douglas celebration of life

CORNWALL — The family of Shirley Douglas invites family and friends to celebrate her life at VFW Post 7823, 530 Exchange Street in Middlebury on Tuesday, July 2, from 2-4 p.m. A late lunch will be served.

Jeffrey W. Kennedy celebration of life

VERGENNES — Please join us to celebrate the life of Jeffrey W. Kennedy at Saint Catherine's parish hall in Shelburne, Vt., on June 28, at 2 p.m. Friends and family are welcome to come share stories and memories of Jeff.



LINDI BORTNEY

Lindi Bortney celebration of life

SALISBURY — At Lindi's request, a memorial square dance will be held at the Salisbury Community School, 286 Kelly Cross Road, Salisbury, Vt., on Sunday, Sept. 15, from 1-4 p.m. ◊

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David Marcel Cantin, 59, of Bristol

BRISTOL — It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of David Marcel Cantin on June 11, 2024, at the age of 59. After a valiant four-year battle with cancer, David peacefully drifted from this world, at home, surrounded by his family.

He was born June 10, 1965, in Norwalk, Conn., the son of Shirley and Rudolphe Cantin. He grew up in Bristol, Vt., and graduated from Mount Abraham Union High School in 1985.

To say that David was a hard-working man would be an understatement as he took the utmost pride in his work. Even throughout treatments, he never wavered. He started at Macintyre Fuels in the mid 80s before moving onto Jackman Fuels years later and was most recently at Robinson All Star Heart & Mead. Throughout his years, David was



DAVID MARCEL CANTIN

a loving husband to his wife, — together for 35 years and married for 28, a proud father to two sons, and a beloved community member and friend. His dedication and

loyalty impacted everyone who had the pleasure to cross his path.

He is survived by his wife, Taunia; sons, Christopher and Philip; their partners, Brooke and Quinn; his granddaughter, Enid; siblings Corrine, Charlie and Lloyd; and the families of Cantin, Grungnale and Patch in Maine. He is predeceased by his parents and brother, Leo.

His memorial will be held at New Haven Congregational Church in New Haven, Vt. on June 30 at noon. Following will be his burial at the Greenwood Cemetery in Bristol, Vt. The celebration of life will continue at The American Legion Post 19 in Bristol, Vt.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to Addison County Home Health & Hospice. Thank you for being a part of David's life, he will be missed by all. ◊

Margaret Anne Camara, 86, of Shoreham

SHOREHAM — Margaret Ann Camara, 86, of Shoreham, Vt., passed away on June 10, 2024, following years of a tenacious and valiant fight against multiple health issues.

Born on April 13, 1938, to Edward and Margaret (Carveiro) Camara in Fall River, Mass., Margaret grew up in Mansfield, Mass., graduating from Mansfield High School in 1956. An honor student, Margie won the hearts of her classmates for her kindness, joy and contagious spirit. She married her high school sweetheart, Charles "Pete" Richardson, and soon thereafter, the young couple began raising two children at their home in Rehoboth, Mass.

Following Pete's premature death in 1967, she eventually married John Zecher, a dairy farmer in Mansfield. Within a few years, the young family moved to East Wallingford, Vt., to successfully establish "The Hearth and Cricket," a wood stove and accessories shop. In 1973, she and John brought a son, whom Margaret nicknamed her "Running Bear," into the world. The family later moved to Salisbury, Vt., and opened a new stove and gift shop, "Stove and Things," which later morphed into "The Country Bear."

Life's vagaries played out and Margaret eventually became a successful real estate appraiser. In the mid-90s she met Sanford "Sandy" Witherell, an apple orchardist in Shoreham, Vt. They married in 1999 and lived happily in Shoreham for the balance of Margaret's life!

Margaret worked her entire life,



MARGARET ANNE CAMARA

first clerking and shelf-stocking after school at a five and dime store, then overseeing retail businesses with her inimitable, compartmentalizing mind, and finally, in what she felt was her greatest achievement, as a real estate appraiser. Her Portuguese explorer heritage dictated a strong desire to see the other side of the mountain, a pursuit she fiercely held onto, despite her increasing frailties. That free spirit was embodied in driving a pony cart at full canter, learning to fly and have her own plane, to travel with Sandy in their small RV throughout North America, including a three-month journey to Alaska, as well as a solo auto trip with Molly, her German shepherd, throughout the West.

Her hand-craft skills and superb color sense gave welcoming warmth to her homes. Her whole life was filled with a menagerie of pets, meriting her monikers: "MomCat" and "GrandmaCat,"

such being celebrated in the title of a Boston musical stage production directed by her daughter Elizabeth — "To MomCat Love Pooh." Her caring attention without interference assured being thoroughly loved by her family.

Margaret is survived by her husband, Sanford Witherell Jr.; sons, Peter Allen Richardson and John (Ana Montewka) Zecher; brother Mathew Camara; eight grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. She was predeceased by her parents, Edward and Margaret Camara; first husband, Charles "Pete" Richardson; her daughter, Elizabeth Ann Richardson; two brothers, Thomas Camara and Edward Camara; a grandson, David Richardson; a special aunt, Dorothy Camara and a special uncle, Thomas Camara.

The family wishes to express their admiration and gratitude to all those who have administered with expertise and caring to Margaret's many health challenges these past several years.

A family tribute will be planned for a future date. Donations in her memory may be considered to Homeward Bound, 236 Boardman St., Middlebury, VT 05753; Addison County Home Health and Hospice, 254 Ethan Allen Hwy, New Haven, VT 05472; or Helen Porter Rehabilitation and Nursing, Porter Medical Center, Office of Development, 115 Porter Drive, Middlebury, VT 05753

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

Michael Thomas Livingston, 63, of Middlebury

MIDDLEBURY — Michael Thomas Livingston, 63, of Middlebury, Vt., passed away on June 9, 2024. He was born on March 16, 1961, in Middlebury, to Elizabeth (Paquette) Wilder and Richard Livingston.

Michael was a quiet person who found joy in the simple things in life. He enjoyed walks, vacationing in Maine with friends and family, going to car shows, being a member of the Lions Club for 35 years including working the booth at Addison County Field Days, and indulging in his love for classic cars, movies, and music. He had a passion for antiques and a deep appreciation for local and family history.

Michael is survived by his daughter, Jenna Dahl and her husband Ian; grandchildren, Westley and Mabel Dahl; sister Melissa George and her husband Greg; nieces Kylie Ouellette and her husband Peter (and their



MICHAEL THOMAS LIVINGSTON

children Lillyan, Brayden and Hudson); Kelsey Kober and her husband Marc; Madison George; and Hayden George.

Michael was preceded in death by his parents, Elizabeth (Paquette) Wilder and Richard "Ziggy" Livingston; maternal grandparents,

Mabel "Sue" and Eric Flanagan; and paternal grandparents, Marjorie and Ernest "Tom" Langevin.

In his professional life, Michael dedicated his time to various establishments including Middlebury Inn, G. Stone Motors, Foster Motors, Martins Hardware, and Aubuchon Hardware.

He graduated from Vergennes Union High School in 1979 and pursued higher education at Columbus State Community College and Castleton State College.

A Mass of Christian burial for Michael will be held at Saint Mary's Church in Middlebury on June 25, at 10 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to the Middlebury Lions Club.

Sanderson-Ducharme Funeral Home in Middlebury, VT, is assisting with the arrangements.

Online condolences at www.sandersonfuneralservice.com. ◊

Plumbing equipment is stolen, or possibly not

VERGENNES — Vergennes police took advantage of a mostly quiet week between June 10 and 16 to devote time to keeping city roads safe: City police stopped 20 vehicles for a variety of moving violations during those seven days. Typically about half those stops result in tickets, police say, while the remaining drivers receive written or verbal warnings.

During that week, Vergennes police also conducted 11 patrols in cruisers and two on foot, a property watch, and a VIN inspection; processed 10 fingerprint requests; responded to a false alarm; and:

- On June 10: Following a neighbor's complaint told a person not to park a vehicle on the sidewalk in the Bowman Road area.

- Looked into a complaint from a North Main Street business owners that persons were parking at their business and patronizing another one, and were confrontational when asked not to do so.

- On June 11: Backed up Vermont State Police at a family dispute at Button Bay State Park.

- Began looking into a complaint from a mother that a father was violating a court order by contacting their daughter through social media.

- Took a report that around \$1,000 of plumbing equipment was stolen from a worksite during a lunch break. Police were later told a third party said the person who took the equipment regretted it and would return it this week.

On June 12:

Vergennes Police Log

- Responded to Green Street after a vehicle hit a pedestrian, causing injuries police described as minor. The victim was, however, transported to the UVM Medical Center for evaluation.

- Served a modification of a relief-from-abuse order to a city resident.

- Processed a no-trespass order received from the Maplefields convenience store.

- Listened to concerns from a female half of a separating couple about her ex's impending visit to pick up belongings.

- On June 14: Received an online report of a person possibly drinking regularly at a local establishment and then driving in an impaired state.

- Were told that a neighbor's ex-boyfriend was going through a shed on the property and taking things. Police learned he had permission to do so.

Don't spread invasives this summer

VERMONT — For many Vermonters and out-of-state visitors, summer means camping, hiking and taking part in other outdoor recreational fun. However, these activities can all spread invasive plants, insects and diseases, unless steps are taken to minimize damage to the environment.

University of Vermont Extension, the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation, and the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets have teamed up to inform and educate outdoor recreationists about what they can do to prevent the introduction of or spread of these pests through their new Arrive Clean, Leave Clean campaign.

The purpose of this outreach campaign is to encourage anyone who spends time outdoors to follow three steps when leaving the woods: clean their gear, check their vehicles for egg masses or other life stages of spotted lanternfly and not to move firewood.

According to Ginger Nickerson, UVM Extension forest pest education coordinator, "Although the spotted lanternfly has not been reported in Vermont, it has been confirmed in neighboring states, including New York and

Massachusetts. All life stages of this invasive pest can hitchhike long distances on vehicles and infest new locations, thus the need to be vigilant."

The same is true for other invasive species not yet detected in Vermont. Following the same three steps will help prevent their spread. These species include oak wilt, a fungal disease that has killed millions of oak trees nationwide; the Asian longhorned beetle, which attacks maple trees; and the hemlock woolly adelgid, which will decimate entire stands of hemlock, leading to loss of deer habitat and cooling of streams for trout.

"Invasive plants, insects and pathogens can be spread unknowingly by people," Nickerson points out, "changing the forest landscape as we know it. Although we can't do anything about the spread of invasive species by birds, animals and wind, many pathways are under human control, including through outdoor recreation."

Because invasive plant seeds and insects can lodge in dirt in boot or bike treads, or hide in the folds of clothes or gear, it's important to clean all gear before and after heading outdoors to avoid dispersing insects or their eggs to new areas.

Consider keeping a brush in your vehicle to brush off boots, clothing, bicycles and gear, especially any gear that has been stored outdoors, before heading out on a trip, and when returning from the forest.

If you have traveled to a state where spotted lanternfly is established, Nickerson recommends inspecting your vehicle before returning to Vermont. The adults especially like to lay eggs on rusty metal, so carefully examine wheel wells and other areas on vehicles. The egg masses look like patches of dried mud and are not easy to detect.

One of the most common ways invasive pests are spread is by campers moving firewood long distances, whether within Vermont or from outside the state. Most insect eggs or diseases are too small to see, or are hidden inside the log, so campers and hunters can inadvertently introduce a forest pest to a new area. Although convenient to bring firewood from home, to avoid transporting pests, buy or gather firewood close to where it will be burned or buy certified treated firewood.

To learn more about the campaign and measures to control invasives, go to vtinvasives.org/arriveclean.



CYNTHIA PRUDENCE WEISS

Cynthia Prudence Weiss, 87, of Middlebury

MIDDLEBURY — Cynthia Prudence Weiss, 87, passed away peacefully on June 13 surrounded by her sons Erik and Daniel. First child of Dewey and Eleanor Smith of Weybridge, born on May 21, 1937 in New Hampshire, Cynthia is survived by her three brothers, Wes, Harvey and Harold ("Bucky") Smith; eight nieces and nephews; and six grandchildren.

She is predeceased by her husband, Sheldon Weiss and son Michael Weiss.

A lifetime of prolific artistic creativity, influenced by life in New England and New Jersey plus trips to many foreign destinations, was a centerpiece of the legacy she will leave behind.

A memorial service will be held Saturday June 22, at 2 p.m., at Sanderson Funeral Service, 117 South Main Street (Route 30), Middlebury, VT.

Online condolences at www.sandersonfuneralservice.com. ◊

Marilyn Patten Aunchman celebration of life

VERGENNES — There will be a celebration of life for Marilyn Patten Aunchman on Thursday, June 20, 2-4 p.m. at the American Legion Post in Vergennes. She passed away on Sept. 27, 2023, in Mesa, Ariz., and was formerly a resident of Vergennes. Family and friends are welcome.

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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St. Stephen's gas-line easement request stirs up controversy

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — St. Stephen's Episcopal Church officials recently made what they thought was a pro-forma request to the selectboard for an easement across the town green for a natural gas service line to feed their 200-year-old place of worship off Main Street.

But that request, made at the board's June 11 meeting, has proved anything but pro-forma, and could trigger a symbolic, citizen-initiated referendum on fossil fuel consumption in the county's shire town.

Church members said a natural gas option could cut St. Stephen's annual fuel bill by half, or around \$10,000.

"We have been advised that natural gas is our next best step to both financially care for our institution and care for the environment," reads a June 11 letter from St. Stephen's leaders to the selectboard. "An estimated annual carbon reduction of 31,293 pounds of CO2 would be a positive result, meaning we would no longer be putting that carbon into the air."

"While we recognize that this is not perfect, we also recognize that it is a positive step for the environment and St. Stephen's," church member Nancy Malcolm

told the board.

She noted several other steps the church has taken in recent years to reduce reliance on fossil fuels and embrace green energy.

Three years ago, St. Stephen's invested \$50,000 in the Addison County Relocalization Network's solar farm in Bristol, which she said offsets a large chunk of the church's current electricity bill during a large portion of the year.

The church's 1997 addition is now equipped with heat pumps, though that technology won't work within the building's main worship space (nave), due to its size.

The St. Stephen's community is now working to tighten the church building by pointing its windows, improving insulation in the attic, installing energy efficient windows in the 1997 addition, insulating the foundation and basement, upgrading energy efficient lighting and electricity in the nave, and tightening its envelope.

"We have explored putting solar panels on our historic building's roof and have been advised that our roof will not support the weight," St. Stephen's officials noted in their June 11 letter. "Lighter solar panels that match the slate are cost-prohibitive at this time."

"What troubles me is we're considering subsidizing (Vermont Gas) in continuing their harmful impacts on our town by giving them free access to town land. We should charge them whatever the normal rate is."

— Ross Conrad

St. Stephen's is in the unusual position of not owning the land on which it sits. It's positioned on the town green, and thus the town must sign off on an easement through that property. Vermont Gas Systems would install a medium-pressure natural gas service line that would run from the

back of the church east across the town green, toward South Pleasant Street (Route 7).

As proposed, the easement would be given for free, or \$1.

Local resident Ross Conrad, a beekeeper and member of the Middlebury Energy Committee, opposes the town granting the easement — unless Vermont Gas agrees to pay market value for it.

"If they're going to put it in — if that's what you decide, to support

more expansion of fossil fuel infrastructure... I'm asking you to at least consider not giving it to them for free. Just have them pay what any normal business would if they were going to use town land."

He served notice that if the board grants the easement for free, he'll exercise his legal right to petition (within 30 days) for a public vote on the proposed easement.

"What troubles me is we're considering subsidizing (Vermont Gas) in continuing their harmful impacts on our town by giving them free access to town land. We should charge them whatever the normal rate is for people who use a right of way, and they should pay for it."

This wouldn't be the first time Conrad has spearheaded a public

"It's a nonprofit that does a lot for our community. They invest in a lot of programs and help a lot of people in our town... I'm not going to hold up for that kind of blackmail."

— Selectman Dan Brown

vote on a Vermont Gas easement in Middlebury. In 2022, he successfully petitioned for a public vote on whether the company should be granted a town-owned easement to deliver natural gas to the Stone Mill building at 3 Mill St. The vote became moot, however, when Vermont Gas found a way to serve the Stone Mill building without the town easement.

Some municipal officials and St. Stephen's supporters acknowledged Conrad's fossil fuel concerns but pointed to St. Stephen's recent efforts to transition to green energy and its long track record helping the

community. Among other things, St. Stephen's provides free storage space and other amenities during the annual Festival on the Green and allows groups to hold meetings in the church, also for free. In addition, St. Stephen's organizes an annual Peasant Market that raises thousands of dollars for local charitable causes.

"It's a nonprofit that does a lot for our community. They invest in a lot of programs and help a lot of people in our town," Selectman Dan Brown said.

He and other board members said they're concerned a potential petition drive could significantly delay St. Stephen's efforts to reduce its fuel costs.

"I'm not going to hold up for that kind of blackmail," Brown said.

Conrad disputed the blackmail allegation.

"Vermont Gas has a lot of money; they can afford to pay the going rate for use of the right of way," he said.

Town officials will spend the next several days trying to determine what a "fair market" fee might be for the

Vermont Gas easement, as there's no local precedent to refer to. The board is scheduled to revisit the easement request at its next meeting on Tuesday, June 25.

The selectboard will also consider asking the municipal Policy Review Committee to see if Middlebury needs ground rules for entertaining future natural gas

easement requests.

Former Middlebury selectboard member John Tenny, who supported the St. Stephen's request at the board's June 11 meeting, said he believes society should be more focused on eliminating coal from the fossil fuel stream.

He pointed to data from the U.S. Energy Information Administration indicating CO2 emissions from burning coal for energy accounted for about 19% of total U.S. energy-related CO2 emissions in 2022.

"Getting coal off is a bigger need and I think we're addressing this at the local level in the best way we can with this particular service," he said of the St. Stephen's proposal.

The *Independent* reached out to Vermont Gas spokesman Dylan Giambatista for the company's perspective on the requested Middlebury easement. When faced with service requests, VGS conducts a routine siting process to determine the feasibility of delivering service to the customer, he explained. The company assesses the project scope and cost, as well as the long-term energy needs of the customer's building.

Giambatista said most easements that accommodate VGS's infrastructure are acquired without payment, though in some cases, the company has paid for an easement and the amount has varied depending on individual circumstances.

Giambatista said VGS officials won't take a position on the paid easement until they talk with local officials.

John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.

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Threat to MUMS found not credible

MIDDLEBURY — Middlebury police on June 14 investigated a report of a threat of future school-related violence at Middlebury Union Middle School.

Police ultimately found that there was no credible threat and referred the juvenile who was determined to have made the threat to the state's Balanced and Restorative Justice program.

Between June 10 and 17 Middlebury police completed one foot patrol and 10 car patrols, conducted 17 traffic stops and responded to alarms at seven local businesses.

Police also conducted five welfare checks and periodically checked on houseless persons camping off Bakery Lane.

In other action last week, Middlebury police:

- Found a bike abandoned on Happy Valley Road on June 11.
- Helped staff at the Charter House homeless shelter on North Pleasant Street remove someone who was causing issues on June 11.

Middlebury Police Log

- Cited Josie Rheaume, 22, of Salisbury for retail theft on June 11.
- Responded to a verbal dispute on Jackson Lane on June 11. The involved parties agreed to remain peaceful.
- Responded to a report of a South Village Green resident hearing people in the attic of her apartment building on June 11. Police determined the complaint was unfounded.
- Followed up on a motor vehicle complaint on Ossie Road on June 12.
- Spoke with a houseless man who was staying in a tent he'd set up on private property on South Main Street on June 12. The man took down his tent and left the area.
- Helped a motorist who ran out of fuel in the area of Seymour and Elm streets on June 12.
- Assisted a woman whose young child had "placed her keys in a slide" at a playground on June 12.
- Responded to a report of a suspicious vehicle on Seymour Street on June 12.
- Checked on a report of a sick fox in the area of South Main Street on June 12.
- Looked into suspicious activity on Bakery Lane on June 12.
- Investigated a two-car crash in the Court Square and Court Street area on June 12.
- Checked on people walking around a closed business on Route 7 South on June 12.
- Spoke with someone sleeping in the gazebo after park hours on June 13.
- Responded to a parking lot accident at a Route 7 South business on June 13.
- Responded to a complaint of unwanted gestures by a resident on Delancey Lane on June 13.
- Heard a report of an overheated dog in a vehicle on Main Street on June 13.
- Helped a resident with text messages he believed were threatening on June 13.
- Checked on a vehicle parked at a Weybridge Street home when no one should have been there on June 13.
- Helped Middlebury Regional EMS (MREMS) with a mental health patient at the Abbey Pond Trailhead on June 14.
- Responded to a trespass complaint on Main Street on June 14. The individual was told to avoid the area.
- Investigated a suspicious person on Burnham Drive on June 14.
- Responded to a two-car crash in the area of Court Street and Rogers Road on June 14.
- Received reports of a man walking in the middle of Seymour Street and yelling at passing cars on June 14.
- Responded to a report of a suspicious vehicle at a closed business on Foote Street on June 14.
- Investigated a two-car crash on Court Street Extension.
- Participated, along with Middlebury firefighters and other emergency responders, in an escort of the Middlebury Union High School baseball team following the team's championship game win on June 15.
- Checked out a motor vehicle complaint on Court Street on June 16.
- Investigated a two-car crash in the area of Main and Seymour streets on June 16.
- Looked into a report of animal abuse on Main Street on June 16. Police did not find any dog or persons in the area matching the description provided by the caller.
- Assisted MREMS with a medical call in Seymour Street Extension and Valley View Drive area on June 16.



INTRODUCING Michael Markowitz, MD

Dr. Michael Markowitz, primary care provider, attended medical school at the University of Arizona College of Medicine. He interned at University Hospital at Stony Brook University in New York and completed a combined residency in internal medicine and pediatrics at Maricopa Medical Center and Phoenix Children's Hospital in Arizona. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in anthropology and psychology from SUNY at Stony Brook and a Master of Arts degree in anthropology from Arizona State University.

Dr. Markowitz enjoys hiking, biking, and performing as a musician. He is also a craftsman of repairing fretted string instruments.

Dr. Markowitz is Accepting New Patients



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ADDISON COUNTY

School News

Each year, Waitsfield and Champlain Valley Telecom grants six scholarships, one to each of the public high schools that students from its service area attend. Included in those schools are Mount Abraham, Middlebury, and Vergennes union high schools.

Scholarships were awarded to the following three students: **Shelby Barlett**, MAUHS; **Julian Cottell**, MUHS; and **Kaelin Sullivan**, VUHS.

Those qualified for the scholarship should be a graduating senior who plans subsequent education, be it college or trade school. The faculty should select an individual that has shown a steady improvement in his or her academics, but is not necessarily at the top of the class. The award is designed to benefit hard-working graduates that their instructors have found to demonstrate sincere efforts to improve grades/results and plans continuing education.

AN EVENT?

Email it to: news@addisonindependent.com

Legislators override Gov. Scott 6 times

By SHAUN ROBINSON & SARAH MEARHOFF
VTDigger.org

MONTPELIER — Last June, Vermont's Democratic Legislature overrode a record five vetoes in a single day.

On Monday, they one-upped themselves — but with an unexpected stumble. By 5:34 p.m., both chambers had adjourned, having overridden six vetoes. Another — of H.121, a sweeping data privacy bill — was ultimately sustained by the Senate.

The House and Senate on Monday gavelled in for one day, colloquially referred to as a veto session, for the chance to override seven of the eight vetoes Republican Gov. Phil Scott issued this year. They had previously decided not to take up a vetoed bill banning the sale of flavored e-liquids and nicotine products. (Last year, the Legislature also overrode a total of six of Scott vetoes, but only five of them came in a single day.)

To override a gubernatorial veto requires a two-thirds vote of members present. In theory, Democrats have veto-proof majorities in both the House and Senate. But in practice, party affiliation, on its own, is not always indicative of how a member will vote on the question of whether to override the governor's will.

That proved to be the case on Monday. The road to overriding one veto was particularly bumpy: The Senate ultimately made three attempts to override H.72 — a bill allowing for the establishment of an overdose prevention site in Burlington — before the chamber finally succeeded at about 4:15 p.m.

With H.72 having been a major priority of Democrats this session, the Senate's initial failure to override Scott's veto led to shock and tears in the chamber Monday morning. Moments after the first vote, the bill's proponents gathered in a tight circle outside the Senate chamber, strategizing to find a way to revive the bill before lawmakers adjourned for the summer.

When all was said and done, the bill was salvaged thanks to Sen. Richard Westman, R-Lamoille, who initially voted to sustain Scott's veto Monday morning. By that afternoon, he made a special request to change his vote, and the veto was ultimately overridden by a 20-9 vote.

Also on Monday, lawmakers in both chambers overrode Scott's veto of H.887, the state's yield bill, which sets an average property tax rate for the year in order to fund Vermont's public education system. With their votes, lawmakers ignored Scott's recent pleas to further buy down this year's projected average property tax increase of 13.8% — a proposal that legislative leaders dismissed last week as "fiscally

irresponsible."

Legislators on Monday also overrode a slate of vetoes on environmental bills from this legislative session: Votes in favor of H.687, a bill reforming Vermont's decades-old land use law, Act 250, prevailed. Scott's veto of H.706, a bill that bans seeds treated with a group of pesticides called neonicotinoids, which harm pollinators, was overridden in both chambers. And H.289, a bill establishing a renewable energy standard, will take effect after the House and Senate voted to override Scott's veto.

Legislature overrides six vetoes in one day, setting a new record. One of Gov. Phil Scott's vetoes — of a sweeping data privacy bill — was sustained by the Senate. But both chambers greenlit several environmental bills and one allowing the establishment of an overdose prevention center, among others.

Lawmakers also voted to override Scott's veto of H.645, a bill proponents say would ensure people have equitable access to restorative justice programs across the state. The legislation sets out baseline standards for county prosecutors to follow when deciding whether someone who commits a

relatively minor crime should be referred to a restorative justice program in their community, instead of being charged in court.

The bill also moves oversight of these "pre-charge diversion" programs from the state Department of Corrections to the office of Attorney General Charity Clark. Scott's veto hinged on a lack of funding in the bill for an additional position in Clark's office to carry out that work.

But Clark pushed back on the governor's reasoning earlier this month, saying that her office already had the resources to start fulfilling the bill's requirements this year.

Speaking on the House floor Monday in support of overriding Scott's veto, Rep. Martin LaLonde, a South Burlington Democrat who chairs that chamber's judiciary committee, echoed Clark's comments and called the veto "a fundamental misunderstanding."

The House voted to override Scott's veto of the restorative justice bill 110 to 35, while the Senate later overrode it by a narrow 21-8 vote.

Garnering the longest floor debate on Monday by far was lawmakers' consideration of whether to override Scott's veto of H.121, the data privacy bill. It also included provisions that would have compelled social media platforms to alter their algorithms for users under 18 years old, with the goal of addressing social media's mental health impacts on children.

The House quickly and decisively voted to override the veto, by a 128-17 vote. But in the Senate, members debated the merits of the bill — and whether it could wait until next year — for nearly an hour before 15 senators ultimately voted to sustain the veto, and 14 voted in favor of the bill.

That hour-long debate was despite the fact that the votes had

already been counted ahead of Monday's session. In an email Sen. Kesha Ram Hinsdale, D/P-Chittenden Southeast, sent to legislative colleagues Sunday night, she wrote that the chamber didn't have the votes to override the veto.

"(W)e would still not have 20 votes in the Senate regardless of everyone maintaining their vote from May because of the loss of Senator Sears," Ram Hinsdale wrote in the email, referring to the death earlier this month of Sen. Dick Sears, D-Bennington. "Beyond that, we have lost seven additional votes as senators have had more time post-session to consider the impact of the (private right of action) on Vermont-based businesses, non-profits, medical facilities, educational institutions, utilities and employers."

The bill didn't go down without a fight. Ram Hinsdale and other senators noted that many of the bill's effective dates were years in the distance, even if it had prevailed. But several senators said Vermont couldn't wait until next session to pass the bill.

"I have never felt so much urgency to pass a bill," Sen. Alison Clarkson, D-Windsor, said during Monday's floor debate.

Lawmakers' work was not limited to overrides Monday. They also granted approval to three other bills that hadn't made it across the finish line before the end of the regular legislative session last month.

The Senate gave its final signoff to H.55, a bill that makes a number of changes to Vermont's employment laws and includes a provision pushed by state Treasurer Mike Pieciak to pilot a state-managed trust fund for Vermont children born on Medicaid. The House previously approved the bill on the final day of the regular session. Notably, the legislation does not deposit any state funds into the program, as the treasurer had originally proposed.

Other measures in H.55 provide worker's compensation coverage for certain state employees who are recovering from post traumatic stress disorder and call for a new study on cancer rates among Vermont firefighters, among other provisions.

The House also approved H.81, a bill that requires manufacturers of agricultural equipment to provide the resources and property rights necessary to farmers and independent mechanics to independently repair their equipment. And H.890, a bill that delays for a year the implementation of one of several newly created health insurance claim processing requirements, was also greenlit. The legislation was introduced for the first time Monday morning through a special House rules process.

Lawmakers said the bill came at the request of health insurance providers, which they said needed more time to meet some of the requirements laid out in legislation Scott signed into law just last month: Act 111.

Two of those three bills will now head to the governor's desk. H.81, having been once again amended by the House on Monday afternoon, has stalled for the year.



VUHS BOYS STATE representatives Reese Paquette, left, Spencer Gebo, Grey Fearon and Brody McGuire will head to Norwich University June 23-28 for the annual leadership laboratory. Photo courtesy of Anne Vincent

Four VUHS juniors to attend Boys State

VERGENNES — Four Vergennes Union High School juniors will be attending Green Mountain Boys State June 23-28 at Norwich University. Grey Fearon, Spencer Gebo, Brody McGuire and Reese Paquette were nominated by faculty and staff based on

leadership, scholarship, character, and loyalty and service to their school. Vergennes American Legion Post 14 is sponsoring the four.

Green Mountain Boys State is a leadership laboratory for rising high school senior boys. The

main focus is Vermont town, county, and state government, and its organization, policies and procedures. They will work on issues relating to Vermont, and debate and discuss these issues during a session at the State House in Montpelier.



VUHS GIRLS STATE representatives Megan Mentzer, left, Jing Williams, Tryphene Miguel and Sophia Johnson will attend Green Mountain Girls State June 23-28 in Randolph. Photo courtesy of Anne Vincent

VUHS juniors chosen for Girls State

VERGENNES — Four Vergennes Union High School juniors have been selected to attend this year's Green Mountain Girls State.

The Vergennes American Legion Auxiliary Unit 14 will sponsor

Megan Mentzer, Tryphene Miguel, Sophia Johnson and Jing Williams when they attend Girls State from June 23-28 at the Randolph Campus of Vermont Tech.

The purpose of Girls State is to provide citizenship training for girls

of high school age and to inform them about the duties, privileges, rights, and responsibilities of American citizenship, in order that they may understand and participate in the functioning of their government.

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Vt. State Police Log

ADDISON COUNTY — Vermont State Police on June 13 arrested Anthony Seagroves, 32, and Katelynn Cannon, 28, for allegedly kidnapping a Starksboro resident the previous Saturday. The reported victim was released the same day and Seagroves and Cannon each pleaded innocent to charges in Vermont Superior Court. A story on Page 3A includes more details.

Troopers operating out of the New Haven barracks reported two other interactions with the public in the past week.

First, on June 11 at a little after 9:30 a.m., state police responded to a disturbance at Button Bay State Park in Ferrisburgh. Troopers report that Dustin Blouin, 27, of St. Albans prevented 26-year-old Montpelier resident named Four Twenty Jake from calling 911 by taking his cell phone during an argument. Police cited Blouin for interference with access to emergency services.

Then, on June 14 at around 1:30 p.m., state police received a report of a man driving with a criminally suspended license. Troopers found the man, identified him as Richard P. Quesnel, 39, of Salisbury, and cited Quesnel for a criminal count of driving with a suspended license and for violating a court order to drive with an ignition interlock device.

Wilhelm

(Continued from Page 1A)

94% of students are Vermonters, and most students are adults with many other life commitments.

“In my time at CCV, many of the students were at the college for job reasons — to get jobs or keep jobs or advance in their jobs. Toward the late '90s more students were starting at CCV with hopes of earning a bachelor's degree elsewhere.” Bette Matkowski, the former dean of CCV who is featured in the book, told the *Independent*.

Judy Joyce, the current president of CCV, acknowledges the importance of making sure the courses align with what students need.

“These are students who grew up in Vermont and plan to stay in Vermont,” Joyce said. “They want better for themselves and families, to get jobs with good benefits and higher pay.”

Wilhelm said it's easy for many to dismiss community colleges for their universal accessibility.

“There are always people who would look down on any community college, ‘Oh, that's not a real college, that's too easy, anybody can get in.’”

Amidst these prejudices, he

believes community colleges like CCV can instill hope in people who he said haven't had many advantages in their lives.

“They're much smarter than they think they are!” he said. “Creating opportunities is not just accepting students if they have a high school diploma, it's helping them believe in themselves and

discover that they are smart and they can learn and perform on a college level. And if you can do that, then the whole world opens up to you.”

In a rapidly changing world, Wilhelm believes there is a necessity for higher education to reinvent itself.

“College is too expensive, it's more and more unaffordable,” he said. “In today's world, you don't just need to learn between 18 and 22. You need to keep learning because knowledge keeps evolving very fast, and people need to have the opportunity to go to or go back to college at different times in life. They may change careers, they may need new education or training in their careers, and CCV works that way. They have been at the forefront of that idea of learning through life — the opportunity to learn in different stages of life.”

After acquiring much success in writing novels for young adults, Wilhelm felt drawn to write a very different genre — non-fiction. When CCV turned 50 three years ago there was interest in getting the story told, Wilhelm said, so he took up his pen.

The opportunity felt like a good transition from his long-time career in writing books for adolescents.

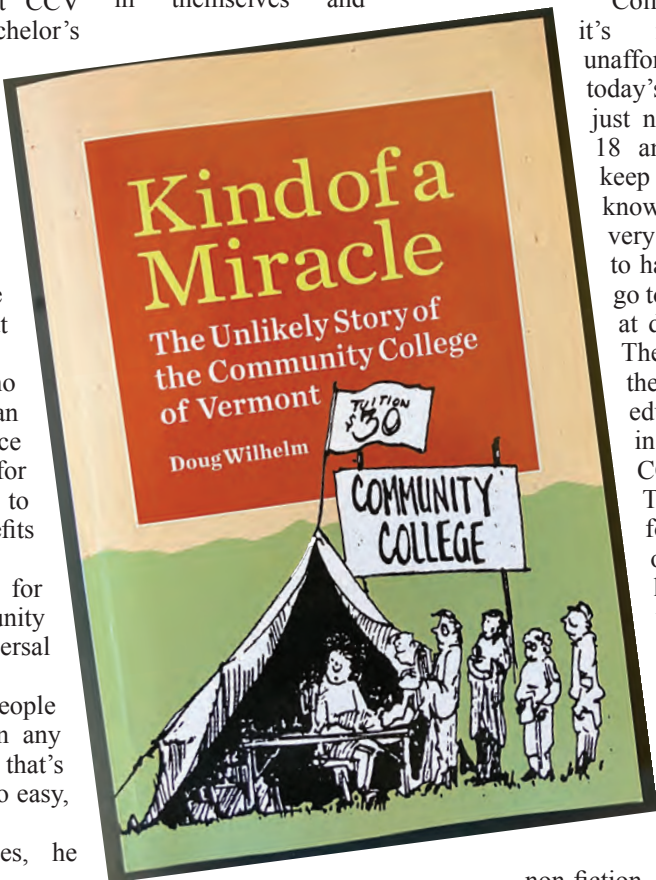
“I came to a point where I think I needed to do something different,” Wilhelm said. “It just felt like a time to change. I had the opportunity to do a couple of non-fiction books about Vermont subjects. I did one about Vermont non-profits. And then this came up.”

With a background as a former reporter at the *Boston Globe*, Wilhelm thought the approach of an oral history would really work.

“It brings a number of different



IN HIS NEW book, “Kind of a Miracle,” Weybridge author Doug Wilhelm shows how Community College of Vermont reimagined the potential of higher education when it was founded 54 years ago and is vitally important to the future of the Green Mountain State today. Independent photo/Caroline Jiao



voices into the story,” he said. “It was people who made this college, you know, it was very much of a grassroots project. There was no model for what they did.”

Wilhelm said his biggest challenge when writing the book was “conveying the honest passion that people who created and shaped CCV brought — and still bring — to the work.”

His aim was to capture their sense of mission without sounding like he was just promoting the college.

“That's the main reason, I think, why I chose to do so much with the oral-history approach. Just let people speak for themselves,” he said.

Matkowski appreciated the way Wilhelm captured the community college as she knew it.

“Doug's book was very emotional for me,” she wrote. “It

“Creating opportunities is not just accepting students if they have a high school diploma, it's helping them believe in themselves and discover that they are smart and they can learn and perform on a college level.”

— Doug Wilhelm

brought back so many memories.”

At the end of the day, the story of CCV is a story of hope.

“To me this is a great Vermont story,” he said. “People invented this college from scratch. They were creative, they were stubborn, they worked incredibly hard, and they were resilient under a lot of pressure, and these are qualities I really admire in Vermont people.

Vermonters tend to invent solutions, and this is one that the whole country should know about, especially when higher education is trying to figure out how it could reinvent itself for a different world, and CCV has been reinventing college for 50 years.”

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Field day fun

BEFORE CLASSES GAVE way to summer vacation, students at Mary Hogan Elementary School mobbed the Middlebury Recreation Park grounds for a Field Day that featured loads of fresh air and activity. During Field Day on Thursday, May 30, kids gyrated their hula hoops, kicked and ran around with rubber balls, competed in egg-and-spoon races and collectively flopped a huge rainbow parachute into the air so they could run under as the chute floated to the grass. A group of second-graders walked together inside a long stripey ribbon. Some kids learned the Penny Flip trick on skateboards as taught to them by Ethan Murphy from the Middlebury Skatepark Project. Some youngsters showed how low they could go in a limbo contest — oh to be so young and flexible!

Independent photos/Steve James



Slate Valley

(Continued from Page 1A)

a message on the district website. “Your dedication to ensuring the success and growth of our school community is truly commendable, and it is with great appreciation that I extend my thanks to each and every one of you.”

On March 5, Town Meeting Day, a Slate Valley spending proposal \$31,021,635 was voted down, 1,468 no to 1,004 yes. It represented a 10.1% increase over the previous year. It was part of wave of school spending defeats in Vermont that included rejections in most of the districts that serve Addison County students: Addison Northwest,

Mount Abraham Unified and Otter Valley. Only Addison Central, Hannaford Career Center and Lincoln school district budgets passed that day.

The spending proposal asked to spend \$11,294.83 per weighted pupil, which was slightly less than the current year and lower than the surrounding school districts of Addison Central (\$16,099), Addison Northwest (\$15,306), Otter Valley (\$12,465), Rutland Town (\$13,666) and the statewide average about \$13,200.

In addition to Orwell, SVUUSD delivers public education to the children of Benson, Castleton,

Fair Haven, Hubbardton and West Haven.

Olsen-Farrell assured the Slate Valley community that the schools would get the best outcomes for students while keeping ensuring effective spending.

“I want to assure you that we will continue to prioritize transparency, accountability, and fiscal responsibility,” she said. “We are open to feedback and happy to answer questions at any time.”

“Together, we can work together to make a positive difference in the lives of our students and contribute to the success of our schools.”



ELEVEN ADDISON COUNTY nonprofits benefited from \$15,000 in grants from last year's Peasant Market. St. Stephen's encouraged proposals that addressed basic needs, such as food and housing, and offered innovative ways to curb social isolation and celebrate inclusivity. Finalists were selected with an eye for the transformative impact they could have on the lives of the participants and the community.

Front row, L to R: Veronica Cambria, Addison Allies Network; Lilah Krugman, ACORN Pharmacy Program; Suzanne Rood, Vergennes Opera House All Access Project; Sadie Brightman, Middlebury Community Music Center; Magnolia Gonzalez, Viva El Sabor. Back row, L to R: David Odrogodyczk, Counseling Service of Addison County Youth Cooking Project; Cookie Steponaitis, Boys and Girls Club of Greater Vergennes; The Rev. Paul Olsson, St. Stephen's Rector; Jane Spencer, Vergennes Food Shelf; Jean Stone, Addison County Restorative Justice Service; Lindsay Varner, Rokeby Museum; Chip Mitiguy, Turning Point Center; Vanessa Almony, St. Stephen's Outreach Committee Chair; The Rev. Charles Nichols, St. Stephen's Deacon

Photo courtesy of Joe McVeigh

Vergennes

(Continued from Page 1A)

assessed at \$300,000. A 3-cent increase would mean \$90 more in property taxes on a home assessed at \$300,000.

According to city officials, after consensus changes on this past Tuesday the proposed general fund budget stood at about \$3.3 million, an increase of \$260,945, or 8.6%, over FY24 spending. That figure does not take into account a possible reduction in the city's contribution to the Vergennes Fire Department budget.

That projected tax increase is half or less than the higher rate the council had been looking at during its meeting just the week before, when councilors had said they wanted to take another hard look at all line items in search of potential savings.

“We can't afford everything that everybody wants,” said Councilor Cheryl Brinkman at the June 11 meeting. “What can we realistically ask (from) the taxpayers?”

Brinkman added, “We have no control over so much. This is the only time we do have control. Maybe this is not the time to ask for everything.”

Councilor Jill Murray-Killon agreed, saying the focus should be “realistic rather than ideal.”

Among the decisions made to lower spending this Tuesday were to purchase one, not two, new police cruisers; cut the salary and benefits for a projected police officer hire from a full to a half-year because the officer would most likely not start until after months of training; and to reduce public works spending on winter road materials and equipment.

Although it will not affect the tax rate, councilors also approved a smaller increase in sewer fees than had been slated as the city works up to the \$1,000 per-unit fee needed to support the upcoming sewer bond. They noted payments on the bond are now not anticipated until 2027, and rather than a scheduled increase from \$720 per unit/household to \$860 they instead raised the base rate to \$760.

Most cuts were suggested by councilors, but City Manager Ron Redmond suggested the winter road maintenance cut, lowering it to about the level of spending during the past mild winter. He explained the rationale in an early Tuesday interview with the *Independent*.

“I'm praying global warming continues, because I cut the winter maintenance budget,” Redmond said, later making a similar remark at the council meeting.

Regardless of who suggested particular cuts — and Redmond recommended a number of smaller

savings throughout the budget, such as not spending \$12,000 on flashing lights to warn residents when the city's overnight winter parking ban would be enforced — Redmond said there was a shared goal in combing through line items.

“Every single thing is an effort to cut the tax rate,” he said.

The council also debated at length whether to lower the city's contribution to the Vergennes Fire Department, noting the projected revenue of about \$357,000 exceeded projected expenses by about \$47,000. Councilors questioned a \$23,500 increase in the city's share of department funding given that gap.

Chief Dave DiBiase said the fire fund had been running close to the edge for years, and that in the coming fiscal year bond payments on two used trucks would kick in.

Redmond said any change in the city's \$145,569 share would also mean a proportional reduction in what Pantton and Waltham would pay, while in the meantime Ferrisburgh is locked in contractually at \$119,000, and that town's officials might not be pleased to see other towns suddenly pay less.

No firm decision was made, but councilors remained interested in lowering the payment. Redmond on Wednesday told the *Independent* he hoped to find alternative savings.

“I'm looking everywhere. I'm turning over rocks,” he said.

Department by department, proposed spending was:

ADMINISTRATION: A proposed budget of roughly \$621,000, an increase of about \$52,000 or roughly 9%.

Drivers of higher spending include about \$17,000 in higher wages; another \$17,000 in insurance costs, most notably health insurance benefits; and a number of smaller increases, including in legal, auditing and IT.

POLICE: A proposed budget of roughly \$1.287 million, an increase of about \$216,000 or 16.8%.

Wages to fund two new positions make up much of the increase. One position is a new officer to replace the opening created when Chief Jason Ouellette was promoted from sergeant, and the other is a position to meet the city's obligation to hire a three-year subsidized officer under a COPS grant it received. On Tuesday officials opted to fund the that position for six months, rather than a full year, given that the officer is unlikely to start until training is complete late this fall.

Another roughly \$19,500 will go toward recently negotiated increased pay for time officers

spend at home while on call, but not on active duty. Higher costs for health benefits are expected to add about \$55,000 to the department's bottom line.

There are a number of smaller increases, but the last major ones are the proposed lease to replace one of two 2017 cruisers, specifically the one with roughly 114,000 miles on its odometer. The first-year cost would be \$34,800. Officials saved \$34,800 on Tuesday by postponing the replacement of the 2017 cruiser with 71,000 miles on the odometer.

PUBLIC WORKS: A proposed budget of roughly \$ 935,000, a decrease of about \$60,000 or 6.4% from the previous fiscal year.

About \$43,000 of that decrease can be attributed to a part-time position being moved to the sewer department, which is funded by ratepayers, not property taxes. Other than that wages and benefits are rising.

There also corresponding savings in health insurance, and two trucks were paid off in the current fiscal year.

A proposed \$12,000 increase to pay for three solar-powered flashing lights to alert residents when the winter parking ban is in effect was also scratched. The city plans to rely instead on a new \$5,000 app and social media alerts to let people know when they must move their vehicles.

\$25,000 for more paving costs is included.

On Tuesday after some discussion, the council also accepted Redmond's recommendation to reduce winter material use by \$23,000, or roughly 50%.

RECREATION: A proposed budget of \$165,000, an increase of almost \$46,000 or about 38.5%.

The budget proposes adding an assistant recreation coordinator for about \$24,000, and higher health insurance costs (about \$10,500) and retirement benefits make up almost all of the rest of the increase.

GENERAL EXPENSES: A proposed budget of about \$310,000, an increase of about \$38,500 or 16%. Those figures do not take into account any change in the city's share of fire department funding, which as it stands is a \$23,571 increase. Another \$18,000 increase is due to higher per-capita funding for the Vergennes Area Rescue Squad. Those and other proposed smaller spending hikes would be offset by the use of \$11,000 from the Watershed Fund to support the city pool.

Town Meeting Day voter appropriations are projected to remain level at \$50,644.

Drop off goods for Peasant Market in Middlebury

MIDDLEBURY — This year's edition of St. Stephen's Peasant Market runs from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, July 6. It seems like all of Addison County gathers on the Middlebury Town Green right before the bell rings at 9 a.m. sharp on the first Saturday of July for the start of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church's annual Peasant Market. Patrons wait to rummage through the year's offerings — jewelry and household goods, toys and vinyl records, plants and sports equipment, not to mention homemade pies. It's all at a great price and for a great cause, as St.

Stephen's gives 100% of the profits to local nonprofits.

“Most people consider Peasant Market the kickoff to Festival on the Green and many people know that it's been a Middlebury tradition for over 75 years, but not everyone is aware that anybody can donate goods to be sold or that you don't have to be a church-goer to volunteer at Peasant Market,” said 2024 co-chair Shannon Bohler.

To volunteer to help out on the big day, email ststephensmiddlebury@gmail.com or call the church at 802-388-7200.

To drop off goods, just stop at the

church: 4-6 p.m. June 19 and 20; 10 a.m.-1 p.m. June 22; noon-3 p.m. June 23; 4-6 p.m. June 26 and 27; 10 a.m.-2 p.m. June 29; and noon-3 p.m. June 30. Donations must be in good condition. To find out what is accepted, go to ststephensmid.org.

“We call it ‘spring cleaning for a cause’ because it's the perfect way to get rid of unwanted belongings while simultaneously helping our community,” said 2024 co-chair Amy Beaupré. “As much as Peasant Market is a community destination, it's also a community fundraiser.”

By the way

(Continued from Page 1A) **vastly improve water flow, improve aquatic species habitat, and provide increased flood resilience. Work was due to begin this week, and the road will be closed within 500 feet of the culvert site starting next Wednesday, June 26, through the end of October. Forest Ranger Chris Matrick said that in other areas where these new culverts have been installed they have stood up to severe storms when older ones have failed. During the closure period, access to the Skylight Pond trail head will remain open from Forest Road 54/Natural Turnpike.**

Here's a great opportunity to go on a wild goose chase that can make a difference. Vermont Fish and Wildlife is asking for volunteers to help round up and place identification bands on the legs of Canada geese at its Dead

Creek Wildlife Management Area off Route 17 in Addison, starting at 8 a.m. on Wednesday, July 3. State Waterfowl Biologist Andrew Bouton is hoping to get 30-70 volunteers, with children welcome if they are accompanied by adults. Call the Fish and Wildlife office in Essex at 802-878-1564 to volunteer and leave your phone number in case the event must be rescheduled due to bad weather. Wear appropriate clothes and hiking boots or rubber boots, use sun protection, and bring plenty of water to drink. All geese will be released back into the wild after F&W collects data.

Vermont Folklife is gathering applications for the 33rd year of its Vermont Traditional Arts Apprenticeship Program. With funding from the National Endowment for the Arts through a partnership with the Vermont Arts Council, this program

supports the continued vitality of Vermont's living cultural heritage. The program provides stipends of up to \$2,000 to master artist and apprentice pairs to cover the time, materials and travel expenses associated with learning an art form. 2024-25 applications from master artist and apprentice pairs will be accepted through July 21. Get more information and an application online at vtfolklife.org/apprenticeship-program. Information about the program is available in 14 languages spoken within the state, including Dari, Pashto, Somali, Nepali, Spanish, and Ukrainian. Last year the Folklife Center supported 18 apprenticeships, including Judaic ritual weaving, granite carving, Burundian dance and song, Scottish dance and fiddle, and Nepali sarangi playing.

Free meals

(Continued from Page 1A) **become approved and begin serving meals. All sites included on the list are free for children age 18 and younger, regardless of the town they reside in.**

This year, free summer meals will once again be offered in the Vergennes area, as well as in several other communities throughout Addison County.

A full list of summer meal sites can be found on the nonprofit Hunger Free Vermont's website at hungerfreevt.org/summer-meals. That list will be updated as sites

will host a drop-in meal site from June 24-Aug. 2. Lunch will be provided at the site Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. to noon.

• Three summer meal sites in Bristol — at the Bristol Elementary School, The Hub Teen Center and the Lawrence Memorial Library.

• Bridport Central School will distribute meals through Aug. 16. Individuals can pick up lunch for the day and breakfast for the following day Monday through Friday from 11 a.m.-noon in the school lobby.

• Middlebury will host two summer meal sites — one at Mary Hogan School and another at Middlebury Union Middle School.

Now through Aug. 16, grab-and-go breakfast and lunch will be available Monday through Friday at Mary Hogan from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and at MUMS from 11 a.m. to noon.

• In Vergennes, breakfast and lunch will be offered Monday through Friday from July 8 through Aug. 9 at Vergennes Union High School.

• Starksboro will run three summer meal sites in addition to the meal kits offered at Robinson — one at the Common Ground Center, CSAC Discovery, and at the Starksboro Cooperative Preschool.

Additional details on summer meal sites in Addison County can be found on Hunger Free Vermont's website.

Other summer meal offerings for Addison County youth include:

• The Ferrisburgh Central School



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IN THE SANCTUARY of the East Monkton Church, the rows of pews are divided down the middle by a low partition, that might originally have separated men's seating from women's seating. Photo by Barbara Bosworth

Monkton church

(Continued from Page 1A)

walk, followed by an informal gathering at the church.

Immediately after the Civil War, this white clapboarded building was designed in a simple Greek Revival style of the Tuscan order. East Monkton had been growing since the 1780s, along with the development of agriculture and mining for iron ore, kaolin clay and yellow ochre. But unlike the other hamlets of Monkton, this community did not have a church or any other public gathering place.

Residents raised funds for construction and bought a quarter-acre lot for \$1 on what is now Church Road. Carpenters set to work on the fieldstone foundation and timber frame in March 1866 for the 250-seat Methodist church. The first service, which included a double wedding, was held in February 1867.

In Vermont, public buildings such as town halls or opera houses in cities and large towns were venues for local cultural life in the late 19th century. But smaller communities without nearby opera houses were just as eager to enjoy the arts and entertainment, and to hear lectures on history, travel, and political and social issues. Religious buildings could provide places for these public events.

At the East Monkton Church, professional musicians instructed local children in vocal music performance. A series of lyceums "proved to be an excellent recreation and improvement for young and old," in winter 1877. The church was "filled to overflowing" for the music, debate, recitations and orations, the *Vergennes Vermonter* newspaper reported.

One pastor served the three Methodist churches in Monkton. Sabbath schools for children and adults were offered. In some ways, church functions differed from those of the present, as weddings and funerals were often held at home or in the minister's parsonage until well into the 20th century. The East Monkton Church was a site for evangelistic "revival of religion" meetings and services until 1910. These gatherings were common in Methodism at the time.

"The women of the church" had been taking an active role in church business. Then in 1918, a women's volunteer organization, the Loyal Workers' Society, officially formed and planned some modifications to the building, without changing its footprint. By adding a wall between the church entrance and the sanctuary, the Loyal Workers created a large vestibule, with a greatly expanded balcony above it. These first and second floor spaces could be used as cooking and dining areas.

Inexpensive oyster suppers had already been a popular fund-raising activity. With the additional space, suppers and other social events attracted the general public and helped finance church and parsonage repairs, renovations, and supplemental support for the pastor for at least 30 years. Other organizations held meetings and large suppers at the church, hosting as many as 100 people at a time, despite the lack of running water in the building, or even a well outside.

In the early 20th century, rural Vermonters had been migrating

to other states and to cities within Vermont. Because of the population drain, churches in small towns were having to close or merge.

By about 1960, the East Monkton Church was infrequently used, except for occasional funerals. Before the church's centennial, the old building had been "closed for several years, and was in a state of neglect," the *Burlington Free Press* reported.

RESTORATION BEGINS

The community rallied to refurbish the building, hold summer services, and plan a well-attended centennial celebration. With the 1976 U.S. Bicentennial approaching, a small, informal group of volunteers made repairs on a regular basis and added electric lights. The church was one of the settings for Monkton's bicentennial observance.

For the past 25 years, Candace Layn Polzella has been the driving force for preserving the building and increasing its community use in creative ways. She was a University of Vermont dietitian, and is now retired.

For as long as she can remember, she says she has been interested in "the hearts of old buildings." As a child growing up in East Monkton, Layn Polzella loved Alfred Joyce Kilmer's 1914 poem "The House With Nobody In It." The poem speaks to the way she is inspired "to care for a building which has provided for others over the years."

She and her husband, Pat Polzella, a retired electrical engineer, had left Vermont after marrying in 1973, and worked in several parts of the country. They were drawn back to Monkton in 1999.

The church had become one of the old buildings "in need of care," she said. "I stirred the pot and got the Ridge (the Friends Methodist Church at Monkton Ridge) congregation to start holding summer services again."

The Polzellas hired Eliot Lothrop of Building Heritage LLC to perform a conditions assessment, and they initiated a series of preservation projects with advice and help from the Preservation Trust of Vermont.

The East Monkton Church Association, or EMCA, was incorporated in 2006 and was granted tax-exempt status the following year. Preservation work and a diverse selection of public events followed annually.

The Vermont District of the United Methodist Church's New England Conference still owned the church, so the EMCA bought the property for \$1 in 2020.

The COVID-19 pandemic limited the events and fundraising that the group was able to hold for about three years. The pace picked up again after the National Park Service added the East Monkton Church to the National Register of Historic Places in March 2023.

With the advice of Devin Colman, state architectural historian at the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation, the property had been nominated to the Register under the category of Religious Buildings, Sites, and Structures of Vermont. It was eligible for this national recognition because of its social history as an important place for religious and secular activities, and because of its architecture.

Though "minor alterations consistent with more than 150 years of use" were made to

the interior, the building "has excellent historic integrity and is an important part of our cultural heritage," Colman commented. The East Monkton Church is "a great example of how a well-designed, solidly constructed, and consistently maintained building can serve its community for more than 150 years."

The EMCA plans to install an accessibility ramp at the entrance. This winter the Monkton selectboard awarded the nonprofit \$25,000 in American Rescue Plan Act funds to help finance the ramp.

For more information, visit the EMCA's website, www.eastmonktonchurch.org.

Note: Writer Barbara Bosworth became involved in the East Monkton Church's preservation while she was a graduate student in the University of Vermont Historic Preservation Program in 2016. She wrote the church's nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.



THE EAST MONKTON Church has stood on this sandy knoll off Church Road since 1867. After a period of decline, local supporters are reviving the building as a spot for various community gatherings. Photo by Barbara Bosworth



THE CHURCH BALCONY was expanded to this size in 1920, to be used as a dining area for large oyster suppers and other fundraisers. Photo by Barbara Bosworth

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Three teams crowned state champions!



MAV SENIOR LONG-STICK Middle Jake Kadar defends Gumbo Tabor Greenberg during the D-III boys' lacrosse final on Saturday at Norwich University.

Image by Mark Bouvier Photography

MAV boys' lacrosse rules in D-III

By ANDY KIRKALDY

NORTHFIELD — Ultimately, the second-seeded Mount Abraham/Vergennes cooperative boys' lacrosse team just refused to lose in Saturday's Division III final vs. top seed Green Mountain Valley in a game played on Norwich University's Sabine Field.

After defeats in the 2022 and 2023 D-III title games, including a painful one a year ago when a late rally came up just short, this

time the Eagles held the Gumbies to one goal in the second half and did enough on offense to come away with a 9-6 victory. It was the program's first title, and first for either school in the sport including before the teams merged.

It probably wasn't MAV's finest effort — certainly not comparable to Eagles' domination of Fairfax in the semifinal round. The attack wasn't always crisp, the Eagles turned the ball over more often

than optimal, and MAV was flagged for 15 penalties to two for the Gumbies.

But they made the plays when it mattered and scored three straight goals to close out the game and finish the program's finest season with an 11-4 record. Two goals came by senior leading scorer Noah Ladeau, one with a brilliant transition assist from classmate Andrew Nolan, and the other, the (See MAV lacrosse, Page 3B)

Tiger tennis tops CVU in D-I final

By ANDY KIRKALDY

MIDDLEBURY — Two hours into the boys' tennis Division I final on the Middlebury Recreation Park courts between No. 2 Middlebury Union and No. 5 Champlain Valley, almost all eyes were on the No. 4 singles match between Middlebury Union High School senior Iver Anderson and his Champlain Valley foe, Kyle Krieger, who played a match that ended with tie-breaking drama.

The second-seeded Tigers held a 3-2 overall lead at that point, and Anderson's freshman teammate Charles Young was losing the first set to CVU's Jacob Graham at No. 3 singles.

Before Anderson and Young took the court, Tiger junior No. 1 Jackson Murray had worn down Redhawk No. 1 Oscar Andersson in a two-set victory.

Similarly, CVU No. 2 Ziggy Babbot had out-steadied Tiger senior No. 2 Kellan Bartlett, pulling away in the second set.

At No. 1 doubles Tiger seniors Eddie Fallis and Milo Rees completed their outstanding season (their only loss came against teammates in the individual postseason tournament) with a two-set win.

But at No. 2 doubles, their classmates Baxter Harrington and Noah Doherty Konczal did not fare so well, losing in two sets after rallying to almost take the first set.

Then at No. 5 singles MUHS freshman Nate Cook Yoder breezed past CVU's Nolan Sandage, and the stage was set for a longer, harder-fought, decisive match between Anderson and Krieger.

Krieger won the first couple games in the opening set, but Anderson stormed back to win the frame, 6-4. The second set played out as a mirror image. Anderson took a 3-1 lead, but Krieger suddenly started playing with praiseworthy consistency, and Anderson started making unforced errors. Late in the



EDDIE FALLIS AND his No. 1 Doubles partner Milo Rees teamed up to beat their CVU competitors at the Middlebury Rec Park courts on Thursday to help MUHS secure the D-I boys' tennis title.

Independent photo/John S. McCright

match he was visibly and audibly upset with himself after pulling a backhand wide.

Krieger won the set, 6-4, and it was time for a first-to-10-point tiebreaker. If Anderson won, the Tigers first-ever Division I state championship was theirs. No pressure.

And he did, and in style, 10-1. After Krieger opened with a

misplay, Anderson hit three clean winners, one on his serve, and suddenly it was 4-0. Anderson kept the pressure on, and Krieger couldn't match his suddenly steady and more aggressive play. The Redhawk's errors mounted, and Anderson's lead kept growing.

Anderson hit one shot long for Krieger's only tiebreaker point (See MUHS tennis, Page 2B)

MUHS nine claims first-ever title

By ANDY KIRKALDY

BURLINGTON — It could be said two baseball teams won Saturday night's Division II high school baseball final between No. 6 Mount Abraham and No. 8 Middlebury, which was played at UVM's Centennial Field.

But the problem for the Eagles, who apparently scored the winning run on a bases-loaded walk in the bottom of the seventh inning, is that in baseball touching all the bases is more than a run-of-the-mill cliché.

It's required by the rules to touch the bases when taking a trip around them. "Touch 'em all," as they say.

The situation: With the bases full

of Eagles, Tiger freshman relief pitcher Gabe Velez just missed the strike zone with ball four. Eagle courtesy runner Connor Peck trotted home from third base with the run that looked to give Mount Abe a 5-4 win and the title.

But the batter did not immediately run to first base. He joined the joyful mob of teammates that greeted Peck, as did, according to at least two people who watched the replay, his other teammates on the basepaths. All were understandably caught up in the excitement of a championship.

Then a hush fell as the hundreds of Eagle and Tiger fans realized the four umpires were gathered in a knot between home plate and

the mound. And the players were standing motionless in front of their dugouts.

After about 30 agonizing seconds in what had already been a tense game with two lead changes, the crew chief raised his right fist — the Eagle run was disallowed, and the innings was over.

Cheers rang out among the fans behind the Tiger dugout, and groans of disbelief came from the first-base side.

Regardless of the clashing emotions, there was more baseball to play. The game was going to the eighth inning tied at 4-4.

"At first, it was like, it's over," said Tiger senior tri-captain Cole (See Baseball, Page 4B)



AFTER A POSTGAME huddle on Saturday night, the newly minted D-II baseball champion Tiger baseball team bolted to the Centennial Field stands to celebrate with family members, friends and fans.

Independent photo/Andy Kirkaldy



MARSHALL EDDY IS backed up by a corps of Middlebury teammates and threatening CVU defender as he goes after a loose ball during Sunday's D-I lacrosse final at UVM's Virtue Field.

Independent photo/John S. McCright

MUHS lax falls in D-I heartbreaker

Tigers rally from six down, but Redhawks prevail in OT

By ANDY KIRKALDY

BURLINGTON — Recent history between the seed Middlebury and Champlain Valley union high school boys' lacrosse teams heading into Sunday evening's Division I championship game on UVM's Virtue Field showed the margin between victory and defeat would likely be razor thin.

The Tigers had prevailed in the 2023 semifinal by 12-10, and the teams had split during the regular season. CVU, 14-1

entering the contest, had prevailed early in the season on neutral turf, 9-8, by repelling a second-half Tiger rally. The Tigers answered by beating CVU on Fucile Field, pulling away late to post an 11-5

victory. And ultimately the final margin this time couldn't have been tighter.

The Redhawks took a 6-0 lead on the way to an 9-3 advantage at the half. The Tigers early on struggled to hold onto the ball and get clean looks on goal.

But then they rallied to force overtime as Tiger senior attacker Toby Draper scored four of his six goals in the second half, and the Redhawks didn't quite maintain that same intensity.

Draper finally tied the game with 14 seconds to go, and it was on to golden-goal overtime — guaranteeing an outcome with the slimmest of margins.

CVU controlled the draw and called time to make sure its most

dangerous player, Peter Gilliam, got the ball.

No one else touched it. Gilliam ran down the right side, circled the net counterclockwise, bounced off a defender, found a sliver of room, and fired a low 15-foot shot into the net. Thirty seconds into overtime, the 16-2 Redhawks had won their eighth title in nine years, and the Tigers' outstanding season had come to a close with a 14-3 record.

The final score was 13-12. MUHS Coach Matt Rizzo said the game might have been lost much earlier, when the Redhawks blitzed the Tigers with four goals before some fans had found their seats and then pushed their lead to six early in the second period.

"You can't spot a team six goals. But I think you have to give them a ton of credit. They came out, and they were awesome," Rizzo said. "They beat us in the first five minutes. They were great. And then (See MUHS lacrosse, Page 5B)

Tennis

(Continued from Page 1B)

at 8-1, but the Tiger finished the match with a brilliant volley to the back right corner, a point that was greeted with cheers from the big crowd and hugs and high-fives from his happy teammates. The Tigers finished the season with a 14-1 record, with their only loss to 14-4 CVU.

Anderson had similarly won a tiebreaker vs. South Burlington as a sophomore to send the Tigers into the semifinal round, but this was a next-level clutch performance.

How did he turn things around between the end of the second set and the tiebreaker, especially because he knew the match was probably riding on the outcome? Basically, Anderson said, he stopped worrying.

"I just told myself I was going to win, and the team was going to win," Anderson said. "I just couldn't see myself losing, and just kind of emptied thoughts out of my head. I just couldn't think, or mentally I would have gone bad. All I saw was winning."

Coach Ken Schoen was also asked how Anderson came up with such a dominant tiebreaker performance. First, he called Anderson an "incredible athlete" who has a strong "desire to support the team." Then Schoen harkened back to an early-season moment when Anderson was struggling with his play and confidence and offered to move down the ladder from No. 4 to help the team, to which Schoen said he responded by giving Anderson a productive pep talk.

And after the second set on Thursday, Schoen said he gave Anderson not another rah-rah speech, but different advice that seemed to have been helpful.

"I went out there and said, 'Iver, all you've got to do is pretend you're in practice. Don't think about all this pressure and the fact you think you have to win. You play in practice sometimes with such joy.' And he said, 'I've got this, Coach. I'm going to do that.' And he did."

Afterward, the team surprised Schoen with a celebratory dumping of a cooler full of water on him. Schoen's gifts from the team included a mug inscribed with the words "Best. Coach. Ever."

Anderson and some of the team's other seniors talked about what this championship meant to them. It was not only the program's first



ONLY A FRESHMAN, Nate Cook Yoder of MUHS breezed past CVU's Nolan Sandage at No. 5 singles, here showing a strong, two-handed forehand.

Independent photo/John S. McCright



TIGER SENIOR KELLAN Bartlett lines up a shot during Thursday's No. 2 singles match. CVU's Ziggy Babbot won the match.

Independent photo/John S. McCright



TIGER SENIOR IVER Anderson lines up an overhead in his No. 4 singles match against CVU on Thursday. Anderson clobbered his opponent in a tiebreaker to secure an MUHS Division 1 state title.

Independent photo/John S. McCright

in Division I, but also the second in history — a Tiger boys' tennis team claimed the D-II title in 1991.

Anderson was particularly happy to be able to tie a bow on the spring campaign for the team.

"It means a lot. We had a wicked good season," Anderson said. "And this was a great, great end to it."

Fallis has been a member of the boys' soccer team that has come achingly close to a D-II title, and that made the title especially sweet.

"Finally winning in a sport, especially it being the last sport that I'm going to be in for the high school, it's just really, really special," Fallis said. "It's an

amazing feeling."

The Tigers also said the title was special because of the strong bonds they have formed with each other.

"You couldn't ask for a better team with more camaraderie," Fallis said. "It's pretty much like a band of brothers. Everybody supports each other. We're always doing things in practice to help each other when they need to work on something. It's such a great group of guys, and everyone is confident in everyone else that they're going to go and get the job done."

Rees, his soccer teammate for three years as well as his doubles partner, also talked about winning

a title in his last dance. He also recalled the tough, razor-thin 4-3 loss to Burlington in the 2023 boys' tennis semifinal.

"There was just a feeling all year that this was the year for this team, and we wanted to do it for our seniors," Rees said. "There was just a resounding feeling that his was our year, and we were going to do whatever it took to make it our year. And we did."

Rees added the Tigers have earned their reputation for sportsmanship and chemistry.

"I've had multiple parents, from the other teams even, or coaches from the other teams, say how

they're proud or envious of how well we cheer on our own team, and how generally we don't cheer against the other teams. I think we're a pretty positive (group) overall," Rees said, while crediting the work of the coaching staff, Chris Murray as well as Schoen. "And there's very much like a brotherhood and a supportive atmosphere on this team."

Schoen credited the team's chemistry as well as its work ethic and talent for its success.

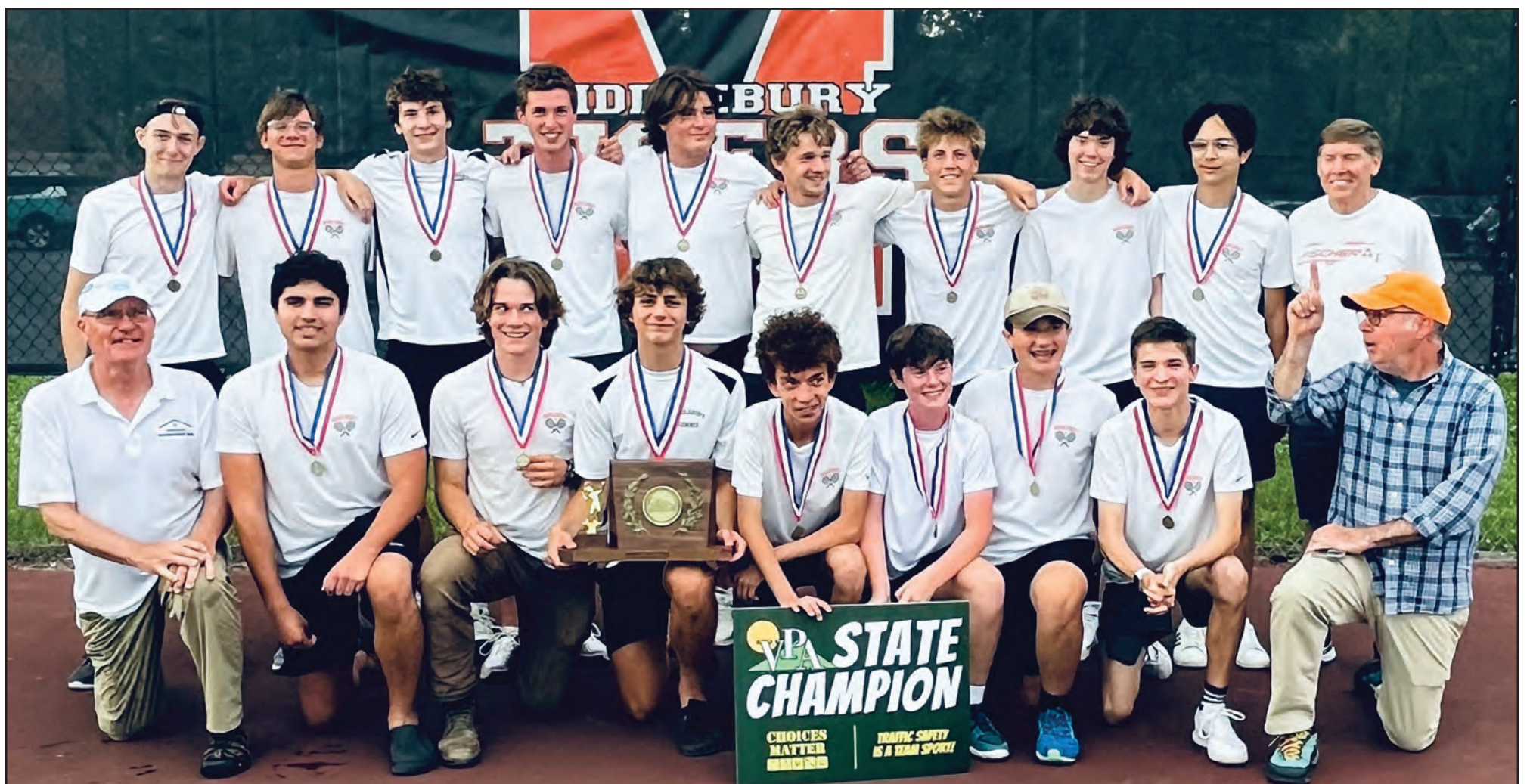
"This team is so good because they care about each other. They care about each other a lot. They are incredibly good sports. They

are full of kindness," Schoen said. "To a person they push each other hard, and they are all really good, and they keep getting better, and they keep playing each other, and they're all so good they make each other better and better."

He was not surprised by the outcome.

(See MUHS tennis, Page 5B)

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MAV

(Continued from Page 1B)

seventh goal that all but clinched the win with 5:41 to go, was supplied by junior faceoff specialist Lorenzo Atocha.

Ladeau explained how the Eagles turned it up a notch.

"The coaches told us to come out and play like we do, because we were playing bad in the beginning. And what the coaches said about playing like we normally do just stuck with us," Ladeau said.

None of the late heroics would have been possible without the early work of senior middie Finley Kaeck. Kaeck earned the game ball from Coach Ed Cook and a post-game name-check from Ladeau after scoring four goals in the first 14 minutes to help MAV to a 6-4 lead.

"Finley, oh my god, he played amazing today," Ladeau said. "If it weren't for him, we wouldn't have this medal around our neck."

Then there was senior goalie Walker Forand, whose 14 saves included some timely beauties, such as a stop on Gumby standout Tabor Greenberg when it was 6-6 in the third, and saves on Greenberg and Henry Goldman in the third quarter's final minute after Ladeau had restored the Eagle lead.

"Our goalie stood on his head all day. He had amazing saves, great clears," Cook said.

At the other end, goalie Shamus O'Brien made five stops for the 10-3 Gumbies.

Despite occasional turnovers, the game started out well for MAV. Kaeck made it 1-0 at 9:26 with a bomb from the top of the box, and 14 seconds later it was 2-0. Short-stick defensive middie Jamison Couture picked up a ground ball,

barred down the field and fired a shot inside the right post. He then turned to his side gig as MAV's hype man, waving his arms in the air to successfully fire up the MAV fans, who outnumbered Gumby supporters by about two-to-one.

At 7:32 MAV freshman middie Asa Pratt fired a long shot home from the left side, and it began to look like a rout.

GMVS broke through at 5:20, when Greenberg cashed in a Robby Koch feed to the right post. At 3:58 Kaeck cut through the box and found the net's left side to make it 4-1. But the Gumbies ran off three goals late in the period to tie the score, with Javier Lourrain-Beaucage, Goldman and Mateo Calcagni doing the honors.

Kaeck struck again in the second quarter's second minute, and five minutes in took a pass from freshman middie Lincoln Painter and fired in his fourth goal to make it 6-4.

But the penalties began to mount and sap the Eagles' possession time, even though the defense held up, and Forand stopped good bids by Goldman and Calcagni. The crossbar also denied Calcagni. But with 25 seconds left in the period Calcagni finally got one past Forand, and it was 6-5, MAV, at the break.

Less than two minutes into the second half Koch tossed in feed from behind the net, and at 6-6 it was gut-check time for MAV. Ladeau answered with 2:29 left in the period. He broke loose from the double- and triple-teaming on the left, spun off one defender, beat another, and found the far corner of the net. The Eagles had the lead back.



SENIOR GOALIE WALKER Forand lines up a save during the Eagles' D-III lacrosse final vs. GMVS on Saturday at Norwich University. Mount Abe/Vergennes won, 9-6.

Image by Mark Bouvier Photography

As the fourth quarter opened, both Goldman at one end and Ladeau at the other hit iron, and the defensive battle continued.

Then MAV lightning struck. Eagle senior defender Connor Kelly forced a turnover, and Nolan scooped the ball. He raced about 50 yards, before being swarmed by Gumbies. But he still managed to find Ladeau, left alone near the GMVS goal.

"That was a good play," Ladeau said.

Ladeau faked a shot and got Gumby goalie Shamus O'Brien moving before tossing the ball home from close range: 8-6 with 7:12 to play.

At 5:41 the Gumbies took one of their two 30-second penalties and gave Atocha too much room on the right side. He whipped a left-handed shot inside the far post.

The lead was three, and the clock was running. Or at least it was when the Eagles weren't being flagged for three more penalties.

But no matter. The Eagles did not surrender a man-down goal during the game, a tribute to Forand; the low defense crew of Kelly, seniors Jordan Schroeder, Benjamin MacDonald and Olin Kidder, and sophomore Cooper Cook; senior long-stick middie Jake Kadar and junior long-stick middie Spencer Gebo; and short-stick middies Couture, seniors Toby Tillotson, and juniors Jacob Prouty and Hayden Lutz.

"I think our defense played great," Cook said. "(We) were able to make the stops we needed to make when we were a man down."

When asked how the Eagles finally broke through this season, Ladeau said the team's 12 seniors



MAV JUNIOR LORENZO Atocha fires home his fourth-quarter goal during the D-III boys' lacrosse final on Saturday at Norwich University.

Image by Mark Bouvier Photography

were extra motivated not only on Saturday, but also throughout the season to put the work in to claim the crown.

"I think it was all the seniors we had. Because all the seniors played the last two years when we lost the in the championship. I think that made us really drive deeper for the championship this year all the way through," Ladeau said.

Cook gave the whole team credit, but singled out the seniors.

"In the second half and the fourth quarter I said you've got to decide you want to go get this, and it's senior leadership. Our seniors stepped up," Cook said. "We did all the right things. We've been here before. We didn't want to lose another one. I think they just decided this is it."

He agreed with Ladeau that the Eagles won because they put in

the time, something that Cook said made the title special for him. He offered a couple examples he said represented the entire team's work ethic.

"I'm ecstatic. Winning is great. But the look on their faces when the clock was counting down, knowing that Lorenzo Atocha spent all last year working on his faceoffs, that Jake Kadar is an amazing LSM (because) he worked on his footwork. Everybody was (practicing) shooting every chance they could get, knowing that if we got back here we had to have the tools to make it happen," Cook said. "And we did. I'm so happy for them."

The Eagles share that joy. "It feels amazing right now," Ladeau said. "It's crazy. I can't even explain it, it's such a good feeling."

MAV Boys' Lacrosse State Champs!



THE MOUNT ABE/VUHS cooperate boys' lacrosse team poses with its D-III trophy after winning the final on Saturday at Norwich University.

Image by Mark Bouvier Photography

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Baseball

(Continued from Page 1B)

Warren. “When (the umpires) got talking, we were like, hey, he never went to first. At the end of the day he was called out ... It gave us all the momentum in the world. We knew that the baseball gods had given us another chance, and we weren’t going to screw it up this time.”

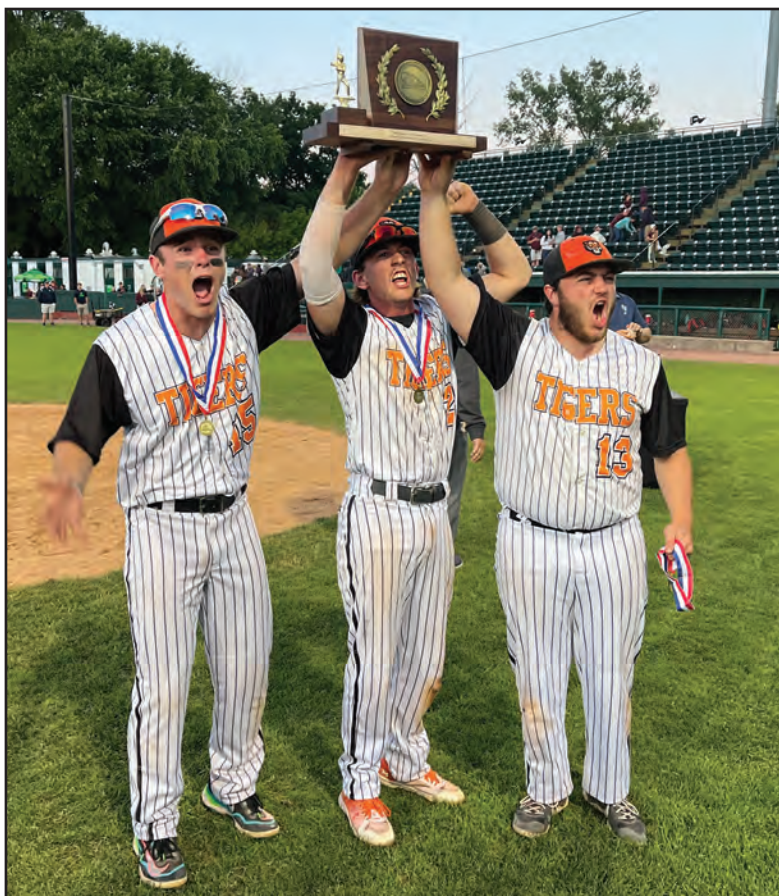
Coach Tim Paquette said that’s what he told the Tigers, who had won 11 of 12 games after a 1-7 start to reach the final, including two nail-biting quarterfinal and semifinal road victories over the Nos. 1 and 4 seeds.

“I told them to go play. The baseball gods were on our side, and now it’s time to go put up a crooked number so we can take it all home,” he said. “They listened to me.”

In the top of the eighth, the heart of the Tiger order came up against Eagle freshman reliever Stefan Johnson, who had pitched well in the Eagles’ semifinal win at No. 3 Lyndon. Senior catcher Carter Paquette singled to lead off, and senior third baseman Tim Whitney drew a walk. With one out, senior Tucker Morter, who started as pitcher for MUHS and tossed the first 6.2 innings, laced a single up the middle to score Carter Paquette and make it 5-4.

Velez walked to load the bases, and senior Tiger first baseman Ethan Sweet stroked a two-run single up the middle to make it 7-4. Riley Disorda walked to reload the bases, but Johnson got the next two batters to ground to Eagle freshman third baseman Abe Ready, who threw home to force the runners and give the Eagles a chance to rally in their at-bat.

Like the Tigers, the Eagles are also a resilient bunch who bounced



JUBILANT MUHS SENIOR baseball captains, from left, Cole Warren, Carter Paquette and Timothy Whitney, loft the Division II trophy after edging Mount Abraham at Centennial Field on Saturday night.

Independent photo/Andy Kirkaldy

back from a 1-3 start to finish the regular season at 10-6. Other than their one-run quarterfinal win at Lyndon they had advanced to Centennial without much fuss.

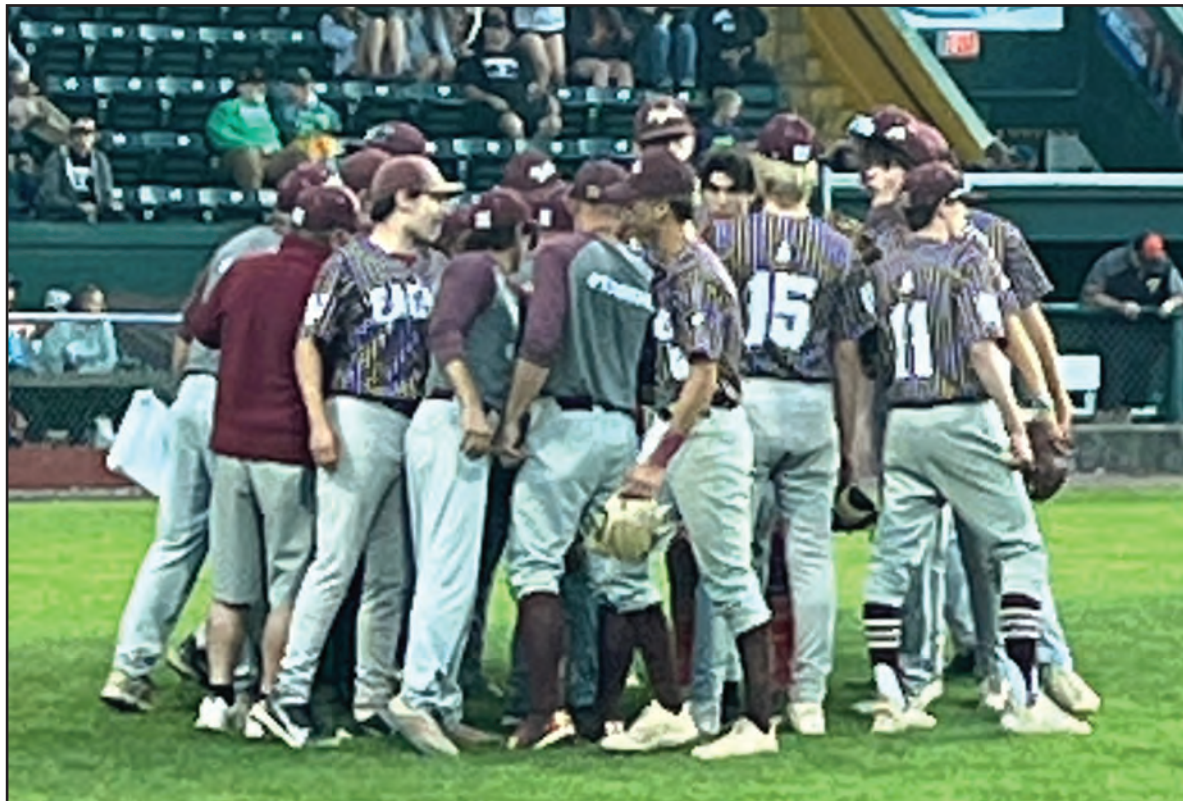
And they had already wiped out two Tiger leads during the game, and they came out swinging against Velez in the bottom of the eighth. With one out, Eagle junior center fielder Tyler White and sophomore second baseman Brody Barnard both lined singles.

Velez got sophomore Evan Corrigan to ground out, but the runners advanced to second and third. A wild pitch scored White to make it 7-5, and Ready walked and stole second. That meant

runners on second and third for Cam Castillo, who threw the first seven innings and is the Eagle cleanup hitter. With two strikes on him, Castillo delivered a line single to left hit so hard it could only score one run. The Tiger lead was down to 7-6.

Peck pinch-ran and stole second, putting two runners in scoring position for senior Tanner Castillo. Castillo poked a shot to right center that looked like it had a chance, but speedy Tiger junior center fielder Alex Sperry raced over. The ball, a 7-6 victory, and a D-II title landed safely in his glove.

That late drama just capped a tension-filled game between two



THE MOUNT ABE baseball team talked it over before the bottom of the eighth inning of Saturday’s D-II final, but the Eagles two-run rally against MUHS came up one run short.

Independent photo/Andy Kirkaldy

teams that split regular-season games, each winning on their home turf. Both started their aces in the final.

The Tigers touched up Cam Castillo for a 2-0 lead in the first inning. Castillo hit Warren with a pitch, and balked him to second. He scored when Sperry singled sharply. Castillo then hit Paquette with a pitch, but freshman catcher Clark Crary picked him off first. Thus, only one run scored when Tiger freshman Ryan Brouillard dropped a two-out single down the right-field line.

Morter and Castillo worked out of some trouble in the second and third innings, but Morter couldn’t wriggle off the hook in the fourth. Johnson walked, and Crary hit into a fielder’s choice and replaced him on first. With two out, a throwing error on a ball hit by White put

runners on second and third, and Barnard singled both home to tie the game. Another miscue allowed Barnard to score, and the Eagles led, 3-2, after four innings.

The Tigers came right back in the fifth. After Tanner Castillo made two fine catches on deep drives to left field, they rallied with two outs. Sperry walked, and Carter Paquette scored him with a triple into right-center. Whitney singled in Paquette, and the Tigers were back on top, 4-3.

Neither team manager a baserunner in their next at-bats. Castillo went seven innings, allowing five hits and four runs and striking out four.

Finally, the Eagles came to the plate in the fateful bottom of the seventh still down by a run. With one out, Corrigan and Ready laced back-to-back singles to put

the winning runs on base. Cam Castillo hit into a fielder’s choice, and Peck took his place on first, with Ready on second. Two wild pitches and Tanner Castillo’s infield hit tied the game, and a walk to Johnson loaded the bases and ended Morter’s day on the mound — he allowed seven hits, four runs, one earned, and struck out two.

And then came the walk on the close pitch, and the untouched base, and the further drama in the eighth, and finally the 12-8 Tigers lofting the trophy.

Coach Jason Barnard’s young Eagle team wrapped up an outstanding season at 13-7. Mount Abe would appear to have a bright future, with senior co-captains Tanner Castillo and the versatile Jamison Huizenga the only graduation losses.

The Tigers have a veteran team with eight seniors — Dylan Stowe, Aiden LaDuke and Wyatt Stearns as well as the five who saw action in the final — that Warren said has been eyeing a championship since they first came to MUHS.

“It means the world to me. Freshman year, we look in the gym, and we don’t see a Middlebury baseball banner, and we see one for every other sport. That was our goal, to get a banner up,” Warren said. “Now it’s my senior year, and I’m very happy we did it.”

Coach Tim Paquette talked about how the Tigers went from 1-7 to taking home the program’s first title.

“They didn’t hang their heads. They knew what they were capable of doing,” Coach Paquette said. “They finally strung it all together, and they put Middlebury baseball back on the map.”

Paquette has been coaching many of his varsity players since Little League, and his voice cracked when talking about them.

“It feels like the top of the world. We did it,” said Paquette. “I’m so happy I can’t even talk.”

Carter Paquette also talked about winning with his coach — and father — in the process.

“My coach is my father, and I love him to death, and we do this together,” he said. “We shed tears together. We did today, and I’m very proud of that.”

The online version of this story at first used the wrong first name for Abe Ready and confused the outfield positions of Tyler White and Tanner Castillo. The author apologizes for the mix-ups.

MUHS Baseball State Champs!

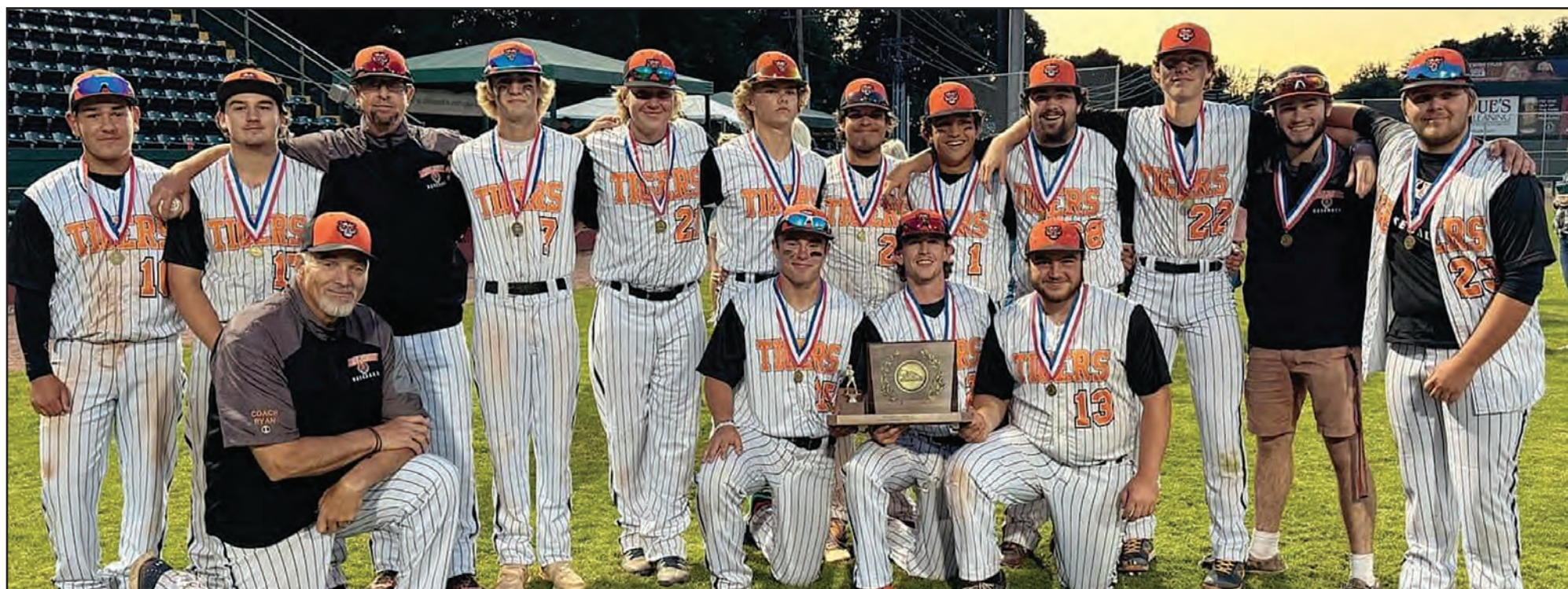


Photo courtesy of Tina Wright

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Two days enjoying nature of the Everglades

My cousin-in-law Ken likes to go for swamp walks in the Florida Everglades, making his way from one hardwood hammock to the next through the knee-to-waist-deep waters of the famed River of Grass. He mentioned this casually to my wife Deborah and me as he guided us on our nature walks through the Everglades, occasionally pointing out the locations of past swamp hikes. Upon hearing of his exploits, my thoughts turned quickly to alligators (of which there are an estimated 200,000 in the Everglades) and to the invasive Burmese pythons (which number closer to 1 million in South Florida).

Ken shrugged off my concerns. The water, he explained, is clear enough for him to avoid the sorts of creatures he has no wish to surprise or be surprised by. He seemed more concerned about falling through occasional holes in the ground into deeper water — a problem he mitigates by carry a hiking staff.

Ken is a longtime Floridian with family roots in the South American nation of Colombia. Deborah's cousin Meredith is a New Hampshire native who grew up within sight of Vermont's Mount Ascutney. After getting a nursing degree, she moved to Florida, got a taste of beaches and warm weather, met Ken, and decided to stay there. When a book project gave me a chance to visit Florida, I immediately thought of them. They generously took time off work, with Ken offering to provide his wealth of local knowledge to guide us on our excursions through the 'Glades. Thankfully, his guiding did not involve any swamp hikes. Deborah and I were quite content to keep our feet on dry ground. Any adventurous outdoors part of my brain — the part, for example, that has often prompted me to go fishing on Alaskan rivers in the midst of brown bears — urging me to wade out into the River of Grass, was quickly squelched in the first hour of our journey across the Big Cypress National Preserve where every little creek, stream or pool of water we passed had at least one alligator in it. Although most of the gators we saw were only three to five feet long — mere "swamp puppies" — we also saw quite a few in the seven-to-10-foot range.

On the first day, Ken led our excursion into Everglades National Park. We actually saw surprisingly few alligators there, but I did see my



ROSEATE SPOONBILLS, SHOWN in Big Cypress National Preserve, are named for their ruddy-colored feathers and characteristically shaped beak.

Photo by Matthew Dickerson

first crocodile in the wild: a female out sunning on a marina boat ramp at the mouth of a river in the town of Flamingo. Ken said an even larger male croc was known to rule that area, but we never saw it. We did watch several manatees eating seagrass near the park visitor center. By "watch manatees eating sea grass," what I really mean is that we saw their several-hundred-pound bodies rise out of the murky depths to catch a quick breath at the surface before disappearing again back down into the brackish water for several more minutes. Eventually, however, a couple of them were generous enough to stay on the surface for several minutes just a few yards away from us, offering us a good long look.

The following day, after a sunrise walk around Biscayne National Park less than 20 miles to the east, we toured Big Cypress National Preserve in the portion of the Everglades just north of the national park, taking several more walks along various nature trails — still careful to stay above water level. That was where I lost track of the number of alligators we saw, which exceeded even the number of turtles. The most memorable parts of the day might have been the bird watching. I might have missed the huge flock of roseate spoonbills if Ken hadn't seen them in the trees just off the road ahead. He pulled over at once and jumped excitedly out of the car to point them out to

us. We spent the next many minutes watching the large, graceful birds with their eponymous rose breasts and duck-like bills alternately soaring from tree to tree or roosting in the high branches above a wide wetland. Later along our back road tour, we also saw little blue herons, green herons, great blue herons and wood storks.

And then came the grasshopper: an enormous female eastern lubber, big enough to span the length of my hand, whose yellow and steel-hued hinged plates made me think of the armor on a medieval knight — or perhaps on some futuristic sci-fi creation. It was crawling along the railing of a scenic walkway above a river where nine large alligators were sunbathing. When I leaned my camera down on the railing to photograph the lubber at its eye level, instead of moving away from me as I would expect a grasshopper to do in Vermont, it began to stalk me. I had to keep retreating with my camera in order to get my photos.

Amid all the beauty of a tremendously rich and diverse ecosystem, however, were some important ecological lessons, perhaps the most important of which is how easy it is to do a lot of ecological damage and how much harder it is to repair it. As we were driving southward across Florida, letting the car's map app guide us, I kept seeing grids of blue lines all across the area. At first I thought they must be local roads, but I soon realized it was a vast system of

canals that had been dug over many decades with the goal of draining and developing the Everglades and its vast unique ecological treasure of over 4,000 square miles. The federal government made it an official goal with the Swamp and Overflowed Lands Act of 1850. The effort would continue and intensify through most of the 20th century until January 2002 when President George W. Bush signed an agreement committing \$8 billion to a 30-year restoration plan. The full story is worthy of several books and far too extensive to cover here. The restoration is proving as difficult and costly as draining the Everglades was, in part because only about a third of its historic water supply now flows down into the River of Grass, and that water is laden with pesticides and agricultural runoff.

And yet the area is still full of beauty, and though it might not compare in ecological richness to what it was like 200 years ago, it is very much worth a visit — perhaps for Vermonters looking to escape mud season for a few days. Everglades National Park, which has famous road signs marking passes at elevations of three and four feet above sea level, has a very different feel from Big Cypress National Preserve, though they are part of a continuous connected road system. As with many national parks, getting out away from the roads and parking lots and going for walks is a great way to enjoy the beauty of a landscape about as different from Addison County as you could imagine.



MATT DICKERSON

MUHS lacrosse

(Continued from Page 1B)
we played great for 41 minutes. But in a championship game you've got to play great for 48."

Rizzo said before the game one factor was the Tigers would have to take care of the ball. And early on CVU forced turnovers, while the Tigers were also at times less than careful possessing the ball.

"You've got to give them (the Redhawks) a lot of credit with the way they played the first five minutes. They made it hard for us to take care of the ball," Rizzo said.

But he also credited his team for battling back.

"The fight was awesome. This team has had that all year long. It's very resilient," he said. "We talked about it after the game. A lesser team when they're down 6-0 folds. And they didn't fold. They should be proud of that."

CVU's first four goals came in the opening 4:02. Gilliam (three goals, two assists) opened up the scoring, and Jacob Bose (three goals) was next. Matias Williams (four goals, assist) made it 3-0, and Aiden Andres buried a Gilliam feed at 7:58.

Tiger freshman goalie Levi

Nuceder, who finished with 10 saves, denied Gilliam and Luke Buehler in that stretch to limit the damage.

The Tigers had a man-up advantage midway through the period, but CVU goalie Will Kearney (also 10 saves) denied Tiger sophomore attacker Logan McNulty. With a minute left in the period Williams netted his second goal to make it 5-0 after one, and Gilliam made it 6-0 a minute into the second quarter.

The Tigers and Redhawks traded goals for the rest of the period. For the Tigers, Draper broke the ice with a low bid from the right and also threw a shot in from the top of the box on a feed from senior middle Gus Hodde. And senior middle Gavin McNulty won a late draw and bolted in to score. Answering for the Redhawks were Brian Rutherford, from Williams; Connor Malaney; and Bose, whose late goal created the 9-3 halftime score.

In the first six minutes of the second half, Logan McNulty and Bose traded goals, and it was 10-4. Then the Tigers got a huge momentum boost when the Redhawks were penalized at 5:21 with a two-minute infraction for an illegal hit to the head. It came,



FRESHMAN GOALIE LEVI Nuceder makes one of his 10 saves for MUHS during Sunday's D-I lacrosse final at UVM's Virtue Field.

Independent photo/John S. McCright

unlike most lacrosse penalties, with a "locked in" provision — the offender has to stay off the field even if the other team scores.

And that other team, the Tigers, took full advantage with three goals in 40 seconds. After a Tiger turnover Draper stole a clearing pass and raced in and converted from close range. CVU won the faceoff, but Gavin McNulty forced a CVU turnover, and Draper scored in transition on a feed from junior middle Luke Nuceder.

The Tigers won the next faceoff, and Draper found junior attacker Angus Blackwell open on the left side. Blackwell took a step toward the middle and fired a shot home, and it was 10-7 at 4:00.

At 1:20 it was 10-8. Senior middle Jackson Gillett found Blackwell open at the left post and threaded a pass to him, and Blackwell made no mistake. The Tigers maintained that momentum entering the final period as Levi Nuceder made a point-blank stop on Malaney, and Gilliam pinged a shot off the crossbar at the horn.

Soon the game was tied at 10-10. At 11:02 Draper swept through the box from the left and fired a shot inside the left post. At 8:37 Logan McNulty came across from the other side and tossed home a lefty bid.

Williams answered with two strong efforts for CVU. At 7:59 he rolled in from the left and made it 11-10. As time began to wind down, he scored a similar goal, curling in from the left and sneaking a shot inside the

left post to put the Redhawks up by two with just 2:56 remaining.

The Tigers fought back. Junior Callan Boulanger won the draw. The Tigers worked the ball to Draper, and Kearney denied him. But the Tigers controlled the rebound, and Hodde, from the left, found Gillette open in the middle of the box, and he whipped a shot home — 12-11.

Boulanger again got the Tigers the ball. The Tigers turned it over, but so did CVU. The Tigers gave the ball to Draper. He bolted into the box and bounced a straight overhead shot past Kearney with 13.6 on the clock.

It was on to overtime. This time Redhawk Raymond Hagios controlled the faceoff, CVU called time, and 30 seconds later by the thinnest of possible margins it was the Redhawks, not the Tigers, who were celebrating.

As well as Draper, Gillett, Hodde and Gavin McNulty, classmate Brady McDonough also played his last game for the Tigers on Sunday.

Rizzo said the Tigers had an outstanding season despite Sunday's disappointment.

"We're really proud of what we're building. There is a really deep and rich tradition of lacrosse in Middlebury. And we feel like we should be here every year. So we had a great season because of that," he said. "It didn't finish how we wanted it to, but we're really proud about the way we play lacrosse, and the future is bright for us."

MUHS tennis

(Continued from Page 2B)
"I thought in the beginning of the year that this team could go all the way," Schoen said. "I was convinced that was true. And sure enough, it is."

As well as Anderson, Bartlett, Fallis, Harrington, Doherty Konczal and Rees, the team also featured seniors Eliot Heminway, Brian Newton and Silas Taylor. Heminway saw action this season, and Newton, a regular member of the team's playing ladder a year ago, almost certainly would have if not for an injury. He served as an assistant coach this season.

The individual match scores for the June 13 final were:

At No. 1 Singles: Jackson Murray (MUHS) defeated Oscar

Andersson (CVU) 7-5, 6-1.

At No. 2 Singles: Babbot (CVU) defeated Kellan Bartlett (MUHS) 6-4, 6-2.

At No. 3 Singles: Jacob Graham (CVU) defeated Charles Young (MUHS) 7-5, 4-3. (Young retired)

At No. 4 Singles: Iver Anderson (MUHS) defeated Krieger (CVU) 6-4, 4-6, 1-0 (10-1).

At No. 5 Singles: Nate Cook Yoder (MUHS) defeated Sandage (CVU) 6-2, 6-3.

At No. 1 Doubles: Eddie Fallis & Milo Rees (MUHS) defeated Dash Tota & Nick Haskins (CVU) 6-2, 6-4.

At No. 2 Doubles: Luke Sampson & Henry Frost (CVU) defeated Baxter Harrington & Noah Doherty Konczal (MUHS) 7-5, 6-0.

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TIGER SENIOR ATTACKER Toby Draper gets past the CVU defense to score one of his game-high six goals during Sunday's D-I boys' lacrosse final at UVM's Virtue Field.

Independent photo/John S. McCright

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NEWS

LINCOLN — Starting Sunday, June 23, from 10:15 to 11:15 a.m., the United Church of Lincoln will be kicking off their Summer Bible Camp for children in kindergarten through sixth grade. The camp will be held every Sunday through Aug. 25 at the church. This will be a time full of fun activity with the focus on outreach projects including helping with needs for Haiti's Orphanage, Bristol Food Shelf, the John Graham Shelter and bringing joy to those who are homebound and folks at Porter Nursing Home. Please call Judy Brown at the church office 453-4280 for more information.

Thank you to everyone who drops off cans and bottles in the

Lincoln Historical Society trailer at the town clerk's office. Thieves have once again targeted the trailer so please empty out your boxes and bags into the trailer and take the containers with you when you go. Loose cans and bottles will help deter thieves and help to increase the trailer's capacity. Thank you for your donations.

The next Pop-In People session will be on Wednesday, June 26, from 3 to 5 p.m. at the library. Participants will be creating origami with Gail. Snacks will be provided.

Until next time ... Being Happy Is The Greatest Form Of Success. Stop Hiding Your Magic. If You Are Too Busy To Laugh, You Are

Monkton

Have a news tip? Contact Liz Pecor at rascal0406@gmavt.net

NEWS

MONKTON — Join in on the fun at the Russell Memorial Library on Thursday, June 20, from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m., for the Winter Into Spring Musical Library Tour featuring Tourneol. This is a part of the Five Town Friends of the Arts. The Musical is free, but an optional donation is always appreciated. For questions call the library at 802-453-2180 or email russelllibraryvt.wordpress.com.

There is still time to donate books to the library for the used book sale during the Strawberry

Festival, on June 30, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Drop your donations off at the library during open hours or call for a set up time to drop them off. The library cannot accept Dictionaries, Encyclopedias, textbooks, books with highlighter or notes, musty or moldy or water damaged books, VHS tapes, cassette tapes, music CDs or computer software. The library is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3 to 7 p.m. and Fridays and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. or email russellmemlibrary@gmail.com.



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community calendar

THURSDAY

Where's Waldo? in Starksboro. June 20-July 31, everywhere in Starksboro. Waldo will be visiting all over Starksboro through the end of July. Spot him around town and come by the library to report your sighting for a prize from the treasure chest. Take a selfie and post it on social media, tag Starksboro Public Library.

Interlude community drop-in in Middlebury. Thursday, June 27, 3-6 p.m., 99 Maple St., No. 99, Marbleworks. Interlude, mental health crisis alternative, is hosting a community drop-in time. Come celebrate summer and enjoy food, live music, art, and more. More info call 802-458-8219 or visit tinyurl.com/interlude-open-house.

The Life of the Bristol Airport in Bristol. Thursday, June 20, 7 p.m., Howden Hall, 19 West St. Bristol Historical Society's Reg Dearborn will speak on Bristol's airport, which operated from 1934 to 1966. From carrying passengers and freight to training private pilots and more importantly, pilots for WWII. Free, open to the public, and accessible to those with disabilities. For more information, contact Bristol Historical Society at 802-453-3526 or dear4@gmavt.net.

FRIDAY

Remembrance for Suzanne Douglas in Middlebury. Friday June 21, 4:30-6 p.m., Henry Sheldon Museum, 1 Park St. Gather in the museum garden to honor and celebrate the life of Suzanne Douglas. On display in the museum will be a large collection of Suzanne's beautiful hooked rugs, donated to the Sheldon by Suzanne's family and friends, for a silent auction fundraiser that will run until Aug. 31. For more information visit www.henrysheldonmuseum.org or call 802-388-2117.

SATURDAY

HOPE for Tomorrow in Ferrisburgh. Saturday, June 22, 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, 4472 Basin Harbor Rd. This annual rowathon is an all-inclusive rowing and community event committed to raising awareness about teen suicide and an opportunity for us to come together in memory, hope, and support and row in this fun 2-mile course. No prior rowing experience is needed. Entry fee \$25. More info and registration at cmm.org/event/hope-for-tomorrow-2024.

Town-wide yard sale in Bristol. Saturday, June 22, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., locations around town. Join the Bristol Recreation Department for the 10th year of this exciting event.

"Sticks, Stones, Shells & Bones" open studio in Bristol. Saturday, June 22, 1-5 p.m., 12 High St. Diana Bigelow will open her home and basement gallery for a showing of her "collection" of crafted creatures made out of natural materials. Guests should be 6 or older. Do not touch the artwork. More info: jimdiana@madriver.com or 802-453-5060.

Military Road guided hike in Hubbardton. Saturday, June 22, 1-4 p.m., meet at the Hubbardton Battlefield visitor center, 5696 Monument Hill Rd. Jim Rowe, historian for the Crown Point Road Association, leads a vigorous guided hike on the Hubbardton section of the 1776-1777 military road to Mount Independence. Wear sturdy shoes and bring water.

The wonderful world of bats in Vergennes. Saturday, June 22, 1-2 p.m., Bixby Memorial Library, 258 Main St. Jerry Schneider, bat enthusiast and the inventor of the award-winning Butterfly Game will be on hand to talk all things bat. Visit bixbylibrary.org for more information.

"Isaac's Eye" staged reading in Middlebury. Saturday, June 22, 4 p.m., Byers Studio, Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. Lucas Hnath reimagines the contentious, plague-ravaged world Isaac Newton inhabited in "Isaac's Eye," exploring the dreams and longings that drove the rural farm boy to become one of the greatest thinkers in modern science. A talk-back with the actors and director follows performance. A MACo production. Tickets \$15, available at townhalltheater.org. Repeats Sunday. Limited seating.

King Pede card party in Ferrisburgh. Saturday, June 22, 6:30 p.m., Ferrisburgh Town Hall and Community Center, Route 7. A sandwich supper and then on to the games. King Pede involves "trick-taking" such as in Hearts and Spades or Pitch.

"Love/Sick" on stage in Vergennes. Saturday, June 22, 7:30 p.m., Vergennes Opera House, 120 Main St. See June 20 listing.

SUNDAY

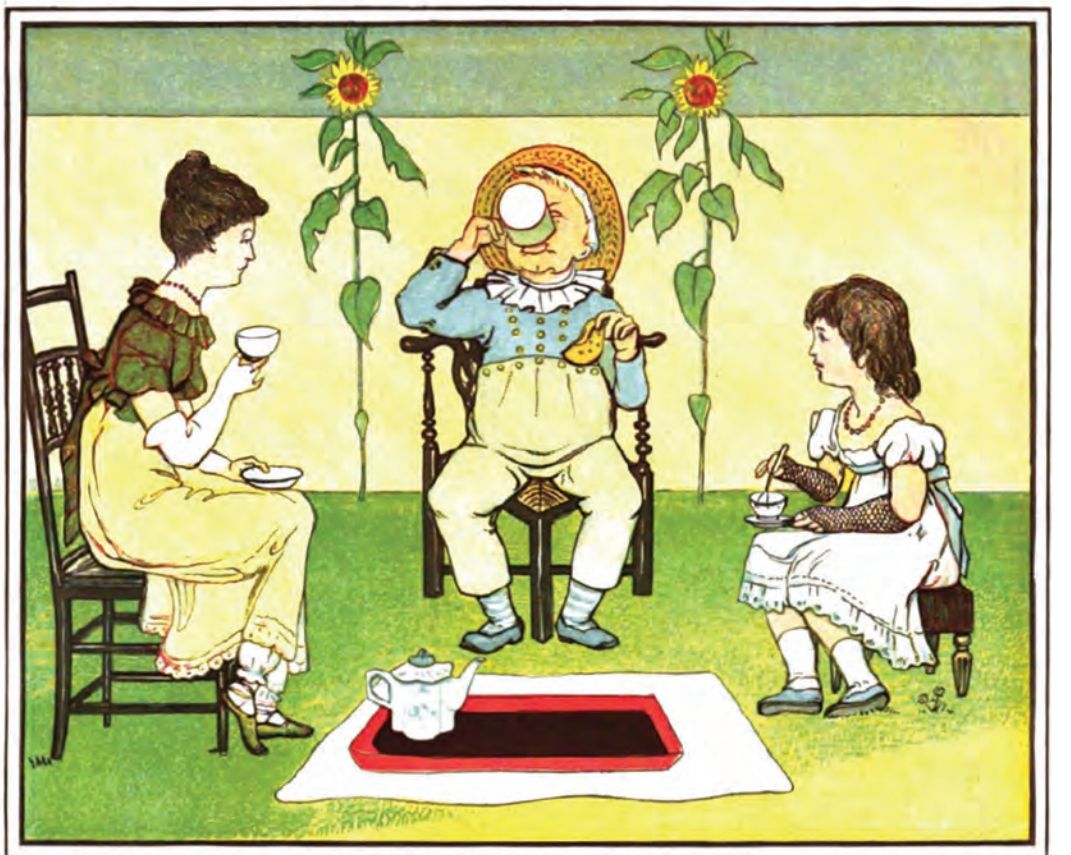
Bingo in Vergennes. Sunday, June 23, 2-4 p.m., American Legion Post 14, Armory Lane. Doors open at 1:30 p.m., Bingo starts at 2 p.m. Game packets are \$15 each which gives you one sheet of 3 cards for each regular game. Special "Winner Take All" games are extra and will be sold on the floor for \$1. Bring your own daubers or borrow one of ours. Payouts depend on attendance. Food available. Sponsored by the Auxiliary Unit 14.

English Cream Tea party in Brandon. Sunday, June 23, 3:30-5 p.m., Brandon Free Public Library, 4 Franklin St. Come and enjoy a Traditional English "Cream Tea" with teapots, homemade scones, jams with cream as well as other baked goods. Chef Louis will give a scone making demo and there will be a short talk about the English tea traditions and culture. All proceeds will benefit the Library Renovation. Space limited. Purchase tickets in advance at brandonpubliclibrary.org/library-events.

"Isaac's Eye" staged reading in Middlebury. Sunday, June 23, 4 p.m., Byers Studio, Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. See details in June 22 listing.

MONDAY

Strawberry Festival in Vergennes. Monday, June 24, 6-8 p.m., City Park. Strawberry shortcake (homemade pound cake, vanilla ice cream and fresh picked



Teatime

BRANDON FREE PUBLIC Library will host an English Cream Tea party in Brandon on Sunday, June 23, 3:30-5 p.m. Come and enjoy a Traditional English "Cream Tea" with teapots, homemade scones, jams with cream, other baked goods, as well as scone-making demo and a short talk about the English tea traditions and culture. For more information see the calendar listing.

"Afternoon Tea: Rhymes for Children" by J. G. Sowerby and H. H. Emerson, London: Frederick Warne & Co., 1880

strawberries) and beverage \$8 or two for \$15. Vergennes City Band will provide music. For more information, contact Marion at 802-417-4300.

City Band in Vergennes. Monday, June 24, 7-8 p.m., City Green. Relax on the green and listen to some great free summer music.

Strong Women of Vermont during the American Revolution in Starksboro. Monday, June 24, 7 p.m., Village Meeting House, 2875 Route 116. Starksboro Historical Society member Elsa Gilbertson will introduce some of the strong, resilient women in this area during the 1770s and 1780s and explore how the war interrupted their lives. Free and open to the public. Attendees are welcome to come in period attire, and to share their own stories or research. Parking is in the town center lot.

WEDNESDAY

Vermont Lake Monsters in Starksboro. Wednesday, June 26, 11 a.m., Starksboro Public Library, Route 116. The Lake Monsters will read a few stories and sign baseballs. McKenzie hot dog lunch and fun for all ages.

LML Theater Troupe: Monologue Series in Bristol. Begins Wednesday, June 26, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Lawrence Memorial Library, 40 North St. The Library's Summer Theater Troupe session will focus on monologues this year. These single character performances can range from serious reflection to funny banter giving a glimpse into a character's mind and inner workings, helping to develop acting skills. Space is limited. Registration is required.

Origami with Gail Martin in Lincoln. Wednesday, June 26, 3-5 p.m., Lincoln Library, Rover Rd. Gail Martin will be on hand as part of the library's "Pop-In People" summer program. Presentation with books and snacks for all around fun, literacy and activity.

"Best Summer Ever" screening and ice cream social in Bristol. Wednesday, June 26, 6:30-9 p.m., Lawrence Memorial Library, 40 North St. Join the library and Zeno Mountain Farm for a special screening of Best Summer Ever, Zeno's own feature length movie musical filmed in Bristol. Q&A after the film and ice cream from Ben & Jerry's will be provided. No registration required.

Town Band on the Green in Bristol. Wednesday, June 26, 7-8:30 p.m. Bring a lawn chair or blanket, sit back and enjoy this 150-year tradition.

THURSDAY

"Let's Go To The Moon" paint night in Middlebury. Thursday, June 27, 6 p.m., Ilsley Public Library, 75 Main St. A community paint night is filled with fun and laughter. We have the supplies and you bring the fun. Space limited. Register at ilsleypubliclibrary.org/paint-night-lets-go-to-the-moon. The skill level for this program is adult, if you under 16 please bring your favorite adult along with you.

FRIDAY

Surf and Turf dinner in Middlebury. Friday, June 28, 5-7 p.m., VFW, 530 Exchange St. Delicious steak, shrimp, baked potato and green beans. Eat in or take out. Steak dinner \$18/shrimp dinner \$18/combo \$22. Open to the public. Proceeds benefit veterans programs.

Graphic Novel Café in Bristol. Friday, June 28, 6-7 p.m., Lawrence Memorial Library, 40 North St. We're transforming the children's library into a Graphic Novel café. Peruse and leave with a graphic novel to build your very own collection and enjoy light refreshments. Ashley DiMercurio from The Reading Tutor and The Reading Podcast Project will be upstairs via webinar to discuss the value of graphic novels from 6:15-6:45. No registration required.

SATURDAY

Vermont Gran Fondo in Bristol. Saturday, June 29, 5:30 a.m.-7 p.m., Bristol Rec Field, 110 Airport Dr. The Vermont Gran Fondo is a non-competitive ride through Vermont's Green Mountains. This ride

will test your fitness with its challenging climbs. There are amazing views at the top of each gap — savor them for a moment before you speed downhill. Ride begins in Bristol with multiple route options over Vermont gaps. More info and registration at vermontgranfondo.com/event-info.

Abenaki Heritage Weekend in Ferrisburgh. Saturday, June 29, 11 a.m., Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, 4472 Basin Harbor Rd. Join Vermont's Native American community for Abenaki Heritage Weekend and Arts Marketplace on June 29-30 at LCMM to explore Abenaki perspectives on life in the Champlain Valley. Storytelling, craft demonstrations, drumming, singing, and more. Bring a picnic basket for your lunch.

Brown bag lunch history talk in Orwell. Saturday, June 29, 12-1 p.m., Mount Independence State Historic Site, Me. Independence Rd. Discussions about the Revolutionary War and Mount Independence. Different topics each month, call 802-948-2000 for details. Bring your picnic lunch and perhaps a lawn chair to Mount Independence on these Saturdays, hear from knowledgeable Coalition members and invited experts, and join in on the discussion. Outside if the weather permits. Cost included with admission: Adults \$12/children 6-14 \$4/children under 6 free/family pass \$30.

History of the Ruth Stone House in Goshen. Saturday, June 29, 2-4 p.m., Goshen Town Hall, 50 Carlisle Hill Rd. The Goshen Historical Society and the Ruth Stone House folks are presenting a look at the history of the house and the people who lived in it, prior to poet Ruth Stone. Wilcox Ice Cream and strawberries or shortcake. Visitors can then move on up the road to the house for a look at a work in progress. Everyone welcome. Free will offering.

SUNDAY

Strawberry festival in Monkton. Sunday, June 30, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Monkton Town Hall, 92 Monkton Ridge. Mark your calendars, we would love for you to join us. Used book sale, two bands, kids activities, lawn games and strawberry shortcake.

Abenaki Heritage Weekend in Ferrisburgh. Sunday, June 30, 11 a.m., Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, 4472 Basin Harbor Rd. See June 29 listing.

MONDAY

Choose the Story Adventure writing club in Shoreham. Monday, July 1, 4-6 p.m., Platt Memorial Library, 279 Main St. Calling all writers ages 9 and up. Create a book to keep and to add to the Platt Library collection. No previous experience required. Write a little or a lot.

City Band in Vergennes. Monday, July 1, 7-8 p.m., City Green. Relax on the green and listen to some great free summer music.

TUESDAY

Fran McIntosh author talk in Middlebury. Tuesday, July 2, 6 p.m., Ilsley Library, 75 Main St. As part of the Vermont Book Shop Author Series, don't miss this chance to hear former local teacher Fran McIntosh read from and discuss her new memoir, "The Walker, the Driver, and Otto." Equal parts harrowing and heartwarming, beautifully written, and expertly crafted for a pleasant reading experience all around. It details PE teacher Don McIntosh's 1987-1988 circumnavigational walk around the continental U.S. Fran supported him on that walk, in spite of no longer being obligated by marital bonds.

BE SURE TO CHECK OUT OUR

CALENDAR ONLINE

addisonindependent.com



VERGENNES BURIAL GROUND has gotten some TLC in recent months thank to the efforts of Vergennes resident Heather Simons and the VBG Restoration Project.

Photo courtesy of Heather Simons

Burial ground receives another round of TLC

VERGENNES — Less than one block off the very busy Main Street in Vergennes, if you turn down School Street and look to your left, you'll find a small quiet cemetery, surrounded by a black iron fence.

Previously known as The First Cemetery, The Old Cemetery, and the School Street Cemetery, the Vergennes Burying Ground is the oldest cemetery in the city and was established circa 1790. There are records of 377 headstones and 423 burials in the cemetery, including a total of 16 soldiers from the Revolutionary War, the War of 1812, and the Civil War. The most well-known is General Samuel Strong though there are many notable individuals buried there. Although the last burial recorded in the cemetery occurred in 1979, the majority of the burials were in the 1800s. The deed to the cemetery belongs to the City of Vergennes.

The Burying Ground was often overlooked over the years as people found Prospect Cemetery on the outskirts of town to be more appealing. An article from the *Vergennes Enterprise and Vermonter* in 1914 describes it as "Seldom cared for, it shares the neglect ordinarily meted out to such long forgotten cities of the dead. Many a gravestone is

cracked and discolored, some have fallen and some have sunk into the earth."

Arabella Woodbridge Lawrence was visiting family in the city and was dismayed by the conditions. In the early 1900s, she worked to help clean up and repair the property, then spearheaded the transition of maintenance for the cemetery to the Congregational Church of Vergennes and set up a trust to help fund the maintenance of the grounds and headstones.

In 2014 the Burying Ground was once again in poor condition. The Seth Warner Chapter of the DAR, recognizing the importance of this cemetery and the need for restoration, began work to clean stones under the guidance of the Vermont Old Cemetery Association. Learning that the Congregational Church was responsible for the care for the Burying Ground, Vergennes resident and historian Susan Ferland met with members of the Congregational Church to

outline the immediate needs of the property, but the Church was no longer interested in managing the cemetery. Through the work of the city lawyer, Arabella's trust was transferred to the city and once again the city was charged with the care of the Burying Ground. A new fence, a new name based on the original terminology used in the city records, along with a new sign did a lot to improve the look of the Vergennes Burying Ground.

After walking through the cemetery in early 2023, the stained and broken headstones spurred Vergennes resident Heather Simons to create VBG Restoration Project.

The amazing and dedicated team of volunteers have worked closely with VOCA to clean almost all of the headstones. Several stones were straightened and repaired during the May 18 workday, with more planned for the future. The team is also working on a map and attempting to locate missing

Several stones were straightened and repaired during the May 18 workday, with more planned for the future. The team is also working on a map and attempting to locate missing graves.

Illustrated talk to highlight Vermont's strong women

STARKSBORO — The Starksboro Historical Society is hosting an illustrated talk, "Strong Women of Vermont's South Lake Champlain Valley during the American Revolution," on Monday, June 24, at 7 p.m. The program is at the Village Meeting House, 2875 Route 116 in Starksboro.

Society member Elsa Gilbertson will introduce some of the strong, resilient women in this area during the time of war in the 1770s and 1780s. The talk will explore how the Revolutionary War interrupted their lives and what their contributions were leading to settlement and as founders of their new towns in Vermont and the new nation.

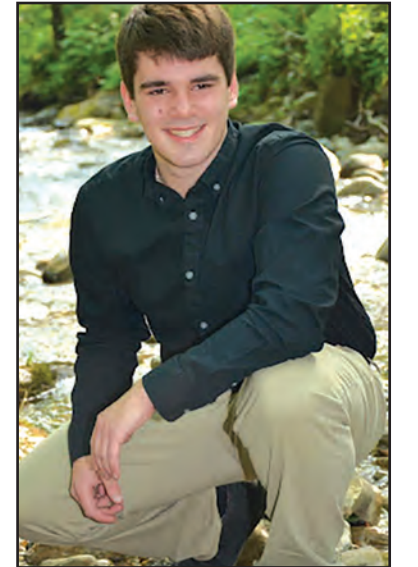
The program is free and open to the public. Co-sponsors of the program are the Starksboro Village Meeting House, and the Starksboro Public Library and Conservation Commission.

This is the first of several programs the historical society expects to offer in the next few years as Vermont and the nation gear up for the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence in 2026 and Republic of Vermont and Battle of Hubbardton in 2027.

The Starksboro Historical Society welcomes attendees to come in period attire if they like, and to share their own stories or research. Parking is in the town center lot.



ABIGAIL HAYES



MAX DERBY

Otter Valley names 2024 valedictorian, salutatorian

BRANDON — Otter Valley Union High School's valedictorian and Salutatorian this year have been announced.

Max Derby of Brandon is the valedictorian for the OV Class of 2024. Max has been a scholar-athlete at OV for four years, participating in soccer and basketball and earning recognition from the Southern Vermont League for his excellence in soccer. Max has also been a valued employee of the Brandon Inn, where he has been employed for four years. Max has maintained an impressive GPA and earned recognition for excellence in several of Otter Valley's most challenging classes. Max plans to attend the Patrick Leahy Honors College at the University of Vermont, where he intends to major in biology. His ultimate goal is to become a physical therapist.

Abigail Hayes of Goshen is the salutatorian for the OV Class of 2024. Abigail has been extensively involved in several programs at Otter Valley, but most deeply in the music program, participating in Band, Jazz Band, Pit Orchestra, and Chamber Singers. She also received a scholarship to participate in UMASS-Amherst's Jazz in July program. Abigail has been recognized for excellence in many courses at Otter Valley, engaged in international travel to both Costa Rica and Spain, and been employed at Café Provence in Brandon for several years. Abigail is planning to major in Criminal Justice and Spanish at the college level.

Max and Abigail will graduate with the other 76 members of the OV Class of 2024 during a commencement ceremony on Saturday, June 15, at 11 a.m., on Markowski Field.

Mackenzie Flint receives UWAC scholarship

MIDDLEBURY — Mackenzie Flint of Waltham has been selected by United Way of Addison County to receive its 2024 UWAC Youth Volunteer Scholarship Award. As part of UWAC's efforts to foster community service in all community members, but especially in Addison County youth, it honors a local high school senior through this scholarship. On behalf of a generous donor, one student is chosen annually for the award, recognizing a high school senior who has volunteered in their community and is interested in advancing their education. This award comes with a \$3,000 scholarship for the Addison County student to be used for post-graduation education.

Flint is a member of the Vergennes LEOS Club, an affiliation of the Vergennes Lions Club, which strives to give back to the community. Through her participation with the LEOS, Flint has participated in various community service projects, including assistance following 2023's floods, building an outdoor owl rehab space, reading with



MACKENZIE FLINT

elementary school students, and planting so many gardens it is hard to count. One of her biggest projects with LEOS included providing a new playground space for the John Graham Shelter in Vergennes.

Cookie Steponaitis, a Mentor for the Vergennes LEOS Club,

calls Mackenzie Flint "a wonder!" "Mackenzie has learned not only to envision change but how to take the sometimes-cumbersome steps needed to bring all parties to the table. She has met with town leaders, gotten permits, discussed funding options with other civic groups, and engaged members of her senior class and the local career center to participate in the cleaning and building process. Mackenzie completed her goals of securing the donation of a children's playground, a mural, a raised garden bed, and a barbecue grill for the John Graham Shelter," said Cookie.

After graduating from Vergennes Union High School, Flint plans to attend the University of New England-Biddeford to major in Environmental Science. From the Board and Staff at United Way of Addison County, congratulations, Kenzie! Thank you for your service to Addison County!

ADDISON COUNTY School Briefs

Annie Lapiner of Middlebury has been named to the dean's list at the University of Wisconsin-Madison for the spring 2024 semester. Lapiner is in the College of Letters and Science at the University.

With a GPA of 3.75 or better, Jordan R. Martin, a SUNY Canton Construction Technology: Management major from Middlebury has earned president's list honors for the spring 2024 semester.

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CLASSIFIEDS

Public Meetings

AL-ANON OFFERS HELP and hope to anyone who has been affected by a loved one's drinking. Middlebury hosts an online meeting Sunday night 7:15pm and a face to face one Wednesday at 1:30pm at CVUUS (2 Duane Court Middlebury near the high school) that you can also access by Zoom. Visit vermontalananonlateen.org for links and list of other meetings in the region. If you'd like to speak to an Al-Anon member, call our answering service (866-972-5266) and an Al-Anon member will call you back.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS in person meetings are available. For a list of local virtual meetings visit <http://bit.ly/district9aa>. For more information visit <https://aaavt.org/> or call the 24 hour hotline at 802-802-AAVT (2288).

Public Meetings

THE TURNING POINT CENTER of Addison County is open for in-person services, Monday through Friday, 10am-4pm, 54A Creek Road, Middlebury. We are available by phone 24/7 at 802-388-4249.

VERMONT SUPPORT LINE Are you struggling with a challenging situation? Do you have feelings of sadness, loneliness, isolation, anger, or depression? You don't have to face it alone. Talk with a caring person who understands what you're going through today by calling or texting the free and confidential Pathways Vermont Support Line available 24/7 at (833) VT - TALKS.

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

Public Meetings

we can help, please join us on Thursdays at 6pm by contacting vergennesfreethinkers@gmail.com for Zoom and in-person meeting information.

Services

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

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

Services

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

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

GARAGE SALE, SATURDAY 6/22, 8am. Wagner Road, Brandon, Rte 73 East. Old and newer items, vintage, collectible, unusual, useful and decorative. See Facebook Marketplace for pictures. Tinware, Tonka, seasonal/holidays, sewing accessories, artwork and linens. No e-birds.

HOUSEHOLD FURNISHINGS and many other items available. Saturday, June 22nd from 9:00am to 3:00pm and Sunday June 23rd from 9:00am-3:00pm. 23 Brookside Drive in Middlebury.

JUNE 22, 8-3PM Clean out sale, many items! Antiques, household, hunting, row boat, woodworking tools. All priced to sell quickly. Pickers Welcome! 721 Hewitt RD. Bristol.

Help Wanted



Addison County Parent/Child Center

Join the Parent/Child Center Team

CHILDCARE WORKER/PARENT EDUCATOR

Childcare Staff Position: We are seeking a childcare worker who will work with children and parents in our therapeutic program. This is a full-time position with generous benefits. We are a therapeutic childcare program that supports children birth through 5 and their families.

Strong candidates must have knowledge of **child development, family systems**, excellent communication skills, and want to work with young families. Flexibility and collaboration are a must. Experience with children and families wanted: a minimum of a Bachelor's degree preferred.

Please send a resume and cover letter, along with 3 references to **Donna Bailey at d Bailey@addisoncountypcc.org**

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

Help Wanted



Addison County Parent/Child Center

VAN DRIVER JOB OPENING

Addison County Parent/Child Center

We are seeking a van driver who will transport children, youth, and parents to our center from around Addison County.

Strong candidates must have a clean driving record and experience with children and families.

Great working environment and benefits. This is a 20-hour position with hours split between mornings and afternoons.

Please contact **Donna Bailey at d Bailey@addisoncountypcc.org**

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

Help Wanted



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+.


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Please no phone calls.

Middlebury Agway 338 Exchange St. - Middlebury, VT.



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ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT

Opportunities

Opportunities

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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.



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DEADLINE: Monday at 5 p.m.

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Notices | <input type="checkbox"/> Work Wanted | <input type="checkbox"/> Att. Farmers |
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| <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 |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Lawn & Garden | <input type="checkbox"/> Real Estate | <input type="checkbox"/> Wanted |
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PLEASE PRINT YOUR AD...

Number of words: _____
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of runs: _____
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Internet Listing: **\$2.00**
TOTAL: _____

The Independent assumes no financial responsibility for errors in ads, but will rerun classified ad in which the error occurred. No refunds will be possible. Advertiser will please notify us of any errors which may occur after first publication.

Addison Independent CLASSIFIEDS

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

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!

ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT

Contact Harris Gerner
(802)388-4944 ext. 104 or
frontdesk@addisonindependent.com



Garage Sales

JUNE 29TH FROM 9:00AM to 4:00PM. 3 Thornwood Lane, Vergennes VT. Household goods, furniture, pocketbooks yards and yards of quilting fabric batting and patterns. Rain date July 7TH.

MULTI-FAMILY SALE 477 Doolittle Road Shoreham June 20, Thursday 5-7pm, June 21, Friday 8-4 June 22, Saturday 9-2 June 23, Sunday 9-12 Uranium glass, Wedgewood, old bottles, toys, small furniture, trampoline, vintage items, books, assorted clothing, lots of silverware, hundreds of salt n pepper shakers, jewelry, DVDs, vintage Tupperware, household items, Disney items, tea-pots, linens, so much stuff cleaned out and we didn't get to it all! Rain or shine. Questions email Stacy at Sdrew291@gmail.com

Help Wanted

PART-TIME PERSONAL CARE assistant wanted to help 76 year old man in Addison with cooking, housekeeping and chores. Work 3 hours a day in the mornings on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays. \$25 an hour. Reply to eresnik@rcn.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.

For Sale

2001 MONTANA 5th wheel camper, 28 ft long, 2 slide outs, sleeps 4-6 people. Good condition. \$5000 OBO. Call 802-759-2491

Help Wanted

2015 HARLEY DAVIDSON fat boy, 10,000 miles. New tires, new battery with over \$5,000 in extras. \$9,500 or best offer. Call 802-759-2030.

For Sale

2023 RANGER CANOE. 16 footer. Weighs 52 pounds. \$1,600 or best offer. Call 802-759-2030.

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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.

FERN LAKE, LEICESTER - waterfront cottage, sleeps 4, dock, kayak, canoe, \$1050 week, 802-345-0970.

For Rent

1 BEDROOM HOUSE for rent in Salisbury. Older but renovated, energy efficient, just steps away from Lake Dunmore's Waterhouses Marina & Campground and Paddlers Pub. The house sits on over 1/2 acre lot with river frontage. All appliances, stove, refrigerator, microwave vent hood and washer and dryer included in the rental. Heat pumps with A/C. Screened in back porch. I am looking for a long term renter with a minimum 680 credit score, non-smoking anywhere on the property and prefer no pets. References and security deposit required. \$1,300/month plus utilities, lawn care, snow removal and trash/recycling. Minimum 1 year lease. Call 802-349-7431 and leave a message please. Photos: <http://vermont.craigslist.org/apar/d/salisbury-bedroom-house-for-rent/7751882983.html>

5,000 SQUARE FEET available. Exchange Street, Middlebury, VT. 802-349-8544.

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.

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WHITNEY'S CUSTOM FARM WORK Pond agitating, liquid manure hauling, drag line aerating. Call for price. 462-2755, John Whitney.

For Rent

DRY, WINTER/SUMMER STORAGE SPACE in Addison. Available storage space in my barn for summer/winter storage. The barn is structurally sound and weather-tight with electricity. No heat or running water. The barn is also available for lease. The entrance door measurements are 8' wide by 7' high. For more info: 802-363-3403 or rochon_m@yahoo.com.

GOSHEN: HOUSESITTING OPPORTUNITY, periodically shared with the homeowners, in scenic rural spot, 14 miles to Middlebury. \$650/month, plus light snow removal in winter. Large space for gardening! 802-863-5625 or HomeShareVermont.org for application. Interview, references, background checks required. EHO.

HISTORIC 2 BEDROOM APARTMENT. Newly renovated 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.

LIGHT INDUSTRIAL/RETAIL. 1,250 sq.ft. Exchange Street, Middlebury. 802-388-4831.

MIDDLEBURY, OFF CAMPUS HOUSING available. 802-388-4831, AJ Neri Property Rentals.

PANTON: KIND GENTLEMAN offering rent-free housing in exchange for providing meal-prep and sharing conversation, on a flexible schedule. Private bath. Cat or dog would be welcome! 802-863-5625 or HomeShareVermont.org for application. Interview, references, background checks required. EHO.

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.

MARKET REPORT

ADDISON COUNTY COMMISSION SALES

RT. 125 • EAST MIDDLEBURY, VT
Sales for 6/13/24 & 6/17/24

| BEEF | LBS. | /LB | \$ |
|-------------|------|------|-----------|
| MacGlavin | 1905 | 1.60 | \$3048.00 |
| J. Allen | 1820 | 1.60 | \$2912.00 |
| A. Foster | 1850 | 1.48 | \$2738.00 |
| Vorsteveld | 1625 | 1.43 | \$2323.75 |
| Blue Spruce | 1590 | 1.42 | \$2257.90 |
| A. Brisson | 1860 | 1.40 | \$2604.00 |
| H. Degraaf | 1680 | 1.35 | \$2268.00 |

| CALVES | LBS. | /LB | \$ |
|----------------|------|------|-----------|
| Savello Farm | 91 | 9.00 | \$819.00 |
| Goodrich Farm | 86 | 9.00 | \$774.00 |
| H. Degraaf | 85 | 9.00 | \$765.00 |
| Barnes Bros. | 112 | 8.50 | \$952.00 |
| Correia Family | 88 | 8.50 | \$748.000 |

Total Beef - 106 Total Calves - 180
We value our faithful customers.
Sales at 3 pm - Mon. & Thurs.
call 1-802-388-2661

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Preview:
Tuesday,
June 25 from
12PM-1PM
by Appt.



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Public Notices Index

- Public Notices for the following can be found in this **ADDISON INDEPENDENT** on Pages 11B and 12B.
- Addison County Courthouse (1)
 - Addison County Regional Planning Commission (1)
 - Lincoln (1)
 - Middlebury (2)
 - Middlebury American Legion (1)
 - Monkton (1)
 - Vergennes (1)
 - Vermont State Housing Authority (1)
 - State of Vermont (1)
 - United States Probation Office (1)

SEEKING TREATMENT PROVIDERS

The U.S. Probation Office in the District of Vermont believes that individuals subject to federal pretrial and post-conviction community supervision deserve access to quality, evidence-based treatment in the community. To that end, the District of Vermont will be soliciting for drug and alcohol, mental health, and sex offender specific treatment services, as well as drug testing services, for fiscal years 2025 through 2029. Requests for Proposals in these service categories will be made available on www.vtp.uscourts.gov/solicitations on June 17, 2024. Interested parties should contact Shawna Lapierre at Shawna_Lapierre@vtp.uscourts.gov or 802-951-0625 to be added to the Bidder's Mailing List.

PROPOSED STATE RULES

By law, public notice of proposed rules must be given by publication in newspapers of record. The purpose of these notices is to give the public a chance to respond to the proposals. The public notices for administrative rules are now also available online at <https://secure.vermont.gov/SOS/rules/>. The law requires an agency to hold a public hearing on a proposed rule, if requested to do so in writing by 25 persons or an association having at least 25 members. To make special arrangements for individuals with disabilities or special needs please call or write the contact person listed below as soon as possible. To obtain further information concerning any scheduled hearing(s), obtain copies of proposed rule(s) or submit comments regarding proposed rule(s), please call or write the contact person listed below. You may also submit comments in writing to the Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules, State House, Montpelier, Vermont 05602 (802-828-2231)

Vermont Workers' Compensation and Occupational Disease Rules 1-27.
Vermont Proposed Rule: 24P022
AGENCY: Department of Labor
CONCISE SUMMARY: The Workers' Compensation Rules set procedures for handling workers' compensation claims. Proposed rules implement 2023 statutory amendments and minor technical corrections. Proposed rule 3.1300 clarifies 5 "business" days; proposed rule 3.2300 clarifies operation of payment without prejudice; proposed rule 3.3000 adopts the "day is a day" amendment to the Vermont Rules of Civil Procedure; proposed rule 7.1800 clarifies that a medical preauthorization expires if not acted on in 9 months; proposed rule 8.1200 changes the average weekly wage calculation to include paid leave; rule 8.1400 to be repealed because it contravenes the statute; proposed rules 11.1400 and 12.1730 update reference to the VT Health Dept's Rule Governing the Prescribing of Opioids; proposed rule 13.1500 codifies current practice for settlement approval; proposed rule 13.1650 requires highlighting certain settlement terms; proposed rule 17 adds formal docket practice requirements; minor changes to rule 18 on mediation.
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT: Dirk Anderson, Director of Workers' Compensation, Vermont Department of Labor, PO Box 488, Montpelier VT 05601 Tel: 802-828-4391 Fax: 802-828-4281 Email: dirk.anderson@vermont.gov URL: <https://labor.vermont.gov/workers%E2%80%99-compensation/> adjusters-attorneys-insurers/statutes-rules-and-decisions/rules-proposed-rules.
FOR COPIES: Beth DeBernardi, Vermont Department of Labor, PO Box 488, Montpelier VT 05601 Tel: 802-661-8136 Tax: 802-828-4281 Email: beth.a.debernardi@vermont.gov.

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WowToyz, in Vergennes, is seeking motivated individuals to join our warehouse team full-time, Mon-Fri 8:00am-4:00pm.

Duties include:

- Picking and packing orders
- Unloading trucks and receiving merchandise
- Shipping orders via UPS and over the road

Ideal candidates are organized, dependable, enjoy physical work and are proactive self-starters. This is an opportunity to be part of a dynamic, growing company with room for advancement.

We recognize people as our most valuable asset. Our competitive salary and benefits package includes 401K with company match, dental insurance, medical insurance, prescription drug coverage, life insurance, paid sick time, paid holidays and paid vacations.

We offer competitive compensation packages commensurate with experience.

Email cover letter and resume to: resumes@wowtoyz.com

MIDDLEBURY UNION HIGH SCHOOL COACHING POSITIONS

Middlebury Union High School is seeking coaches for the following:

- Varsity Boys' Soccer
- Assistant Varsity Boys' Soccer
- Assistant Cross Country

Applicants must possess a strong knowledge of coaching principles with previous coaching experience preferred. Must possess strong organizational skills and the ability to communicate and relate to student athletes.

Interested parties should send a letter of interest, resume, and three current letters of reference to:

Sean Farrell/Athletic Director
Middlebury Union Middle School
73 Charles Avenue
Middlebury, VT 05753
Applications will be accepted until the positions have been filled. E.O.E.

Delivery Drivers

K. Pope & Sons, Inc. is looking for individuals with a clean CDL A or B with a tanker endorsement to pick up milk at local farms and deliver to the Agri-Mark plant in Middlebury. Must be able to pass federally mandated drug screening. Will help obtain a VT Milk Sampling License. Paid training, competitive wage, paid vacation time, health, vision, dental, and 401K match.

Contact 802-897-5700 or kpopesons@gmail.com to apply.



VERMONT SOAP

SOAP FOR THE PEOPLE

Production Team Members

Vermont Soap is looking for attentive, reliable and responsible people to work in our production department.

This position requires basic computer skills, attention to detail, the ability to sit or stand for long periods of time and the ability to lift up to 50lbs. Must be a team player and also able to work independently.

This is a full time position (Mon-Fri 7-3:30) with paid vacation time, paid holidays, 401k with employer match, and more!

Please send cover letter and resume to nichole@vermontsoap.com.

More Help Wanted ads can be found on Page 10B.

Real Estate

COMMERCIAL WAREHOUSE ON ROUTE 7, FERRISBURGH, VT



9,600 SF on 2 Acres

Please visit our website www.vtcommercial.com
802.343.2107
Linda I. Letourneau

Real Estate

Real Estate

Real Estate

Public Notices

can be found in this
ADDISON INDEPENDENT on Pages 11B and 12B.

TOWN OF LINCOLN PUBLIC NOTICE

Wednesday, July 10, 2024, beginning at 6:30 pm at the Town Office (62 Quaker Street, Lincoln, VT) and virtually using Zoom

The Lincoln Development Review Board will hold a public hearing for:

- Conditional Use Permit Application #24-039 as requested by Vermont Community Heritage Company LLC dba The Lincoln General Store on behalf of Katie and Kyle Clark.

Project Location: 17 East River Road, Lincoln, VT, Parcel ID # 01-07-01-57.000 Description: Repurpose Ice House Storage to a Creemee Stand. Will need to provide power/water/wastewater to existing structure. Renovate portion of structure to serve as a creemee stand, soft serve only.

Participation in the local proceedings is a prerequisite to the right to take any subsequent appeals. Please contact the Zoning Administrator at (802) 453-2980 to arrange a time to view the complete application.

The Zoom link will be included in the agenda which can be found on the Town's website the week prior to the hearing: <https://lincolnvermont.org/agendas-minutes>

Nicole Lee, Lincoln DRB Chair

NOTICE MIDDLEBURY AMERICAN LEGION POST 27, INC.

Annual meeting and election of officers will be conducted on Monday, June 24, 2024 at 7:00PM at the Post home located at 49 Wilson Road, Middlebury.

FULL PASSPORT SERVICE

The Addison County Clerk located in the Frank Mahady Courthouse in Middlebury is available to accept passport applications and provide passport photos.

REGULAR HOURS

Monday - 8:30am to 4:00pm
Tuesday - 9:00am to 12:30pm
Wednesday - Closed
Thursday - 12:30pm to 4:00pm
Friday - 9:00am to 12:30pm

APPOINTMENTS REQUIRED

For appointment, go to www.addisoncountyclerkvt.com or call 802-388-1966.



Congratulations, masters

THREE MEMBERS OF the Parent/Child Center staff: Rebecca Ann Bertrand of Whiting, Sara Davignon Chicoine of North Ferrisburgh, and Hayley R. Sirjane of Bomoseen, (shown with P/C Director Donna Bailey) were awarded Master of Science Degrees in Educational Research at the first ever Vermont State University Commencement Ceremony on May 18, 2024. All three were participants in the Nurturing Care Program for working professionals developed by the center, the Early Care and Learning Partnership, and Castleton University. Drawing Faculty from community experts such as Johanna K Brakeley, M.D. the program provided women and men from across the state with cutting edge research, knowledge and skills. Thanks to the support of private foundations and donors, students were able to complete the entire program without incurring any student loan debt.

Each of these 3 graduates researched and wrote a thesis on an area of particular interest to them. All plan to stay in their current positions and also to teach and mentor others rising in the field. Photo courtesy of Cheryl Mitchell

NOTICE OF INTENT TO EXERCISE WAREHOUSEMAN'S LIEN BY AUCTION

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT Chipman Point Marina, LLC, of 68 Chipman Point Road, in Orwell, Vermont, will be conducting a public auction at Noon on Saturday, July 20, 2024, at the office of the Marina, of property of Wojciech Rum, of Stamford, Vermont, namely a Twenty-Six (26') White Columbia with Boat Name: Lalaria to collect the unpaid balance of \$2,015.00 as of May 29, 2024, for storage and related fees.

Chipman Point Marina, LLC also asserts a lien against the above-described property in the amount owed, as per 9A V.S.A. §7-209, and if payment arrangements are not made within 10 days of this Notice, will seek to enforce their lien and sell the property to satisfy the debt, as per 9A V.S.A. §7-210.

David C. Venman, Esq.
Behrens Venman & Sussman, PLLC
PO Box 183
Vergennes, Vermont 05491
(802) 877-2973

NOTICE OF INTENT TO EXERCISE WAREHOUSEMAN'S LIEN BY AUCTION

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT Chipman Point Marina, LLC, of 68 Chipman Point Road, in Orwell, Vermont, will be conducting a public auction at Noon on Saturday, July 20, 2024, at the office of the Marina, of property of Keeth Watson, of Pownal, Vermont, namely a Twenty-Six (26') HULL ID #ZT126786 to collect the unpaid balance of \$1,252.00 as of May 29, 2024, for storage and related fees.

Chipman Point Marina, LLC also asserts a lien against the above-described property in the amount owed, as per 9A V.S.A. §7-209, and if payment arrangements are not made within 10 days of this Notice, will seek to enforce their lien and sell the property to satisfy the debt, as per 9A V.S.A. §7-210.

David C. Venman, Esq.
Behrens Venman & Sussman, PLLC
PO Box 183
Vergennes, Vermont 05491
(802) 877-2973

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ADDISON COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION REVIEW OF RIPTON TOWN PLAN

The Addison County Regional Planning Commission's (ACRPC) Local Government Committee along with the Ripton Planning Commission will meet for a joint public hearing on July 9, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Office, 1311 Vermont Rte. 125, Ripton, VT 05766. The Town of Ripton has requested that ACRPC grant regional approval of their updated Town Plan pursuant to 24 V.S.A. § 4350(b). At this meeting, the ACRPC will also conduct a consultation with the municipality in regards to its planning efforts. ACRPC's Local Government Committee shall review Ripton's Town Plan to determine whether the Plan:

- (1) is consistent with the goals established in 24 V.S.A. §4302;
- (2) is compatible with its regional plan;
- (3) is compatible with approved plans of other municipalities in the region;
- (4) contains all the elements included in 24 V.S.A. §4382;

Copies of the Ripton Town Plan on Ripton's website: www.riptonvermont.org/planning-comm

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88633564193?pwd=gQrxtpA2kDPAAlr3A60C3COTI0yEDn.1> Meeting ID : 886 3356 4193 Passcode : 166117

Questions, please call either:
Katie Raycroft-Meyer, Community Planner, Addison County Regional Planning Commission, 802-388-3141
Alison Joseph Dickinson, Town Administrator/Clerk, Town of Ripton, 802-388-2266

CITY OF VERGENNES NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given to the residents of the City of Vergennes that the Vergennes City Council will hold a public hearing on July 9, 2024 at 6:00 P.M. for discussion of an amendment to the Zoning and Subdivision Regulations.

Statement of Purpose:

The purpose of this public hearing is for the Vergennes City Council to consider the proposed Amendment from the City of Vergennes Planning Commission.

Geographic Area Affected

The Northern Gateway District (NGD)

Table of Contents of Proposed Amendments – There is no change in the Table of Contents.

ARTICLE XVI, Section 1612(E)(3) NORTHERN GATEWAY DISTRICT (NGD): ADD TO END OF EXISTING LANGUAGE TO READ, "IN BUILDINGS WITHIN 150 FEET OF THE EDGE OF THE PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY OF MAIN STREET/ROUTE 22A.

A copy of the full text of the Zoning and Subdivision Regulations is available for public review by contacting David Austin at zoning@vergenne.org. Copies are also available for review at the office of the City Clerk.

Betsy Sullivan
Vergennes City Clerk

NOTICE OF INTENT TO EXERCISE WAREHOUSEMAN'S LIEN BY AUCTION

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT Chipman Point Marina, LLC, of 68 Chipman Point Road, in Orwell, Vermont, will be conducting a public auction at Noon on Saturday, July 20, 2024, at the office of the Marina, of property of Tammie Shafer of Adams, Massachusetts, Vermont, namely a Thirty-Five (35') Morgan with Boat Name: Sybil-B-II to collect the unpaid balance of \$1,400.00 as of May 29, 2024, for storage and related fees.

Chipman Point Marina, LLC also asserts a lien against the above-described property in the amount owed, as per 9A V.S.A. §7-209, and if payment arrangements are not made within 10 days of this Notice, will seek to enforce their lien and sell the property to satisfy the debt, as per 9A V.S.A. §7-210.

David C. Venman, Esq.
Behrens Venman & Sussman, PLLC
PO Box 183
Vergennes, Vermont 05491
(802) 877-2973

TOWN OF MIDDLEBURY PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Middlebury Development Review Board will hold a public hearing(s) at the Middlebury Municipal Offices, Large Conference Room, 77 Main Street, Middlebury, VT on Monday, July 8, 2024 beginning at 7:00 p.m. to consider the following application(s). The hearing will be available to participants via a Zoom video link. The Zoom link will be provided on the meeting agenda posted on the Town's website.

1. Application (file #2023-04-005.002 PUD/SD) is a request for Final Plat review pursuant to Sections 563, 564 and 579 by Summit Properties (applicant) dba "Stoncrop Meadows", for Traditional Neighborhood Development PUD approval for a "major" subdivision. This application is classified as a "major" subdivision requiring both preliminary and final subdivision review. Preliminary Plat review and approval is dated 12/28/2023. The Stoncrop Meadows project area is owned by the President and Fellows of Middlebury College, PID# 004005.002. The property is in the Residential 20 district (R-20) which will be accessed from Seminary Street Ext. across from Valley View Drive.

The applications will be heard in the order listed. Plans and additional information may be viewed at the Planning and Zoning Office in the Town Offices or by calling 388-8100, Ext 226. Participation in this public hearing is a prerequisite to the right to take any subsequent appeal as an "interested person(s)". Interested persons wishing to participate in this hearing may do so by contacting David Wetmore at 388-8100, Ext 226 or email to dwetmore@townofmiddlebury.org.

David Wetmore
DRB Coordinator, AZA

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.



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facebook.com/addisonindependent
twitter.com/addyindy

TOWN OF MONKTON NOTICE OF TAX SALE

The resident and non-resident owners, lienholders and mortgagees of the real estate in the Town of Monkton, in the County of Addison, and State of Vermont, are hereby notified that real estate taxes assessed by the Town of Monkton for the 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022 tax years remain, either in whole or in part, unpaid upon the following described real estate in the Town of Monkton, Vermont as indicated below, to wit:

Christian D. Placey: 2020 Property Taxes

Being a three-bedroom 14x70 foot manufactured home, located at 7 Vaughn Court, Monkton, Vermont, more particularly described in a Warranty Deed from Kimberly L. Porter, formerly known as Kimberly L. Shaw, to Christian D. Placey dated July 17, 2020, and recorded in the Monkton Land Records in Book 164 at Page 365. Reference is made to (a) Addison County Community Trust, Inc. Housing Subsidy Covenant by and between Christian D. Placey and Addison County Community Trust, Inc., dated July 16, 2020 and July 17, 2020, and recorded in the Monkton Land Records in Book 164 at Page 373; and (b) Memorandum of Lease, Vaughn Mobile Home Park, Monkton, VT by and between Christian D. Placey and Addison County Community Trust, Inc., dated July 16, 2020 and July 17, 2020, and recorded in the Monkton Land Records in Book 164 at Page 382. (Parcel I.D. #04.102.052.000).

Tara Lorraine Gymrek Tower (Pike):

2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022 Property Taxes
Being 1.00 acre of land, more or less, with dwelling and any and all other improvements thereon, located at 1120 Hollow Road, Monkton, Vermont, and being all and the same lands and premises conveyed to Tara Lorraine Gymrek Tower by Trustee's Deed of Tove Nicole Gymrek Tower, as Trustee of the Sandra L. Tower Revocable Trust u/t/a dated December 20, 2011, as amended December 21, 2011, said Trustee's Deed dated April 24, 2012, and recorded in the Monkton Land Records in Book 136 at Page 304. (Parcel I.D. #04.102.017.000).

And so much of said real estate will be sold at public auction at the Monkton Town Clerk's office, a public place in said Town on the 29th day of August, 2024 at 10:00 o'clock in the forenoon, as shall be requisite to discharge such taxes with costs and fees, unless previously paid.

Any questions or inquiries regarding the above-referenced sale should be directed to the following address:

Carroll, Boe, Pell & Kite, P.C.
ATTN: Constance Tryon Pell, Esq. or Wanda M. Murray, Paralegal
64 Court Street
Middlebury, Vermont 05753 Telephone: (802) 388-6711

Carroll, Boe, Pell & Kite, P.C. and the Town of Monkton do not give any opinion or certification as to the marketability of the titles to any of the above-referenced properties as held by the current owner/taxpayer.

The only acceptable forms of bid payment at the day of tax sale are: bank check payable to Carroll, Boe, Pell & Kite, P.C., Real Estate Trust Account or letter of credit from bank followed by bank check payable to Carroll, Boe, Pell & Kite, P.C., Real Estate Trust Account. **No cash or personal checks will be accepted.**

Dated at Monkton, Vermont this 13th day of June, 2024.
William C. Joos, Town of Monkton
Delinquent Tax Collector

TOWN OF MIDDLEBURY SELECTBOARD MEETING

ROOM 116 – LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM
TOWN OFFICES – 77 MAIN STREET
TUESDAY, JUNE 25, 2024 - 7:00 P.M.

Also available via Zoom:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84911750112>
By Phone: +1 646-558-8656 (not toll-free)
Webinar ID: 849 1175 0112

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 June 11, 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 Agency of Transportation for Adams Acres Stormwater Treatment Project
 - 3e. Consent Agenda Placeholder
 - 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 - Recommendations from the Infrastructure Committee's June 13, 2024 Meeting
 - 6a. Contract for Munson Road Culvert Engineering
 - 6b. Funding of Middle Road North Improvements
- 7:30 7. *Legislative Wrap-up from the Vermont League of Cities & Towns with Local Legislators Invited
- 7:45 8. *Request of Vermont Gas System - Easement across Town property for a service line to St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 3 Main Street
- 8:00 9. *Maple Broadband request for an allocation of a portion of the Town's ARPA Funding
- 8:10 10. *Follow-up to May 29, 2024 Selectboard Retreat (Downtown Parking; Increased Advertising and Presence in the Addison Independent)
- 8:20 11. *Stoncrop Housing Project – Review Draft Development Agreement & Proposed Road Naming
- 8:35 12. *Agenda Placeholder
- 8:40 13. *Agenda Placeholder
- 8:45 14. *Approval of Check Warrants
- 15. **Board Member Concerns
- 16. *Executive Session - Anticipated - Contracts & Probable Litigation
- 17. **Action on Matters Discussed in Executive Session
- 9:00 18. *Adjourn

* Decision Item ** Possible Decision

ARTS LEISURE

The Addison Independent

June 20, 2024



Explore Diana Bigelow's enchanting creature collection at her 80th birthday open house on June 22. The event at 12 High Street in Bristol will be from 1-5 p.m. Come marvel at her 200 whimsical creations crafted from natural materials collected from beaches, deserts and forests around the world. Visitors aged six and older are welcome; creatures are to be admired with eyes only.

INDEPENDENT PHOTO / ELSIE LYNN PARINI

Natural world produces artistic creatures

This coming Saturday, the 22nd of June, is a special day for Diana Bigelow. Not only is it her 80th birthday, but also the day she'll open her home on High Street in Bristol to show her growing collection of "creatures."

BY ELSIE

LYNN PARINI

"I have been gathering beautiful and intriguing natural materials for decades," Bigelow wrote in an artist statement she prepared for the event. "Beaches, deserts, and forests the world over offer up an abundance of such riches... At some point, for fun I began fitting various pieces together to create whimsical figures out of sticks, stones, shells, and bones."

It began, she recalled as she walked over

to one of many shelves in her home full of treasures, with a "piano-shaped stone," that Bigelow found by the river in Poultney 50 years ago. "That stone just needed a music stand and some legs," Bigelow said. So that's just what she did — with the help of a little hot glue and choice stones, the piano was ready for her daughter Jennifer's dollhouse.

More than a decade later (we're talking the late 1980s now), Bigelow had met her now husband Jim Stapleton, and together they moved to the west coast of Washington. That's where the shoreline and beaches offered Bigelow "Discobolus" — not in bronze or marble, but rather a piece of driftwood that resembles the classical antiquity statue of a Greek athlete.

Bigelow's journeys to Wyoming, North

Carolina and Arizona were equally fruitful for her collections.

"In Wyoming I made dolls of bones and leather — that's Ma & Pa Simple," she said, pointing to a couple of creatures on a low shelf in her living room. "Then I made Flash n' Dazzle with oyster shells I found in Ocracoke, N.C.; Special Agent Gannet came from driftwood and bones from Ocracoke, too."

In 2009, Stapleton and Bigelow found their way to Bristol, which offered a whole new collection of supplies. And Arizona — where the couple winters — broadened the library of materials even further with cholla cactus, aggressive seed pods and treasures found in the desert washes.

SEE CREATURES ON PAGE 3

UPCOMING MUSIC

Enjoy Americana tunes and unlimited pizza with The Michele Fay Band at Blueberry Hill

The Michele Fay Band will be performing at the Blueberry Hill Inn, in Goshen, on Friday, June 28, from 6-8 p.m., for the Pizza by the Pond series. Pizza by the Pond is offered on random Thursdays and Fridays through the summer months. Reservations are requested and open the Sunday before each event.

The pizza starts flowing at 5 p.m., music from 6-8 p.m. The cost is \$43 per person (age 13 and older) includes an all-you-can-eat pizza buffet, lemonade/iced tea, live music fees and other fees. Add on options of salad and ice cream available too. Kids 8-12 are \$23; kids 7 and under are free.

Next Friday, June 28, hear Michele Fay Band's captivating ensemble featuring original and Americana music. Fay's heartfelt lyrics are

woven seamlessly together as she delivers with a crystal clear, authentic voice. Her "crack backing band," a perfect match for Michele's talent as a singer-songwriter, adds to the charm and sincerity of these songs without detracting from their earnest messages. Their repertoire provides a mix of understated originals and well-placed traditional fiddle tunes, played and sung with relaxed polish, personality and taste. Viveka Fox, (Atlantic Crossing, Frost and Fire), brings a new dimension with her solid fiddling. Tim Price contributes melodic instrumentals on mandolin and guitar. Ancel Colburn, on upright bass, adds a steady and dynamic beat.



Get your pizza fix and groove to The Michele Fay Band on Friday, June 28 at Blueberry Hill Inn's Pizza by the Pond from 5-8 p.m.

COURTESY PHOTO

The band's performances are both energetic and unpretentious, appealing to a wide range of audiences.

Next up in the Pizza by the Pond series will be Bread & Bones, performing Thursday, July 18. For a full line up and reservations visit blueberryhillinn.com/pizza.

Friday night music, food and wine is back at Lincoln Peak Vineyard

New Haven's Lincoln Peak Vineyard kicked off its summer music series last week with music by Brett Hughes and food by Dino Bones BBQ. Coming this Friday, June 21 is local musician Kevin Karakas, who will play from 5-7 p.m. Visitors can enjoy the music while sampling wines in the tasting room, which will be open from noon to 8 p.m.

On June 28, Lincoln Peak continues its Friday night music with another performance by Hughes and culinary delights from the Crooked Ladle food truck. The event runs from 5-7 p.m., with the tasting room open until 8 p.m.

Karakas will return on July 5, 3-5 p.m., with food again by Dino Bones BBQ. Then on July 6, join the Ragtime Release Party, from 2-4 p.m. This highly anticipated event marks the introduction of the vineyard's latest wine, Ragtime, a nod to customer demand. Attendees will have the opportunity to be among the first to sample the new release.

The Friday events will continue through September with more music and food truck gatherings. Each event features



Guests enjoy live music, food and fine wine at Lincoln Peak Vineyard's summer Friday Night Music events. Kevin Karakas and Brett Hughes will take the stage on June 21 and 28.

COURTESY PHOTO

a rotation of local musicians and food vendors, creating a lively atmosphere for wine lovers and food enthusiasts alike. For

details about musicians, food and more visit lincolnpeakvineyard.com/events.

CREATURES

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"I now have many boxes of different natural materials that I can dip into for projects," Bigelow said. "To date, I have

made over 200 creatures."

Most of these have been created in the past five years, with the help of her trusty hot glue gun. Bigelow, with the help of Suzanne Peck and her husband, has also put together photo books with details of each creature; as well as seven storybooks featuring various creature characters.

"These creatures are starting to take over the house," she said with a shrug and a smile. So how Bigelow react to this growing horde? Why, renovate the basement, of course.

With the help of shop owner Sheila at Your Home in Bristol, she outfitted her basement with wall-to-wall shelves stacked neatly with... you guessed it... creatures.

"The natural world suggests itself enthusiastically if you want to see it," Bigelow said. "In my life, I have such trust in the universe; if an opportunity is open to me, I want to just say 'yes!' I lean so much by living that way."

Bigelow considers her creations an exchange with nature. "I get inspiration from the materials and then get to get my hands in it... participate with it... be more engaged!"

Sometimes this means delicately placing feathers, carefully selecting stones or reconstructing skulls. Other times, it means learning how to process an opossum carcass to salvage a particular bone



COLLETTE

"I RECOGNIZE THAT A SUBTLE RECIPROCAL RELATIONSHIP EXISTS BETWEEN ME AND THE NATURAL WORLD, A KIND OF AN ARTIST PARTNERSHIP. I LOOK FOR MATERIALS THAT CAN BE MADE INTO CREATURES AND NATURE SUGGESTS WHAT PARTICULAR CREATURE WANTS TO BE MADE."

— Diana Bigelow

structure needed for a creation.

"I find it very rewarding because there's always something else," she said, noting that boiling water works well to get at the skeleton of an animal, but then you have to be able to put it all back together.

"I recognize that a subtle reciprocal relationship exists between me and the natural world, a kind of an artist partnership," Bigelow writes. "I look for materials that can be made into creatures and nature suggests what particular creature wants to be made. My gathering approach has evolved. I'm still always on the lookout for anything unusual, but based on what I've learned, I now have specific materials that I hope to find wherever I walk."

Faces, arms, legs, whimsical heads, necks, bodies, accessories, ears, skirts, hats, breasts, toes, tails, hair, wings and more... Bigelow is always on the lookout for inspiration. And her interest is spreading... "A young child next door has begun collecting his own materials; he invites me over sometimes," Bigelow said. "Kids are completely at home with these ideas of putting things together — it's fascinating."

While Bigelow isn't interested in receiving roadkill parts and pieces, she is interested in hearing from anyone inspired by a piece they have found. "I think that's delightful!"

If this all sounds rather unfamiliar, stop by her home studio and see what these creatures are all about. Who knows, maybe it will unleash a creative connection with nature in you too?!

The creatures made by Bigelow are not for sale. She asks that guests be age six and older, and look with their eyes only; the creatures are not to be touched.

"I'd be open to a museum or something like that taking the whole collection," she said. "But



MAUDE & ELMORE SHELLBELLY

These are a few of the creatures made by Diana Bigelow. She'll be opening her home in Bristol to show her collection of creatures on June 22, from 1-5 p.m.

INDEPENDENT PHOTOS / ELSIE LYNN PARINI



DESERT SPIRIT (DEVIL'S CLAW)

no, they are not for sale... I don't know what will happen to me, but now we have a record of each creature thanks to Suzanne Peck for doing the photo books.

"Art can be a solitary endeavor," Bigelow reflected. "I am grateful to live with a supportive husband, and also in a supportive community."

Bigelow tallies 80 years and over 200 creatures at her open house celebration, June 22, from 1-5 p.m., 12 High St. in Bristol. Here's to a very happy birthday and many more creations!

Can't make it to the event, but want to see more? Contact Bigelow at jimdiana@madriver.com or call 802-453-5060.



JESSICA'S
AT
SWIFT HOUSE INN



Now Open on Wednesdays

FANCY FRIDAYS

DJ Serena spins hip-hop, house, and R&B in the elegant Blue Bar, as Mixologist Laura Fenn serves up creative, hand-crafted cocktails for an upscale crowd, dressed to impress. Free to enter. WEEKLY: 7 to 10 p.m. Highly recommended: Cocktail Attire!

SUNDAY SUPPERS

Every Sunday, Chef Rob prepares a three-course prix fixe meal at a very special price using locally sourced ingredients. The idea is to make the Jessica's experience more affordable on Sundays. Includes appetizer, main course, and dessert. The sommelier will suggest a wine pairing, but it's not included in the price. Regular menu also available.

25 STEWART LANE, MIDDLEBURY

802-388-9925

Follow us @swifthouseinn

Vermont Gran Fondo takes off from Bristol for a tour of the Green Mountains

The Vermont Gran Fondo is a non-competitive ride through Vermont's Green Mountains that starts at Bristol's Rec Park (110 Airport Drive). This ride will test your fitness with its challenging climbs.

There are amazing views at the top of each gap — savor them for a moment before you speed downhill.

Pick up packets and register (online registration is closed, but you can still sign up in-person) Friday, June 28, at Frog Hollow Bikes, 74 Main Street, in Middlebury, from 3-6 p.m. Saturday, June 29, packets and timing chips can be picked up at the main venue before the race begins.

Groups will begin the race on Saturday morning. Vendors will set up at the Bristol

Rec Field, and food will be served at 1 p.m. Festivities will conclude at 7 p.m.

For rest stops and detailed course info visit vermontgranfondo.com/explore-the-course.

This year, a timed Gap Hill Climb Challenge with King and Queen of the Mountain trophies will be awarded to the top three men and women. The most challenging gap of the course will be designated as the challenge.

Riders seeking a bit of additional motivation can empty the tank by attempting to set personal bests and compare themselves to others on each gap. Upload your climb times (for any or all of the four gaps) via Garmin or iPhone to Strava and compare your times on our event KOM and QOM segments for each gap.



There's more than one way to get to the top of Lincoln Gap. Riders will test their strength in this year's Vermont Gran Fondo bike race that will start in Bristol this year.

COURTESY PHOTO

ART ON EXHIBIT

ART ON MAIN

25 Main Street, Bristol

For more info visit artonmainvt.com or call 802-453-4032.

"In and Out of the Garden." This exhibit features the works of guest artist Annelein Beukenkamp, alongside pieces from veteran Art on Main artists. On view through the end of July.

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 featuring pastels, paintings, and prints. On view through early summer.

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. On view through 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.

"Make : Believe" / "Realism Reboot." In her solo exhibition Helen Shulman presents two bodies of work, one abstract and one representational. On view June 14-July 23. An opening reception and artist talk will be held on Friday June 28, from 5-6:30 p.m. Open to all.

HENRY SHELDON MUSEUM

1 Park St., Middlebury

For more information visit henrysheldonmuseum.org or call 802-388-2117.

"Patent Pending: Ingenuity and Innovation in Vermont" features many patents, ideas, and inspirational "firsts" that have come out of Vermont. On view through Oct. 19.

"Model Boats: The Craftsmanship of Jerry DeGraff."

Jerry DeGraff, a native Vermonter from Essex Junction, served four years in the Navy before working many years in local building trades. As he honed his skills as a craftsman, a Christmas gift in 1994 gave him the motivation to try his skills at another trade — constructing model boats from scratch. On view through Jan. 4, 2025.

"From Homespun to Couture: Fashion in Historic Middlebury," offers a window onto the sartorial

SEE EXHIBITS ON PAGE 14

Cosmic Forecast

ARIES: March 21/April 20. Aries, your friends have stepped up to support you, and it is time to get together and enjoy one another's company. Think about an activity that everyone can get behind.

TAURUS: April 21/May 21. Taurus, the people around you may work more slowly than you, so you will likely need to be patient this week while working on a particular project. Eventually things will work out.

GEMINI: May 22/June 21. Gemini, exercise caution when dealing with people who promise big returns on your investments right now. Avoid financial dealings with anyone you have not fully vetted.

CANCER: June 22/July 22. Cancer, some people around you would like to use flattery to get you to do what they want. However, you are too savvy to fall for people who may be guiding you in the wrong direction.

LEO: July 23/Aug. 23. Loved ones and friends in your life deserve your time and energy right now, Leo. Figure out a way to cut down on hours spent on the job this week.

VIRGO: Aug. 24/Sept. 22. Virgo, things going on in your life right now may be a bit more confusing than you anticipated. It can be stressful, but with some assistance from others you will get through the situation.

LIBRA: Sept. 23/Oct. 23. Someone in your life who has not always been on your side has been changing his or her ways lately, Libra. You may want to reevaluate the relationship soon.

SCORPIO: Oct. 24/Nov. 22. Scorpio, you have been working hard to avoid conflict with someone close to you, but it could start to feel like more effort than you can care to keep up.

SAGITTARIUS: Nov. 23/Dec. 21. An interesting travel opportunity is coming your way, Sagittarius. When the news arrives, take advantage of it and start planning your itinerary.

CAPRICORN: Dec. 22/Jan. 20. Capricorn, is your schedule flexible right now? Try to rearrange things to take advantage of some last-minute recreational opportunities. You deserve to have more fun.

AQUARIUS: Jan. 21/Feb. 18. Aquarius, you may be feeling moody and introspective right now. Take time to evaluate your dreams and the thoughts going through your head. There may be common threads.

PISCES: Feb. 19/March 20. Don't let some ambiguous feedback adversely affect your mood, Pisces. You will never be able to please everyone, so focus on those people who are on your side.

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Fri 11-7pm, Sat 10am-5pm
Sun 12-4pm
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FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

JUNE 21 — Jean-Paul Sartre, novelist,
playwright, philosopher (d)
JUNE 22 — Cyndi Lauper, singer-songwriter (71)
JUNE 23 — Alan Turing, Mathematician (d)

JUNE 24 — Lionel Messi, soccer player (37)
JUNE 25 — Antoni Gaudí, architect (d)
JUNE 26 — Lord Kelvin, mathematician,
physicist (d)
JUNE 27 — Grace Lee Boggs, author and
social activist (d)

CALENDAR

JUNE 20-JULY 3
2024



THURSDAY, JUNE 20

"LOVE/SICK" ON STAGE IN VERGENNES. Thursday, June 20, 7:30 p.m., Vergennes Opera House, 120 Main St. A hilarious, tragicomic look at life, love and ... miscommunication. Directed by Kevin Commins, Kristen Ginsburg, and Kush Sharma. "Love/Sick" is a collection of nine slightly twisted and completely hilarious short plays about love and loss. Tickets \$13 June 20/\$17 June 21-23, available at app.arts-people.com/index.php?show=239522.

FRIDAY, JUNE 21

KEVIN KAREKAS IN NEW HAVEN. Friday, June 21, 5-7 p.m., Lincoln Peak Vineyard, 142 River Rd. Enjoy free live music by the Vineyard pond. Wine available for purchase.

ROCK-IT SCIENCE PERFORMANCE IN MIDDLEBURY. Friday, June 21, 7 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. Come see what local youngsters can do under the tutelage of Clint Bierman, The Grift and a variety of successful Vermont musicians when they showcase what they've learned under the THT lights.

TOURNESOL PERFORMS IN MONKTON. Friday, June 21, 7:30 p.m., Russell Memorial Library, 92 Monkton Ridge Road. Rescheduled from February, Tournesol performs a varied repertoire of songs and tunes, many echoing the sounds of Parisian cafes of the '30s and '40s — speedy gypsy jazz tunes, flowing

musette waltzes and the songs of Edith Piaf, coupled with plenty of well-known and not-so-well-known jazz standards and some Latin beats too. Acoustic guitar, fiddle, accordion and mandolin. Free admission with donations welcome.

"LOVE/SICK" ON STAGE IN VERGENNES. Friday, June 21, 7:30 p.m., Vergennes Opera House, 120 Main St. See June 20 listing.

SATURDAY, JUNE 22

"STICKS, STONES, SHELLS & BONES" OPEN STUDIO IN BRISTOL. Saturday, June 22, 1-5 p.m., 12 High Street. Diana Bigelow will open her home and basement gallery for a showing of her "collection" of crafted creatures made out of natural materials. Open house 1-5 p.m. Guests should be 6 or older. Do not touch the artwork. For more information email jimdiana@madriver.com or call 802-453-5060.

HOPE FOR TOMORROW IN FERRISBURGH. Saturday, June 22, 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, 4472 Basin Harbor Rd. This annual rowathon is an all-inclusive rowing and community event committed to raising awareness about teen suicide and an opportunity for us to come together in memory, hope, and support and row in this fun 2-mile course. No prior rowing experience is needed. Entry fee \$25. More info and registration at cmm.org/event/hope-for-tomorrow-2024.

ROMP IN BRANDON. Saturday, June 22, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Kennedy Park, 31 Center St. Picnic in the park to live music.

"ISAAC'S EYE" STAGED READING IN MIDDLEBURY. Saturday, June 22, 4 p.m., Byers Studio, Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. Lucas Hnath reimagines the contentious, plague-ravaged world Isaac Newton inhabited in "Isaac's Eye," exploring the dreams and longings that drove the rural farm boy to become one of the greatest thinkers in modern science. A talk-back with the actors and director follows performance. A MACo production. Tickets \$15, available at townhalltheater.org. Repeats Sunday. Limited seating.

"LOVE/SICK" ON STAGE IN VERGENNES. Saturday, June 22, 7:30 p.m., Vergennes Opera House, 120 Main St. See June 20 listing.

SUNDAY, JUNE 23

GREEN MOUNTAIN BICYCLE CLUB WEYBRIDGE RIDE IN SHELBURNE/VERGENNES/WEYBRIDGE. Sunday, June 23, 8:45 a.m., meet at Shelburne Village Shopping Center. A 64-mile (M) rolling hills from Shelburne through Vergennes and on to Weybridge. There are a number of food options in Vergennes for either the outgoing or return trip or both. More info contact leader Allan Kunigis at 802-324-9958 or akunigis@gmail.com or co-leader Matt Kuivinen at 802-881-9045 or mattkui@earthlink.net.

"LOVE/SICK" ON STAGE IN VERGENNES. Sunday, June 23, 2 p.m., Vergennes Opera House, 120 Main St. See June 20 listing.

"ISAAC'S EYE" STAGED READING IN MIDDLEBURY. Sunday, June 23, 4 p.m., Byers Studio, Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. A MACO production. Tickets \$15, available at townhalltheater.org. See details in June 22 listing.

SUNDAY SESSION WITH TOM VAN SANT IN MIDDLEBURY. Sunday, June 23, 4-7 p.m., Ralph Myhre Golf Course, 317 Golf Course Rd. Unwind and groove to the sounds of local talent at our Tavern on the Tee Patio. Set against the backdrop of the Green Mountains, our Sunday Sessions offer a perfect blend of lively music, great views, and unique flavors. Music is free, specialty drinks, local brews, and pub fare available for purchase.

MONDAY, JUNE 24

STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL IN VERGENNES. Monday, June 24, 6-8 p.m., City Park. Strawberry shortcake (homemade pound cake, vanilla ice cream and fresh picked strawberries) and beverage \$8 or two for \$15. Vergennes City Band will provide music. For more information, contact Marion at 802-417-4300.

STRONG WOMEN OF VERMONT'S SOUTH LAKE CHAMPLAIN VALLEY DURING THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION IN STARKSBORO. Monday, June 24, *CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE*

| MCTV SCHEDULE Channels 1071 & 1091 | | MIDDLEBURY COMMUNITY TELEVISION: P.O. Box 785, Middlebury, Vt. 05753 | | Please see the MCTV website, www.middleburycommunitytv.org , for changes in the schedule; MCTV events, classes and news; and to view many programs online. Submit listings to the above address, or call 388-3062. | |
|---|---|--|--|---|--|
| Channel 1071 Friday, June 21 Through the Night: Gov. & Public Affairs 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, June 22 Through the Night: Gov. & Public Affairs 5 a.m. Dr. John Campbell 7 a.m. Press Conf., Public Affairs 9:30 a.m. Eckankar 10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 4 p.m. Congregational Services 7 p.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 11 p.m. Energy Week Wednesday, June 26 Through the Night: Public Affairs 5 a.m. Dr. John Campbell 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 | 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 Monday, June 24 Through the Night: Gov. & Public Affairs 5:30 a.m. Eckankar 6 a.m. Dr. John Campbell 9 a.m. Energy Week 10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs Tuesday, June 25 Through the Night: Public Affairs 5 a.m. Press Conf., Public Affairs 9:30 a.m. Eckankar 10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 4 p.m. Congregational Services 7 p.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 11 p.m. Energy Week Wednesday, June 26 Through the Night: Public Affairs 5 a.m. Dr. John Campbell 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, June 27 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, June 21 6 a.m. Under The Dome 7 a.m. Chair Yoga 8 a.m. All Things LGBTQ 9 a.m. Word Time with Miss Markee 9 p.m. School Board Meeting/s 4 p.m. Author Talk 8 p.m. Under The Dome Saturday, June 22 5 a.m. 5th and 8th Grade Promotion Ceremonies 7 a.m. Tai Chi 7:30 a.m. Word Time with Miss Markee 8 a.m. All Things LGBTQ 9 a.m. School Board Meeting/s 1 p.m. Under The Dome 2 p.m. Poets and Authors | 6 p.m. Festival on the Green Archives 7 p.m. 5th and 8th Grade Promotion 9 p.m. Author Talk Sunday, June 23 5 a.m. Music in the Morning 6:30 a.m. Author Talk 7:30 a.m. School Board Meeting/s 12 p.m. Aphasia Choir 1:08 p.m. Poets and Authors 6 p.m. 5th and 8th Grade Promotion 8 p.m. All Things LGBTQ 9 p.m. Under The Dome Monday, June 24 6 a.m. Chair Yoga 7 a.m. Tai Chi 7:30 a.m. Festival on the Green Archives 10 p.m. School Board Meeting/s 3:30 p.m. Richard Kemp Center - Mural 4:05 p.m. Opus 38 film (39 4:45 p.m. Replay Runway - Children's Fashion Show 4:55 p.m. Tai Chi 5:20 p.m. Aphasia Choir 7 p.m. Under The Dome 8 p.m. Kindergarten Orientation Tuesday, June 25 6 a.m. All Brains Belong VT | 7:30 a.m. Chair Yoga 8:30 a.m. Tai Chi 9 a.m. Word Time with Miss Markee 9:50 a.m. Aphasia Choir 12 p.m. School Board Meeting/s 5 p.m. All Things LGBTQ Wednesday, June 26 6 a.m. All Things LGBTQ 7 a.m. Tai Chi 7:30 a.m. Festival On the Green 1 p.m. The Old Meeting House Presents 2:30 p.m. Poets and Authors 8 p.m. Kindergarten Orientation 9 p.m. School Board Meeting/s Thursday, June 27 5 a.m. Festival On the Green 7 a.m. First Tuesdays 7:30 a.m. Tai Chi 8 a.m. Chair Yoga 9 a.m. School Board Meeting/s 4:30 p.m. All Brains Belong Club 5:30 p.m. Festival On the Green Archives 8 p.m. The Old Meeting House 9:30 p.m. All Things LGBTQ | |

TOP PICK

DID YOU KNOW, TOM VAN SANT IS AN ADVERTISING SALES REP FOR THE ADDY INDY? HE'S ALSO A MUSICIAN! CATCH HIS SESSION AT THE RALPH MYHRE GOLF COURSE ON SUNDAY, JUNE 23, FROM 4-7 P.M. MUSIC IS FREE. DRINKS AND PUB FARE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE.

7 p.m., Village Meeting House, 2875 Route 116. Starksboro Historical Society member Elsa Gilbertson will introduce some of the strong, resilient women in this area during this time of war in the 1770s and 1780s and explore how the war interrupted their lives. Free and open to the public. Attendees are welcome to come in period attire if they like, and to share their own stories or research. Parking is in the town center lot.

CITY BAND IN VERGENNES. Monday, June 24, 7-8 p.m., City Green. Relax on the green and listen to some great free summer music.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26

LML THEATER TROUPE: MONOLOGUE SERIES IN BRISTOL. Begins Wednesday, June 26, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Lawrence Memorial Library, 40 North St. The Library's Summer Theater Troupe session will be focusing on monologues this year. These single character performances can range from serious reflection to funny banter giving a glimpse into a character's mind and inner workings, helping to develop acting skills. Space is limited. Registration is required.

ORIGAMI WITH GAIL MARTIN IN LINCOLN. Wednesday, June 26, 3-5 p.m., Lincoln Library, Rover Rd. Gail Martin will be on hand as part of the library's "Pop-In People" summer program. Presentation with books and snacks for all around fun, literacy and activity.

JIM SHAW AND ALBANY SOUND IN BRISTOL. Wednesday, June 26, 5-9 p.m., The Tillerman, 1868 N. 116 Rd. Hear live music in The Tillerman's barn. Music is free. Shaw 5-6:30 p.m., followed by Albany Sound (Michael Chorney, Lowell Thompson, Pat Melvin and Jeremy Frederick) 7-9 p.m.

"BEST SUMMER EVER" SCREENING AND ICE CREAM SOCIAL IN BRISTOL. Wednesday, June 26, 6:30-9 p.m., Lawrence Memorial Library, 40 North St. Join the library and Zeno Mountain Farm for a special screening of "Best Summer Ever," Zeno's own feature length movie musical filmed in Bristol. Q&A after the film and ice cream from Ben & Jerry's will be provided. No registration required.

TOWN BAND ON THE GREEN IN BRISTOL. Wednesday, June 26, 7-8:30 p.m. Bring a lawn chair or blanket, sit back and enjoy this 150-year tradition.

THURSDAY, JUNE 27

"LET'S GO TO THE MOON" PAINT NIGHT IN MIDDLEBURY. Thursday, June 27, 6 p.m., Ilsley Public Library, 75 Main St. A community paint night is filled with fun and laughter. We have the supplies and you

bring the fun. Space limited. Register at ilsleypubliclibrary.org/paint-night-lets-go-to-the-moon. The skill level for this program is adult, if you under 16 please bring your favorite adult along with you.

FRIDAY, JUNE 28

GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB HIKE IN MIDDLEBURY. Friday, June 28, Belden Falls Loop. Moderate 2.5-mile hike with minimal climb, partly along Otter Creek Gorge. Contact leader David Andrews at 802-388-4894 or vtrevda@yahoo.com for meeting time and other details. More at gmcbreadloaf.org.

BRETT HUGHES IN NEW HAVEN. Friday, June 28, 5-7 p.m., Lincoln Peak Vineyard, 142 River Rd. Enjoy free live music by the Vineyard pond. Wine available for purchase as well as food by Crooked Ladle Catering.

GRAPHIC NOVEL CAFÉ IN BRISTOL. Friday, June 28, 6-7 p.m., Lawrence Memorial Library, 40 North St. We're transforming the children's library into a Graphic Novel café. Peruse and leave with a graphic novel to build your very own collection and enjoy light refreshments. Ashley DiMercurio from The Reading Tutor and The Reading Podcast Project will be upstairs via webinar to discuss the value of graphic novels from 6:15-6:45. No registration required.

POINT COUNTERPOINT FACULTY CONCERT IN SALISBURY. Friday, June 28, 7:30 p.m., Salisbury Congregational Church, 853 Maple St. Each faculty concert differs in repertoire, instrumentation, and faculty performers. Admission is free, and goodwill

donations are gratefully accepted.

PIZZA BY THE POND IN GOSHEN. Friday, June 28, 6-8 p.m., Blueberry Hill Inn, Goshen Rd. Live music by the Michele Fay Band and wood-fired pizza. Open to the public, all ages, BYOB. Reservations: blueberryhillinn.com/pizza.

SATURDAY, JUNE 29

VERMONT GRAN FONDO IN BRISTOL. Saturday, June 29, 5:30 a.m.-7 p.m., Bristol Rec field, 110 Airport Dr. The Vermont Gran Fondo is a non-competitive ride through Vermont's Green Mountains. This ride will test your fitness with its challenging climbs. There are amazing views at the top of each gap—savor them for a moment before you speed downhill. Ride begins in Bristol with multiple route options over Vermont gaps. More info and registration at vermontgranfondo.com/event-info.

SUNDAY, JUNE 30

GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB HIKE IN STARKSBORO. Sunday, June 30, Mt. Ellen. Hike the Jerusalem Trail to the summit of Mt. Ellen, third-highest in Vermont. Moderate to strenuous hike of 7.6 miles round trip and about 2,600 feet elevation gain. Contact Jen Kluever at jennifer.kluever@yahoo.com with questions and to register. More at gmcbreadloaf.org.

SUNDAY SESSION WITH LIZ REEDY IN MIDDLEBURY. Sunday, June 30, 4-7 p.m., Ralph Myhre Golf Course, 317 Golf

SEE CALENDAR ON PAGE 15



A newly curated cocktail menu, live music, and stunning views of the Green Mountains. Our tavern is the perfect place to unwind after a long week, kick off the weekend in style, or close a deal over lunch.

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MILLERSVILLE, MARYLAND

LUMBERTON, NORTH CAROLINA

EPISODE 1

24 STOPS IN 15 WEEKS — DECEMBER 2023 — APRIL 2024

TRAVEL

On the banks of the Lumber River, warning signs appear in campsites for visitors unaccustomed to walking amongst 'gators and snakes (cotton mouths, copperheads and rattlers) that are common south of Richmond, Vir.

Our first full week of traveling south took us to three different campsites along Route I-95. The first stop was in Millersville, MD, a somewhat rural suburb just east of Washington, D.C. I-95 is the longest north-south road in the United States. It traverses 15 states, and facilitates 40% of the country's GNP. It is always busy and frequently gridlocked. We listened to an astronaut interviewed on the radio recall that the first thing he remembered seeing from space when he took a moment to look down was I-95 running the length of the East Coast of nighttime North America. It is more a conveyor belt of merchandise, equipment, commuters and luggage than anything like the proverbial open road promised by the alluring marketing of cars, trucks and campers. Most of it is an experience to endure.

BY **JUDITH & STEVE HARRIS**

This restless grade-level artery is a high-speed tunnel of outsiders burrowing through local neighborhoods, villages and towns, upending much but making only slight positive changes that benefit the natives. More like a loud, bright, heedless Burmese Python of self-absorbed adversaries, the social impact of its construction was unappreciated fully and is now deeply resented by most of its neighbors, especially those who saw it coming before it became a

cultural institution. Our approach to negotiating this intimidating challenge is to take it in small doses, start after the morning rush hour, get off before the evening rush hour and spend at least a couple of nights at each stop to decompress and reacquaint ourselves with the routines and demands of life on the move.

One of the primary decisions for a southward bound camper is choosing the moment to reintroduce the Airstream to water, a process that puts an end to "winterization." Each fall, the trailer is purged of any moisture by compressed air to protect its pipes, tanks and waterlines from bursting due to below-freezing temperatures. By frequent engagement of my eighth-grade algebraic training, I have concluded that the ambient average temperature increases by 1 degree for every 25 miles of travel south. Due to a mild start to this winter, we chose to hook up to "shore water" in Millersville, nearly 20 degrees warmer than home.

The 205 miles (or four degrees of increasingly warm air) from the D.C. environs to Emporia, Vir., took us along U.S. Grant's civil war "Overland Campaign" route against the gradual withdrawal of R. E. Lee's confederate troops of 1864. Our brief ride was without any major event or frustration, a far cry from the 2-month bloody slog of what would lead to a 9-month siege of Richmond and Petersburg into the spring of the

following year. To appreciate the compressed nature of so much misery and vicious conflict in such a limited geography (that can be driven in under two hours) is a shock. Compared to the long-term consequences of this momentous military and political importance, the stage on which it was enacted is tiny.

The Confederate States of America constituted "...the largest single landmass over which any conqueror had ever attempted to impose his will, larger than Napoleon's Europe, larger almost than Genghis Kahn's Eurasia." (John Keegan, *The American Civil War*) Yet most of the consequential military struggles took place in the 90 miles between the Union and Confederate's Capitols of Washington and Richmond. Route I-95 quickly necks down to two lanes south of D.C., becoming quite bucolic. The terrain and roadside foliage look eerily like descriptions of the landscape from the period.

The first day's slaughter started on the south bank of the Rapidan River in the "Wilderness," a region still characterized by rolling hills, few roads, and underbrush so thick that artillery and calvary were (and would still be) useless. For two days in May, infantry units stumbled into opposing forces frequently firing blindly into smoke so thick there was no point in aiming a rifle.

A year after Gettysburg, Grant had twice the number of soldiers, while Lee's army showed

remarkable determination and stubborn elan in defending their real estate. Mary Lincoln became so disgusted by the daily rate of injury and death that she dubbed the new commander "Butcher Grant." The name stuck...

After each of the nearly continuous battles that Spring, the carpet of oak leaves underfoot would catch fire and the immobilized wounded were left to burn to death. Lee resisted on familiar ground, and Grant assaulted Lee's dug-in troops for a day or two, then "slid left". This pattern persisted for eight weeks, forcing Lee to withdraw ever closer to Richmond, losing strength with each clash. The strategy further prevented Lee from sending troops south to confront Sherman as he began his "March to the Sea" from Atlanta, Grant's secondary strategy for gutting the confederacy. Grant lost 45% of his army, Lee 50% (100,000 casualties in eight weeks) by the time Petersburg came under siege in the fall. Grant could replace his losses.

It took most of the year, but it succeeded, as wars of attrition usually do. American mobility has advanced to unimaginable levels of convenience since then, making possible commercial and leisure travel through the most challenging, blood-soaked landscapes in America. It makes me deeply grateful for the timing of own life, conducted in a rare hole between wars. I am fortunate beyond measure to have missed such awful, organized violence.

We left Emporia, Vir., with a population of under 5,000, and drove the north/south length of North Carolina in Lumberton, N.C., population 20,000.

The highway follows what is known as Carolina's "Inner Banks," where coastal sand gives way to brilliantly red-stained agricultural soil. Inland is irrigated farm fields and grasslands. The eastern sands are home to swamps, military bases and coastal landscapes peopled by tourists and wealthy vacationers. The sensual clues of Southern transition alongside the road include the first slash pines, diminutive myrtle trees used for decorative planting and (when you pause), the unforgettable liquid-music of the Carolina Wren.

Both Emporia and Lumberton are poor, with median annual household incomes of \$30,000. Statistically, Lumberton has the highest crime rate of any similarly sized town in America...450% above the average rate for its home state. According to the New York Times, 48 million Americans are addicted to something (mostly opioids), and it is no longer an "inner-city problem." It is clearly a problem here, with toothless panhandlers at the entrances to supermarkets, bars on windows, shabby housing and lots of old rolling stock on the streets. Disposable income, what little there is of it, is obviously going elsewhere.

I-95 has gutted these two municipalities by dodging their original commercial districts (now largely abandoned when you can find

them), yielding to corporate development of the exits and abandoned 50-year-old motels and restaurants along the state highways nearby.

According to the plethora of billboards and a quick scan of the radio dial, North Carolina has three main products for sale: Fireworks, Firearms, and Fire and Brimstone. All three messages are aggressively repeated and tinged with a palpable and sulking resentment. But public radio is here too (UNC), a familiar beacon of liberal messaging on a dial that otherwise sounds like the AM of the 1950s. The reality on the ground and face-to-face is much more complicated than that. Black folks seem especially willing to connect with this traveler's attempts to engage or ask for help or advice. And there is evidence of generosity and kindness available everywhere that seems genuine and surprising compared to the cool reserve of New Englanders.

This morning, I went shopping for what I would consider "edible bread," knowing that in the rural south, that was likely a fool's errand, as it used to be nation-wide 50 years ago. My visit to the frequently recommended "Cakes, Pastries and More" did not disappoint these expectations, but I did come away with a Sweet Potato Pie, my first ever. Prepared on a tin-foil plate, it was handed over to me housed in a huge, clear plastic "cake box." Single use plastic is everywhere in the South, frequently ankle deep along the road shoulders and clinging to tree branches.

Bringing your own bag into a Food Lion is greeted with skeptical glances and eye-rolling from the employees and fellow customers.

The 10:30 a.m., line at the bakery counter was 20 minutes long and sported a casually clad black man wearing a 9 mm pistol outside his sweatpants, as well as a helmet-headed white matron hauling 8 boxes of glazed doughnuts off to her church group's get-together. The real bonus for me was being addressed as "baby" by the middle-aged Hispanic woman clerk. She had also called the church lady in front of me the same thing, taking the sexism out of the expression, but leaving the casual intimacy in. She bid me a good morning, and I told her that calling me baby had my day off to a great start.

Steve and Judith Harris met on a construction site in Burlington 37 years ago. They were married in Lincoln, Vermont nine years later and have lived on 15 acres alongside the New Haven River ever since. They are the principals in a two-person consultancy (Harris and Harris Consulting, LLC) that represents owners through the design, permitting, contracting and construction of commercial and municipal projects nationally. When not on job sites, the bulk of their efforts are conducted from their home office or Airstream travel trailer through the evolving technologies (ha ha) associated with remote work. Well into their 70s, their retirement has become a long transition with some lingering professional engagements too much fun to resist.



Stella, our Corgi companion, spends some of her front seat time with her snout buried inside Judith's elbow as she drives, and her butt in my passenger's lap...this gets her patted continuously at both ends by her captors.



TRAVEL

FIND ALL THE ADVENTURES ONLINE

ADDISONINDEPENDENT.COM

PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN

ARTS+LEISURE

WITH JUDITH & STEVE HARRIS

FOLLOW THIS ADDISON COUNTY COUPLE'S ADVENTURES THIS SUMMER AS THEY TRAVEL AROUND THE U.S.A. IN THEIR AIRSTREAM.

PUZZLES

sponsored by **SPARROW ART SUPPLY**

ACROSS

- 1. Breezed through
- 5. Supervises interstate commerce
- 8. Unruly group
- 11. Backs away from
- 13. Expression of understanding
- 14. Have concern for
- 15. Monetary units
- 16. Congressman (abbr.)
- 17. Iranian city
- 18. Eating houses
- 20. 2,000 lbs.
- 21. Grandmother
- 22. They include North, South and Central
- 25. In an early way
- 30. Foes
- 31. Shuttered British

entertainment magazine

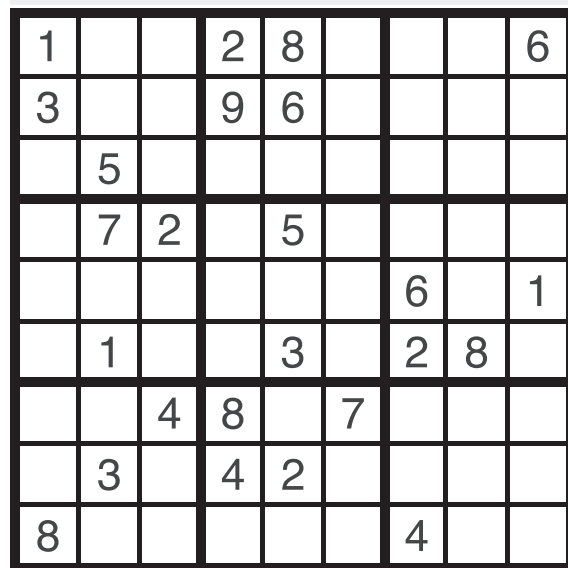
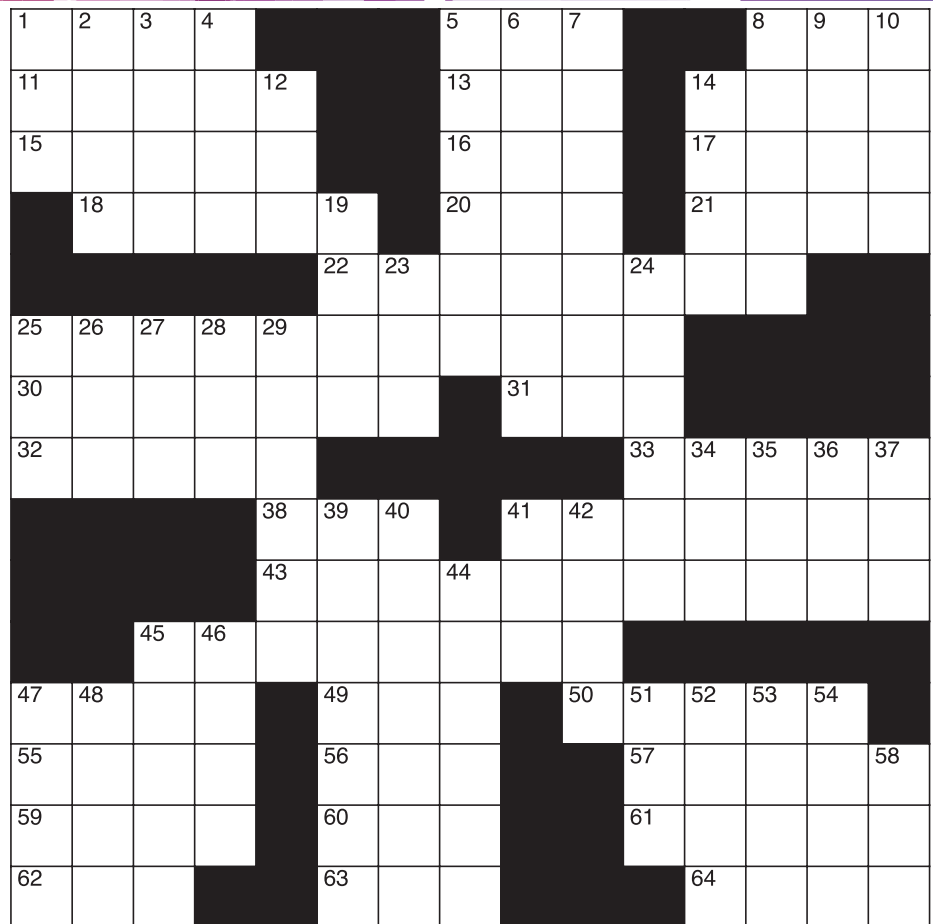
- 32. One who unloads cages
- 33. Another term for sesame
- 38. Formally forbid
- 41. Make clear
- 43. Inaccessible
- 45. Get through
- 47. Ancient kingdom near Dead Sea
- 49. Decameter
- 50. Type of sword
- 55. Actor Idris
- 56. Affirmative (slang)
- 57. Afflicted
- 59. One point north of northeast
- 60. Born of
- 61. Arabic name
- 62. Traditional Hong

Kong street food: __ pai dong

- 63. Termination point
- 64. Email function

DOWN

- 1. Sign language
- 2. In style
- 3. Helsinki neighborhood
- 4. Unable to hear
- 5. More rapid
- 6. An idea accepted as a demonstrable truth
- 7. In a cagy way
- 8. Kate and Rooney are two
- 9. Algerian port
- 10. Community in Ladakh
- 12. Midway between



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

south and southeast

- 14. Town in Galilee
- 19. Satisfy
- 23. Italian impressionist painter
- 24. Brass instrument
- 25. Chest muscle (slang)
- 26. Transmits genetic information from DNA to the cytoplasm
- 27. Records electric currents generated by the brain
- 28. Woman (French)

Aircraft designed to carry lots of passengers

- 34. Baseball stat
- 35. Pointed end of a pen
- 36. Popular sports league
- 37. Body part
- 39. Unlikely to provoke dissent
- 40. Yellowish cotton cloth
- 41. Domesticated house pet

Untruths

- 44. Set out to attract
- 45. Spiritual leader
- 46. Abba __, Israeli politician
- 47. Repair
- 48. Genus of flowering plants
- 51. Swiss river
- 52. Prejudice
- 53. River in central Europe
- 54. Harness
- 58. Father

This week's puzzle solutions can be found on Page 13.



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SWEET DOGGY DREAMS?



It can be disconcerting to new dog owners when they discover their pooches whimpering, shaking or seemingly crying in their sleep. Although there may be some rare instances when this behavior is linked to pain and distress, by and large it is a natural response in many animals when they doze off.

Although there is no exact way to measure what is going on in the pup's mind, experts like Dr. Bonnie V.G. Beaver, DVM, author of Canine Behavior Insights, says the main reason that dogs produce noises in their sleep is that they are probably dreaming during the REM phases in their sleep cycles. Dogs, just like humans, have the potential for vivid dreams while sleeping, as evidenced by looking at dogs' brain waves during REM sleep.

During these phases, dogs may show movement like wagging their tails, twitching their paws, fluttering their jowels, or making noises like whimpers. The general consensus is to simply let the pooch be as he or she works through those REM stages.

— MetroCreative

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Pets In Need HOMEWARD BOUND

Addison County's Humane Society

Iris

Hi! I'm Iris. I'm a 60-pound, 1.5-year-old terrier mix with a combination of a silly and loving personality. I enjoy sitting and observing wildlife in the backyard. I may be stubborn when it comes to walks, but I will chase after tennis balls all day. Don't be fooled by my lazy approach, I am still young and have a lot of energy. I can live with dogs that are a good match, but I find cats way too interesting to have as housemates. I can live with older teenagers but prefer no young children. When I first arrived at the shelter, I felt very insecure around new people. I'm still nervous when introduced to strangers, but I've made huge progress! I will need continued training to get more confidence. I would do best in a quiet home without much traffic where I can get to know new people slowly. All I want is a lap to snuggle up on and a home to call my own.



Maia

My name is Maia and I am a sweet and chatty 2-year-old girl. I have been very friendly with people and get along well with children too! I have met some of the shelter cats and have hissed at them but otherwise ignored them. I have no experience with dogs.



Minnie

My name is Minnie and I am a senior lady who is looking for a forever home. I am 14.5 years old and I am looking for a calm home where I can flourish and be the center of attention. My health is great and I have no medical concerns. Friskies is my preferred food and I also enjoy catnip. I have no experience with cats, but I did tolerate the dog in my previous home and may be okay with a calm dog.



Vulpix

My name is Vulpix and I am originally from Florida! My awesome foster wrote all about me: "Vulpix is the best of both worlds; she is both playfully fun and cuddly sweet. She loves to run and play with feline friends, interactive toys, any and every game with a human, she simply loves play! When she's ready to rest, you will always find her occupying your favorite seat in the house because she's waiting for you to sit down and cuddle her; once you do, she will purrrrrrr and snuggle her little face into your body. She is an absolute delight!"



Silky

Hi there! My name is Silky, and I'm an adorable bunny looking for my forever home. I am a 7-month-old, female Rex mix. I'm still settling in here, so everyone is getting to know my personality as I become more and more comfortable. One thing is for sure, though: I am oh so sweet and gentle! I've lived with other bunnies and even a cat, so I'm adaptable. One of my favorite things is snuggling up in my cozy rabbit bed. I promise the love and joy I bring will fill your heart to the brim. I'm ready to hop into your life and make it even brighter.



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236 Boardman Street | Middlebury, VT

ASK A MASTER GARDENER

WHY YOU SHOULD TEST GARDEN SOILS



Deb Heleba lives in Lincoln and heads up the Master Gardener Program and Community Horticulture Program at UVM.

Whether you are new to gardening, or have been growing your own vegetables for years, you probably understand the importance of getting your soil tested for nutrient levels and soil pH.

BY **DEBRA HELEBA**

But have you ever thought about having your garden soil screened for lead?

Although this bluish-gray metal occurs naturally in soil in small amounts, typically less than 41 parts per million (ppm), higher levels in garden soils may necessitate a range of actions to limit exposure, especially among children who are at increased risks to the health effects of lead.

If you live in the Burlington or Rutland area, you can have your garden soil screened for lead for free at one of the upcoming walk-in clinics called SoilSHOPS, thanks to a partnership among the University of Vermont (UVM)



U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service staff use cutting-edge technology to screen garden soils for lead at a Vermont SoilSHOP event.

PHOTO / DEB HELEBA/UVM EXTENSION

Extension Master Gardener program, Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Visit go.uvm.edu/gardensoilleadscreening to learn more. You do not need to register in advance. There is a limit of three samples per family. Trained volunteer health educators will be on site at these walk-in clinics to provide detailed information based on screening results.

You only need to collect one sample from a large garden. If you have multiple, edible gardens in different locations, sample these separately. Note that for soil lead screening, ornamental flower gardens do not need to be tested unless they include edible plants.

You can also submit a soil sample to the University of Vermont Extension Agricultural and Environmental Testing Lab (go.uvm.edu/soiltest). The lab will run a basic soil test for \$17, which provides information on pH, available macronutrients and micronutrients, organic matter and other soil components, along with fertility and lime recommendations.

A heavy metals test (including lead) is available as an add-on or on its own for \$15. Results include possible management

options if needed.

So, how do you take a soil sample?

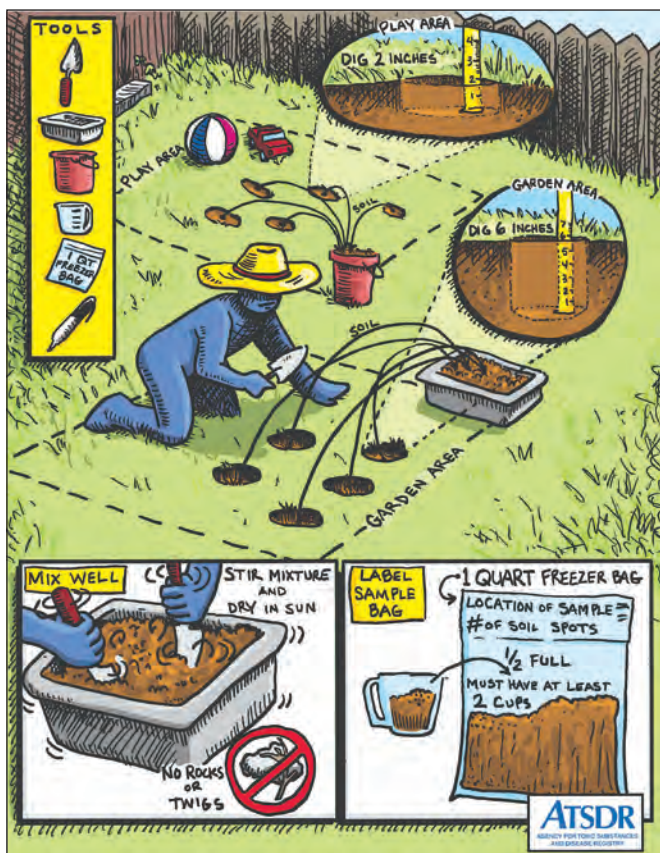
If sampling a large area, collect soil from 5 to 10 random spots throughout the area. For small beds, choose three spots at random.

Dig down to 6 to 8 inches deep in each location, and then combine the soil samples in a clean container. Be sure to remove any pebbles, roots or other debris.

You will need to let the sample air dry. Do not use a hair dryer, oven or flame. Once dry, scoop 1 to 2 cups of the mixed soil and transfer to a clean one-quart zipper or slider storage bag.

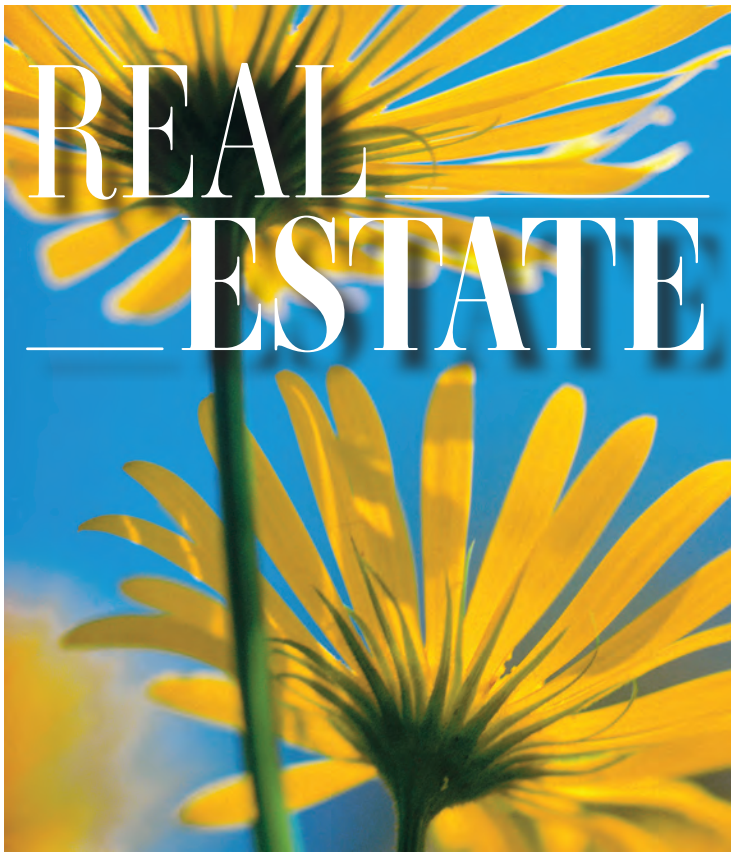
Wear gloves when collecting your soil sample. If taking more than one sample, rinse your shovel and container between samples. For multiple samples, label each bag so you know which test results apply to which area.

For questions about soils, soil testing and gardening topics, contact the Master Gardener Helpline at go.uvm.edu/gardeninghelp. Helpline volunteers also are available to take phone calls on Thursdays from 9 a.m. to noon through Oct. 31. The number to call is 802-656-5421.



Gardeners interested in having their garden soil tested for lead should follow this illustration to collect their soil sample.

IMAGE COURTESY OF AGENCY FOR TOXIC SUBSTANCES AND DISEASE REGISTRY



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<https://www.vtcommercial.com/listings/1945-us-route-7-ferrisburgh-for-sale/>



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| 8 | 6 | 9 | 5 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 7 | 2 | | | | | | | |



**BRIDPORT NEW LISTING!
51 ISLAND DRIVE**

MLS #5000386 | \$169,000
2 BD | 1 BA | 666 SF | 0.21 ACRES

Escape to the tranquil shores of Lake Champlain with this charming cottage offering the perfect blend of rustic charm and modern amenities. Whether your vacation home or year-round residence this open-concept home is ready for entertaining with the sights and sounds of the lake out your back door. Watch the sunset over the water, listen to the waves lapping at the shore, and feel the stress melt away. Property is on leased land with 31 years left on the lease. Lease is \$15 annually.



**MIDDLEBURY NEW LISTING!
953 LOWER FOOTE**

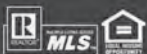
MLS #5000655 | \$419,000
3 BD | 2 BA | 2058 SF | 0.51 ACRES

Beautiful Green Mountain views right out your back door in this well maintained home. Sit on your back deck and enjoy the views. Make full use of the large, fenced in yard. This home can be sold fully furnished, including the electric fireplace in the living room. The main floor flows from the eat-in kitchen, dining and living rooms, with two bedrooms and a full bath down the hall. The walkout lower level has a large family room, 3/4 bath, third bedroom space and laundry. The one car garage is ready to store your vehicle or use it for your best purposes! Move right into this home and make it your own. Located just three miles south of downtown Middlebury and convenient to great hiking, biking, and skiing, all just minutes away!



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EXHIBITS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

tastes of local women and the growing Middlebury tailoring scene from the 1800s to the early 20th century. On view through Jan. 4, 2025.

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.

PHOTOPLACE GALLERY

3 Park Street, Middlebury
For more info visit photoplacegallery.com.

"A Sense of Place." Using light, composition and content, the photographer evokes a deeper understanding of place by selecting details so that the viewer knows how it smells and feels and sounds there — what it's like to stand where the photographer stood. Juror Paula Tognarelli selected approximately 35 images for exhibition in the Middlebury gallery, and 40 more for the online gallery. On view June 7-28.

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CALENDAR

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

Course Rd. Unwind and groove to the sounds of local talent at our Tavern on the Tee Patio. A blend of lively music, great views, and unique flavors. Music is free; drinks and pub fare available for purchase.

TRITON BRASS ON THE PARK IN ROCHESTER. Sunday, June 30, 4 p.m., Federated Church in Rochester, North Main St. Music spanning from 1602-2024, Gabrieli, Monteverdi, Bach, Piazzola, Gershwin, Dave Brubeck and Disney. More info at rcmsvt.org or 802-767-9234.

MONDAY, JULY 1

GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB HIKE IN LINCOLN. Monday, July 1, Mt. Abraham. Hike the Battell Trail up to the Long Trail and Mt. Abe. Moderate hike of 5.3 miles round trip with about 2,500 feet of elevation gain. Contact Helena Nicolay at surlma@gmail.com or 802-236-3541. More at gmcbreadloaf.org.

CHOOSE THE STORY ADVENTURE WRITING CLUB IN SHOREHAM. Monday, July 1, 4-6 p.m., Platt Memorial Library, 279 Main St. Calling all writers ages 9 and up. Create a book to keep and to add to the Platt Library collection. No previous experience required. Write a little or a lot.

CITY BAND IN VERGENNES. Monday, July 1, 7-8 p.m., City Green. Relax on the green and listen to some great free summer music.

TUESDAY, JULY 2

FRAN MCINTOSH AUTHOR TALK IN MIDDLEBURY. Tuesday, July 2, 6 p.m. Ilsley Library, 75 Main St. As part of the Vermont Book Shop Author Series, don't miss this chance to hear former local teacher Fran McIntosh read from and discuss her new memoir, "The Walker, the Driver, and Otto." Equal parts harrowing and heartwarming, beautifully written, and expertly crafted for a pleasant reading experience all around. It details PE teacher Don McIntosh's 1987-1988 circumnavigational walk around the continental U.S. Fran supported him on that walk, in spite of no longer being obligated by marital bonds.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 3

TWANGTOWN PARAMOURS AND SCARLETT ANNIE IN BRISTOL. Wednesday, July 3, 5-9 p.m., The Tillerman, 1868 N. 116 Rd. Hear live music in The Tillerman's barn. Music is free. Twangtown Paramours perform from 5-6:30 p.m., followed by Scarlett Annie 7-9 p.m.

THE LOCAL TALENT IN BRANDON. Wednesday, July 3, 6 p.m., Behind the Brandon Inn. This summer's Music by the Riverbend commences with alt country with a hint of rock'n'roll. Bring a chair or a blanket for listenin' or nappin' and your fingers and toes for snappin' & tappin'.

INDEPENDENCE EVE PARTY AND FIREWORKS IN BRISTOL. Wednesday, July 3, 6 p.m., Bristol Recreation fields, Airport Rd. Music by the 40th Army Band and DJ Jam Man. Food and craft vendors, games, raffle tickets winding up with fireworks at dusk.

FIREWORKS IN VERGENNES. Wednesday, July 3, around dusk, Vergennes Union High School grounds. The American Legion Post 14 and Fraternal Order of Eagles of Addison County invite you to see their public fireworks display to celebrate Independence Day. Don't forget chairs, blankets and bug spray. Parking is available in the high school lot. Please be respectful to property and pedestrian traffic.

NEW PROPERTIES FOR SALE IN ADDISON COUNTY



Middlebury

Looking for great exposure for your business and a wonderful home on the same property? This is the location for you! This property is located on Route 7 South in Middlebury offering public water and sewer, a workshop with overhead door as well as a 2-car attached garage to the 4BR, 3BA home. This location has housed a successful business for many years. Now, it is your turn to make your dream and profits come true. Simply a wonderful opportunity.

Price: \$625,000



Bristol

Located in the heart of Bristol Village, the immaculate 2 BR home is ready for you to move in! In the warmer months, you will appreciate relaxing on one of the 2 porches that this home offers which is so typical of the village homes! When the days turn chilly, you will want to take your reading inside to enjoy your book fireside next to the gas fireplace. Bristol sits on a plateau and is the perfect village to walk or ride bikes to the vibrant and eclectic downtown with its active village green. Live the Vermont life in this charming town.

Price: \$325,000



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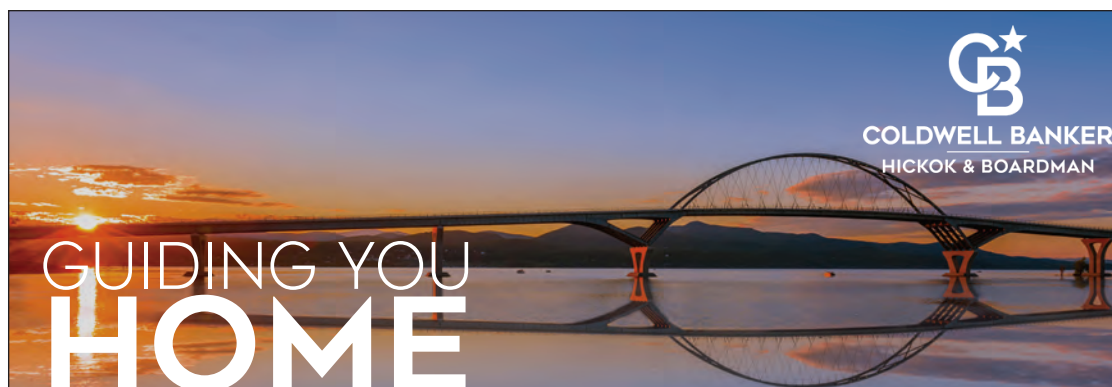
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Knights, rabbits and show girls arrive in Waitsfield with 'Spamalot'

The funniest show on earth is coming to spread laughter and merriment throughout Central Vermont. The Valley Players will present Monty Python's "SPAMALOT," opening June 27, and running weekends through July 14. Shows Thursdays-Saturdays will begin at 7:30 p.m., (no show on Thursday, July 4) and shows on Sundays will begin at 4 p.m. The theater is located at 4254 Main Street (Rt. 100) in Waitsfield.

Lovingly ripped off from the classic film comedy Monty Python and the Holy Grail, Monty Python's "SPAMALOT" retells the legend of King Arthur and his Knights of the Round Table, and features a bevy of beautiful show girls, not to mention cows, killer rabbits, and French people. The outrageous, uproarious, and gloriously entertaining story will delight audiences as they search for the Holy Grail and "always look on the bright side of life."

The Valley Players cast of 15 is led by Karl Klein (Fayston) as King Arthur, Hilary Delisle (Hinesburg) as the Lady of the Lake, Lonny Edwards (Lincoln) as Sir Galahad, Jon Sanborn (Barre) as Sir Lancelot, and Ashley Hall (Warren) as Patsy, King Arthur's underappreciated servant and "horse". Other cast members include Susan Loynd (Fayston) as Sir Bedevere, Aaron Robinson (Barre) as Sir Robin, Jordan Streeter (Moretown) as Sir Bors, Joe Robinson (Warren) as Sir Not Appearing, Clem Turmel (Milton) as the Historian and



The cast of The Valley Player's production of Monty Python's 'SPAMALOT' brings boundless energy and infectious laughter to rehearsals, gearing up for a hilarious adventure opening June 27.

COURTESY PHOTO

Prince Herbert, Marie Schmukal (Warren) as the Minstrel, and Holly Biracree (Essex), Sarah DeBouter (Berlin), Cassandra Demarais (Websterville), Madison Yasner (Essex), and Marie Schmukal as the Laker Girls.

The production is directed by Shannon Sanborn (Barre), with music direction by Daniel Bruce (East Montpelier) and Michael Halloran (Barre). Choreography is by Taryn Noelle (Craftsbury) and the Stage Manager is Marci Robinson (Warren). The lighting design is by Irene Halibozek (South Burlington) and the set was designed by Shannon Sanborn.

Monty Python's "SPAMALOT" is presented at the Valley Players through special arrangement with, and all authorized performance materials are supplied by, Theatrical Rights Worldwide. The book and lyrics are by Eric Idle, with music by John Du Prez & Eric Idle from the original screenplay by Graham Chapman, John Cleese, Terry Gilliam, Eric Idle, Terry Jones, and Michael Palin. The show runs 2 hours and 30 minutes, including intermission, and contains adult humor and language.

Tickets are available in advance at valleyplayers.com.

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2024 GRADUATES



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Congratulations to the Class of 2024 from our family to yours. We wish you success in all your future endeavors.



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CREDIT UNION

Middlebury grad takes journey from Ukrainian conflict to Yale University

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — Diana Herasim's young life has surged like a comet, blazing a path from the rubble-strewn cities of war-torn Ukraine to the sprawling green farmland of a sedate Champlain Valley.

Beneath her gentle brown eyes, quick smile and athletic frame resides a searing motivation born from a vow made at her mother's death bed almost five years ago.

"A big part of this passion for life was given to me by my mom," Herasim, almost 18 years old, said during an interview just a few weeks prior to her graduation from Middlebury Union High School.

"She passed away at the age of 42. I saw her going through this fatal disease but never giving up hope. She was such a role model for me, such an example. When she knew she had around two years of life left, she was still so passionate. I have this whole life in front of me and want to do as much with it as I can. I'm incredibly grateful to my mom for that lesson in life."

Diana Herasim arrived at MUHS in fall of 2021 as a sophomore, courtesy of the Future Leaders Exchange Program, or FLEX.

It was supposed to be a

10-month stay, but that all changed when the Russian Army invaded Ukraine on Feb. 24, 2022. She'd been slated to return to her homeland on June 20 of that year.

With a single fusillade, her life's trajectory — and the safety of her family — had been dramatically altered.

"It wasn't clear to me at the beginning of the war what my plan would be or whether I would be able to go back," she said. "But within a couple of months, it became clear that returning (would be impossible)."

Her hometown of Kherson was among the first Ukrainian communities to absorb the brunt of a pulverizing Russian attack, according to Herasim.

"My family had to flee the town and find a place to stay. They're still all in Ukraine, unable to leave," Herasim said of her dad, brother and maternal grandmother.

They first sought refuge in the southeastern Ukrainian city of Snihurivka. But that community soon came under fire, with bombs damaging the home in which the family was staying. From there, they settled temporarily in a small village, amid Spartan conditions.

"It was the safest area they could get at, at that point," she

"MY FAMILY HAD TO FLEE THE TOWN AND FIND A PLACE TO STAY. THEY'RE STILL ALL IN UKRAINE, UNABLE TO LEAVE."

— Diana Herasim



DIANA HERASIM GRADUATED from Middlebury Union High School this month after a three-year experience marked by war, a pandemic and a very mature outlook on life.

Independent photo/John Flowers

said. "The (phone) connection was better at that point, so I was able to call them — which made me feel much better."

Herasim speaks daily with her 26-year-old brother, Vladyslav, and a couple times a week with her dad and grandma.

"I call him before school for at least 15 minutes," she said. "I need (the daily conversations). Being away from my family for three years, it makes me feel like I'm still part of the family."

Her remaining relatives are now scattered throughout Ukraine.

"They're holding on and are as safe as they can be right now," Herasim said.

While understandably terrified for her family and concerned for Ukraine's survival, Herasim realized she needed to dodge some figurative shrapnel 4,000 miles away from the war zone. She was at the time of the invasion just four months from a scheduled plane ride back to Ukraine — if there were any airports left standing.

"My education was at risk," she noted of an additional worry.

Some sun peaked through the clouds when she learned her student exchange sponsors would give her a one-year extension to complete a junior year at MUHS.

(See MUHS on Page 4)

MUHS

(Continued from Page 3)

“That was nice, because my visa would be extended and (the exchange program) would financially support me; it was a kind offer that I accepted,” she said.

A second extension wasn't in the cards, but Herasim successfully secured “juvenile immigrant” status for her senior year. Her Middlebury host family — Jessica Allen and Jeff Buettner — agreed to become her legal guardians as she sought U.S. citizenship and completion of her high school career.

‘KIND OF A NORMAL STUDENT’

Now no longer part of an exchange program, Herasim refers to herself as “just kind of a ‘normal’ student here.”

But one would be hard-pressed to label her “normal,” per the

dictionary definition of “usual, typical or expected.”

At MUHS, Herasim was:

- Among the top 10% in her graduating class.

- President of MUHS's Model United Nations organization, and co-president of Student Coalition on Human Rights.

- A member of the MUHS Student Council and part of a peer leadership program that helped incoming middle schoolers acclimate to high school.

- A soprano in the MUHS choir and with the Camerata Singers.

Outside school, she is:

- Learning to play piano, with Allen providing tutelage.

- A lover of animals, she volunteers at Homeward Bound, Addison County's Human Society.

- A former boxer who's now a serious bodybuilder. Herasim wants to revisit boxing during college.

- Polylingual, able to speak five languages. Her English is

incredibly polished, especially for someone *who's largely self-taught*.

Herasim at times feels like she's won the lottery but realizes her family and peers in Ukraine never even got a chance at a winning ticket.

“It's very sad seeing my former classmates in Ukraine struggling so hard to get their education right now. They're all scattered, trying to find places where they can study,” she said.

Herasim noted that, unfortunately, Ukrainian schools haven't placed much emphasis on foreign languages. And that's made for a more difficult transition for Ukrainian students receiving offers to continue their studies in safer countries, she explained.

Since Herasim already had a solid foundation in English, she was able to assimilate and “it was, to an extent, easier for me to obtain this high-quality education (at MUHS),” she said.

LEARNING ENGLISH

So how did she learn English in an environment where it wasn't spoken or taught?

Knowing FLEX had just a 2% acceptance rate and placed a premium on language skills, she started self-teaching herself around two years before applying for the program.

Herasim immersed herself in YouTube videos, U.S. films, online apps, vocabulary flashcards, a short stint with a tutor — anything that would increase her proficiency in English.

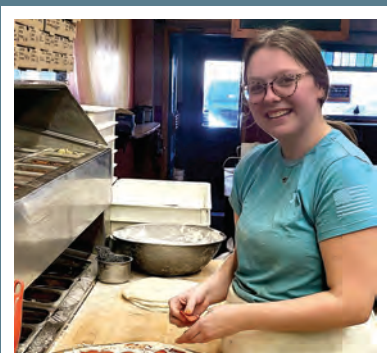
“It worked successfully for me,” she said with a smile.

So successfully she's currently learning a sixth language — Mandarin Chinese. Acquiring languages has become one of her hobbies, along with singing, bodybuilding and having fun with a growing network of friends.

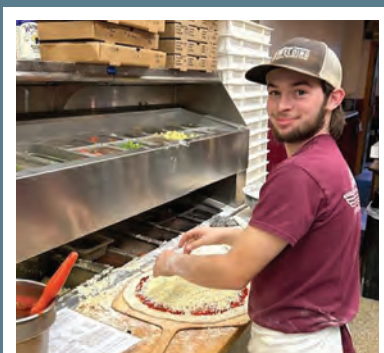
“It's been hard to balance hobbies and school during the

(See ROTARY on Page 12)

Nino's Pizza Congratulates the Class of 2024



Kaitlyn Brown - MUHS



Matt Cole - OVUHS



Tyler Kimball - VUHS

Way to go Kaitlyn, Matt and Tyler!

You studied your trades, enjoyed your sports, made time for family, your interests (travel, hunting, mechanics, friends) and you worked. You made Nino's an awesome place to work.

You took great care of each other this year. Your professionalism and work ethic are top tier.

Thank you. We love you and appreciate you.

Tiger grads get thoughtful, rousing send off from peers

MIDDLEBURY — Middlebury Union High School Class of 2024 members Maura Connelly, Diana Herasim and Milo Rees addressed their classmates at the school’s graduation on Saturday, June 8, at Memorial Sports Center. All three students were chosen by their peers to speak at this year’s commencement ceremony.

MUHS uses the Latin Honors system to reflect the accomplishments of each student. Under this system, students who achieve a cumulative GPA equal to or above a 4.00 receive the designation of Summa Cum Laude. Students with a GPA between 3.75 and 3.99 qualify

for Magna Cum Laude. Maura and Diana each graduated with the Summa Cum Laude designation and Milo graduated Magna Cum Laude.

Diana and Milo are candidates for the full International Baccalaureate Diploma and Maura is a candidate for IB certificates. All three students have contributed to MUHS in myriad ways, including serving as Peer Leaders, where



MILO REES



MAURA CONNELLY

they have mentored newly-enrolling ninth-graders as they transitioned from middle school to high school.

Maura was named a Vermont Presidential Scholar by the Vermont Agency of Education, and she has been involved in the school’s human rights club. Diana has been active in Model UN, choir, and participated in Girls State last summer. Milo was the recipient

of the Dorey Cup in 2023, acknowledging his academic and athletic accomplishments. He has been a member of the varsity soccer and tennis teams and was a founding member of the MUHS chess club.

This fall, Maura will enroll at the University of Vermont, Diana will be attending Yale University, and Milo will be studying at Williams College. They are part of an extended group of talented Tigers who are planning to pursue higher education, attend trade school, participate in apprenticeships, or pursue employment after graduating from Middlebury Union High School.



Seniors in the spotlight

THIS YEAR’S MIDDLEBURY Union High School Senior Play, “Legally Blonde Jr.,” pulled in many members of the Class of 2024 — some of whom hadn’t appeared on stage since grade school. While the play focused on Elle Woods, the not-really-dumb blonde, MUHS seniors of all stripes showed off their talents.

Photo by Jason Duquette-Hoffman

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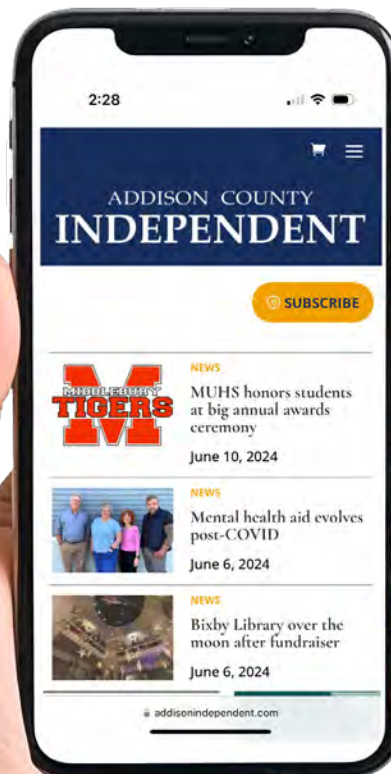
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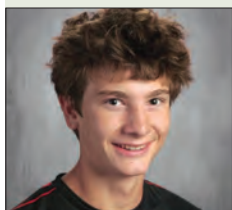
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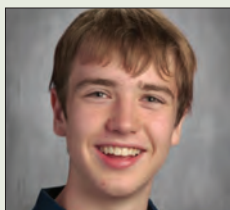


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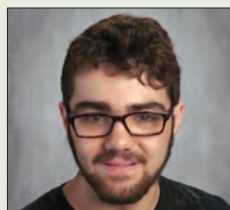
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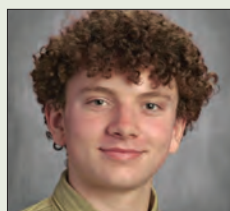
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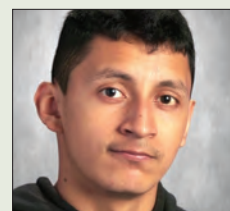
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Cassey
Calzini



Cristian
Camey-Beltran



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Carpenter



Max
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Robin
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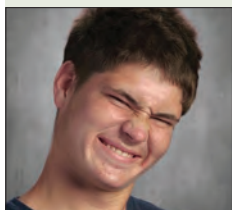
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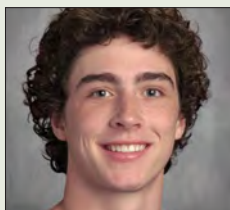
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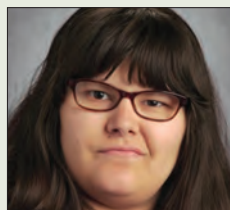
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Toby
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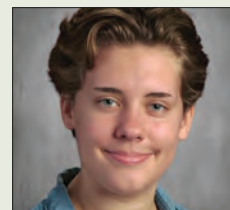
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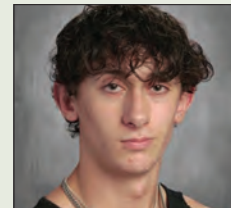
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Graham



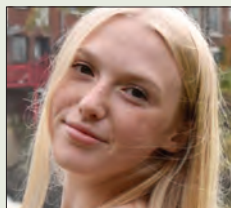
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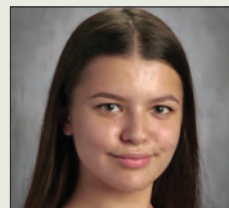
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Eliot
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Diana
Herasim



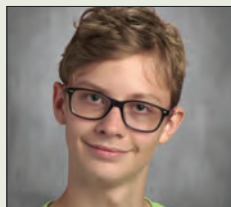
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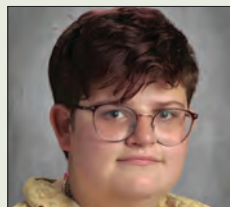
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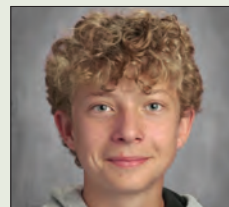
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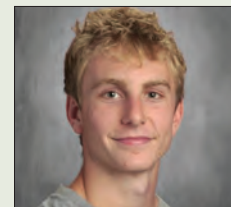
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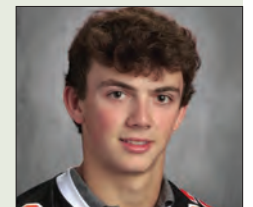
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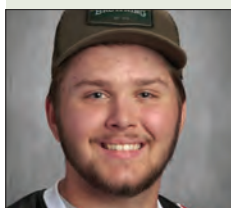
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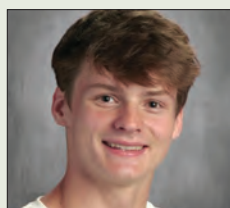
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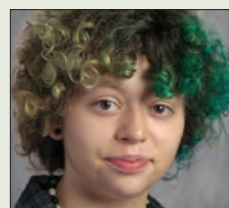
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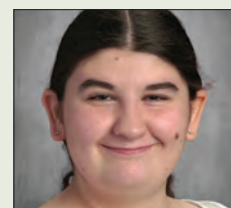
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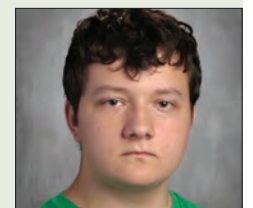
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Maceno



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Malhorta



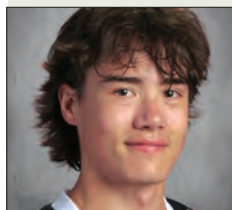
Matthew
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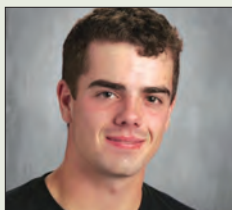
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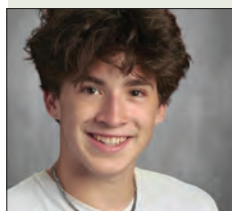
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Monk**



**Erin
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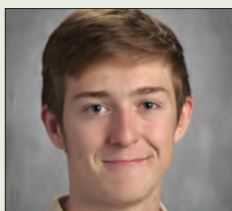
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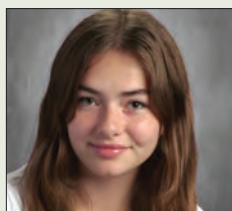
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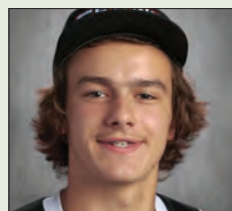
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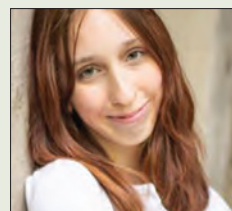
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**Caroline
Nicolai**



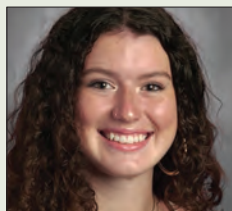
**Dylan
Odell**



**Emma
Oliver**



**Carter
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**Georgia Peach
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**Laila
Pease**



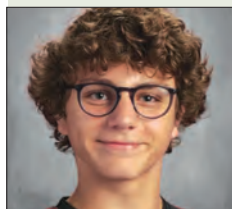
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Peterson**



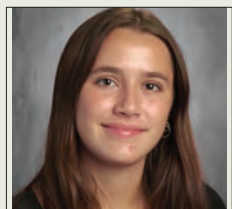
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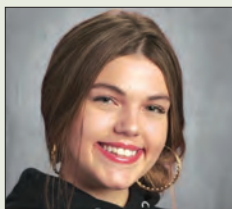
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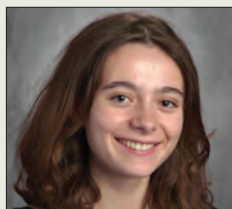
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**Sienna
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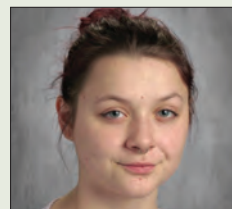
**Emma
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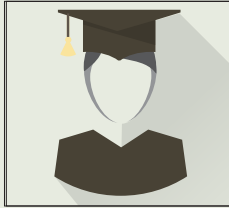
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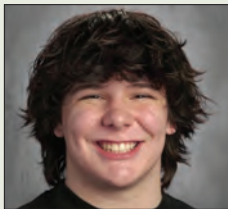
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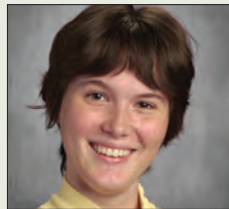
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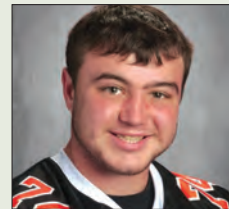
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ROTARY

(Continued from Page 4)

college application season; it was very demanding,” Herasim said. “But I feel like now I’m finally at a point where I have the time to actually socialize, resume my gym schedule and learn languages — things that I love.”

Herasim has found the U.S. education system different from what she’d been accustomed to.

In Ukraine, she explained, all schools have a curriculum that’s set by the government.

“We all study the same subjects every year,” she said, noting she took around 20 different classes during her last year of schooling in Ukraine.

“Both the U.S. and Ukraine (education systems) are pretty intense and challenging,” she said. “The education in the U.S. is much more focused; I can choose the six or eight subjects I

take here, put myself into it and really enjoy what I’m doing.”

She believes MUHS’s International Baccalaureate curriculum — and her experiences here in general — have made Herasim “a much more open-minded person” when it comes to appreciating different points of view.

“I’m a very political person and I feel like open-mindedness comes in very handy in politics,” she said, adding the IB program promotes critical thinking, adopting a “world view,” while learning about cultural differences.

“Those are skills I wasn’t able to fully develop before coming to the U.S.,” she said.

The launch of hostilities in Ukraine prompted to express her political views publicly, including at various community events in support of Ukraine. She found kindred spirits in her guardians, Allen and Buettner. They had had experience living

“BOTH THE U.S. AND UKRAINE (EDUCATION SYSTEMS) ARE PRETTY INTENSE AND CHALLENGING... THE EDUCATION IN THE U.S. IS MUCH MORE FOCUSED; I CAN CHOOSE THE SIX OR EIGHT SUBJECTS I TAKE HERE, PUT MYSELF INTO IT AND REALLY ENJOY WHAT I’M DOING.”

—Diana Herasim

in Ukraine and shared Herasim’s passion for music.

“There were many cultural connections that made me choose them,” she said, noting around 10 families had generously offered to take her in for her senior year.

She had initially stayed locally with the Wright family — until they moved to Utah. They offered to take Herasim with them, but she had become invested in the Middlebury community by then.

ROTARY CONNECTION
“The (Middlebury) Rotary Club has been sponsoring me in many

ways and the school has been very supportive, so I decided it would be more reasonable for me to stay here. I know people here are going to help and are helping. I was vulnerable in many ways at the time, so I decided to stay,” she said.

And it’s worked out well for her.

Herasim will attend Yale University this fall, where she plans to double-major in political science and history, on a pre-law

Continued on next page



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track. She'll move into Yale on Aug. 18 — the third anniversary of her arrival in the U.S.

After Yale, it'll be on to law school.

"I haven't yet decided what sphere of law I want to pursue, but it will probably be Constitutional law," she said confidently.

Her path to a successful career seems well charted in the U.S., but her heart remains in Ukraine.

"It's very complicated right now. I'm planning on building my future and my career in the U.S. Of course, I'm hoping very strongly to go back and visit Ukraine at some point," Herasim said.

At one point she thought she'd be reunited with her grandma, who recently sought entry into the U.S. through the "United for Ukraine" program. The Middlebury Rotary Club offered its assistance and identified housing and a local sponsor. But sadly, Diana's grandmother experienced some health

problems that kept her from making the trip.

"I want to visit Ukraine as soon as I can, but right now it's not looking possible for another three or four years," she lamented, noting the war.

"The situation in Ukraine is getting to a very extreme point right now," Herasim added. "We're on the verge of human rights being violated, which I don't think would happen if more help was provided. Now, almost all the (Ukrainian) men are fighting; it's getting to a point where we need more help."

She's deeply appreciative of the support her country's received thus far from the U.S. and other nations.

"I would ask to keep it coming, because it's no secret that Ukraine is not only fighting for its people and its sovereignty, but also for democracy," Herasim said. "That seems to align with U.S. values."

Reporter John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.

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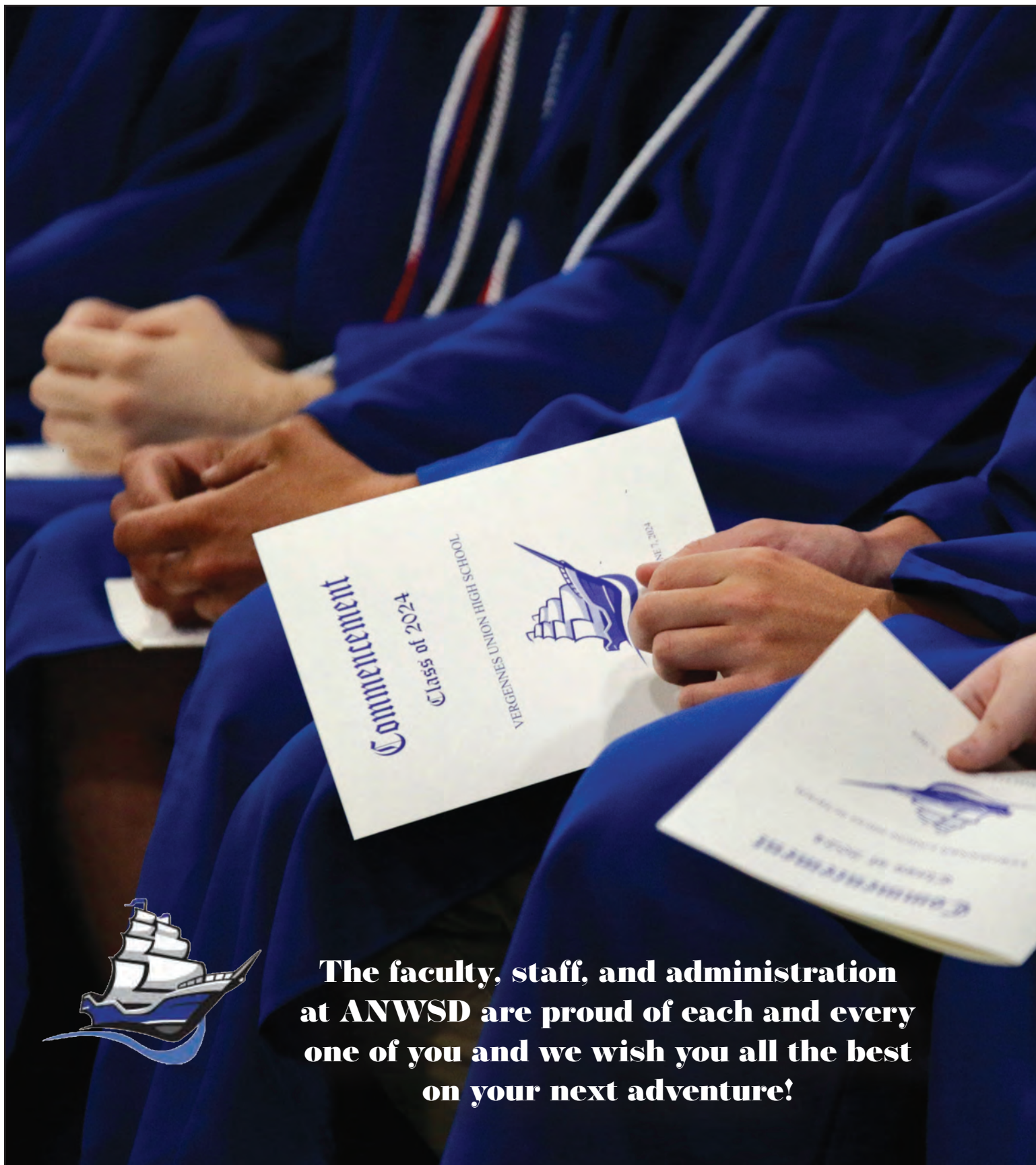
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VUHS career went from lockdown to center stage for Cal Gramling

By JOHN S. McCRIGHT

VERGENNES — The high school careers of the Class of 2024 may have started under the cloud of the COVID pandemic, but, like many newly minted Vergennes Union High School grads, Calvin Gramling is putting that community experience in the rearview mirror and look ahead.

The beginning of his ninth-grade year during the fall of 2020 is a little fuzzy in Gramling's memory.

"I barely remember my first week at VUHS," Gramling recalled during a recent interview. "We weren't allowed to do a lot of activities because of the pandemic, and I was only in school for two of the days. It was nice to see everyone and be able to talk and share our experiences from the long 'summer break.'"

But ninth-grade wasn't the first time he'd strolled down the hallway of the high school. Cal has two older siblings who preceded him at VUHS: Ian, who graduated in 2017, and Bess, part of the class of 2019.

"I spent a lot of time in the high school before I was a student there," Cal remembers. "My mom was very involved in my siblings' activities such as the musical and band, so I would tag along and see a glimpse of the high school experience. It was nice to have my siblings to see what opportunities were available to me when I got to high school. That way, I could start doing the things I wanted to pretty early on."

He seemed to have learned that lesson pretty well, because Cal Gramling was active in both studies and extracurriculars. Although he may have come off as reserved or disorganized to some of his classmates, he wonders if that's just because he took part in a variety of things.

"I tried to involve myself in as many clubs and activities as I could so I'm sure there's a lot of



LIKE THE REST of the Class of 2024, Calvin Gramling started his high school career under the confines of the COVID pandemic. But by senior spring (above), Vergennes Union High School had returned to a state where Gramling, center in blue jump suit, and other VUHS students could stage a musical — "Mama Mia!" — free of masks.

Right, the winning VUHS Boys' four-by-800-meter relay team of, from left, Grey Fearon, Riley Gagnon, Calvin Gramling and Calder Rakowski pose after their repeat victory in the D-III championship meet this past May. Gramling, Gagnon and Rakowski graduated June 7.

Photos by Phil Gramling



different concepts of who I am," he observed. "But I always try to be kind, friendly and joke a lot (even if the jokes aren't funny)."

He said his sister, Bess, was very active in the VUHS musical program, which then took up a big chunk of his own childhood. It's not surprising this inspired him to join in the experience. He played roles in popular VUHS musicals all four years — "Elf the Musical," "Bye Bye Birdie," "Newsies" and "Mama Mia."

"I'd say singing came a little easier than I thought, but dancing took a lot of practice," Gramling said.

The VUHS Auditorium wasn't the only place where Gramling got to show his talents to the public. One of his favorite memories from high school was his junior year Homecoming Parade, when each grade had to choose a music genre

and the Class of '24 chose rock.

"It was a ton of fun putting together the float and I remember walking in the parade with some wild outfit and a guitar," Gramling said. "It was always a fun way to get all the grades together in a bit of friendly competition."

The taste for competition was fulfilled on the track and cross country course, where Gramling excelled. He's grateful to have had the opportunity to be a part of a state champion relay teams in track — *twice!* In 2023 and again in 2024, Gramling joined with fellow Class of '24 members Calder Rakowski and Riley Gagnon, along with Grey Fearon (Class of '25) to with the Division-III title in the 4-by-800-meter relay. The quartet also won the Vermont indoor 4x800 title this past January, and in his junior year, Gramling claimed the indoor 800-meter open title on his own.

Like most track & field athletes, it's not the pain of the competition that Gramling recalls most vividly, but the camaraderie of the team.

"I'll always remember track and cross country for the community before the sport," he said "My teammates were always kind, supportive and making me laugh. It's really a sport where you can get out of it what you put into it. I've felt really fortunate that the sport I love also led to winning.

"It is also a really mental sport, which personally has led to struggles to stay focused," Gramling added.

Extracurriculars aside, members of the VUHS Class of 2024 were in school for book learning ... right? For Gramling, the classroom was certainly an important place. He describes his academics as "fairly typical," staying within the walls of

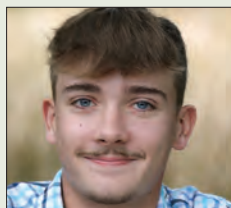
(See VUHS on Page 17)

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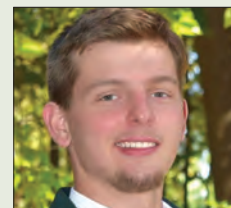
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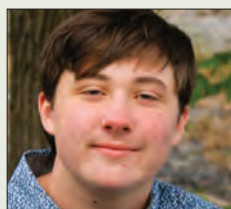
Devin Christian Brisson



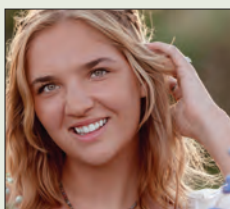
Neil Brons



Ryleigh Katherine Charlebois



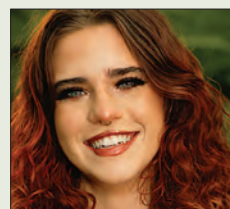
Collin Christopher Clair



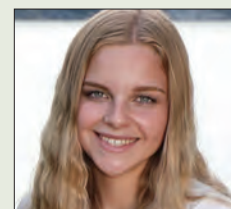
Acadia Jane Clark



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Arielle Jane Dumont



Autumn Eriksen



Mackenzie Anne Flint



Maci Leigh Forgues



Oakley A. Francis



Riley Gagnon



Madelyn Anita Giroux



Calvin Oliver Gramling

VUHS

(Continued from Page 15)

the main building and not venturing out to the Walden outdoor learning experience of the Hannaford Career Center. But while he was there, he buckled down and took a broad range of courses, weighted toward the Humanities.

While every teacher had their own special impact on Gramling, he says Michael Thomas had the most profound effect on his future and his intention to become a teacher.

“As my English teacher for the last three years, he simultaneously changed my viewpoint on reading and writing, and exemplified a teaching style I respect and hope to use qualities of in the future,” Gramling said.

This fall, Gramling is heading off to Skidmore College in Saratoga Springs, N.Y., where he hopes to major in Anthropology and also study History and Music.

“After I graduate, I hope to get

my teaching license and then teach high school Social Studies, either in Vermont or a nearby state,” Gramling said. “I’d feel fulfilled if I get to do that for the next 50 years.”

Change and growth are the mark of high school for most teenagers. And 18-year-old Cal Gramling saw a lot of change between the fall of 2020 and commencement this month.

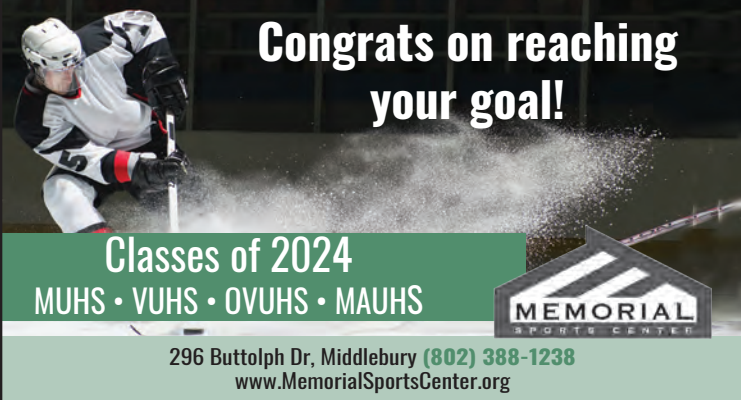
“It’s a bit sad, but I feel like high school really started for me in my junior year,” he said. “I don’t really remember a ton from my freshman year just because it was so disconnected ... Though once most of the regulations were lifted and we could get back to a normal schedule, COVID’s effect kind of became a memory more than a reality.

“I feel really happy with how my high school experience went,” he continued. “I think there are a few clubs and activities I wish I might have started earlier, but I find it more valuable to think about what I can do in the future.”



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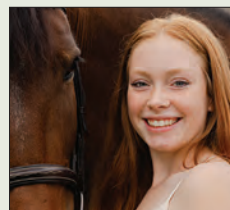
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Natalie Jane Jackman



Orion Jacob Kadar



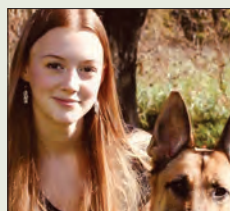
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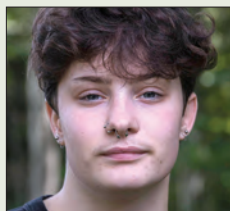
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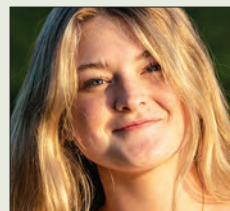
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Jenna Rae Paquin



Siobhan Williamson Potter



Calder Joseph Rakowski



Corey Ramon



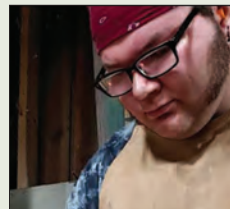
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MAUHS grad explored new horizons in and out of classroom

By MARIN HOWELL

BRISTOL — Abel Atocha acknowledges that it's comfortable for students to stick to the status quo while navigating high school.

"It can be really easy to join a club that all your friends are in or take a class that all your friends are in or do something that you know you're good at," the 2024 Mount Abraham Union High School graduate said during a recent interview.

While it's easy to live inside one's comfort zone, Atocha has sought to venture outside of his during the past four years, from pursuing challenging courses to joining the football team his senior year after having not played since fifth-grade.

He said trying new things has been a rewarding part of his time at Mount Abe and is an approach he'd recommend to prospective

high schoolers.

"A piece of advice would be to try different things that maybe aren't necessarily the easiest," he said. "Doing stuff like that has been pretty impactful for me. Like (taking challenging courses), I really enjoyed those classes and that was very beneficial for me to get outside of my comfort zone."

Atocha has added several rigorous courses to his schedule throughout high school.

During the pandemic, Atocha completed the equivalent of two years' worth of Spanish classes in one academic year. As a result, during his senior year, he took part in Mount Abe's "Do Unto Others" program, volunteering as a teacher's assistant for Spanish 5.

Atocha has also taken advantage of the Virtual High School courses offered through Mount Abe, taught by educators



MOUNT ABRAHAM UNION High School graduate Abel Atocha's high school experience has been filled with trying new things, from clubs to challenging courses. He's found such opportunities to be rewarding and encourages younger students to take advantage of new and challenging activities.

Independent photo/Marin Howell

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around the country and accessed through a web-based platform.

"You're able to take online classes that Mount Abe doesn't offer, for free," Atocha explained. "I've taken about four of those throughout high school, which allowed me to explore specific interests that Mount Abe didn't really offer classes for, which was really fun."

Atocha took online AP Psychology and Calculus, as well as learned about topics like the International Space Station, introductory law, and the Middle East.

Virtual High School classes are one of several opportunities offered at Mount Abe that Atocha recommends younger students check out.

"I don't think people know exactly how much stuff is available," he said. "Granted, Mount Abe's not a huge school, it doesn't have the most money, but there are definitely opportunities, you just have to look a little bit

harder."

OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

Outside of the classroom, Atocha has taken part in several of the extracurricular activities Mount Abe has to offer.

He's run track and cross country, tried out Nordic skiing, and played for Mount Abe's soccer and football teams.

Participating in different sports during high school gave Atocha a chance to meet a variety of fellow students, he said.

"That was the biggest thing for me, just getting to know a bunch of people at Mount Abe from all different grade levels," Atocha said. "Sometimes, if you don't do that stuff, you can just know the kids you're in classes with."

Sports, particularly football, also offered Atocha an opportunity to push himself and hone new skills.

"Football was really new to me. I hadn't played since fifth grade,

(See MAUHS on Page 21)

MAUHS

(Continued from Page 20)

so playing again senior year was pretty fun,” Atocha said. “It was sort of a challenge, too. I was not that good going into it, so trying something new that I wasn’t great at and trying to get better at it was fun.”

In addition to sports, Atocha has kept busy throughout high school taking part in clubs at Mount Abe. He was part of the school’s Environmental Action Group and the Eagle Leadership Society. The program, created by English teacher Addie Thompson and athletic director Devin Wendel in 2019, encourages students to be leaders inside and outside of the school.

“That’s been a fun way for me to get more involved in the community; the school community and the wider community as well,” Atocha said

of the program.

He said his favorite activity the group took part in this year was pairing upperclassmen with freshmen advisory groups.

“You get to know those kids and answer any questions they have about Mount Abe and then just be there to get to know more people, so some of the younger kids have a friendly face in the school,” Atocha said.

A good portion of Atocha’s free time throughout high school has been dedicated to working at his family’s business, Green Mountain Adventures in Middlebury. In the summer, Atocha works full-time helping out with the store and kids’ summer camps.

“(Working has) probably been the most rewarding activity for me because I get to meet so many different people... There are a bunch of college parents and kids from across the country that are pretty cool to meet and talk with,” he said.

From working at his family’s

business to taking part in clubs and sports at Mount Abe, many of the activities Atocha’s found to be the most impactful throughout high school have been the ones that allowed him to get to know more of the surrounding community.

“It feels good to go into the grocery store and know people, or to walk around town and know people,” he said. “I think it’s important to not only be a part of the community but be an active part of the community and helping out.”

Now, Atocha is preparing to step away from the community he’s long been a part of and enter a new one across the country. Atocha will attend Pomona College in Claremont, Calif., this fall.

It’s likely some of the opportunities he took advantage of in high school will come in handy when he heads out West. For example, he plans to walk-on to the college’s football team and knows the Spanish classes he took at Mount Abe will come in handy

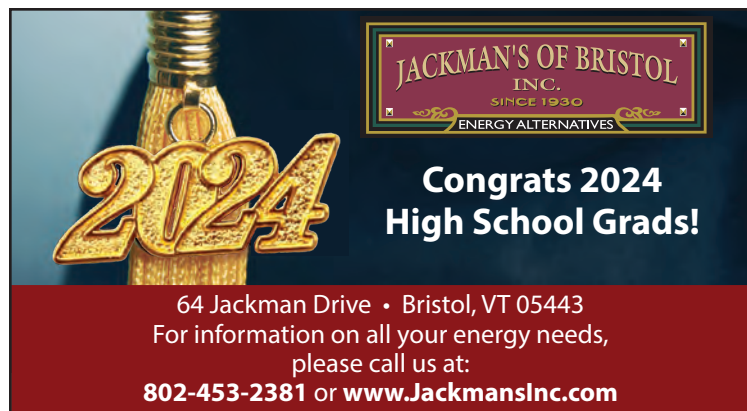
in Southern California, where there’s a larger Spanish-speaking population.

In general, he feels that pushing himself outside of his comfort zone during the past four years has helped prepare him for the new chapter he’ll soon begin.

“Just being willing to take a risk and try something new or explore something you’re interested in and passionate about on your own ... I think is going to be really helpful in college with classes and clubs,” Atocha said.

He’s confident he’ll find his footing on Pomona’s campus, among other students who are eager to challenge themselves.

“I really like the school and the environment,” he said. “It seemed like it was really rigorous academically, but the kids also seemed really nice and personable. It seemed like there are a lot of people who are in clubs and sports and stuff outside of just academics, so I think it’ll hopefully be a good fit.”



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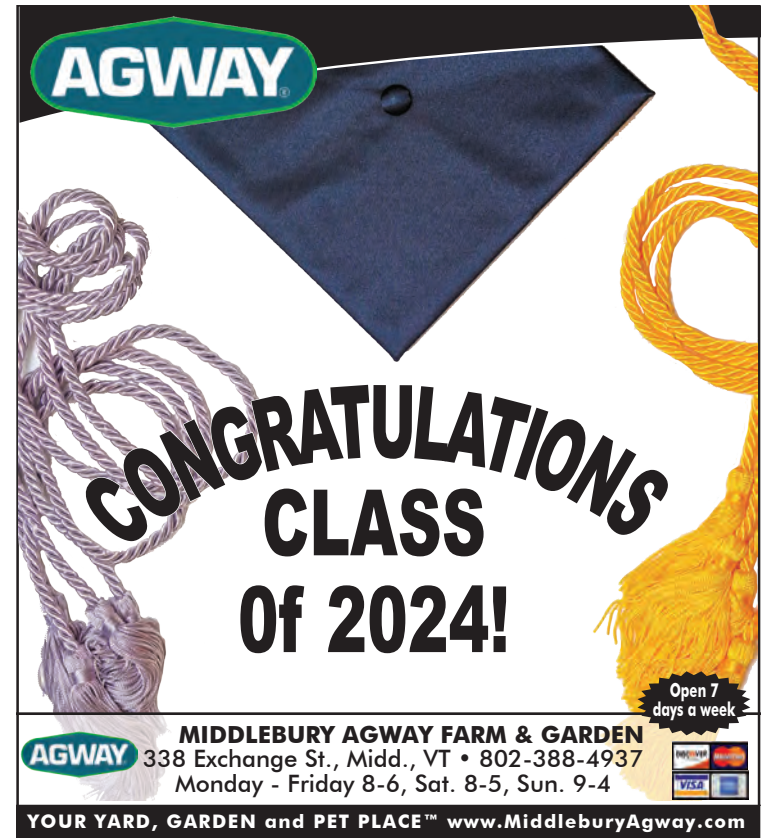


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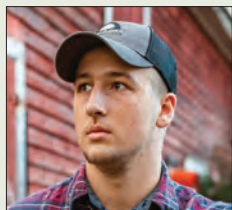
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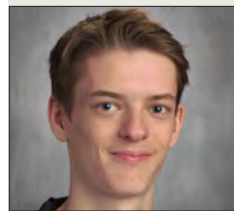
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**Emily
Brown**



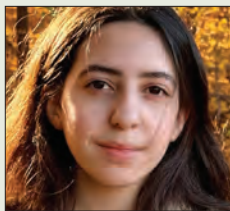
**Desmond
Carrico**



**Dakota
Catella**



**Robert
Cavoretto**



**Emilia
Colo**



**Carly
Cook**



**Gabriella
Currier**



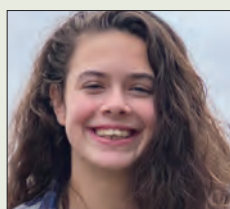
**Joseph
Darling**



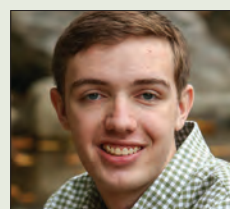
**Emily
Davis**



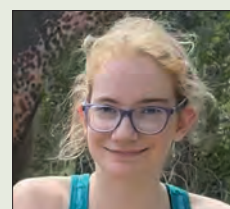
**Kennedy
Dennecker**



**Emma
Derringer**



**AJ
Donlon**



**Eliza
Doucet**



**Emma
Doucet**



**Emma
Downey**



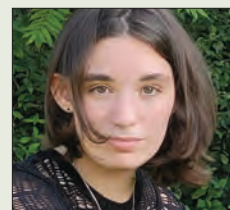
**Anne Marie
Dufault**



**Abigail "Rin"
Dunbar**



**Devin
Dupoint**



**Makayla
Emmons**

Congratulations

MOUNT ABE UNION HIGH SCHOOL



Owen Frizzell



Ian Funke



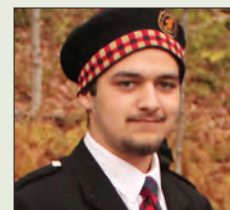
Hannah Gallivan



Helen Engvall



Walker Forand



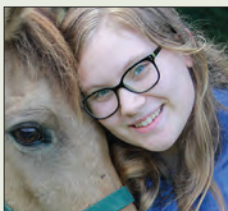
Mason Frazier



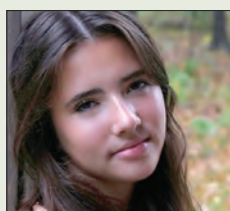
Isabelle Gallivan



Marshall Gero



Alexis Gordon



Piper Gillmette



Jennifer Hamel



Tobias Harris



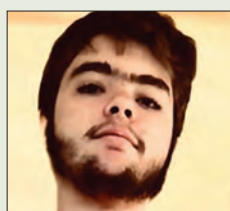
Nell Harvey



Madelyn Hayden



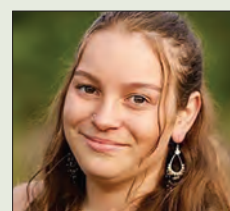
Sarah Heath



Spencer Heath



Jamison Huizenga



Aurora Husk



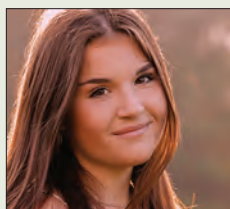
Judah Jackson



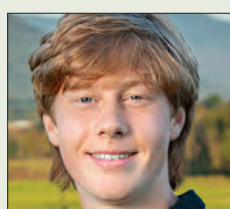
Carsyn Jennings



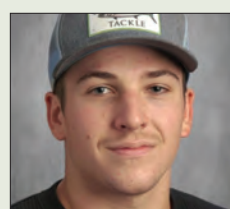
Ryan Jennings



Greta Jennison



Finley Kaeck



Olin Kidder



Helen Kihm



Dawson Kleinfeldt



Noah Ladeau



Reese Laliberte



Sierra Lavoie



Mason Livingston

Congratulations

MOUNT ABE UNION HIGH SCHOOL



**Benjamin
MacDonald**



**Samuel
Mangini**



**Carter
Markwell**



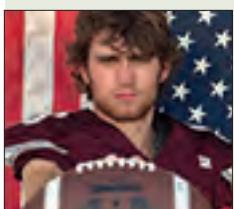
**Dylan
Mason**



**Luke
Mayer**



**Jordan
McDowell**



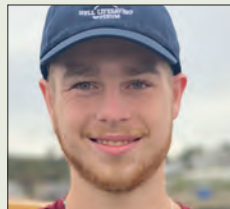
**Connor
Meacham**



**Dinara
Meyers**



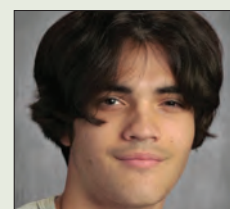
**Andrew
Nolan**



**Teagan
Obarski**



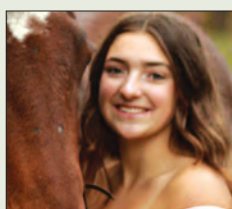
**Teagan
Obarski**



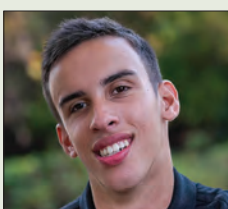
**Wes
Perdue**



**Emma
Reen**



**Hailey
Roberts**



**Michael
Sayre**



**Jordan
Schroeder**



**Isabella
Shea**



**Jude
Smith**



**Julia
Sonneborn**



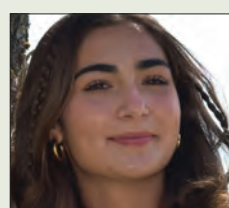
**Siena
Stanley**



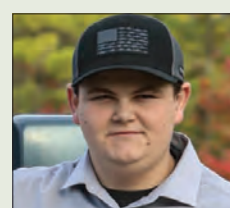
**Shelby
Stevens**



**Anna
Stilwell**



**Ellison
Thomas**



**Mattison
Tierney**



**Toby
Tillotson**



**Kalin
Tingiris-Shean**



**Joanna
Toy**



**Alexander
Vukoder**



**Josephine
Wagers**



**Kaydence
White**

Congratulations

OTTER VALLEY UNION HIGH SCHOOL ADDISON COUNTY GRADUATES



Isaiah Bagley



Matthew Cole



Chase Cram



Aiden Decker



Cole Disorda



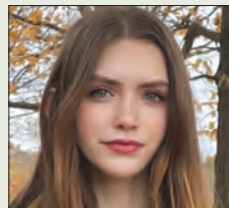
Abigail Hayes



Baker Larock



Savannah Mitchel



Jholia Pschorr



Mykenzie Thibault



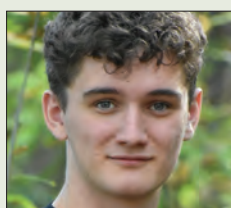
Owen Thomas

Congratulations

FAIR HAVEN UNION HIGH SCHOOL ORWELL GRADUATES



Ian Barber



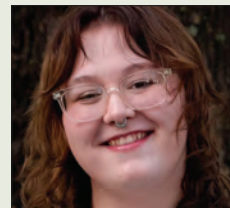
Caleb Brown



Jacob Clifford



Savana Kirby



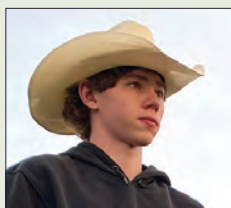
Riley Legault



Ethan Lowell



Matthew Maurice



Joseph Porter



Connor Spencer



Patrick Stone



Mason Williams



Clara Young



CONGRATS



**We are proud of you,
Addison County graduates!**



CAREER CENTER 2024

The Patricia A. Hannaford Career Center provides vocational and technical education to students and adults in the 17 Addison County towns served by the Addison Central, Addison Northwest and Mount Abraham Unified school districts. Students take time away from their home high school to take part in hands-on and classroom instruction at the Career Center's main campus and satellite campus in Middlebury. On May 29, the Career Center held a Celebration of Learning at the Middlebury Union High School Auditorium where it recognized youngsters who had participated in nine of its professional training programs. What follows is students and their instructors who were honored that night.



Design & Illustration

Left to right: Robin Andrus, Robin Chamberlain, Peter Chiles, Axel deBoer, Jeremy Holzhammer, Georgie Kiel, Maggie Noble, Silas Quinn, Joyce Ross and Avery Vant. Not pictured: Evva Dicoivitsky, Stella Hardy-Mittell, Jelde Meyer. Instructor Lisa Rader is at the podium.



Construction Technology

Left to right: Jamison Huizenga, Jordan McDowell, Owen Larrow, Riley Disorda, Dylan Stowe, Tim Whitney, Wyatt Stearns, and instructor Nick Cantrick. Not pictured: Blake Bowen.

CAREER CENTER 2024



Diesel Power Technology

Left to right: Carter Markwell, Eric Sumner, Robert Cavoretto, Instructor Gretchen Cotell, Dylan Odell, Devin Brisson and Mason Livingston.



Medical Professions

Left to right: Kaitlyn Brown, Emerysyn Brookman, Emma Deering, Instructor Jennifer Baker, Zoe Reid-St. John, Julian Cotell, Hunter Lloyd and Brandy Bishop.

CAREER CENTER 2024



Sustainable Agriculture

Left to right: Shyanne Wedge, Josephine Wagers, Toby Tillotson, Elaina Sheldrick, Hailey Roberts, Emma Reen, Alexis Holbrook-Duval, Maci Forgues, Gabrielle Ellis, Emma Derringer and Gabriella Currier. Instructor Kelley Mills is at the podium.



Natural Resource Management

Left to right: Instructor Aaron Townshend, Caleb Foster, Brady McDonough, Aiden LaDuke, Casey Calzini, Jacob Kemp, Carter Paquette, Gavin McNulty, Cole Warren and Assistant Julie Almeter.

CAREER CENTER 2024



Human Services

Left to right: Carsyn Jennings, Shelby Bartlett, Alexander Vukoder, and Instructor Ultima Danforth.



Culinary Arts

Left to right: Instructor Chef Jillian Huizenga, Skylee Dvoid, Carley Cook, Alina Arias, Thomas Bishop and Emmett Block.



Addison Repertory Theatre

Left to right: Max Carpenter, Jude Smith, Benjo Torres, Sarah Heath, Ella Kozak, Remy Howe, Hannah Gallivan, Instructor Eric Reid-St. John.

**THE FUTURE IS YOURS.
WE CAN'T WAIT.**



*Candlelight
Cabinetry*

**CONGRATS
TO ALL OF THE
2024 GRADUATES!**



B

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Congratulations 2024 Graduates!

It has been our pleasure
to watch you grow.



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