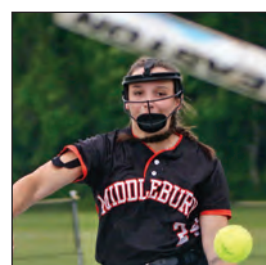




Rediscovery

In a new audiobook, author John Elder reflects on his life & efforts to be a beginner. Arts + Leisure.



Spring photos

Our images this past season told the story of teams and athletes finding success. Pages 1B & 2B.



Love/Sick

Local actors mix sweet and bitter to make connections on stage. See our theater review on Page 7B.

ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT

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Hunger is surging in the county

Food shelf use is skyrocketing locally

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — Hunger in Addison County is reaching historic proportions, according to Jeanne Montross, longtime leader of the Middlebury nonprofit known as Helping Overcome Poverty's Effects, or HOPE.

And that's not hyperbole.

During the first quarter of 2024, low-income Addison County residents made 2,947 visits to HOPE's surplus- and gleaned-food repository on Boardman Street, up 41% from the 2,085 visits during the same period of 2023.

"I haven't been this concerned about having enough food since I've been here. It's never been such a difficult situation."

— Jeanne Montross

sustained high volume," Montross added.

It's a trend that becomes even more disconcerting when one realizes that 2023 was paradoxically a "banner year" for food shelf use at HOPE.

HOPE provided 92,601 meals through its food shelf in 2023 — up a whopping 71% compared to the 54,531 meals provided in 2022, (See *Hunger*, Page 13A)



By the way

Join Tri-Valley Transit officials and boosters this Thursday, June 27, at 4 p.m. for the dedication of a new flower sculpture at the Green Street bus shelter in the heart of downtown Vergennes. Meet Ferrisburgh artist Lat Clear as well as the Northland Job Corp welding students who collaborated in the making of the steel sculpture. The *Addison Independent* last week ran a story about the sculpture project. Dawn Wagner, owner of Daily Chocolate, loaned her talents to the design of the artwork.

The U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee on June 20 considered the nomination of Mary Kay (See *By the way*, Page 9A)

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Pick your own sweets



STRAWBERRIES ARE STILL looking fresh on Friday, June 21, at Douglas Orchards, where friends and families enjoyed another good season of pick-your-own.

Independent photo/Caroline Jiao

Summer sun suits strawberries

Successful season winding up with festivities

By CAROLINE JIAO

ADDISON COUNTY — The strawberry season is winding down. Or, by the time you see these words, it is already done.

After troublesome wet weather last summer, some Addison County growers were happy with how this season went.

Starksboro's Lewis Creek Farm had a successful Strawberry season, according to owner Hank Bissell.

"It's been a good pick-your-own season, good crop, and

people came out, and we sold a lot of wholesale," he said.

The weather has been in his favor.

"So far it's been nice," he said this past Friday. "We've had a long slow spring, without any surprises. We had a nice strawberry sunshine hiatus for the last couple of weeks. It could turn on a dime with all this heat and rain, but so far it's been good."

Douglas Orchards in Shoreham reported its strawberry plants were loaded at mid-month. This

week, they were reveling in the availability of pick-your-own cherries.

Full Belly Farm in Monkton reported a good crop into this past weekend, and on Tuesday extended their pick-your-own hours to ensure as many berries as possible got picked before the season runs its course.

The strawberry season at Last Resort Farm in Monkton ended last week, and owner Eugenie Doyle called the season short and (See *Strawberries*, Page 10A)

Monkton Republicans run for Vt. House

Caulfield wants more political diversity in the Legislature

McGuinness promises to be strong advocate for families

By JOHN FLOWERS

MONKTON — Lynne Caulfield has been outspoken on issues ranging from physician-assisted suicide to reproductive rights.

Instead of remaining a voice on the sidelines, Caulfield is now seeking to be among the decision-makers in the Vermont Statehouse. She's entered a busy race for Addison-4's two seats, which represent the towns of Bristol, Lincoln, Monkton and Starksboro in the Vermont House of Representatives.

The district has generated a lot of interest among candidates since incumbent Rep. Caleb Elder, D-Starksboro, decided to run for state Senate instead. The current field



LYNNE CAULFIELD

includes Lincoln Democrat Jeanne Albert; Monkton Republican Lynne Caulfield; incumbent Rep. Mari Cordes, D-Bristol; Bristol Republican Chanin Hill; Monkton Republican Renee McGuinness; and Starksboro Democrat Herb Olson.

Aug. 13 primaries will be needed to whittle the three Democrats and the three Republicans down to two from each party for the general election.

Caulfield, 69, is an RN sonographer at the Aspire Now Pregnancy Resource Center in Williston, a self-described faith-based pregnancy resource center. She also works seasonally (See *Caulfield*, Page 12A)

By JOHN FLOWERS

MONKTON — Monkton Republican Renee McGuinness knows the Vermont Statehouse well, having testified there on a variety of legislation on behalf of the Vermont Family Alliance, a non-profit advocacy organization that, among other things, tracks "current and proposed policies and laws that infringe on parental rights, and (exposes) the potential harms that could occur when such policies and laws are made," according to its website.

McGuinness, 59, now wants to play an even larger role in the legislative process, representing the Addison-4 district in the



RENEE MCGUINNESS

Rep. Mari Cordes, D-Bristol; Bristol Republican Chanin Hill; and Starksboro Democrat Herb Olson. (See *McGuinness*, Page 10A)

Vermont House.

She's entered a busy race for Addison-4's two seats, which represent the towns of Bristol, Lincoln, Monkton and Starksboro. The district has generated a lot of interest among candidates since incumbent Rep. Caleb Elder, D-Starksboro, has decided to run for state Senate instead. The current field includes McGuinness, Lincoln Democrat Jeanne Albert; Monkton Republican Lynne Caulfield (see related story on Page 1A); incumbent Rep. Mari Cordes, D-Bristol; Bristol Republican Chanin Hill; and Starksboro Democrat Herb Olson. (See *McGuinness*, Page 10A)

Pres. Patton sets her final goals at college

Eyes fundraising efforts & continuity

By MARIN HOWELL

MIDDLEBURY — As Middlebury College President Laurie Patton prepares to step down from her post at the end of this year, there are a few things she's hoping to tackle over the next several months — from advancing fundraising efforts to ensuring the continuity of various initiatives she's overseen during her nine years leading the institution.

The *Independent* recently spoke

with Patton about her time at Middlebury and what she hopes to accomplish before she leaves the institution in January to become president of the American Academy of Arts & Sciences.

"At its best, Middlebury College is always working through a new issue or a new problem in fresh and courageous ways," Patton told the *Independent*. "If I step back, I am inspired by the fact that I have

(See *Patton*, Page 11A)



MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE PRESIDENT Laurie Patton has identified several initiatives she hopes to tackle before leaving her current post to helm the American Academy of Arts & Sciences in January. Her goals for the six months ahead include advancing fundraising efforts and ensuring the continuity of institutional priorities.

Photo courtesy of Middlebury College

Surplus gives city a modest tax increase

\$3.3M spending plan nets 1-cent hike

By ANDY KIRKALDY

VERGENNES — In the 11th hour for adopting a budget for Fiscal Year 2025 (FY25), Vergennes officials calculated there would be enough of a surplus left over from the current fiscal year to limit the increase in the city

property tax rate needed to support municipal spending in the next year to just over 1 cent.

The city council on Tuesday adopted a General Fund budget for July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025, of roughly \$3.318 million. It will (See *Vergennes*, Page 9A)

Monkton man cited for threatening a lawmaker

By MARIN HOWELL

BRISTOL — A Monkton man is facing charges after allegedly leaving threatening voicemails for a Bristol lawmaker.

Bristol police on Thursday, June 20, reported that they'd cited Cyrus

Marsano, 47, of Monkton for criminal threatening and disturbing the peace by telephone following an investigation into a complaint made the previous day by Rep. Mari Cordes, who'd received a (See *Monkton man*, Page 14A)

St. Peter's marks 150th with celebration, renovation project

By ANDY KIRKALDY

VERGENNES — These are heady days for St. Peter's Catholic Church Parish in Vergennes. On Sunday the church will celebrate the 150th anniversary of the construction of its house of worship with a 2 p.m. Mass led by the Burlington Diocese's Bishop-Elect, Monsignor John McDermott. That mass will be followed by the annual Parish Picnic, to which the community is invited.

And the parish is also embarking on a major fund-raising effort for a project that echoes the labor of its parishioners in the early 1870s,

when they built the church with their own hands on its current 85 South Maple St. site.

That campaign will support what is likely to be more than \$1 million of repairs and upgrades that the parish hopes will put the building in good standing for generations to come.

Parish Priest Father Steven Marchand explained the importance of the building to both current and future parishioners.

"This is a place that God's grace and God's blessings come to people here. There's something so important about a physical place.

And when we bring our bodies to a physical place, we are also in a way bringing our souls to do something specific, which is to praise God, to give him worship, to ask him for what we need, to receive his blessings and his grace," Marchand said. "That's what a church building stands for. And I think that's a beautiful thing to honor, to celebrate, but also a beautiful thing to commit to hand on."

The building's history is rich. For about two decades before 1874, the roughly 350 to 400 Catholics in Vergennes were making do with a converted hay barn as their chapel.

According to historical records, that chapel upgraded earlier practices. Earlier in the 19th century priests would show up in the city once a month and perform masses in local homes. Even by 1855 there were only nine priests and a deacon to serve all Vermont's Catholics.

Sometime in the mid-1800s the parish moved the barn to South Maple Street and renovated it. The site was chosen because it lay in the heart of the city's Catholic neighborhood. The parishioners referred to their new center of worship as the "Holy Family Roman Catholic Church." By 1857 it had been given more familiar name — St. Peter's Church.

By the early 1870s, the city's Catholic flock yearned for more. On the same site, but behind their chapel, they broke ground on the church that now stands.

David Austin, a St. Peter's Parish Council member, described the parishioners and their dedication to building their new church.

"It was very much a working-class parish, predominantly French Canadian," Austin said. "The parishioners, mostly laborers, would work during the week, and on Saturday they would (help build the church)."

Work began on the church in 1871 after an architect earned \$100 for the design. The owner of a Green Street quarry, now the home of a Vergennes-Panton Water tank, donated stone for the project. Bricks were sourced from a Ferrisburgh brickyard and "drawn by ox-cart by the parishioners who came from as far away as Bristol, Monkton and Ferrisburgh to help."

The final price tag was "about \$12,500, with a \$6,000 mortgage."



ST. PETER'S CATHOLIC Church on South Maple Street in Vergennes, which opened its doors in 1874, was built by parishioners volunteering their labor. Today's parishioners are embarking on ambitious effort they hope will prepare the church building for another 150 years.

Independent photo/Andy Kirkaldy



ST. PETER'S PARISH Priest Steven Marchand, seen here in the church sanctuary, and parish lay leaders are confident the parish can fund needed repairs and renovations to the church structure as it reaches the 150th anniversary of its construction.

Photo courtesy of David Austin

The end product, according to the history, had few frills except the "magnificent stained glass windows."

Over the years elements were added: "delicate spirals and raised motifs" to the woodwork, three altars and wainscoting, "rather somber fresco work" to the walls, and the Stations of the Cross that remain today. The first organ arrived in 1891, a belfry with the first bell was completed in 1887, the rectory was built in 1885 and enlarged in 1894, and St. Peter's Parish Hall came in 1958.

RENOVATIONS

Now the 150-year-old building needs an overhaul.

Unlike their forebears, members of St. Peter's flock won't labor weekends. But Austin and Marchand said they will be asked to open their wallets to support a series of repairs and upgrades that will add up to about \$1.25 million — a hundred times the original construction cost of \$12,500.

"It's a heavy lift," Austin acknowledged.

Both Marchand and Austin are optimistic a parish that has almost 600 registered households and a weekly average attendance at its two Masses of about 150 will support the work.

Marchand talked about the parishioners' dedication to St. Peter's.

"I think people here are immensely proud of their parish. This parish is a home, it's a spiritual home for the people here. I think you could say that about every parish, but in my experience it's especially true here," Marchand said. "This is where events of their family lives happen. This is where their day-to-day, week-to-week encounters with God take place. And it is home to the people here, and I think it comes across when you get to know them."

Austin said St. Peter's does not plan to take on debt to pay for what is actually a series of projects.

"It's very important to the parishioners," he said. "The thing I hear from people is that it's our turn to take care of things for the next generation."

Austin said fundraising will include a capital campaign and approaches to "larger donors

who've been generous" previously. "We've been successful with those things in the past, and I think we'll be successful again," he said.

PROJECT DETAILS

The project will include:

- Removal of what a handout calls "improperly installed insulation in the attic." Austin said that work will include a vapor barrier to protect plaster.

New insulation and vapor barriers are needed to protect the interior plaster ceiling and walls and even the exterior brick from "being compromised by the way the water vapor moves through the building" that is created by modern heating and cooling systems, he said.

- "Ceiling plaster repair and re-enforcement" related to those issues.

- "Bell tower corner roof repair."
- "Pest removal, sanitation and sealing the bell tower." A major pigeon infestation over the years left plenty of unwanted biological byproduct.

(See St. Peter's Page 3A)

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St. Peter's

(Continued from Page 3A)

Marchand said the bells have not rung for about 30 years, and a system that broadcast the sound of ringing bells installed about 20 years ago failed a few years later. Both those problems should be remedied this week in time for the special Mass and picnic planned for Sunday afternoon.

During the COVID pandemic then Parish Priest Yvon Royer and Austin went to the bell tower in hopes of getting the bells to ring and brighten local morale. It didn't go well.

Royer and Austin found a drop ceiling with a hatch that led to a ladder on a wall that reached another ceiling with a hatch, one that Austin couldn't budge.

Austin recruited a friend to help and returned to the tower. They discovered why the hatch wouldn't move.

"I finally got it open, and literally about 50 pounds of pigeon dung fell out on top of me," Austin said.

When they overcame that obstacle they discovered they had to climb up two more shaky extension ladders to reach the bells, and then they learned the ropes attached to the clappers were rotted.

Access was so unsafe that no tradesmen would work on the bells until volunteers, including carpenter Mike Rochon, Dennis Senesac and his sons, and Austin, shoveled out the mess and built a series of three anchored platforms with ship-style stairs to allow work to be done this week.

Repointing the exterior brick masonry, and replacement of some of it. Austin called this the priciest component. An expert mason surveyed the building and said earlier work to clean the bricks had left them porous, contributing to the vapor problem.

Thus, more expensive traditional methods and materials are required, making this part of the project the most expensive, Austin said.

New flooring in the sanctuary, the nature of which will be determined when the existing carpeting is removed. Tile or wood flooring is likely, Marchand said.

Replacement/and or repair of the front stone steps.

Although the bells should be ringing this weekend, the timing of the rest of the work will depend on fundraising and contractor availability, Marchand and Austin said.



THE BELLS IN St. Peter's Church in Vergennes should ring again this Sunday to celebrate the church's 150th anniversary. Creating safe access to the bells in the belfry atop the 125-foot-tall tower was a challenge. Volunteers cleared pigeon waste, reinforced staging, and replaced rickety, aging extension ladders with new, sturdy ship-style ladders.

Photo courtesy of David Austin

Despite the list of needs, Austin said there is good news, especially if the proposed projects are completed.

"Structurally the church is in good shape," he said. "But it's in need of some maintenance to get it through the next 150 years."

MASS & PICNIC

MONSIGNOR McDermott, who will lead Sunday's special Mass, was formerly the parish priest at St. Mary's Church in Middlebury. It is expected that he will be named the Bishop to lead the Burlington Diocese, which serves all of Vermont.

Father Royer and two other former St. Peter's parish priests — all that are living — will join as celebrants.

"They're happy to be part of the celebration," Marchand said.

The afternoon will also offer the dedication of a new organ funded by a donor, and the Mass will also feature an important relic — what is said to be a link of the chain that held St. Peter in prison in Rome before his crucifixion under the orders of Emperor Nero.

The annual parish picnic was moved from its traditional June 29 Feast of St. Peter date to follow the special Mass. It, as always, will feature lawn games as well as food and beverages. Uncooperative weather will mean a move to inside the Parish Hall.

Regardless, Austin said, "All are welcome."

"Structurally the church is in good shape. But it's in need of some maintenance to get it through the next 150 years."

— David Austin

Rooney leaves MAUSD school board

By MARIN HOWELL

BRISTOL — A longtime Starksboro representative on the Mount Abraham Unified School Board has resigned.

Steve Rooney confirmed his retirement from the board, effectively immediately, at the board's June 18 meeting. Rooney vacates a three-year seat he was re-elected to on Town Meeting Day.

"I will say that I'm not going and hiding under a rock. I'm not going to disappear," Rooney told the board on June 18. "Any questions that anybody has about anything that maybe started on a committee or whatever, feel free to contact me."

Rooney has served on the MAUSD board for eight years and also served on the Patricia A.

Hannaford Career Center board.

Prior to his resignation, Rooney was one of the MAUSD board's longest-serving members. Nine of the school board's 13 members have joined the panel in the past two years, some of whom thanked Rooney for the guidance he's provided to newer members.

"I'm kind of a newbie still, and I really appreciated all of Steve's support when I came on board," board member Kristen Toy said. "It's a big hit to the board. You're going to be missed, my friend."

MAUSD board Chair Erin Jipner echoed that sentiment.

"Many board and community members spoke highly of Steve and his dedication and knowledge," Jipner wrote in a recent email to the *Independent*. "He is leaving some

really big shoes to fill and he will be greatly missed."

The board has 30 days to appoint a Starksboro resident to fill Rooney's vacated seat. Once appointed, the new board member would serve until next March, when they'd have the opportunity to run for the remaining two years of the term.

Jipner said on Monday the board's Starksboro representatives have been working with their town office and selectboard to try and garner interest in the seat, and information about the vacancy has gone out on Front Porch Forum.

Those interested in filling the seat can contact Jipner at erin.jipner@mausd.org, or Starksboro reps Brad Johnson (brad.johnson@mausd.org) and Toy (kristen.toy@mausd.org).

Church gets gas easement, but vote possible

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — The Middlebury selectboard on Tuesday agreed to grant an easement through the town green to allow Vermont Gas Systems to install a natural gas service line that will serve St. Stephen's Episcopal Church.

It remains to be seen whether the board's decision will go unchallenged. Resident Ross Conrad — a vocal critic of fossil fuels and proponent of green energy — is considering a petition drive to force a public vote on granting the easement. Conrad has argued the town should make Vermont Gas pay "fair market value" for the easement, as opposed to the town giving it away for free.

The *Independent* reached out to Conrad following Tuesday's meeting to see if he'd pursue a petition drive.

"Not totally sure. Thinking about it," was Conrad's email response.

As previously reported by the *Independent*, St. Stephen's officials are seeking natural gas service as part of a multi-pronged plan of lowering the church's energy costs.

Three years ago, St. Stephen's invested \$50,000 in the Addison County Relocalization Network's solar farm in Bristol, to offset a large chunk of the church's 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 due to its size.

The St. Stephen's community is 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 are at a situation where

there's no good answer, as far as today's energy situation, but we need an answer," church member Nancy Malcolm told the board on Tuesday. "Right now, it comes down to, 'Do we use oil — which is more expensive, still a fossil fuel and worse for the environment — or do we go with natural gas?'"

St. Stephen's doesn't own the land on which it sits; it's owned by the town. That means Middlebury officials must sign off on any easement through that property. Tuesday's vote by the selectboard will allow (barring a public vote to the contrary) Vermont Gas Systems to install a medium-pressure natural gas service line that would run from the back of the church structure east across the town green, toward South Pleasant Street (Route 7).

Church member John Tenny said the pivot to natural gas would represent an ongoing improvement in energy sourcing for the church and the community. He said coal and fuel oil were the dominant heating sources when he arrived in Middlebury in 1970. Advances during the ensuing 50 years have included electricity, radiant heating, biofuels and renewables — some of which Tenny said the church are not able to include in its energy portfolio.

He said Middlebury-area schools, Middlebury police, Middlebury Regional EMS, Middlebury College and several large businesses in town have all gravitated toward natural gas at this point in time.

"We have a situation where, as time goes along, we have seen and will see the best selection of fuels, technologies, building, science and so forth will be ever changing and ever improving. But today, the natural gas is serving us well," he said. "It's an appropriate use, given the alternatives that are in play."

Conrad disagreed. He noted

natural gas is contributing to the world's greenhouse gas emissions and climate change — a phenomenon the Middlebury leaders in 2021 agreed to fight by establishing a goal of reducing, by 80% by the year 2030, greenhouse gas emissions resulting from town-owned properties and operations.

Conrad also pointed out the hydraulic fracking process used in extracting natural gas from the ground. It's a process that has led to poisoned groundwater, accidental chemical spills and other environmental ills.

Conrad acknowledged the St. Stephen's community's efforts to reduce its carbon footprint and said he doesn't begrudge the church's easement request — with a caveat.

"The question, really, is whether we subsidize Vermont Gas by giving them the easement for free or have them pay fair market value; that is the issue," he said.

Selectboard Chair Brian Carpenter said the town had set a precedent of granting free easements on town land. He and selectboard member Heather Seeley suggested the town draft a formal policy, rather than take on easement requests on a case-by-case basis. With that in mind, the board will assign that task town's Policy Committee.

AT TUESDAY'S MEETING

In other action on Tuesday, the selectboard approved the emergency purchase of a new, \$63,600 heating a cooling system to be installed on the roof of the town's recreation center at 154 Creek Road.

Bill Kernan, Middlebury's director of public works operations, explained the center is currently equipped with a heating unit that has failed. Officials discovered that problem this past March, when the gym thermostat was averaging a

(See Gas, Page 8A)

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Guest Editorials

Political courage will help build a stronger Vermont

By Don Tinney

No political insiders in Montpelier were surprised when Sen. Jane Kitchel condemned the Scott administration's proposal to zero out the education fund reserves to provide short-term property tax relief, saying "that is a practice that we never ever had considered, or would consider, as fiscally responsible use of a reserve." In her long, distinguished career as a political leader, Sen. Kitchel has always been fiscally responsible while working diligently to meet the human needs of Vermonters, so no one was surprised when she voted to override the governor's veto of the education funding bill. She had the political courage to do the right thing to protect Vermont's public education system and to provide services to Vermont's most precious resource, our children.

Every legislator struggled with the education funding bill. They knew it would be an unpopular decision that would lead to increased property taxes, yet voted to support public schools, the cornerstone of democracy. Legislators who voted to support the children and youth of Vermont demonstrated true political courage. They chose to support sound public policy and fiscal responsibility without regard for their own political popularity.

Ever since Ronald Reagan entered American politics, Republican politicians have generated political popularity by promising tax cuts. Grover Norquist founded the *Americans for Tax Reform* in 1985 and has been one of the chief architects of the current GOP's dogma of reducing taxes and shrinking the size of government. Former Republican U.S. Sen. Alan Simpson of Wyoming was particularly critical in describing Norquist's position as "no taxes, under any situation, even if your country goes to hell." This anti-tax mentality led to the 2017 Trump tax law that cost the government \$1.9 trillion in revenues and failed to deliver any economic benefits to average Americans.

Vermont's current governor follows Grover Norquist's simplistic directive in his refusal to increase revenues to support essential services to Vermonters. He knows that one way to remain popular is to continue to rail against taxes. It's a winning formula, since no one wants to pay higher taxes. While "no new taxes" is a popular campaign slogan it does nothing to improve public policy and ensure services for Vermonters, and it certainly doesn't display an ounce of political courage. The only thing this affordability argument does is fuel the anti-government attitude and rhetoric on social media and at Trump rallies.

On Monday, June 17, we heard this Republican anti-government stance articulated by Republican State Rep. Patricia McCoy of Rutland County speaking against the education funding bill that would provide adequate resources for public education. "This bill continues to feed the beast," said House Minority Leader McCoy. Vermonters know the importance of public education in meeting the needs of our children and youth and do not see our schools and the students they serve as any type of beast.

On that same day, Republican Rep. Michael Morgan of Milton said, "My constituents, as a whole, have reached out begging for relief in this arena. Why we are not working to find a solution for relief now is beyond my comprehension." Perhaps his Statehouse colleagues could help Mr. Morgan comprehend how they worked during the entire legislative session to find a solution and how the governor's proposal was so fiscally irresponsible that it was panned by Wall Street. While that might be beyond his comprehension, many Vermonters cannot comprehend how a Republican can be in the governor's office for eight years — after being lieutenant governor for six and a state senator for 10 — and offer no plan to find the necessary revenues to support an education system that meets the needs of young Vermonters and their families. "No new taxes" is neither a plan nor effective public policy.

Vermonters have made it abundantly clear that they want a new equitable education funding system. Thousands of citizens voted against school budgets this year who had never considered voting against a school budget in the past, but they were actually voting against severe property tax increases, not against their local school budgets.

Since 2018, Vermont-NEA has argued that Vermont must shift education financing from the property tax to the income tax, allowing all Vermonters to pay their fair share. Rather than blaming Democrats and calling them arrogant, perhaps the governor can find the political courage to let go of his Grover Norquist pledge card, roll up his sleeves, and work with the legislators who were voted into office by the same Vermonters who voted him into office, and build a strong and effective state government. That will take real political courage.

Don Tinney, a longtime high school English teacher at BFA-St. Albans, represents 13,000 educators as president of Vermont-NEA.



Vermont sun

THE TINY FLOWER of this orange hawkweed wildflower seen recently alongside a road in Lincoln bursts forth with awesome colors as big as the sun, yet it is actually just one inch across.

Photo by Dale Cockrell

'His will that every need be supplied'

If you ask me how I am doing these days, I don't know how to answer. My heart is breaking for Palestine. And my heart is breaking for American Jews, many of whom have dear friends and family in Israel, who are longing for safety and security. Worldwide, we are watching anti-Jewish sentiment grow, as Israel commits war crime after war crime. Also, it is June in Vermont! Wherever I look I see lush green forests, gardens filled with flowers, and everyone seems to be going strawberry picking.

Each Thursday afternoon, a group of us stand at the "honk and wave" area at the top of Middlebury's green, holding up our "Jews for Ceasefire" banner, and other signs pleading for an end to Israel's bombardment of Gaza. We get a lot of supportive honks from drivers passing by, and sometimes people roll down their windows to yell at us. Eight months have passed since October 7, and I feel my own fatigue and despair. And I know what I am experiencing is NOTHING compared to the horror being endured by my fellow humans, halfway around the world.

When my friends Grace and Lindsey and I joined the Peace Pilgrimage calling for Ceasefire back in February, we attended an interfaith service at an African Methodist Episcopal church in Baltimore. Rabbis shared portions of the Torah, Imams chanted from the Koran, and the Minister of the host church gave a sermon that electrified all of us. A Palestinian woman shared with the congregation that she has lost 100 family members since the bombing began. Can

you even wrap your mind around that?

At this church service, the choir sang the modern hymn, *I Need You to Survive*. Some of the lyrics: "I pray for you, you pray for me. I love you, I need you to survive." In spite of the beauty surrounding us, so many people are drowning in despair. This song is a balm for the soul. Other lyrics include the beautiful statement: "It is His will that every need be supplied." I love this big generosity. Even if you don't believe in any kind of Universal Creator, the idea that everyone

Ways of Seeing

By Joanna Colwell



is supposed to have what they need to thrive, is the guiding truth of my life. If you feel low, please find this song and listen - repeat as needed! Since October 7, my chosen sisters Grace and Lindsey have been a true lifeline. We text each other constantly, and *I Need You to Survive* is our theme song. We are like the three strands in a braid of

challah. One of the *many* things I love about my sisters is that they are both food people. And I don't just mean that they love to cook and eat food like I do. I mean they are *literally* working every day to make sure people in Vermont have access to life-giving food from the local farms that protect our soil and waterways. Grace serves as executive director of Northeast Organic Farming Association of Vermont, and Lindsey directs the ACORN Food Hub in Middlebury. Meanwhile, I am okay at growing kale.

I get to spend a lot of time with Grace and Lindsey because aside from attending demonstrations in support of Palestinian human rights, we are also

(See *Ways of Seeing*, Page 5A)

Spats just not the same anymore

Halfway through last week's heat wave, and after 32 years of procrastination, Mark and I finally did it: we put in an air conditioner. For a moment, we felt like a young couple again.

Let me explain. There was nothing inherently romantic about the act of installing the air conditioner, a smallish window unit. However, it recalled the endless inconsequential but infuriating things we used to fight about in our early days together. We don't tend to have those sorts of conflicts anymore, which is a testament to our personal growth as a couple.

Just kidding. It's more because we've long since worked out the standard new-couple issues. It took a few years for us to agree on all kinds of things: how to load the dishwasher, whether to run a fan at night for white noise, who got control of the alarm clock (and whether "snoozing" was an acceptable practice), whether to keep butter in the fridge or on the counter. Those disputes seem minor in retrospect, but at the time they were constant sources of friction.

In addition, now that we're older, we don't hold

onto a lot of resentment. That's partly because we tend to forget what we were mad about and partly because we're tired; we just don't have the energy to bicker the way we used to.

The air conditioner, however, had the potential to cause a good spat, and we were up for it.

We obviously weren't too pressed about air conditioning in general, given that it took us decades to get any. And we agreed that the air conditioner was meant to bring the living room down to a comfortable level, not turn it into a cryogenic chamber. Still, we saw several openings for petty disagreements, and we had high hopes of at least a minor blowup.

The installation itself was simple, so we only managed to get a little snippy over how to attach the accordion sides to the unit. Like a responsible consumer, I was reading the instructions, something Mark thinks shows weakness. In his defense, I was reading them wrong. For a second, we were reminded of that memorable five-hour rage fest in 1998 when we assembled our first gas grill, the *Divorce Maker*

(See *Jessie*, Page 5A)

Letters to the Editor

Parent group deserves thanks

On behalf of the entire staff at Mary Hogan, I would like to express our deep appreciation to MESA (Middlebury Elementary School Association) for all they do on behalf of the Mary Hogan Community. Throughout the year, this committed and generous group of parents have organized and sponsored a variety of fundraisers. The monies raised through these events allow our students to go on a variety of field trips and enjoy other special occasions and educational opportunities.

Additionally, at many points during the year, MESA expressed their support for our staff by treating us to a number of "appreciations," ranging from breakfasts and luncheons to tables laden with sweet treats and classroom supplies. Miraculously, these celebrations seem to happen just when we most need them. And, most importantly, all of these generous and thoughtful gestures were delivered with the kindest of words and warmest of smiles.

MESA, please know that Mary Hogan deeply appreciates *all* that you do. *Thank you!!*

Deb Levesque
Classroom Teacher
Mary Hogan School

No respect for flag at market

In 1924, Congress enacted the Flag Code for the United States of America. A portion follows:

"As adopted by the National Flag Conference, Washington, D.C., June 14-15, 1923, and Revised and Endorsed by the Second National Flag Conference, Washington, D.C., May 15, 1924. Revised and adopted at P.L. 623, 77th Congress, Second Session, June 22, 1942; etc.

§ 8. Respect for flag
No disrespect should be shown to the flag of the United States of America; etc.

(d) The flag should never be used as wearing apparel, bedding, or drapery."

I happened to be in the Vergennes Shaw's today and noted an egregious violation of the Flag Code of the United States of America, with a folding lawn chair made of the American Flag. Is it now acceptable to sit on the flag?

I am a retired Army veteran, and an Eagle Scout. In both organizations we were taught to respect the flag. Shaw's clearly does not. To add insult to injury, these chairs were made in China.

There is no penalty in the code for violations, but this is very offensive to me. If you agree, please let Shaw's management know your displeasure the next time you shop there.

Tom Weiss
Ferrisburgh

Scott must tone down rhetoric

It has been an especially difficult year for many Vermonters. People are still recovering from the floods of last summer. Property taxes and school budgets are increasing significantly, and health care costs are going up at alarming rates. These difficulties made the most recent legislative session challenging as well. In addition, we no longer have the benefit of Covid-era federal funds; there is increased homelessness and a lack of affordable housing; mental health and substance use treatment needs are greater than ever; and the list goes on.

In times like these, when everyone is feeling pressure and stress, it is especially important that we all come together to solve problems and support one another across the state.

Instead, legislators, school boards, and other public officials are experiencing an increased amount of vitriol and hatred. Legislators in Addison County have received death threats and menacing messages, been yelled at from passing cars, and our children have been harassed by

(See *Scheu* letter, Page 5A)

ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT

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Vetoed bills were tripartisan

Last Monday, June 17, the Legislature gathered for a one-day veto session after Gov. Scott vetoed eight bills passed during the regular legislative session. Thank you to the many constituents who reached out to me about the bills that were vetoed. The vast majority of emails I received asked me to vote to override one or more of the governor's vetoes. I have not been able to respond to all of the many emails, so I'm writing with information about the bills and the veto session.



Legislative Review
by Sen. Ruth Hardy,
D-Addison County

The Legislature overrode six of the vetoes penned by the governor (for a list of the bills vetoed go to tinyurl.com/ScottVetos2024). It's important to note that majority of the 118 bills the Legislature passed this session were approved with support from Democrats, Republicans, Progressives and Independents. Most bills have unanimous votes and no controversy, but rarely does such amicable agreement get attention. Even some of the bills that the

governor vetoed were passed with tri-partisan support, and some veto override votes were tri-partisan, too.

As you may know, Phil Scott has vetoed many more bills than the rest of Vermont's governors combined, even though governors and legislatures have been of differing parties many times before. In the past, governors have been more actively involved throughout the legislative session, rather than coming forward in the final days of the session or after a bill has passed with proposals or demands. However, the veto and override process is an important part of the constitutionally prescribed checks and balances system in American government, and Phil Scott contends he vetoes a bill for the best interest of Vermonters.

The Legislature also overrides his vetoes when we believe it's in the best interest of Vermonters. For example, last year Gov. Scott vetoed H.217, the monumental

childcare bill that the Legislature passed to address the immense childcare crisis in Vermont. The bill became law (now called Act 76) after the Legislature overrode the governor's veto. A year later, it's clear that Act 76 is already having a significant impact on the availability and affordability of childcare in Vermont. In the first few months of 2024 alone, 10 new childcare programs opened in Vermont and nearly 400 new childcare slots were created, which means more families can find childcare and work to make ends meet. Act 76 is good for Vermonters, and it became law because we overrode a veto.

With the challenges facing Vermont, it's not surprising there isn't consensus on how to solve the most difficult problems. The Legislature worked diligently to bring forth viable solutions, and we overrode the governor's vetoes because the work in the bills is important for Vermont. Below is the list of veto overrides considered by the Senate. I voted in favor of a veto override for each of these bills. You can also read more about the veto session in coverage (See Hardy, Page 7A)

Jessie

(Continued from Page 4A)
2000. What a night.

This dust-up, in contrast, was short-lived and didn't include any obscene gestures. But once the unit was mounted, we found opportunities to quarrel about everything from what outdoor temperature and dewpoint warranted running it to how low to set the thermostat.

I wanted to cover the living room doorway with a blanket to avoid overtaxing the unit; Mark refused. And he wanted to turn the unit on before we left that evening so we could return to a cool house. I rejected that as a waste of energy.

Before we knew it, we were back in time: I began lecturing him on the concept of BTUs vs. room size, using a confident tone that suggested I knew what a BTU was. Yelling over me, he offered to yank the A/C unit out right then, since I was clearly too cheap to ever be willing to turn it on.

It was a fraught but exhilarating minute or two, but we were out of practice and tiring fast. Plus, we were late for dinner with friends and needed to get ready.

Thirty years ago, we would have kept up the sniping as we showered and dressed. On a good night, we would have barely spoken to each other during dinner.

Ugh. That seemed like a lot of work, especially in such hot weather.

Instead, when I came downstairs, I found Mark in the living room, quietly tacking up a blanket over the doorway to the kitchen. In response, I brushed silently past him and switched the A/C on so the living room would be pleasant when we got home. We had a fun night with our friends and did not speak of the air conditioning again.

This is how we are now. Don't think our marriage has devolved into a static tableau

of easy compromise and mutual respect, though. We haven't given up on annoying each other. After all these years, for instance, Mark still tosses Band-Aid and cough drop wrappers on the counter near, but not in, the trash can. And I leave my shoes

in front of the door where he will trip over them when he gets home. But that's about as much strife as we can muster these days.

I hate to say it, but we're getting soft in our old age.



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Scheu letter

(Continued from Page 4A)
adults.

Although this session was an especially difficult and divisive one, most of the 116 bills we passed had tri-partisan support. We don't always agree on solutions, but we strive to listen to viewpoints other than our own and treat each other with civility and respect.

The same cannot be said about the current rhetoric from the Governor's office, where the leader of our state is indulging in name calling, disinformation, and sowing the seeds of distrust. To see and hear threats from members of our own communities is distressing, hurtful, and frankly, frightening. Some of us are changing our license plates and phone numbers, cutting back on public events, and even installing

security systems at our homes. It shouldn't have to come to this.

To the members of our communities: We appreciate those of you who have offered your support and encouragement during these difficult times. We hope you will continue to do so. For those of you who are frustrated and have questions or concerns, especially about property taxes, we hear you and will be working on structural solutions for our education system moving forward. In the meantime, we welcome personal conversations with our constituents and communities.

The governor is elected thanks to Democrats, who are a supermajority of citizens in Vermont. When he insults what he calls the "supermajority" in the Legislature, he is also insulting the Vermonters who elected

him to office. The Governor can use his bully pulpit to set the tone for political conversations through his regular official media messages. More significantly, he has the resources of the state at his disposal. He is not a victim of the legislature. He needs to use the resources of the state in a positive manner to address the very real challenges we face rather than use the bully pulpit to engage in us-vs.-them messaging. Vermonters deserve better from their Governor.

- Rep. Peter Conlon
- Rep. Mari Cordes
- Rep. Diane Lanpher
- Rep. Jubilee McGill
- Rep. Robin Scheu
- Rep. Amy Sheldon
- Senator Chris Bray
- Senator Ruth Hardy.

Ways of Seeing

(Continued from Page 4A)

working together to build a space for Jewish Vermonters to come together outside of Zionism. Our cultural traditions as Jewish people are vast and rich, and include deep wisdom for relating to the earth with care and respect. As Jews, we also have a centuries-long history of surviving the unthinkable, and of working for justice. We have spiritual ancestors who believed that safety and freedom for Jewish people would come from all of us working together for collective liberation, *not* from building a nation where Jewish people would have more rights than others.

Jewish people, like all people, deserve to be safe wherever they live in the world. What governments need to be made to understand, is that safety and security will never be achieved

with military aggression. Political and spiritual problems have political and spiritual solutions. I am here, with my sisters, to build a web of love and support for all of us.

Emma Lazarus was a Jewish American activist and poet who advocated for the human rights of refugees. She worked to welcome Ashkenazi Jews, who were fleeing Russian pogroms, to the U.S. I think of Emma Lazarus as a kind of patron saint of refugees. The words from her poem sit at the base of the Statue of Liberty. She also became a proponent of creating a Jewish state. This makes me feel sad, because she must not have realized how very many refugees would be created by building a Jewish state on someone else's homeland. Seventy-five years after the formation of the state of Israel,

there are generations of Palestinian people who have grown up and lived their whole lives in refugee camps.

Emma Lazarus said "Until we are all free we are none of us free." I want to shout back across time, to her: "All means all! Everyone gets to be free!"

Fannie Lou Hamer and Maya Angelou said it too, and so did Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Let us dig in the soil together and plant these seeds of freedom.

Joanna Colwell is the director of Otter Creek Yoga in Middlebury, although in the time of COVID-19, you can find her teaching yoga via Zoom from the comfort of her own dining room. She lives with her husband and daughter in East Middlebury, and was one of the founders of the Middlebury chapter of Showing Up for Racial Justice.

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Obituaries

James P. 'Jim' Trievel, 79, of Middlebury

MIDDLEBURY — Jim Trievel passed away in his sleep at his residence on June 2, 2024. He was born in Philadelphia, Pa., on Nov. 22, 1944.

Having a great sense of humor, Jim often joked that his birthday was easy to remember because the numbers doubled — 11.22.44. He grew up in Philly, graduating from Northeast Catholic High School in 1962. He served as a volunteer fireman for the Cinnaminson Fire Co. and worked in the food service industry. Jim enjoyed visiting Vermont, and one summer while vacationing at Lake Dunmore he was hired by Central Vermont Public Service and moved permanently to Middlebury. He was a utility worker for CVPS for more than 30 years, retiring from the company in 2015.

He was well-respected by his colleagues and specifically known for his ability to recall every part of the electrical grid from memory without needing to reference a map.



JAMES P. 'JIM' TRIEVEL

He was the go-to person at work for any and all questions. Jim was the secretary for work meetings held at the CVPS Middlebury location, but he is best remembered for entertaining VIP guests with his antics and quick wit.

He was a proud member of the Sons of The American Legion Post

27. It was both here and at work that he made lifelong friends. Jim would often express how lucky he was to have so many wonderful friends who supported him through the years, especially in his later years.

He was predeceased by his longtime partner, Mary Ann Gardner. He was also predeceased by his parents, Harold and Rose Higgins Trievel, and his brothers, Joseph, Thomas and Harold Trievel. He is survived by his sister, Rosemary McGuigan Bennett of Philadelphia and by several nieces and nephews. Services were held at an earlier date under the direction of Sanderson-Ducharme Funeral Home. A celebration of life will be held at the Middlebury American Legion on Sunday, June 30, 2024, from 2-5 p.m. Memorial contributions may be made to St. Jude Children's research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105, or to a charity of one's choice. ♦

Kenneth H. Meyers, 93, of Middlebury

MIDDLEBURY — Kenneth H. Meyers was born Jan. 5, 1931, and reared in the Buffalo, N.Y., area by a devoted mother who raised her four boys basically alone.

"During my early childhood I was taken to a church by a godly neighbor who had a burden for my brothers and for me to be attending church. I was 16 when I came to know the Lord as my savior in an evening service at my home church where I then grew in the Lord under the ministry of God's Word. While attending mid-week prayer service, I heard God speak to me through a missionary to the Jews. It was that night that I wrestled with God over giving my life to the winning of Jews to Christ.

God finally won the battle. In time, God called me to American seminary of the Bible in New York City in 1954, where every third person was Jewish. What a mission field! There I received excellent training in Jewish evangelism. The curriculum included missionary work in the afternoons in street meetings, Bible studies and personal witnessing. As a student, I was a missionary-in-training.

It was while I was in Bible school that God brought into my life my wife, Jean. We were married after graduation and had three lovely daughters, MaryAnn, Martha and Ruth. MaryAnn and Martha have both predeceased me and in 2011 Jean predeceased me as well. We were married over 53 years.

After marriage, I became a pastor in Brooklyn for a while



KENNETH H. MEYERS

before being called to Calgary, Alberta, Canada, to work amongst the Jews in that area. After many years of service there, God called us to Montreal, Quebec, where we started a new Jewish work there. While in Montreal, I was approached to take over a weekly radio program directed to the Jewish people, a ministry I carried on for over 29 years. I also carried on a radio broadcast for Friends for Israel for 22 years. I conducted Bible studies, telephone ministries, Bible prophesy conferences in churches and have done many tours to the Holy Land and have taken a lot of people with me, many times. I have taught Jewish evangelism in churches and Bible schools throughout the United States and Canada.

On a side note, in 1973, I was a volunteer as a medic in the Yom

Kippur war in Israel. In 2012, God had another surprise for me and the Lord brought JoAnne into my life. She had gone to Israel with Jean and myself in 1993 and 2001 and kept in touch. I also knew her late husband, Dwight. In June JoAnne heard me speak in a church in her area and the Lord spoke to me that day, "she is going to be your wife." Through emails, phone calls, getting together through the summer months, we were engaged in September and married in December. At my age, why wait?!

We labored together in ministry in the Boston and New Hampshire area and went to Israel several times; were even blessed to put together a group in 2018 to go to Israel. The Lord has blessed me greatly and led us to Middlebury, Vt., in 2019 to live out our 'retired' lives, still ministering as the Lord opened doors."

Ken went to heaven June 19, 2024, after incurring a massive heart attack on June 13. He survived the attack; just wasn't strong enough to carry on. Ken will be sorely missed.

Graveside service for the immediate family to occur June 24 at Pine Grove in Kingston. A celebration of life will be held at a later date, both in Middlebury, Vt. and Methuen, Mass.

Arrangements under the direction of Sanderson Funeral Home. On-line condolences at www.sandersonfuneralservice.com. ♦

Bernard W. Degree, 70, of North Ferrisburgh

NORTH FERRISBURGH — Bernard W. Degree, 70, passed away Thursday, June 20, 2024. The son of Wayne and Anna Degree, he was born Dec. 30, 1953, in Colchester. He graduated from CVU in 1972.

Bernie worked for New England Kenworth for almost 43 years, retiring in 2020. He worked part-time for FE Hart Fence Co., the Harts being friends for years. He was learning a new trade and was loving it.

Bernie loved his Antique Minneapolis Moline Tractors and participated for many years in antique tractor pulls in Vermont, New York, New Hampshire, and Quebec.

Married for 49 years, he leaves behind his wife, Jacqueline; daughters, Jessica (John) Goodspeed and Amanda (David) Dumont; four grandchildren, five great-grandchildren, three step-granddaughters, and eight step-



BERNARD W. DEGREE

great-grandchildren.

Bernie also leaves behind brothers Roger (Lucy), Gerald (Yolanda), Dean, and Kelly (Kelly); sisters-in-law Ronda Degree and Pauline Dubuque; brother-in-law Jerald Hutchins; aunts Arlene Degree and Mary LaBounty; uncle

Clark Bruce Jr., and many nieces, nephews, and cousins.

He was predeceased by his parents, Wayne and Anna Degree, mother- and father-in-law, Harley and Myra Hutchins; sisters-in-law Donna Degree, Sylvia Hutchins, and Linda Naylor; brothers-in-law Brent Naylor and Donald Dubuque- and many aunts, uncles and Cousins.

Calling hours will be Thursday June 27, from 4-8 p.m., at Corbin and Palmer Funeral Home, 9 Pleasant Street, Essex Junction, VT.

Service will be held at 11 a.m. on June 28, at the chapel of Corbin and Palmer Funeral Home.

A graveside service will be for immediate family only at the Hinesburg Cemetery. A reception will follow at the Degree Residence, 2038 Greenbush Road, N. Ferrisburgh, VT 05473.

A very special "Thank you" to Bernie's Medical Team. You were very kind, loving, and your expertise will never be forgotten.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Memory of Bernard Degree, UVM Cancer Center, 111 Colchester Ave, St Joseph Hall 5th Floor, Burlington, VT 05401. ♦

Anthony 'Tony' Gale, 65, of Salisbury

SALISBURY — Anthony "Tony" Gale, age 65, passed away Thursday, June 20, 2024, at the University of Vermont Medical Center.

Tony was born in Proctor on April 17, 1959. He was the son of Richard and Joyce (Foster) Gale. He grew up in Salisbury, where he received his early education, and graduated from Middlebury Union High School. Following graduation, he joined the United States Army and served for three years, until receiving a medical discharge. He returned home and began a career as a truck driver at Carrara's and afterwards for Shelburne Limestone Corporation for more than 10 years, until a stroke forced his retirement. He enjoyed hunting and fishing, and still held the state record for the largest Large Mouth Bass, which he caught in 1988: 10 lbs. 4 oz. He



ANTHONY "TONY" GALE

was an avid Red Sox Fan and liked the New York Giants.

He is survived by his brother, David Gale of Salisbury and his wife, Lori, who were his care providers for over 18 years;

one sister, Kimberley Lafave of Brandon; and three stepchildren, Heather, Zakk and Kristy. Four grandchildren and several nieces, nephews and cousins also survive him. He was predeceased by his parents.

A funeral service will be held on Friday, June 28, at 2 p.m., at the Miller & Ketcham Funeral Home in Brandon. A graveside committal service and burial with military honors will follow in the family lot, at Holman Cemetery in Salisbury.

Friends may call at the funeral home on Thursday, June 27, from 6-8 p.m.

Memorial gifts in lieu of flowers may be made in his memory to Addison County Humane Society, 234 Boardman St. Middlebury, VT 05753, or to The Disabled American Veterans, P.O. Box 14301, Cincinnati, OH 42250-0301. ♦

About Nancy Slater Cobden

I appreciate her many friends and associates who have been supportive of me.

There is a call for a celebration of her wonderful life. I hope to facilitate that, but I cannot do it yet.

Thank you, Geoffrey Cobden

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.

Scott Evans celebration of life

RIPTON — There will be a celebration of the life of Scott A. Evans at the Spirit In Nature (SpIN) paths in Ripton, Vt., at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, Aug. 10. We will share our memories and bid Scott a fond farewell. The SpIN board asks that we bring our own chairs.



SHIRLEY DOUGLAS

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.

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Michael Gleason, 71, of Bristol

BRISTOL — Michael John Gleason, 71, of Bristol, passed away at Birchwood Terrace Rehabilitation Center on Monday, June 17, 2024. The son of John P. and Marion (Levarn) Gleason, Michael is survived by his wife of 47 years, Anne (Powell) Gleason, and sons Seth, Bryce and Pete; brothers Greg (Denise) and Stephen (Mary) Gleason; mother-in-law, Lucille Jimmo; sisters-in-law, Dawn (Richard) Jimmo and Lisa Powell; brothers-in-law Scott, Charlie and Doug (Suzanne) Powell and Brad Jimmo; seven nieces, two nephews and seven great-nephews.

Michael invested his life freely and fully as a loving and supportive husband and father, who enjoyed sharing a hearty laugh with his sons, providing many good stories — happy moments of his making. "Mr. G" was a teacher, coach, writer, actor, singer, author and forever fan of Muhammad Ali, the Dodgers and the Rolling Stones. He taught elementary school for over thirty years, finding great joy

particularly in reading *The Hobbit* aloud every year in his fourth-grade Bristol classroom, where he spent most of his career. His love of sports was translated into the dozens of golden opportunities given to him to coach kids in soccer, basketball and baseball — Little League was near and dear to his heart. Michael enjoyed discovering his aptitude for acting in community theater productions, and for singing, in the Federated Church choir. In his retirement, he completed the youth novel he had refined for years — a story about a new kid, a neighborhood and the power of friendship.

Michael cherished his family, his students and his community, and his connections to so many others will continue to speak of a life lived well.

Quoting Ernie Banks, of the Chicago Cubs, as Michael often did: "It's a bea-u-ti-ful day for a ball game — let's play two!"

There will be a private family memorial service at a later date.

Contributions in Michael's name may be made to Bristol Little League, 78 Stetson Road, Bristol, VT 05443. ♦

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ADDISON COUNTY School Briefs

Erich Reitz of Ferrisburgh received a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science from the University of Alabama at its recent commencement ceremonies. Reitz finished out his time at Alabama with high honors, being named to the president's list for the spring 2024 semester.

Climate matters

Perspectives on Change



Big victories for greener energy in Vermont

By GREG DENNIS

The Legislature last week achieved several milestones on the way to reducing climate pollution — even in the face of Gov. Phil Scott's best efforts to keep Vermont stuck in the age of fossil fuels.

A greener Renewable Energy Standard — long a goal of 350Vermont and others — passed despite Gov. Scott's veto. So did a set of improvements to Act 250 that will open some towns and cities to much needed residential development while better protecting the biodiversity of sensitive areas.

In the process, Scott's anti-environmental vetoes have placed him even to the right of some of his natural allies. More on that below. First, a little background.

It used to be that veto overrides were as rare in Vermont as snowstorms in July. But in Montpelier these past two years, it's been snowing all summer. Gov. Scott has been lobbing veto snowballs at the General Assembly, and legislators have responded

with an avalanche of overrides.

Scott, a Republican in an overwhelmingly Democratic state, has had six vetoes overridden during each of the past two legislative sessions.

This year, the governor even went after the birds and the bees. He vetoed (and was overridden on) a bill banning neonicotinoid pesticides that contribute to the decline of vital pollinators. He declined to sign two bills that became law: VPIRG's "make big oil pay" bill, and a bill to protect wetlands and floodplains from the more extreme weather of our deteriorating climate.

Now back to Scott's rightward shift as the climate crisis worsens.

His vetoes of Act 250 changes and the Renewable Energy Standard (RES) came even though traditionally conservative power blocs supported the bills.

The RES, for example, was endorsed by virtually all the state's utilities, which are normally political allies of the Republican governor. Much of the hard

work to improve the RES was accomplished in a working group that included the utilities and was headed by Rep. Amy Sheldon, D-Middlebury, and Addison County Sen. Chris Bray.

Under the new RES, Vermont is committed to achieving nearly 100% renewable electrical energy by 2030. The law also aims to double the amount of clean energy (mostly solar and wind) produced in the state and regionally. It will mean more green jobs and less burning of dirty oil and gas.

On revisions to Act 250, Scott also found himself to the right of political allies. The bill he vetoed drew support not just from environmental groups but also from the development industry and the Vermont Chamber of Commerce. In a statement supporting its passage, the chamber said a portion of the bill was "a top priority for the Vermont business community."

Perhaps overlooked in all this were two other achievements pushed by 350Vermont and others.

The grassroots group recognized the potential of thermal energy networks to generate cleaner community energy and use it more efficiently. That approach, which avoids the need for burdensome bureaucracy, gained approval this session. So, too, did a study committee to suggest ways to protect lower-income Vermonters from electricity rate hikes.

Vermonters have a lot to celebrate at the end of this biennium. Working as a tighter coalition, advocates pushed the General Assembly to approve substantial climate legislation — and to make those approvals stick during the difficult task of overriding multiple vetoes.

Joan Baez used to sing of "little victories and big defeats." Too often that's been the experience for the climate movement even here in the Green Mountain State. This year, though, Vermonters can sing a song of big victories.

Hardy

(Continued from Page 5A) by Seven Days, VTDigger and Vermont Public.

1. H.887 Education Finance & Taxation — This bill sets the annual property tax rates to fully fund all local school budgets that have been approved by voters. While nobody wants a statewide average property tax rate increase of 13.8%, we are required to fund our local school budgets, and although at the last minute the governor claimed to have a solution, he did not. His proposal would have used all of the Education Fund reserves and relied on surplus revenue that may never materialize.

Such a plan would likely put the state budget in deficit, create fiscal instability, damage the state's bond rating, and cause property taxes to increase even more sharply in future years. If the Legislature did not override the governor's veto, the financial situation for local schools and the state would have been even worse, and, most importantly, it would have put the education of Vermont's children in jeopardy. You can read more in this memo from the Joint Fiscal Office.

While the Legislature could not fully erase the 20% property tax increase projected at the beginning of the year, we made progress in bringing the rate down during our limited legislative session. For more than a year now, there has not been a permanent Secretary of Education or any focus from the governor on how to improve Vermont's public schools. He blames the Legislature for the property tax increase, but the projected 20% increase happened on his watch — the reduction of that amount happened on ours.

Finally, I know that the property tax increase is a difficult pill for most people to swallow. The bill includes some relief for the majority of Vermonters, whose property taxes are reduced due to their income, and it establishes a commission to find solutions to

make our public school system more sustainable. Voters in many communities have been reluctant to close schools, move grades, or further merge school districts, but difficult choices like these are likely required to stabilize the cost of K-12 education in our small state.

2. H.72 Overdose Prevention Center Pilot — This bill will create a pilot overdose prevention center in Burlington, funded by the state's Opioid Settlement Funds, where people who are addicted to drugs can safely use drugs and access services for treatment and recovery. The center will be located in Burlington, where the program has support from local leaders, and the concentration of drug use has become a significant problem in many public places. As the director of the Fletcher Free Library in Burlington said last month, "If [H.72] fails, we are the safe injection site."

3. H.645 Expansion of Approaches to Restorative Justice — Many people were surprised that the governor vetoed this bill, which expands restorative justice programs throughout Vermont, thereby reducing the burden on the state's criminal justice and corrections system, and ensuring that Vermonters across the state have access to the same alternative sentencing programs. The governor claimed there wasn't sufficient funding for the program, but Attorney General Charity Clark, who will oversee the expanded program, says her office has sufficient funds to operate it.

4. H. 687 Community Resilience & Biodiversity Protection through Land Use — This bill makes significant changes to Act 250, Vermont's landmark land use law, with the goal of

enabling the construction of more housing in downtown areas while protecting forests, wetlands and sensitive habitats outside of towns.

5. H.289 Vermont Renewable Energy Standard — This bill updates our existing renewable energy standard to require utilities to use 100% renewable energy, at least 20% of which must be Vermont generated, by 2035.

6. H.706 Banning Neonicotinoid Pesticides — This bill would ban the sale of seeds coated with neonicotinoid pesticides by 2029, in line with a law passed by New York State last year and already in practice in Quebec.

You can read more about all these bills in my legislative summary online at tinyurl.com/Ruth2024Review.

After the House voted in an overwhelming tri-partisan vote of 128-17-5 to override the governor's veto of H.121 Consumer Data Privacy bill, the Senate fell short in our attempt to override the governor's veto. This important bill would have protected Vermonters' privacy when using the internet and protected children from coercive and addictive social media products.

The veto and the Senate's failure to override it were fueled by a significant amount of misinformation and lobbying by big tech companies and their allies. The bill, which would have taken effect over the next several years, would have provided enhanced protection of Vermonters' data online, particularly sensitive data, including reproductive health information, biometric data and social security numbers, and required social media companies to remove addictive and harmful features targeting kids from their

products. The bill was aimed at large corporations, and most small Vermont businesses would have been exempt from the majority of the bill.

I voted to override the veto of this landmark bill, but unfortunately most senators did not (check out the vote tally to see how other senators voted online at tinyurl.com/DataBillVote). The failure of this bill is a major win for big tech companies and a big loss for Vermonters who fall victim to questionable social media practices and online data privacy issues every day.

Finally, in the wake of last week's veto session and the governor's particularly strident remarks about the Legislature's overrides, there has been an increase in harassment and threats against legislators and other public officials, including school board members and teachers. In fact, Rep. Mari Cordes of Bristol received a disturbing death threat, and I and others have received harassing calls and messages. Rep. Angela Arsenaault of Williston wrote an excellent commentary in VTDigger asking the governor to stop fueling this anger.

We are citizen legislators without staff or administrative support, with families and jobs outside of our legislative duties. We are our neighbors who are doing our best to serve our communities and solve extremely difficult problems for meager pay. The vitriol and threats are disheartening and scary, and make it harder for us to represent and serve our districts. I work hard every day to help my constituents, so I hope everyone, especially Gov. Scott, will work to tone down the rhetoric and respect the opinions of others. Thank you for reading.

DAR chapter to sponsor genealogy experts talk

CORNWALL — For those who are curious about their family genealogy or have started researching their family history but now need some inspiration to continue, the Ethan and Mary Baker Allen DAR Chapter in Cornwall, together with the Cornwall Historical Society, are sponsoring two speakers who just might have the answer to some of their questions. Genealogy experts Scott Andrew Bartley and Ed McGuire will be at Cornwall Town Hall on Saturday, July 20, from noon to 4:30 p.m. with advice and tips for all interested.

Bartley is a genealogist, archivist, librarian, and editor specializing in Vermont, Mayflower lineages, and colonial New England. He was formerly the manuscripts curator at the New England Historic Genealogical Society. He was a fact-checker for the show "Finding Your Roots" with Henry Louis Gates Jr. on PBS. He has written several books and many articles and has returned as the editor for "Vermont Genealogy" (the journal of the Genealogical Society of Vermont). Bartley is currently the genealogist for the Early Vermont Settlers to 1784 Study Project for the New England Historic Genealogical Society. He is also consulting editor for *The New England Historical and*

Genealogical Register and the *Mayflower Descendant*.

Bartley will talk at 1 p.m. about the basics for genealogy research in Vermont. He will give tips that help novice as well as those experienced in family history.

At 2 p.m., McGuire, President of the VT Genealogy Library and the French-Canadian Genealogical Society, will speak about DNA research and genetic genealogy. Using DNA to search for ancestors is a relatively new resource, and, if you are curious about why to go that route and how to get started, McGuire can answer questions. He also specializes in Irish research.

In addition to the speakers there will be some opportunities available for one-on-one assistance. Both Bartley and McGuire will be available as well other genealogy experts with access to on-line family history resources. Linda Miller, who has taught genealogy courses and has extensive knowledge in LDS research will be offering her assistance. Sherry Marcoux, DAR State Registrar, and member of the Mayflower Society, can easily get to Revolutionary War patriots or Mayflower ancestors. DAR member Anne Collins knows how to solve research problems and help with finding the right path.

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Blue angel

A GREAT BLUE Heron glides over the waters of Dead Creek Wildlife Management Area recently. Photo by Dale Cockrell

Gas

(Continued from Page 3A) temperature of only 58-60 degrees. Officials from the Williston-based VHV Company inspected the unit and confirmed its motor had failed. Town officials requested a fix but were told the parts wouldn't come until the fall, because the heating season was ending. In the meantime, rec center officials have noted the average temperature in the gym has been running 83 degrees due to the late spring/early summer heat, with humidity levels ranging in the upper 60% to low 70%. Fans haven't helped the situation. "The long term and short-term

ramifications are very serious," rec center officials wrote in a recent memo to the selectboard. "The gym is currently almost unusable at this point because of the heat. We anticipate the development of long-term issues including warping damage to hardwood floor, possible injuries due to how slippery the floor becomes during periods of high humidity, and a reduced use by our camps and community members due to the uncomfortable temperatures. The Rec center was removed as an emergency cooling shelter during this week's heat event because of the high gym

temperatures." So, the town has decided to order a new heating and cooling system, which has been placed on priority order due to the summer weather, according to local officials. Kernan said there's money in the Middlebury Parks & Rec Department budget to cover \$48,600 of the heating/cooling system costs. He said a local businessman and basketball coach has pledged the remaining \$15,000 of the expense. John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.

Bristol Police Log

BRISTOL — Bristol police on June 20 cited Cyrus Marsano, 47, of Monkton for criminal threatening and disturbing the peace by use of telephone or other electronic communications. Police received a complaint on June 19 from Marin Cordes, a state representative, who'd received a threatening voice message. After investigating the incident and consulting with the Addison County State's Attorney's office, police cited Marsano. See story in a section of today's edition. Between June 2 and 15 Bristol police completed 39 foot patrols and three car patrols, conducted 27 traffic stops, and checked security at Mount Abraham Union High School 14 times, at Bristol Elementary School 14 times and at local businesses 11 times. Police also processed 18 fingerprint requests, verified one vehicle identification number and helped one individual gain access to their locked vehicle. In other recent activity, Bristol police:

- On June 2 responded to Prince Lane for the report of a theft. An investigation is ongoing.
- On June 4 responded to a two-car crash with no injuries on Main Street.
- On June 4 cited Cale Quenneville Jr., 31, of Brandon for driving with a criminally suspended license following a traffic stop on Burpee Road.
- On June 4 issued a ticket to a

minor in possession of tobacco on Airport Drive.

- On June 4 were told of a potential violation of a refrain from abuse order. An investigation is ongoing.
- On June 4 received a report of a possible violation of a court order. After a preliminary investigation, police determined the violation occurred in another town and assisted the individual in contacting the appropriate agency.
- On June 5 dealt with a parking issue in the Walgreen's parking lot.
- On June 5 responded to a theft on Prince Lane. An investigation is ongoing.
- On June 6 met with students to discuss law enforcement in a small community.
- On June 7 responded to the report of a potentially intoxicated person. Police determined that the individual was waiting for a ride and that no action rose to the level of an offense.
- On June 7 reviewed basic crime scene processing with students at Mount Abe.
- On June 8 helped someone on North Street with obtaining social service assistance.
- On June 10 assisted Bristol Elementary School with a truancy concern.
- On June 11 responded to Pine Street for a report of a dog wandering into a yard without a collar. Police helped reunite the dog with its owner.
- On June 11 took a late report

for a dog bite that occurred on Plank Road and forwarded the information to Bristol's health officer.

- On June 12 looked into a motor vehicle complaint of someone causing damage on Cove Road. Police spoke to people in the area but reported there was not enough information available to issue a citation.
- On June 12 responded to Airport Drive for a complaint of possible unlawful mischief. An investigation is ongoing.
- On June 12 received a dog that was found walking on North Street. The owner was located, and the dog was returned home.
- On June 12 reminded people parked in the Bartlett Falls parking area that overnight camping is not allowed in that area, which is closed from dusk to dawn.
- On June 14 responded to a theft report on Mountain Street. Police reported that the items were located and no theft had occurred.
- On June 14 received a report of an adult providing alcohol to a minor on West Street. An investigation is ongoing.
- On June 14 responded to Mountain Street for a report of a theft. Police reported that the items were located and social service assistance was provided.

Middlebury Police Log

MIDDLEBURY — Middlebury police cited Julian Doner, 21, of Cornwall for driving under the influence, following a stop on Court Street on June 23. Police said Doner refused to provide an evidentiary breath sample. In addition to making daily checks on the encampment of houseless individuals off Bakery Lane area, Middlebury police last week:

- Arrested Cassandra Chasse, 33, of Middlebury on an outstanding warrant on June 17. Police said Chasse was lodged pending her arraignment.
- On June 17, assisted a local property manager who said he'd been threatened.
- On June 17, responded to a report of an untimely death in the Marble Works. No foul play was suspected. The Independent will continue to look into this incident.
- Checked the welfare of a woman in the Route 7 South area on June 17.
- Directed a houseless person to the Charter House Emergency Shelter on June 18.
- Investigated a report of someone having slashed the tires of a vehicle parked on East Main Street on June 18.
- Served a no-trespass order on June 18 on a person who was no longer welcome at a Court Street business.
- Received a report about a bear rummaging through trash in the Jackson Lane area on June 18.
- Investigated a complaint of

someone driving aggressively on Route 7 North and Exchange Street on June 19.

- Cited Kenneth Gilbert, III, 48, who is houseless, for violating court-ordered conditions of release, after he was found passed out in a local resident's vehicle in the Bakery Lane area on June 19. Police took Gilbert to the Marble Valley Regional Correctional Facility in Rutland for detox services. Two days later, on June 21, police cited Gilbert for violating court-ordered conditions of release following an investigation in the Bakery Lane area. Police said they then again took Gilbert to Rutland to receive detox services.
- Responded to a report of a dog left alone in car parked off Court Street during hot weather on June 19. Police said the vehicle was gone upon their arrival.
- Responded to a reported domestic disturbance at a Monarch Court home on June 19.
- Assisted Middlebury Regional EMS on a call in East Middlebury on June 19.
- Responded to a noise complaint at a Jackson Lane apartment on June 20. Police said the tenant agreed to turn down their music.
- Warned two people who were violating the town's open container ordinance in the Bakery Lane area on June 20.
- Responded to a report of a tree that had fallen across Seminary Street Extension on June 20.
- Responded to a report of low-

hanging power lines on Case Street on June 20.

- Assisted a person whose vehicle had broken down on South Main Street on June 20.
- Responded to a Munson Road residence on a report of a family problem on June 21.
- Checked on a report of three individuals roaming around Court Street wearing ski masks during the night of June 21. Police determined the trio were juveniles dressing up as superheroes.
- Helped Porter Hospital officials with a person who was causing a disturbance on June 22.
- Responded to the Munson Road area on a report of a man who had allegedly been bloodied in an accident on June 22.
- Investigated a trespassing complaint at a Court Street business on June 22.
- On June 22, collected three syringes that had been left in an Exchange Street business.
- Assisted a woman who believed she was being followed by someone on June 22.
- Checked on a local man who was experiencing mental health problems on June 22.
- Assisted Vermont State Police on a call on Douglas Road in Cornwall on June 23 at 4:17 a.m.
- Helped remove an unwanted person from a Jayne Court apartment on June 23.
- Checked on a report of suspicious activity in the Elm Street area on June 23.
- Assisted a man whose car had broken down in Court Square on June 23.
- Responded to a North Pleasant Street business on June 23 on a reported of an unwanted person.

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- BRISTOL:** Bristol Country Store, Bristol Discount Beverage, Champlain Farms

- Maplefields Shaw's, Walgreen's
- EAST MIDDLEBURY:** Jiffy Mart, Maplefields, Otter East Bakery & Deli
- FERRISBURGH:** Jiffy Mart
- LINCOLN:** Lincoln General Store
- MIDDLEBURY:** Addison Independent Office, Champlain Farms, Costello's Market, Greg's Market, Hannaford, Hare and The Dog, Kinney Drugs, Maplefields, Middlebury Discount

- Beverage
- Middlebury Natural Foods Co-op, Middlebury Short Stop, Otter Creek Bakery, Paris Farmers Union, Rosie's, Shaw's, Stone Mill Public Market, Vermont's Own, Village Depot, Walgreen's
- NEW HAVEN:** Jiffy Mart, Village Green Market
- N. FERRISBURGH:** N. Ferrisburgh Short Stop
- ORWELL:** Buxton's Store
- RIPTON:** Ripton Country Store

- SALISBURY:** Kampersville Store (seasonal)
- SHOREHAM:** Shoreham Service Center
- STARKSBORO:** Jerusalem 4-Corners Store
- VERGENNES:** BJ's Farm Supply, Champlain Farms, Community Market, Kinney Drugs, Shaw's, Maplefields Vergennes, Vergennes Wine
- PAPERS ALSO AVAILABLE AT:** Eastview at Middlebury, Porter Hospital/Rehab

ADDISON COUNTY School Briefs

Two Bristol residents, **Kassidy Jay** and **Payton Vincent**, were named to the dean's list during the spring 2024 academic semester at Salve Regina University.

Aedan Taylor of Brandon and **Will Larocque** of Salisbury received their degrees from Rochester Institute of Technology at its recent commencement ceremonies. Taylor received a BS in Cybersecurity. Larocque received a BS and MS in Computer Engineering.

Two other local students were named to RIT's dean's list for the spring semester of the 2023-2024 academic year: **Reilly Lawson** of Vergennes, who is in the Game Design and Development program, and **Addison Mayhew** of Bristol, who is in the New Media Design program.

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Vergennes

(Continued from Page 1A) require a city property tax rate of \$1.07012 per \$100 of assessed property value to fund it.

The current FY24 municipal rate is \$1.06, meaning the council voted to add 1.0712 cents to the current rate.

That's despite an increase in proposed spending of \$290,000, or about 9.6%.

That increase translates to just under \$11 in additional taxes per \$100,000 of assessed property value.

City Manager Ron Redmond told the *Independent* in an email after Tuesday's meeting that he and the city council also worked to keep spending in check, but officials' ability at the end of the year to pin down the amount of the surplus was an important factor in controlling the municipal tax rate.

"That bigger fund balance from FY24 helped to drive down the amount of new taxes that were needed to fund FY25," he said.

Neither the old nor the new rate includes the local rate needed to account for voter-approved tax breaks for disabled veterans and some non-profit property, such as the Masonic Lodge on School Street. Treasurer Angie Bolduc said as of early Wednesday morning that rate had not been calculated, but that she expected it to land near a half-cent, as it did in FY24.

Nor does that rate account for school taxes, which are not yet known, but are typically released by state officials by the end of June. The latest estimate from Addison Northwest School District officials calls for a roughly 20-cent increase in homestead property tax rates for those one-third of city homeowners who do not pay based on their incomes. Counting the small municipal rate hike would

mean about a roughly overall \$210 property tax increase per \$100,000 of assessed value.

The majority of property owners who pay school taxes based on their incomes would also see increases, but on a smaller scale.

The council on Tuesday also voted for a smaller-than-planned increase in sewer fees, although it will not affect the tax rate. There is a long-range plan in effect to increase annual sewer fees as the city works up to the \$1,000 per-unit charge needed to support the upcoming sewer bond to support the planned rebuild of the city's sewer treatment and collection systems. But city officials noted payments on the bond are now not anticipated until 2027.

Thus, rather than a scheduled yearly increase in the basic annual per unit/household rate from \$720 to \$860, they instead raised all sewer user rates by 5.55%, including those paid by large metered users. Therefore, the basic per-unit rate increased to \$760 for homes, businesses, or apartments in multi-unit buildings.

BUDGET DETAILS
Department by department, the approved spending was:

ADMINISTRATION: A budget of roughly \$616,504, an increase of about \$45,500 or roughly 8.3%.

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 budget of roughly \$1,284,952, an increase of about \$213,580 or 19.9%.

Wages to fund two new positions make up much of the higher spending. One position is a new officer to replace the

opening created when Chief Jason Ouellette was promoted from sergeant more than a year ago, 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. The second position is funded 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 \$9,000 will go toward recently negotiated increased pay for time officers spend at home while on call, ready at any moment to be called into action.

Higher costs for health benefits are expected to add about \$55,000 to the department's bottom line.

The last significant increase is a proposed lease to replace a 2017 cruiser with roughly 114,000 on its odometer. The first-year cost would be \$34,800. The council cut \$34,800 from an earlier budget proposal by postponing the replacement of another 2017 cruiser, one with 71,000 miles on the odometer.

PUBLIC WORKS: A budget of roughly \$936,787 is a decrease of about \$58,500 or 5.9% from this year.

About \$43,000 of that decrease can be attributed to a part-time position being moved to the user-funded sewer department. Other than that wages and benefits are rising.

Also scratched was a proposed \$12,000 increase to pay for three solar-powered flashing lights to alert residents when the winter parking ban is in effect. 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 is

included, but because two trucks were paid off in FY24 there are savings on that line item.

RECREATION: A budget of \$162,751, an increase of almost \$43,433 or about 36.4%.

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

GENERAL EXPENSES: A proposed budget of about \$266,445, an increase of about \$26,000 or about 11%. There were some changes made at Tuesday's budget meeting.

The council lowered the city's contribution to the city's fire department budget by roughly

\$12,500, which meant a proportional decrease to the city's fire contracts with Panton (\$57,000 to \$52,000) and Waltham (\$36,000 to \$33,000) for first-response fire protection. Ferrisburgh has a separate \$119,000 contract that was not affected.

Councilors requested the reduction after noting the projected fire department revenue of about \$357,000 exceeded projected expenses by about \$47,000. Chief Dave DiBiase said the department wanted to get ahead of bond payments for two trucks it has agreed to purchase next year, and the council agreed some of the extra funds should remain. The city is still paying around \$133,000.

An \$18,000 increase in this catch-all section of the city budget

came from 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.

CORRECTION: Our June 20 story on city council budget discussions incorrectly stated the amount of the increase in the police department budget for on-call officers by using the total amount of the line item, not the increase. The correct amount of the increase, around \$9,000, is used in this article. The reporter apologizes for the mistake.

By the way

(Continued from Page 1A)

Lanther of Orwell to be the next District Court judge for the District of Vermont. Lanther was recently nominated by President Joe Biden at the joint recommendation of Vermont's U.S. Sens. Bernie Sanders and Peter Welch. Sanders joined the hearing to introduce Lanther. Welch, a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, presided over the hearing. Lanther began her legal career as a judicial law clerk for the trial courts in Chittenden and Addison counties. Today, Lanther serves as the supervising attorney at the Rutland County Public Defender's Office, a position she's held since 2007. Sanders and Welch will continue to guide Lanther's nomination through the Senate.

Kudos to Bristol's July 4 Committee and its supporters for a successful chicken BBQ on the town green last Wednesday. The event raised more than \$2,600 toward the community's always-stellar Independence Day fireworks display. The BBQ got a huge boost from the volunteer efforts of Bristol's Sons of the American Legion, including Jeremy Revell, Mo Cyr, Steve Gebeault and Ross Brown. And chef extraordinaire and July 4 Committee member Cecil Foster loaned his considerable BBQ skills.

Addison County recorded a jobless rate of 1.7% in May, down slightly from April's 2% local unemployment rate. The Vermont Department of Labor reported a Middlebury-area labor force of 19,725, of which 341 were in the market for a job. Meanwhile, the statewide unemployment rate in May was 2.1%, unchanged from April. The May jobless rates for Vermont's 17 labor markets ranged from 1.7% in Burlington-South Burlington, Middlebury and White River Junction, to 2.9% in Derby. The national unemployment rate in May was 4%.

The Addison County Relocation Network (ACORN) broke all records during the Middlebury Natural Food Co-op's "Rally for Change" fundraiser in May, harvesting \$2,076 in donations — a sum the Co-op will match, for a grand total of \$4,153. This funding will support ACORN's Farmacy: Food is Medicine program that provides free CSA shares of local, organic fruit and vegetables to 100 families in our community. Farmacy is part of a larger statewide movement.

Average gasoline prices in Vermont fell 6.2 cents per gallon during the past week to \$3.39, according to GasBuddy's survey of 626 stations. Prices are 19.9

cents lower than a month ago and 21.7 cents lower than a year ago. The cheapest station in Vermont: \$3.19. The most expensive: \$3.79. The national average is \$3.41 per gallon.



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ADDISON COUNTY School News Briefs

Erich Reitz of Ferrisburgh received a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science from the University of Alabama at its recent commencement ceremonies.

Reitz finished out his time at Alabama with high honors, being named to the president's list for the spring 2024 semester.



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PRIMARY ELECTION ON AUGUST 13 — EARLY VOTING BEGINS JUNE 29
PAID FOR BY BRAY FOR VERMONT, KATE SELBY, TREASURER, 1896 QUAKER VILLAGE RD, WEYBRIDGE VT 05753

Strawberries

(Continued from Page 1A)
 sweet. “We’ve had a challenging season and a short one,” she wrote on Instagram. “Tarnished plant bug, powdery mildew, residual weeds from the wettest summer ever (last year), dry weather (this year) — we’ve had a perfect storm of ‘issues.’ AND YET, so many of you came out as you have for years and picked ‘em all, big and small, with such appreciation and cheerful enthusiasm.”

A signature crop for the summer, strawberries star in many celebrations around the county. For instance, June 19 saw a strawberry festival at the Shoreham Congregational Church, where delicious strawberry shortcakes were made and served by community members.

This past Monday, June 24, the Vergennes City Park hosted the 50th Annual Strawberry Festival, a fundraiser for the Champlain Valley Christian School. A committee of

engaged parents has been bringing the event to life for five decades. Monday’s event featured live music by the Vergennes City Band and strawberry desserts consisting of 9-inch pound cakes homemade by Christian School students’ relatives. “We make sure there’s plenty for everybody,” said Marion Sullivan, long-time contributor and a point of contact for the event.

“We usually purchase the berries, and we got them this year from Full Belly Farm in Monkton,” Sullivan said. “They were beautiful berries, and freshly picked.”

The event has weaved itself into the fabric of the town’s cultural scene as it returns every year. Sullivan recalled as many as 300 to 500 people showing up for the Vergennes strawberry festival in the past few years. They managed to serve 465 people this year.

“It becomes an event everybody looks forward to every year,” Sullivan said. “It’s a really upbeat, fun night, and it’s a fun time for us to get together and be a servant to

the school.” Avid strawberry lovers can be on the lookout for another annual strawberry festival this Sunday, June 30, when the Russell Memorial Library in Monkton hosts its strawberry soiree. Look for it 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Monkton Town Hall, 92 Monkton Ridge. In addition to local strawberries on shortcake, there will be a used book sale, two bands, kids activities and lawn games. All proceeds from this festival go directly to the library.

FLOOD RECOVERY
 The heavy flood in the summer of 2023 impacted many Vermont farms. A survey of food producers — including 51 berry farms — conducted by the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets last summer captured the scale of their damages. Losses were reported in every county, amounting to an estimated \$16,063,054, with 27,318 acres of land impacted.

Based on the report, Addison County had the highest estimated total loss of \$3,104,355, with



THE WEATHER HAS been in favor of the strawberry crop, and lovers of the fruit who make it to the fields are happy with what they can find.

Independent photo/Caroline Jiao

Bennington and Chittenden counties coming in second and third. Around 16% of survey respondents reported their soil and land were damaged.

Some farms this year still feel the impact of high waters, but farmers are pretty resilient.

“We were fine,” Bissell said. “I have heard of Adam’s Berry Farm in Charlotte had one field that was too wet. Besides the fact that there was flooding for some farms, it was also just extremely wet.”

Bissell calls for strawberry lovers

to act quickly. “I’ll say this every year: always consider it your last chance,” he said. “Strawberry season is too short to prevaricate. Just get in the car and go.”

45th Annual Middlebury Festival on-the-Green July 7-13 2024



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Monday, July 8th
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Mon. - Magician Tom Verner
Tues. - Troubadour John Gailmor

Visit our website for a full line-up | festivalonthegreen.org

McGuinness

(Continued from Page 1A)
 Aug. 13 primaries will be needed to whittle both the three Democrats and the three Republicans down to two for each party, for the Nov. 5 general election.

In 1993 McGuinness moved from western Michigan to Vermont to take a job in product development and sourcing with the Merrell footwear company. It was there that she met her future husband, Ted. The couple moved to Monkton in 1999. They have a grown daughter who attended Monkton Central School through grade 4, after which she was homeschooled.

McGuinness said her experience in the business world and her two years as a policy analyst with the VFA are among factors that

have whetted her appetite for her House bid. It’s her first run for elective office.

“I feel I am qualified to run,” she said.

In her role with the VFA, McGuinness has kept tabs on a variety of legislative bills that the group believes could potentially affect parents’ input and authority over their children’s public education, health and other services.

“I research the language of the bills and present expert witness testimony to committees, and I also research other witness testimony (for potential rebuttal),” she said of her duties.

Vermont’s “Proposal 4” is among the issues that McGuinness has addressed on behalf of VFA. Sponsored by 23 state senators, Proposition 4 seeks to amend Article 7 in Chapter 1 of the Vermont Constitution to state that “the government must not deny equal treatment and respect under the law on account of a person’s race, ethnicity, sex, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or national origin.”

Advocates have cited federal intervention on issues like abortion and transgender issues as being a major impetus for the bill.

VFA has dubbed Prop 4 an “anti-parent bill.” During testimony delivered before the Senate Judiciary Committee this past Feb. 20, McGuinness alleged that Prop 4 violates articles 1 (born with natural rights), 4 (freedom of religion) and 13 (freedom of speech) of the state Constitution. She further testified that Prop 4 would “elevate the status of state-sanctioned ‘marginalized’ groups over other groups.”

Prop 4 is currently on a path to a statewide referendum in 2026.

“It’s given me a lot of experiential knowledge of our state and U.S. constitutions,” McGuinness said of her Prop 4 research.

She’s also weighed in on bill H.151, an ill-fated healthcare transparency bill that, among other things, proposed to “allow a minor 12 years of age or older to consent to medical care for the prevention of a sexually transmitted infection.”

“We want policies that encourage communication between parents and children, rather than secrecy,” McGuinness said.

She explains her concerns about child-related legislation in a post on her campaign website, mcguinness4vthouse.com:

“Legislators are incrementally introducing and passing legislation that allows minors to make adult decisions despite neuroscience on adolescent brain development. Library confidentiality records for ages 12+ can stifle rather than encourage discussions between parents and their children. Consent to health care and medical procedures can have life-altering consequences, and

this legislation often includes a disaffirmance clause that makes the minor responsible for their choice: there is no legal recourse for the minor or the parents if the minor experiences negative side effects or complications from the treatments to which they are legally allowed to consent.”

McGuinness has taken a position on several issues at this stage of the campaign, including:

- **Public education.** She supports school choice, which she believes would “improve academics and lower costs, and local oversight of public schools will help to ensure students are not falling through the cracks in academics and needed services.”

McGuinness contends the state’s education funding law, Act 60, is broken and something new that places more emphasis on local control.

“Act 60 has demonstrated, after 25 years in existence, that equity in per-pupil spending does not result in improved academic outcomes for all students,” she alleged.

- **Housing.** She subscribes to a Vermont GOP position that Act 250 — the state’s land use and development law — needs a major overhaul in order to facilitate new housing development. The Legislature this year passed H.687, which “relaxes Act 250’s reach in existing development centers, a move proponents hope will clear red tape and encourage compact housing development amid an acute housing shortage,” according to a June 17 report in *VT Digger*. The bill also lays the groundwork for extending Act 250’s protections in areas deemed ecologically sensitive. Lawmakers earlier this month overrode Gov. Phil Scott’s veto of H.687 so it could become law.

- **The Global Warming Solutions Act (Act 153),** which requires the state to cut its carbon emissions by 80% and achieve net zero by 2050. McGuinness believes the law should be repealed, in large part because it includes a provision allowing the state to be sued if it fails to meet its emission reduction mandates.

McGuinness instead believes Vermont should direct its resources into upgrading municipal water and sewer treatment plants to “eliminate the dumping of millions of gallons of sewage into our waterways every year, including Lake Champlain.”

If elected, McGuinness said she’d advocate for a more “deliberative legislative process” and shorter legislative sessions.

“There’s too much legislation,” she said of the number of bills lawmakers field each year.

McGuinness also pledged to work on policies to keep young Vermonters from moving out of state. It’s a concern for older citizens, too, she noted.

“It’s sad to me when I hear generational Vermonters having to consider whether they can afford to stay,” she said.

Reporter John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.

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Patton

(Continued from Page 1A) been able to achieve so many of my dreams in the last decade because of that connection.”

FUNDRAISING EFFORTS

During the remainder of her time at the college, a major priority for Patton will be making progress on the institution's ongoing fundraising efforts.

This past fall, Middlebury College launched the public phase of the “For Every Future” campaign, the largest fundraising campaign in the institution's 224-year history. The drive aims to raise \$600 million to support a variety of initiatives intended to enrich students' experiences and help prepare them for the world after graduation, such as by increasing financial aid and supporting experiential learning opportunities.

The college began counting toward the campaign in July of 2021 and hopes to reach its fundraising goal by June 2028. As of this week, the institution was over three-quarters of the way to its goal, with \$452,594,000 raised.

“We're a year ahead in our fundraising right now, which I feel really good about,” Patton said. “Even though I am incredibly sad to leave, I feel like it's OK, and the next six or seven months I'm totally focused on trying to finish fundraising.”

Ongoing fundraising work ties into some of Patton's other goals for the remainder of her time at Middlebury.

“I want to make sure that liberal arts and sciences remains front and center as a part of our national landscape. That means continuing to work on the campaign and connecting with our departments and initiatives,” she said. “Our faculty need to feel supported in their teaching and research, and students need to feel supported in their learning. That means a robust focus on those twin priorities for our fundraising.”

Successful fundraising was among several accomplishments from Patton's presidency highlighted in a May 2 college press release announcing her departure. The release noted that the past three years have seen the largest fundraising totals in the institution's history.

College officials in the release pointed to other work Patton has done to strengthen Middlebury's financial practices during her tenure, such as tackling a structural deficit she inherited upon taking office in 2015.

“We had some big financial challenges when we started,” Patton recalled. “We had a large deficit that was a structural deficit that we had not really gotten our hands around, and it was really important for me as a fiscal moderate to try and make sure we got our hands around it, but I didn't want to do it in a way that blew the whole community up.”

Patton noted that college officials were on the cusp of resolving

that deficit when the COVID-19 pandemic began in 2020.

“When COVID hit we went back to square one in terms of the expenses, as well as inflation, to post-COVID inflation, all of the stuff that we're now being hit with,” she explained.

Patton and her team have nonetheless made strides in addressing the deficit. Over the past nine years, Patton and her team have returned \$38 million structurally to the budget. She and her team have also developed practices of open communication and financial transparency, according to the May 2 press release. That work has allowed the institution to keep its staff and salaries competitive.

Patton acknowledges that there's still work to be done regarding finances, particularly in meeting college trustees' goal of having a small surplus each year.

“We have a relatively modest deficit every year, which is great, but it's not a surplus,” Patton said. “Getting to that final place is where I hope my successor will go.”

ENSURING CONTINUITY
Another focus of Patton's in the months ahead will be working with the college's board of trustees to ensure the continuity of institutional priorities once her successor takes over.

Several of those priorities have been addressed through various initiatives Patton has overseen throughout the past decade and that she and other administrators consider to be among the highlights of her presidency — such as work in the areas of conflict transformation, supporting students and the environment.

“The board is really focused on continuity of these priorities, which I feel really glad about because if they weren't then I wouldn't have done right by Middlebury,” Patton said. “The fact that they're understood as institutional priorities means a lot to me.”

The priorities and related achievements that college officials hope to build on with Patton's successor include:

Access. College officials in May reported that during Patton's presidency, Middlebury's commitment to access for all who qualify increased significantly, almost doubling in some cases. All of the college's financial aid is need-based.

The college has increased the amount of financial aid it offers to students during Patton's tenure, with around 47-52% of students now receiving aid compared to about 40% of students when Patton took over in 2015.

“Relative to other colleges, in terms of our endowment per student, we're very generous in our financial aid,” Patton said. “That's been fantastic, and hard fought and

hard won.”

Unsurprisingly, the college's student body has become more diverse over the past decade. The number of first-generation students at the college has increased from 11-12% of the student body to now around 18-21%.

International students admitted this year are 14% of enrollment and domestic students of color make up around 37-40% each year.

“That has been what I feel is an obligation for creating more access and having Middlebury look more like America, which has really mattered to us,” Patton said.

E n e r g y 2 0 2 8 . Middlebury College's Energy2028 is a 10-year plan that sets four climate goals for the institution to meet, including using 100% renewable energy by 2028 and phasing out direct fossil fuel investments in the endowment.

Making progress on those goals has included collaborations such as a partnership with Salisbury's Goodrich Family Farm, Vanguard Renewables, and Vermont Gas Systems, and the state of Vermont on an anaerobic digester that provides renewable natural gas to Middlebury's main campus.

“The fact that we have been able to partner with so many people in the community, as well as beyond, has been thrilling because it shows what can be done at the county level; it shows what can be done with really creative people who work in all sectors of society,” Patton said.

She noted that the Energy2028 work has not always been easy but has created opportunities to have important conversations, such as about the 5 megawatt solar array constructed on 30 acres of college land on South Street Extension.

“There were folks who had concerns about one of the largest solar fields in Vermont just at the end of South Street. That's real, that's an important conversation to have,” Patton said. “It felt as if even in that conversation we were still thinking about the same purpose, which is it's a good goal to get to the largest employer in Addison County being 100% fueled by renewables, and we all wanted to work toward that goal.”

Looking ahead, Patton noted the college's environmental work needs a plan for the future after the institution achieves the goals outlined in Energy2028.

Conflict transformation. The college in March 2022 received a \$25 million grant from an anonymous donor to fund the creation of a new conflict transformation initiative.

Through the Kathryn Wasserman Davis Collaborative in Conflict Transformation the college has supported existing institution-

wide work in the area of conflict transformation and developed new programs related to the field of study, which explores the various aspects of conflict and how to constructively change the structures and relationships that make up an environment in which conflict unfolds.

That work has taken place across various “pillars” of the institution, such as Middlebury's undergraduate campus and the Middlebury Institute for International Studies at Monterey, and has included over 100 faculty and staff and hundreds of students.

“I feel really excited about how students are approaching it, how faculty are engaging with it, and I want to make sure that it remains student, faculty and staff-centered,” Patton said. “So far that's happening, but you have to be really vigilant about that.”

The ripple effect of Middlebury students' work with conflict transformation can be seen in part in how protests of Israel's war against Hamas unfolded on campus this spring. Demonstrations at the college largely remained respectful and led to productive dialogue between student protestors and college administrators.

“It's important to know that most of the protests around Israel (and) Gaza on college campuses in the United States were peaceful,” Patton said. “While it was far from easy and definitely imperfect, our productive engagement on the issue was heartening to many.”

Patton said she believes that productive engagement was due to a number of factors, such as students' commitment to keeping relationships open and listening to feedback as to where their actions might be effective or hurtful while making their voices heard. She noted other factors included that students began discussing the issue prior to the Oct. 7 attack on Israel launched by Hamas and collaborated on donations to World Central Kitchen after the attack, so

“there was a set of relationships that had already been established,” she said.

She added that the college's trustees were willing to engage and keep dialogue open.

“That is a great practice at Middlebury — dialogue between students and trustees. People are still talking this summer,” she said.

Patton said she believes the institution's conflict transformation programs helped for many of the students familiar with the basic tenet: that “the purpose is not to squash conflict or dissent, but to embrace it productively and engage with it.”

“And those programs themselves have to be part of a larger understanding of what it means to build community in the middle of intense difference of opinion,” Patton continued. “Society today is always trying to find a balance between open expression, engagement with dissent, and staying in community. Our students intuitively understood that.”

In terms of moving ahead work with the initiative, Patton noted that the institution's conflict transformation programs will need grounding at Middlebury beyond the grant, which ends in around five years.

“I'll be focusing on what I can do to make that presence permanent at the college,” she said.

Nocturne Arts Festival. Patton explained that students came up with the idea for the annual, 24-hour festival for the arts after a particularly challenging year in 2017. Throughout the event, projects in the areas of theater, painting, dance, film and other disciplines pop up around campus for a celebration of students' creations.

Patton said the festival has become a well-loved Middlebury tradition over the past several years and was part of the impetus behind recent renovations to the Christian A. Johnson Memorial Building.

“The arts, I believe, is one of the

places where artistic voices can really practice being in the public square in some really new ways that can show what it means to create a public voice in a way that's sometimes less polarizing and more of bringing people together than so much of our public discourse is right now,” Patton said. “So, I'm really pleased to see that Nocturne was a student idea.”

The college has also raised around \$30 million to support construction of a new art museum that will be built near the current site of Battell Hall.

“As soon as students wake up, people will see the democratic world, the arts world, right in front of them,” Patton said.

She noted that the college plans to create an “arts agora” in between the Johnson Building and the new museum.

“I'm very excited about having sown the seeds for that,” Patton said.

Academics. Over the past several years, the college has grown its faculty and added new academic offerings, such as a new Black Studies Program and a food studies minor.

Patton said college officials' focus on interdisciplinary work and continued support of more traditional departments has positioned them to move forward with initiatives like MiddData, which makes data literacy a part of all Middlebury students' experience.

MiddData is among the initiatives Patton hopes to fortify over the next several months. She told the *Independent* that other areas of focus include continued support of the Middlebury Language Schools.

“I just came from my convocation at the language schools, and it was so heartening to see such a robust enrollment in our pursuit of language study,” she said. “And I want to make sure that this centuries-old traditional Middlebury value of cross cultural

(See Goals, Page 12A)

Lincoln, VT Homeowner Recommends Bristol Electronics



Phase I - 2014

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

Phase II - 2016

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

Phase III - 2019

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

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Caulfield

(Continued from Page 1A) with the Mount Snow Adaptive Snow Sports program, working with adults and children with various levels of mental, physical and emotional disabilities.

Her past employers have included Bayada Home Healthcare, Pine Heights of Brattleboro Center for Nursing & Rehabilitation, and the Thompson House Nursing Home.

Caulfield graduated from Brattleboro High School in 1972 and earned a Bachelor of Science in education from the University of Vermont in 1976.

She's an avid hiker, skier, triathlete, biathlete and singer, according to her resume, and has a long history of volunteering with nonprofits. Among them: The Green Mountain Club, Habitat for Humanity, the Brattleboro Outing Club, the Red Cross and the Special Olympics. Caulfield has participated in "medical

missionary trips" to a variety of countries, including Haiti, Honduras, Ecuador, Uganda and in the Middle East.

On the political front, Caulfield chairs Monkton's GOP committee. While the GOP is substantially outnumbered by Democrats in both Vermont House and Senate, Caulfield believes strongly that Republicans can increase their numbers with renewed effort. The state won't benefit from one-party rule, according to Caulfield.

"We're supposed to be a representative republic. If we don't use our vote and our voice, we're going to lose the republic," she said.

Caulfield moved to Monkton seven years ago, having purchased a piece of land she believed would be big enough to build three homes for refugees from other countries. She was exposed to hardships being experienced by others during

trips to Central and South America, Africa and the Middle East, and wants to offer opportunities in Monkton for several families.

But Caulfield said she's found the permitting track — including local hurdles and the state's Act 250 rules — to be so difficult and costly that she's having to sell one of the three home sites to help pay for the other two.

"That whole process has become convoluted and expensive," she said of her refugee housing plans. "Lots of rules and regulations."

Also hampering her housing plans has been the paucity of available grants for refugee housing, according to Caulfield.

If elected to the House, Caulfield said she'd like to streamline the Act 250 permitting process — something that legislators tackled this past term.

This is Caulfield's first run for office, but it isn't the first time

she'll be weighing in on issues in the Green Mountain State.

She opposed Vermont's "death with dignity" legislation back in 2011, which ultimately passed and allows terminally ill Vermonters to end their own lives under specific guidelines, which include physicians' input. Caulfield lost her husband, Jack, to cancer in 2006, and was his caregiver during his medical struggles.

She's also taken an interest in global events. Caulfield was part of a pro-Israel counter-rally at the Vermont Statehouse last Dec. 2, in reaction to a pro-Palestinian rally, according to the *Vermont Daily Chronicle*.

Caulfield has been outspoken on the issue of abortion. In February 2022, she delivered a talk titled, "Proposal 5, Death of Conscience," about the ramifications of the "Proposal 5 constitutional amendment for health care providers, women and the unborn," according to a related news item in the *Other Paper*. Proposal 5, also known as the "Reproductive Liberty Amendment," was passed by the electorate in 2022 and codified abortion rights within the Vermont Constitution.

On the subject of green energy and reducing carbon emissions, Caulfield believes the Legislature went too far in passing the Global Warming Solutions Act back in 2020. The law, among other things, requires Vermont to reduce greenhouse gas pollution to 26% below 2005 levels by 2025. Emissions would need to be 40% below 1990 levels by 2030 and 80% below by 2050.

The law also allows the state to be sued if it doesn't meet the prescribed benchmarks.

"We as a state shouldn't be susceptible for being sued," Caulfield said. "Some of those regulations need to be eliminated. I believe in being good stewards of our environment, but I don't feel it does anybody any good to be a

climate alarmist. Everybody locally needs to be self-governed and be stewards of the environment where they live."

Caulfield homeschooled all five of her children. She believes public schools have strayed beyond their core mission.

"Children should be taught reading, writing and arithmetic, not be socially engineered," she said. "Our children don't belong to the state; they belong to families. I think there are a lot of things morally questionable that are going on in our schools. I think we need to protect our children and not allow them to read pornographic banned books in the school libraries."

Families have become disengaged from the educational process, she said.

"I don't think education needs more money; it needs more quality," Caulfield said. "I would love to see more parents involved in the education of their children, to know what's going on in their schools and the school libraries."

Caulfield draws some of her inspiration from her uncle Buster, who died in the World War II Battle of the Bulge.

"He was 19, and it was the day after Christmas. I feel that we've been endowed by our creator with inalienable rights, but we need to protect them so they aren't taken away," Caulfield said.

Asked which freedoms she believes are currently at risk, Caulfield said "freedom of the press, freedom of religion, the right to keep and bear arms, the right of assembly."

State spending is also motivating Caulfield's candidacy. She believes taxes are already too high, leaving some folks in economic peril.

"We have to balance our budgets in our homes, so I feel the state of Vermont shouldn't be spending money we don't have, spending it frivolously, unnecessarily," she said.

Reporter John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.

Goals

(Continued from Page 11A) understanding is understood and seen in both old and new ways. We need to support our newest language schools, such as Korean and Abenaki."

She noted that ensuring the traditional arts and sciences departments remain supported is another area of focus.

"It's not like any of these interdisciplinary initiatives supplant the philosophy department or the computer science department and so on," Patton said. "Having that creation of these kinds of things only should make those departments more relevant, so really doubling down and supporting the traditional arts and sciences matters."

In addition to exploring ways to move forward various initiatives, Patton said she'll be around to help and consult whenever she can in the months ahead.

"In my view, Middlebury is the most interesting place in higher ed right now and I'll be proud to be part of the project and a member of the community," she said.

The college and surrounding communities are ones she holds near to her heart and plans to remain a part of even after she takes on her new post at the American Academy of Arts & Sciences. Patton and her husband, Shalom Goldman, will remain at their home in Shoreham, from which Patton will commute to the academy headquarters in Cambridge, Mass.

She said she's learned a lot from the college and broader Addison County communities over the past decade and sees those lessons as helping inform the work she'll take on in her next role.

"People in the college care about the work that the town does and people in the town care about the work that the college does," Patton said. "I also think the work of democracy has a chance in a county like Addison County. It's one of the things that I am going to take with me and my work at the Academy. I believe people can still imagine America at the local level, and I think that is certainly the case in this community and in this college."

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Hunger

(Continued from Page 1A) according to Montross. And those numbers don't include provisions distributed through HOPE's surplus food, the fresh produce gleaned from farms, and food the nonprofit delivers to families and individuals who aren't able to visit the organization's headquarters. There were 10,671 visits to HOPE's surplus- and gleaned-food section in 2023, up from 7,153 in 2022.

"We've never seen this kind of an increase before," she said of the latest statistics. "I haven't been this concerned about having enough food since I've been here. It's never been such a difficult situation."

Montross took HOPE's reins back in 2000.

The jump in demand for free food began in 2020, with the COVID pandemic, and has continued unabated, she said. She reiterated her concerns about the adequacy of HOPE's food reserves.

"Between the increased number of people coming to us for food, the price rise in food at the markets, and the weather challenges to our local (and global) food system, I am very worried about having enough food to meet the needs we are seeing," Montross said.

HOPE was able to respond to last year's food needs in part thanks to an incredibly generous, anonymous donor. That donor gave the organization \$300,000 to distribute for fuel assistance and another \$350,000 for food purchases.

"Thanks to a generous contribution from an anonymous donor, HOPE has been able to meet the expanding needs of the community and in the past two years has been able to provide more food to the families it sees."

"We used those (2023) food funds very strategically; we were able to source more food ourselves and were also able to give people grocery store cards they could use for basic necessities that we

also try to offer at the food shelf," Montross said.

In all, HOPE distributed 4,000 cards to use at Shaw's and Hannaford grocery stores that entitled the holder to \$25 per month in food purchases. The card holders were vetted to ensure low-income status.

"People were so grateful," Montross said.

The availability of more aid resulted in more people seeking food assistance from HOPE last year.

"There are more people in need... and they are still coming to us," Montross said.

She explained HOPE has in recent years fortified and diversified its food programming to try and meet the swelling needs. The organization's hunger attack plan includes:

- Its long running food shelf, which is periodically replenished with monthly purchase from the Vermont Food Bank, community food drives, financial donations and HOPE's annual food budget. The current list of food shelf needs includes breakfast cereal, canned tuna, Progresso-style soups, canned spaghetti sauce, baking mix, salad dressing, dried fruit, healthy snacks for kids, condiments, flavored past and rice, cornmeal, black beans, large bottles of fruit juice, canned carrots and canned corn.

- A successful gleaning program that last year yielded approximately 35,000 pounds of produce and fruit. HOPE works with around 20 area farms to secure food — some it through gleaning (donation of surplus produce), and some of it purchased.

"This number is always dependent on weather," Montross said of the farm food. "The 35,000 pounds available last year would have been significantly higher, but for the late spring frost and the floods that washed away crops. We're hoping for benign weather this year, for the sake of

our constituents as well as for the farmers that work so hard."

Donations Sought

The HOPE food shelf needs breakfast cereal, canned tuna, Progresso-style soups, canned spaghetti sauce, baking mix, salad dressing, dried fruit, healthy snacks for kids, condiments, flavored past and rice, cornmeal, black beans, large bottles of fruit juice, canned carrots and canned corn.

our constituents as well as for the farmers that work so hard."

Gleaned food is shared with HOPE clients and with other nonprofits and venues serving people in need. For example, HOPE shares with Middlebury's Open Door Clinic, which provides free medical services to uninsured and underinsured residents. HOPE is also working with the Open Door Clinic to get food to migrant farm workers.

- A "food shelf on wheels" program through which HOPE delivers sustenance to shut-ins, the frail, the elderly and people who live in areas without public transportation. The agency launched its rural food delivery service during the pandemic and is maintaining nine distinct routes.

- "We're looking at adding one or two other (routes)," Montross said. "We call people once per month, take an order over the phone, pack up the food and make sure it's not just non-perishables. We also have yogurt, milk, cheeses, butter, breads and fresh produce. We want to give them a nice balanced selection."

Montross gave a big shout-out to Paul Ralston and Little Village Acres for their help in growing, processing and providing fresh food to HOPE clients. She also praised the Middlebury Rotary Club for its monetary and labor contributions toward food security.

- "Snack bags" for children to help get them through vacations when they don't have access to free breakfasts and lunches at school. During vacation days/weeks, HOPE delivers nutritious snack bags to area schools for distribution to children who might otherwise go hungry. Those bags — containing items like granola bars, fruits and milk — are assembled with the help of Rotary Club members.

"We are focusing on the younger students," Montross said. "If kids, when they're young, don't have good nutrition, they're never going to catch up. Malnutrition at a young age has a lifelong impact."

HOPE snack bags aren't distributed during the summer, because there are multiple free meals sites for kids operating in the county. The *Independent* in last week's edition offered an inventory of those meals sites.

- Food education. HOPE not only dispenses food, but wants to let recipients know how to prepare it in its most tasty and healthful forms. Food shelf officials provide tips, and plans call for a menu helper to be stationed in the HOPE building lobby to let people know how they can maximize benefit from food shelf items, according to Montross.

And speaking of education, Montross wants to put together a cookbook containing client recipes. She believes such a cookbook could be sold as a fundraiser.

"We're trying to serve the entire spectrum of needs," Montross said of HOPE's strategy. "Food is really expensive right now. We're looking to be focused and reach as many people as we can."

More information about HOPE can be found at hope-vt.org.

Meanwhile, organizers of the Bristol-based Have-A-Heart Community Food Shelf are also seeing an increase in demand.

BRISTOL FOOT SHELF
Alison Pouliot is a volunteer coordinator and treasurer of Have-A-Heart, which is based in Bristol's



LUCY PARKER, ASSISTANT food programs coordinator for Helping Overcome Poverty's Effects, bags produce that's part of the mix of free food at the nonprofit's Middlebury headquarters. HOPE has seen a historic increase in demand for food in recent months.
Independent photo/John Flowers

St. Ambrose Catholic Church and distributes food monthly to hungry folks residing in the 5-town area: Bristol, Lincoln, Monkton, New Haven and Starksboro.

Pouliot said Have-A-Heart saw steady demand for its services during the COVID pandemic, and the need has only gotten greater during the past two years. Have-A-Heart served around 1,100 households made up of 3,150 individuals during calendar year 2023, which represented a 30% jump from 2022, according to Pouliot.

The food shelf has accommodated around 1,400 individuals thus far during 2024, an increase from the 1,293 people who sought sustenance from the nonprofit through the same period last year.

Pouliot offered two main theories for the surge in Have-A-Heart users: The recent sunset of COVID-related food benefits, and

better promotion of food assistance in the 5-town area. The Vermont Food Bank has recently sponsored hunger-themed talks in Bristol, a community that also hosts monthly visits from the VeggieVanGo Mobile Food Pantry. Run by the Vermont Foodbank in partnership with Porter Medical Center, VeggieVanGo distributes free, fresh produce and other staples at Mount Abraham Union High School from 10-11 a.m. on the third Wednesday of each month. Contact veggievango@vtfoodbank.org, or call 800-585-2265.

Also of note: Have-A-Heart has been reaching out with assistance to migrant families in our area. The food shelf has served 14 of such families (totaling 40 individuals) so far this month, according to Pouliot.

For more info about Have-A-Heart, go to tinyurl.com/ntamdzf. Reporter John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.

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Midd chocolate shop opens

Cocoa curators welcome guests with sweets and stories

By CAROLINE JIAO

MIDDLEBURY— On Main Street, down a flight of stairs off the southwest corner of Otter Creek Bridge is a recently opened chocolate store — Adagio Chocolates.

When owner Allan Sirotkin became a chocolatier back in the day, he recalls that there were only five companies in the U.S. making chocolate from cacao beans.

“It’s a great art, making chocolate, if one is making from the bean,” he said.

The world of chocolates has become much more diverse, but it still goes back to the bean. So Sirotkin and shop mate Hannah Loeffler have dedicated Adagio Chocolates to sourcing their wares from growers and chocolatiers from all over the world, and then educating customers about each chocolate’s background.

The two prefer to be called chocolate curators because the unique thing about this shop is every product can be traced back to a specific farm in a certain country.

“We have 24 different chocolatiers that we work with, 27 source countries, over 200 products, and a total of 36 different countries that are represented in the store,” said Loeffler.

Sirotkin expanded on the concept.

“By connecting people to where the chocolate comes from, which is one of the things we’re doing here, it makes it transparent what’s happening along the way,” Sirotkin said.

Educating customers about the multi-layered process of chocolate farming and manufacturing, and the effort and resources that goes into it, is an important mission at Adagio.

According to Loeffler, most products they feature are bars made by chocolatiers who buy beans from a farmer they can identify. In a few cases, the farmers are the chocolate makers. In a few others, it is a step further as the farm makes the beans into chocolate materials, and then the chocolatier forms them into bars.

“If you’re paying two dollars for a chocolate bar, think about how much money the farmers must get. Not too much,” Sirotkin said. “It just can’t be. If we want fair trade, we have to be paying a fair price for our products. And that’s what we’re trying to feature here.”

“If you think about it,” said Loeffler, “when you pay a certain price for a chocolate, by the time you’re done you’ve paid for the manufacture, you’ve paid for the sugar that goes into it, you’ve paid for the milk, how much is the farmer of the cacao making? So people say, ‘Oh my gosh you want me to pay that much for a chocolate.’ Yes, actually! And here’s why!”

Loeffler said she is most excited about the education piece of the job.

“There’s so much more to chocolate than I thought there was, and I want to bring that to people,” she said. “There’s a whole world that people don’t know about, and

I want them to know about it.”

The taste of chocolate with its many different flavors and undertones, to Sirotkin, is a lot like wine.

“It’s such a unique food that’s influenced by where it’s grown and how it’s processed,” he said.

Hardcore chocolate lovers can also buy bulk chocolate at the store.

“It’s a cheaper way to invest in chocolate,” said Sirotkin. “For bars, you’re paying for packaging and all that. If you’re just devouring chocolate, why not get the bulk and save the packaging.”

Customers are also welcome to select combinations of chocolate callets if they prefer more flavors in a packet. There is a shelf that features scores of jars of various callets displayed by milk percentage. One made with a special Ruby cacao bean with an innate fruity flavor is \$22 per pound. Other kinds like one labeled “Tcho, Mighty Mosaic, 62% Dark” is \$15 per pound. The “Valrhona Guanaja, 70% Dark” is \$31 per pound.

Walking inside the store, one immediately faces an entire shelf — marked by a stained glass centerpiece that Sirotkin’s father made for him — of chocolate bars carefully displayed like artworks, arranged from milk to dark, each with its own packaging design done by the makers, many showcasing traditional cultural patterns or animals and plants of the region.

The owners said their concept is to learn the customers’ flavor preferences before introducing them to products they might like.

Loeffler made sure the interior design of the shop is done with care. The walls feature posters she crafted that tell the stories of each chocolatier or farm, and the customers are invited to scan the QR code on each poster to learn more about them on the Adagio website.

A map of the world on the wall gives a visual representation of the footprint of their products. The flags indicate the sourcing farms, and the pins identify the manufacturers.

“In some places, they are the same,” Loeffler said. “Some of them are bean-to-bar chocolatiers that have their own plantations.”

SWEET BACKGROUND

In the early 1970s, Sirotkin worked in the food business, starting out in food co-ops in Ann Arbor, Mich. Later, he moved to upstate New York, where he opened a yogurt factory in 1979 and a restaurant in 1982. During his restaurant days, he discovered chocolate manufacturers that sold 10-pound chocolate bars. Then he moved to Vermont in 1995 and started his own small chocolate shop, Green River Chocolates in Hinesburg, where he sold various chocolate bars and confections.

A diagnosis of stage-four colon cancer in 2007 brought him to retirement, though his passion for chocolate didn’t wane.



ALLAN SIROTKIN AND Hanna Loeffler are ready to serve customers in a new chocolate store in downtown Middlebury that features a variety of sweet products from around the world. They prefer to call themselves “chocolate curators” and are delighted to connect customers to the stories behind each chocolate bar.

Independent photo/Caroline Jiao



THE SHOP HAS carefully placed on a display table various chocolate bars and confections from unique chocolatiers around the world. Customers are encouraged to browse.

Independent photo/Caroline Jiao

“I still have this love for chocolate and was buying lots of them,” Sirotkin said. “I had chocolate in my house. I bought chocolates for my friends. I do special orders for the Town Hall Theater for some of their fundraisers.”

At that point he got teased about opening a chocolate shop in town.

“My wife, Jackie, had said, ‘Why don’t you get the chocolate out of the house?’” Sirotkin related, looking around the new shop. “Well, this wasn’t quite what she had in mind, I think.”

Sirotkin became interested in the idea of opening a shop featuring a great variety of chocolates from around the world.

“I like the look of many chocolates,” he joked.

Working at the Middlebury New Filmmakers Festival in the summer of 2023, Sirotkin met Hanna Loeffler, whom he initially hired as a start-up consultant and who is now working part-time managing Adagio Chocolates (they plan for her to eventually run the business).

The current hope is to hire another hand for the shopping and shipping aspect. The goal is, as the business matures and stabilizes once Loeffler takes a greater role in September, for Sirotkin to gradually spend more time in retirement with his wife in their home in Arizona. They are planning on a grand

opening at the Town Hall Theater this fall.

Loeffler, a trained chef with than 20 years of food-service experience, has been excited about the idea of the shop since Sirotkin called her in.

She got an Uber scholarship in 2021 and was accepted in Arizona State University to study organizational leadership, planning to graduate in December 2026. She studied in Eastern Europe in 2022 and the Dominican Republic in 2023. Coming back to Vermont, she worked locally as a tour guide for Green Mountain Tours and Vermont Tasting Tours. Currently she is working full-time at the Middlebury New Filmmakers Festival and part-time at the shop.

During her travels Loeffler said she discovered she wanted to make a difference in a good way.

“I figured out in the years of food service, the thread that ran through was my passion for working with people, and this sounds so cliché, working for good causes,” she said.

Adagio Chocolates at 52 Main St., Middlebury, is open Wednesday through Saturday 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.

As the business gets on track, Sirotkin and Loeffler are thinking bigger, envisioning chocolate-tasting classes and tours to local chocolatiers.

“That’s what we’re here for. It’s the storytelling,” Sirotkin said.



THE SHELF AGAINST a wall arranges, from milk to dark, an array of jars filled with chocolate callets from different chocolate producers. Customers are welcome to pick and combine flavors they like.

Independent photo/Caroline Jiao

Monkton man

(Continued from Page 1A) voice message from Marsano that police agreed was threatening.

Two other Addison County lawmakers said they also have received disturbing messages from Marsano.

Democratic leaders in the Legislature have said that this past session has been more tense than past ones, in part because of economic challenges that Vermonters face. They also criticized Republican Gov. Phil Scott for the tone of his comments toward Democrats in the Legislature. Senate President Pro Tempore Phil Baruth, D/P-Chittenden Central, told VT Digger.org that Scott’s criticism has been more aggressive “bordering on a certain new slight ugliness in the tone.”

Cordes is a Democrat who serves in one of two Addison-4 House seats representing the communities of Bristol, Lincoln, Monkton and Starksboro. She recently moved from Lincoln to Bristol.

Cordes told the *Independent* she received the voicemail at 7:10 a.m. on that Wednesday morning while she was at work.

“You’re an enemy of the people of Vermont,” says the message, which Cordes provided to *Seven Days* and confirmed with the

Independent. “You should watch your back. You really should, because you’re not safe walking down the street, you dumb (expletive). I hope you die.”

State Sen. Chris Bray, D-Bristol, said he also received a voicemail from Marsano at 6:59 a.m. on that same morning, which he reported to Bristol and Vermont Capitol police this past weekend.

“Christopher, Every last one of you people should be tarred and feathered. You people are no longer safe walking down the street. You (expletive) up big-time (expletive),” says the message, which Bray provided a transcript of to the *Independent*.

Bray said he felt compelled to report the incident after hearing of the voicemail Cordes received.

“I saw that this was more than just a single inappropriate message to me,” Bray told the *Independent* on Monday. “Law enforcement has told legislators that you should always report so that they can be as well informed as possible about all aspects of any particularly worrisome behavior like threatening legislators.”

Bray added that he did not want Cordes to stand alone in facing any possible retaliation.

“Unfortunately, a lot of violence against women comes from

men, and so as a man I feel like when you witness or hear about something like this you have a

“I’m exhausted, stressed, and worried for Vermont. We have significant problems facing us, and with the increase in vitriol facing all public officials down to our school board, I am concerned for anyone in public office, anyone trying to help.”

— Rep. Mari Cordes

“I understand and experience myself the stress and the difficulty in economic realities in Vermont right now, so do the other legislators and public officials,” she continued. “We’ll keep working to try and make things better and to amplify respectful communication even if it’s in disagreement.”

In a legislative report included in today’s edition of the *Independent*, state Sen. Ruth Hardy, D-Middlebury, writes that following the veto session and Scott’s remarks about the Legislature’s overrides, “There has been an increase in harassment and threats against legislators and other public officials, including school board members and teachers. In fact, Rep. Mari Cordes of Bristol received a disturbing death threat, and I and others have received harassing calls and messages.”

After receiving the voicemail on Wednesday, Cordes wrote to Gov. Scott regarding such incidents. “I’m exhausted, stressed, and worried for Vermont,” Cordes told the *Independent*. “We have significant problems facing us, and with the increase in vitriol facing all public officials down to our school board, I am concerned for

anyone in public office, anyone trying to help.

“I understand and experience myself the stress and the difficulty in economic realities in Vermont right now, so do the other legislators and public officials,” she continued. “We’ll keep working to try and make things better and to amplify respectful communication even if it’s in disagreement.”

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Hardy told the *Independent* that she received a voicemail from Marsano in April, which included “homophobic/transphobic rantings and vague threats.”

“I have been getting nasty, sometimes scary, emails for years, and even had a guy show up at my house in December because he was mad at me,” Hardy said. “And, I know that social media sometimes has nasty, even threatening stuff about me, and sometimes FPF.”

She noted that such vitriol has ramped up over the past several months. “Obviously people are stressed and upset, and I get that, but I also think it’s being fueled by the Governor’s increasingly strident rhetoric,” she said.

Hardy added that she’s considered taking the Senate license plate off of her car, which her children use when home, as she’s been the target of intimidating driving incidents.

MARSANO CITED

Marsano has served as the vice president of Vermont Utility Management Systems, the company that maintains Bristol’s water system. An updated form included in Bristol Town Administrator Valerie Capel’s June 24 report indicated that Marsano would no longer be

affiliated with the town’s water and sewer departments.

Bristol police reported on Thursday that Marsano was issued the citation following an investigation and a consultation with the Addison County State Attorney’s Office. Bristol Police Chief Bruce Nason told the *Independent* on Monday that police “continue to review any and all new information that is either shared or learned during an investigation” but at this time there are no plans to issue any additional citations.

Marsano is being represented by Burlington attorney Robert Kaplan.

“Mr. Marsano and I disagree with the State’s Attorney’s judgment that Mr. Marsano’s conduct was, in any way, criminal,” Kaplan wrote in a statement emailed to the *Independent* on Friday. “The issues raised in this matter are central to the preservation of democracy which depends on a forceful first amendment shield for political speech. Mr. Marsano and I will await his day in Court and look forward to the exoneration of Mr. Marsano by a jury from his community.”

Marsano is due to answer to the charges in Addison County Criminal Court on July 22.

Images helped capture memorable spring

Teams, athletes shone, earned titles

By ANDY KIRKALDY
ADDISON COUNTY — Early this spring it looked like Mother Nature would end up as the big winner. More games were canceled than played, and local ADs were scrambling to find buses and officials for rescheduled makeups.

The weather finally settled down to being typically problematic, rather than disastrous. And a good thing, too, because the season proved to be a remarkable three months for local athletes.

Chronologically, here's a quick look at championships claimed this spring, at least one by athletes from each Addison County school:

- Coach Kate Livesay's Middlebury women's lacrosse went 23-0 and won the NESCAC and NCAA Division III titles. Their closest NCAA game was a six-goal semifinal victory. Depending on how you look at the COVID years off it was the either the program's third or fourth straight national title. Their victory in the NCAA final was the program's 51st win in a row.

- Coach Mike Leonard's Middlebury College baseball team won the NESCAC playoff

championship as the top seed, and then went on to take two games at a double-elimination NCAA regional at Misericordia University before being ousted in the final. The Panthers finished 32-13, with the number of wins setting a new program highwater mark.

- For the Vergennes Union High School track & field team in D-III, senior Calder Rakowski won the boys' 800-meter race, repeating his victory from a year ago. He also teamed up with classmates Riley Gagnon and Calvin Gramling and junior Grey Fearon as the Commodores also repeated their 2023 winning performance in the four-by-800-meter relay.

- For the MUHS track team, junior Jazmyn Hurley blew away her D-II competition at 100, 200 and 400 meters, all by wide margins. Hurley was the only runner in any division to win three races. Mount Abraham senior Siena Stanley claimed the only other D-II victory for a local D-II athlete with a win at 3,000 meters.

- Coach Ken Schoen's Tiger boys' tennis team claimed the program's first D-I title. The Tigers defeated CVU, 4-3, in a

(See Wrap, Page 2B)



EAGLE FRESHMAN CAM Castillo launched a ball about 30 feet over the left-field fence with this swing, and it was his first varsity homer in a game that came as Mount Abe baseball team was beginning to catch fire in the middle of the season. He and his teammates were pumped. I'm not sure who tracked down the ball for him, but Cam was pleased to show it off in the dugout for Steve afterward, as well he should have been.

Independent photo/Steve James



MUHS SOPHOMORE JAZMYN Hurley breezes to victory in the Essex New England Qualifying Meet, a week before she won three races at the D-II championships. This image captures nicely her composure and relaxed form, which contrast with her competitors, all of whom in comparison appear to be working much harder as they near the finish line.

Photo courtesy of Joe McVeigh



EAGLE SENIOR CONNOR Kelly blossomed into a lockdown defender this season, arguably the best on the MAV boys' lacrosse team, combining size, stick skills, speed and the necessary tenacity to be a thorn in any attacker's side. Here after forcing a Green Mountain turnover in the D-III final at Norwich University Kelly starts to leave a couple Gumbies in his wake as he heads upfield.

Image by Mark Bouvier Photography



MUHS FRESHMAN SARAH Bevere got all of the ball with this swing, launching a towering homer to left field. Later in the game, her junior teammate Lexi Whitney lined a shot over the right-field fence for her first varsity homer, making the game especially memorable for the teammates. They were carrying around their home-run balls at the Eagle-Tiger baseball game afterward and posing for pictures together with them, a nice moment. And a nice photo by Steve, who caught the launch perfectly.

Independent photo/Steve James

Sports BRIEFS

AC Legion baseball nets opener

By ANDY KIRKALDY
MIDDLEBURY — After uncooperative weather washed out the Addison County American Legion baseball team's first four scheduled games of the summer, AC opened at home at Middlebury Union High School on Tuesday with a 7-4 victory over Champlain Valley.

Details of that game were not immediately available.

The local nine were set to host Franklin County on Wednesday, and AC is scheduled to host South Burlington on Thursday and defending state champion Essex on this coming Tuesday. All weekday games are at 5:30 p.m., and AC's home games this year will be played at MUHS.

This year's roster for Coach Tim Paquette's team is Brody Barnard, Ryan Brouillard, Owen Butterfield, Riley Coffey, Gavin Conrad, Xavier DeBlois, Aidan Fuller, Tyler Kimball, Tucker Morter, Carter Paquette, Alex Sperry, Dylan Stowe, Ethan Sweet, Eyon Tembreull, Cole Warren and Tucker Wright.

Politano win tops recent R. Myhre golf

MIDDLEBURY — In a busy recent stretch for Ralph Myhre Golf Course and its members, the highlight was member Lucas Politano qualifying for the U.S. Junior Amateur Tournament, which will be held at the Oakland Hills Country Club in Bloomfield Hills, Mich., on July 22-27.

Politano qualified by finishing first on June 17 at a qualifying tournament at the Captains Golf Course in Brewster, Mass. He fired a 3-under-par 69, the best score among 80 juniors from around New England attempting to qualify. Only the top four were eligible to advance to the national tournament. Politano was the only golfer to break 70 in the field.

Other recent action included the first round of Ralph Myhre's annual member-member tournament. The second round will wrap up by Saturday.

The leaderboard as of the completion of the first round by this past Saturday was:

First Flight Gross: 1. Kevin Breault & Max Breault; 2. Paul (See Golf, Page 3B)

Vermont Sun stages first summer triathlon

SALISBURY — On Sunday, Sean Fleming of Charlotte won the Vermont Sun Sprint Triathlon; his time of 1:06:47 bested the closest of more than 120 competitors by a minute. Eileen Brandes of Enfield, N.H., was the women's winner of the race — a 600-yard swim, 14-mile bike and 3.1-mile run — in 1:11:24. The race was the USA Triathlon Championships.

The race, as well as the Olympic distance Lake Dunmore Triathlon, almost didn't happen. Twenty-four hours before the scheduled 8 a.m. start, officials had written and were about to send out an email cancelling the races due to an extreme weather forecast that called for heavy rain, thunderstorms, high wind gusts and a possible tornado.

As they studied several weather models, organizers decided to just cancel the longer Olympic distance race and move all the athletes into the shorter sprint. At 6 a.m. on race day it was raining heavily, and thunderstorms were heard in the distance. Racers and Vermont Sun staff pushed forward with the set up for the race. Miraculously, 15

minutes before the start time, rain, thunder and lightning stopped and the race was on.

Bristol's Nick Pierce led the men out of the lake with an 8:32 swim. Fleming was 1:35 behind in 20th place. Fleming had the second-fastest bike time of the day (35:50) averaging nearly 24 miles per hour catching Pierce at the 5-mile mark of the hilly bike course. Only New Haven's Kyle Flack had a better bike time (34:41). Pierce finished 10th overall and Flack was 12th.

Middlebury's Kyle Friis was 10th out of the water and moved into second place to start to run. With almost identical run splits, the fastest and second fastest run of the day, Boston's Hayden Kjelle Ren (18:17) and Colchester's Guido Bartolacci (18:19) both passed Friis as they battled it out for second. They cut a minute into Fleming's

lead. Separated by just 4 seconds, Hayden took second, 1:07:46 and Bartolacci third, 1:07:50.

Friis settled for fourth in 1:08:41. "I was planning and training to do the Olympic distance race, I had the strength for that. But my sprint speed was not what it needed to be to stay with those guys," said Friis. He had the 7th-best bike and 6th-best run.

Raquelle Landa of Clifton Park, N.Y., was the fourth woman to finish the swim. She had solid bike and run efforts to claim second in 1:15:03. Michaela Colbert of Newburyport, Mass., took third overall in 1:16:48.

Salisbury's Jeff Schuman won the 65-69 men's age group in 1:12:38. At age 68, he was just 5:51 behind the overall winner! Finishing 11th overall, Schumann had the 5th-fastest bike and 9th-best swim of the day. Middlebury

67-year-old Steve Hare was second in 65-69 in 1:18:34.

Middlebury's Joseph Powers won the men's 40-44 age group in 1:18:13. Powers was 47th out of the water but had the 14th- and 15th-best bike and run times, respectively, to pace his strong age group win, nearly 3 minutes better than his closest rival.

In the men's 35-39 division, Bristol's Owen Mayhew took third in 1:25:37 and Cornwall's Daniel Zinn was forth in 1:35:55. Kristofer Anderson of Middlebury was 6th in men's 50-54 (1:39:09).

Seventy years young, Bristol's Wendie Puls was the top local women's finisher placing 101 overall in 1:40:21. Carrlane Quackenbush of Salisbury, 78, won the men's 70-74 group in 1:42:39.

Complete results, splits and details on the July and August Triathlons can be found at Vermontsun.com.

When asked about the decision to go ahead with the race with the threatening weather forecast, race director Steve Hare said he is (See Triathlon, Page 3B)



MIDDLEBURY RACER KYLE Friis powers through the 3.1-mile running leg of the Vermont Sun Sprint Triathlon at Branbury State Park in Salisbury this past Sunday morning and claimed fourth place overall.

Photo by Patrick Hendrick Photography

Wrap

(Continued from Page 1B)

tense match clinched by senior No. 4 singles player Iver Anderson's big tiebreaker victory.

Also winning final's matches were junior No.1 Jackson Murray, freshman No. 5 Nate Cook Yoder, and No. 1 doubles team of seniors Eddie Fallis and Milo Rees, who finished the year undefeated in dual matches. Junior No. 2 Kellan Bartlett, freshman No. 3 Charles Young, and the No. 2 doubles team of seniors Baxter Harrington and Noah Doherty Konczal played creditably, and all, as always, the team exhibited fine sportsmanship.

• After knocking on the D-III door for the past two years, Coach Ed Cook's Mount Abraham/VUHS cooperative boys' lacrosse team kicked it down with a solid 9-6 victory over top-seeded Green Mountain Valley in this year's title game. Of note was terrific defense led by seniors Connor Kelly and Jordan Schroeder; tie-breaking goals by attacker Noah Ladeau, one set up brilliantly by classmate Andrew Nolan; 14 saves by senior goalie Walker Forand; and forays from the back by senior middle Jamo Couture, who also fired up the MAV crowd by waving his arms and inviting applause. Many more contributed to a team effort.

• Finally there was Coach Tim Paquette's resilient MUHS baseball team, which bounced back from a 1-7 start to finish 12-8, with the last victory over another tenacious bunch, Mount Abraham (13-7), in the D-II final. Both came from relatively low seeds (MUHS No. 8 and Mount Abe No. 6) to meet for the championship. That game, unfortunately for the Eagles, ultimately hinged on the failure of a baserunner to run to first base in the bottom of the seventh inning after working an apparently game-winning, bases-loaded walk. That play allowing the game to go to the eighth still tied. The Tigers then outscored the Eagles, 3-2, in the dramatic extra inning for the crown.

Really, one could argue both teams deserved trophies. With the Eagles graduating just two seniors, they are likely to get more chances. Don't hang your heads, guys, just keep plugging.

Along the way there were many other moments for teams and athletes that didn't capture titles. Eagle track star Joseph Darling didn't come away with gold, but capped a great career with two more D-II medals. Junior teammates



TWO THINGS ARE great about this shot. One is simply the composition — the diagonal bat, just over Tiger pitcher Emma Deering's head, the equilateral triangle formed by the ball, Emma's glove and her right hand, and the gentle blur of everything except the pitcher that puts the subject in sharp relief. The other is a fact of athletics: One must exert oneself tremendously to do something like throw a softball accurately at 50 mph or so, but at the same time keep muscles and mind relaxed enough to do so optimally. Simply put, an athlete can't tighten up. This particular image captures an athlete accomplishing that feat.
Independent photo/Steve James

Hazel Stoddard and Ruby Connell also medaled in two events.

The Eagle and Tiger softball teams met in the D-II final a year ago, but were ousted in the quarterfinal round this year in close games. Coach Don McCormick's Eagles were young and show promise for the future. They also flashed some leather. At one game a fan called sophomore shortstop Gen Forand "ESPN Gen" for her highlight reel plays, and junior Abba Parker was a vacuum at third. They'll miss veterans Jo Toy, Madelyn Hayden and Sarah Heath going forward, but most return.

Coach Timm Hanley's Tigers lost a one-run quarterfinal in one of the best-played softball games I've seen. A more fun game for MUHS came at Mount Abe in the regular season, in which both junior Lexi Whitney and freshman Sarah Beverer blasted their first high school homers. They got the balls as souvenirs. MUHS graduated the starting battery of pitcher Emma Deering and Sienna Rubright, but otherwise the roster should be intact.

Other quick notes. The Tiger girls' tennis team improved from two to nine wins this spring, but loses four ladder players, including senior No. 1 Audrey Carpenter, whose presence at No. 1 singles made everyone else's job easier. The MUHS girls' lacrosse team faded to under .500, but graduates only three seniors. The MAV girls' lax team had a strong record, but struggled to score at the end of the



VUHS SENIOR JAMO Couture had a fun three seasons: 1,000 yards rushing for MAV football, a state wrestling championship at 215 pounds, and an MAV boys' lax title as a short-stick defensive middle. He played well defensively, but had the most impact — figuratively and literally — carrying the ball up the field. Let's just say Couture didn't shy away from opponents who tried to body-check him, and few tried to get in his way more than once. Some drew offensive fouls from Couture for charging; again, few tried that more than once. This photo captures one opponent's open-field futility.
Independent photo/Steve James



IT'S NO SECRET that Tiger senior attacker Toby Draper was tough to stop. After all, he racked up more than 200 points, including goals (six in the D-I final this spring) and assists, during his four-year MUHS varsity career. But without this photographic evidence from our man Steve we wouldn't have known Toby could literally fly by opponents.
Independent photo/Steve James

season, and several key players graduated.

Another lacrosse team came oh-so-close to a title. It's hard to imagine a tougher setback than losing, 13-12, 30 seconds into sudden death overtime in a D-I final after coming back from deficits of 6-0 in the second quarter, 10-4 in the third quarter, and 12-10 with three minutes to go, but that's what happened to Coach Matt Rizzo's outstanding Tiger boys team against CVU in heartbreaking fashion.

Sometimes the difference between victory and success is almost too small to be measured, but Rizzo said he believed the Tigers' biggest problem in an even matchup — the teams have now split their last four meetings — was falling behind early.

It should be mentioned again that Tiger senior attacker Toby Draper, who in midseason surpassed 200 points for his career, scored six goals and assisted another in that fateful final. He and another four seniors will graduate, but the cupboard won't be bare — for example, the goalie was a freshman, two starting defenders were sophomores, and the third was a junior.

And somehow every year younger players emerge, and they probably will for the Tiger and MAV lacrosse teams.

That's just one of many reasons to enjoy sports.



SOME OF THE best shots Steve gets of softball games come from behind the center field fence, where he can get crisp images with the telephoto lens. Much of the appeal of sport is the tension of anticipation, and this image has it. Tiger catcher Sierra Rubright is preparing to frame the pitch if the batter doesn't swing. The batter is flexing her muscles getting ready to let the bat fly. The umpire is zeroing in on the flight of the ball, set to make a call if necessary. It's all there.
Independent photo/Steve James

Note: Most of the accompanying photos were taken by our photographer, Steve James. A few were shot by Mark Bowvier, who more than capably fills in when Steve has a scheduling conflict. One was taken by local enthusiast Joe McVeigh, who does good work and volunteers his images. One was taken by an emergency fill-in reporter who, in this case, got lucky. They are chosen because of their quality, with a nod to meaningful subject matter.

Local drivers enjoy night at Devil's Bowl

WEST HAVEN — Leicester's Adam Piper defeated Saturday night's threatening weather and 25 other Sportsman Modified drivers to earn his second career victory in the Devil's Bowl Speedway's headline division, his first coming in 2023.

Also winning a top feature on Saturday at Devil's Bowl were Poultney's Marty Hutchins in the Limited Sportsman division, while Orwell's Ray Hanson, Salisbury's Nick Austin-Neil, Poultney's Eric Messier and Bomoseen's Rob Steele also made stops in victory lane.

In the Sportsman Modified Race, Piper had the pole position in the 30-lap feature. Dave Camara, Josh Masterson and Vince Quenneville made runs, but Quenneville's night ended in an accident around lap 10 that also sent Tim LaDuc, Marty Kelly, AJ Munger and Bubba McPhee to the pits.

Piper held off challenges on restarts throughout the race, but at the end Piper rolled to victory over Bristol's Josh Masterson in second, Whiting's Jimmy Ryan in third, Orwell's James Hanson in fourth, Poultney's Camara in fifth, Orwell's Randy Ryan in sixth, and Bridport's Troy Audet in seventh.

Several races into the season the leader in the Sportsman Modified standings and local drivers in the top 10 are: 1. Camara, Poultney, 341; 3. LaDuc, Orwell, 308; 4. Joey Scarborough, Brandon, 304; 5. Quenneville, Brandon, 301; 9. Audet, Bridport, 279; 10. Jim Ryan, Whiting, 268.

In the 55-lap Limited Sportsman race, Hutchins won his first Devil's Bowl feature in five years after stepping away from racing for a while. Hutchins started fifth and took the lead on a lap three restart, never to relinquish it. Like Piper, Hutchins survived a number of restarts to grab the win over late-charging Salisbury racer Gary English, who took second.

Other local racers ran 3-4-5: Salisbury's Mike Clark, Jr. and Fred Little, and New Haven's Alex Layn.

The leader in the Limited Sportsman standings and local drivers in the top 10 are: 1. English, Salisbury, 360; 2. Layn, New Haven, 353; 4. Clark Jr,

Salisbury, 328; 10. Steve Miller, Vergennes, 247.

Salisbury's Nick Austin-Neil won his third Novice Sportsman feature of the year by passing New York driver Russ Farr and then trading the lead twice to take the victory in the 20-lapper. Farr settled for second. Whiting's Logan Denis was fourth, Leicester's Matt Cram took seventh, and Winston Forbes of Brandon took 10th.

The leader in the Novice Sportsman standings and local drivers in the top 10 are: 1. Denis, Whiting, 343; 3. Austin-Neil, Salisbury, 312; 6. Austin Benoure, Salisbury, 289; 8. Cram, Leicester, 272; 10. Randy Edson, Orwell, 188.

Adam Piper held off challenges on restarts throughout the race, but at the end Piper rolled to victory over Josh Masterson.

Eric Messier of Hinesburg won his second 15-lap Mini Stock race of 2024. Fair Haven's Chase Allen was second, and Benson's Griff Mahoney was third. Brandon's Mark Mahoney ran fifth, and Orwell racers Jakobee Alger and Ron Alger Orwell finished eighth and 10th, respectively.

The leader in the Mini Stocks standings and local drivers in the top 10 are: 1. Brian Blake, Cornwall, 361; 3. Mark Mahoney, Brandon, 329; 5. Ron Alger, Orwell, 303; 6. Chris Sumner, East Middlebury, 290.

Ray Hanson came from the 11th starting position to win the 15-lap Mini Sprints race. Gage Provencher started behind Hanson in 13th, and he moved up to finish second. Brandon drivers Quinn Quenneville and Kevin Smith ran 9-10.

The leader in the 500CC Mini Sprints standings and local drivers in the top 10 are: 1. Hanson, Orwell, 343; 2. Provencher, Bridport, 330; 3. Quenneville, Brandon, 318; 4. Smith, Brandon, 284.

In the 15-lap Crown Vic feature points leader Rob Steele started in the middle of the pack but quickly moved and held the lead for most of the race. Rutland's Bradford Cram took second, followed by Monkton's Elisabeth Dupont, Bristol's Eric Friend, and North Ferrisburgh's Norm Morrill.

The leader in the Crown Vic standings and local drivers in the top 10 are: 1. Friend, West Haven, 258; 5. Morrill, North Ferrisburgh, 188; 7. Dupont, Monkton, 183.

League coaches choose locals as softball stars

ADDISON COUNTY — Nineteen members of the Middlebury, Mount Abraham, Otter Valley and Vergennes union high school softball teams received postseason recognition from either the Lake Division or Southern Vermont League B Division coaches.

Named as Lake Division First Team All-Stars were two Tigers, senior catcher Sienna Rubright and sophomore shortstop Ireland Hanley (chosen as a utility player); and three Eagles, sophomore shortstop Genevieve Forand, junior third baseman Abba Parker and senior outfielder Sarah Heath.

Two Otters earned SVL B Division First-Team nods, senior

pitcher Sierra Cormany and freshman first baseman Adyson Humiston.

Picked as Lake Division Second Team All-Stars were two catchers, Eagle senior Joanna Toy and Commodore junior Rory Couture; three Tigers, senior pitcher Emma Deering and two juniors, first baseman Skyler Choiniere and outfielder Lily Dame; and Mount Abe senior outfielder Madelyn Hayden.

Earning Honorable Mention from OV was senior MyKenzie Thibault; from Mount Abe, junior Elise Parker and sophomores Morgan Larocque and Gretchen Toy; and from VUHS, juniors Savannah Blaise and Rory Hendee.

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Recognition is finally here for Negro Leagues

Part 2 of 2

I didn't think it would ever happen. Practically speaking, I didn't think it was possible: that is, that the brilliance of Black baseball players during the 60 years of baseball's segregation at the highest level could ever be officially acknowledged in the statistical record.

The color line in baseball was drawn in 1887 and was not breached until Jackie Robinson stepped onto the diamond at Ebbets Field on April 15, 1947, in the pristine white uniform of the Brooklyn Dodgers.



KARL LINDHOLM

When I taught my class on the Negro Leagues at Middlebury College, I would say to students, "This is a class in narrative and myth, not in numbers, statistics." It was about stories, stories about great players and teams — and a bitter struggle for respect and acknowledgement playing a game they loved in hard times: the National Pastime.

Black teams barnstormed the country, played against all-comers wherever there was a payday, year-round, with and against white players in the Cuban winter league, and throughout Latin America. For the first three decades of the game's segregation, there were no Black leagues at all. Most Black players and teams played up to 150-200 games a year.

There were no successful "Negro leagues" until 1920 when Rube Foster, owner of the Chicago American Giants, gathered other owners of Black baseball teams at the time, mostly in the Midwest, and organized the eight team Negro National League. In 1923, the Eastern Colored League, or ECL, was founded with teams along the Atlantic seaboard.

From 1920-48, seven different Negro leagues came and went: Keep in mind the era: the '20s, the Depression ('30s), and World War II ('40s) were not a time of economic stability throughout America, especially in Black America.

Comparing Black baseball during segregation with Major League Baseball, statistically, could not be done fairly, I concluded.

Conclusive proof that Black players were worthy of comparison, however, came in the brilliant quality of their play after the door had been opened.

I was not wrong in my conclusion, but I'm happy to say I was not right either. Turns out, Black lives matter!

In December 2020, perhaps as a result of years of pressure from Negro league scholars, writers, and advocates, Major League Baseball announced that it would include Negro League statistics its official data base.

Three and a half years later, last month (May 29), MLB revealed the results of the efforts of the 16 person Negro Leagues Statistics Committee — and the new official database of Major League Baseball.

Committee Chair John Thorn, the official MLB historian, said that "stats are shorthand for stories and the story of the Negro Leagues is worthy of our study."

The Committee determined early on that only the games played in the actual Negro Leagues from 1920-48 would count and only statistics documented with actual box scores would be included. The MLB estimates that it has box scores for about 75% of Negro League games, a number I would never have ever imagined.

Among the heroes of this ambitious enterprise are the dogged researchers who poured over newspapers, scorebooks, and microfilm to unearth the documentation required. Negro League author and researcher Larry Lester reported, "I have about 16,000 box scores in my database, so it took years to perform the task."

The typical Negro League season was only 60-80 games (as compared to the 154 game seasons in the Major Leagues at the time), so the principal changes in the record book are more for "rate stats" (averages, percentages) than for "counting stats" (home runs, RBIs, wins).

The most striking change is that Josh Gibson, legendary catcher and power hitter, is now the all-time leader in batting average, slugging percentage, and OPS and also is the single season leader in those same categories. His .372 lifetime batting average replaces Ty Cobb's .367 and his 1943 BA of .466 replaces Hugh Duffy's .440 in 1894.

Among Black baseball fans, Babe Ruth was known as "the white Josh Gibson."

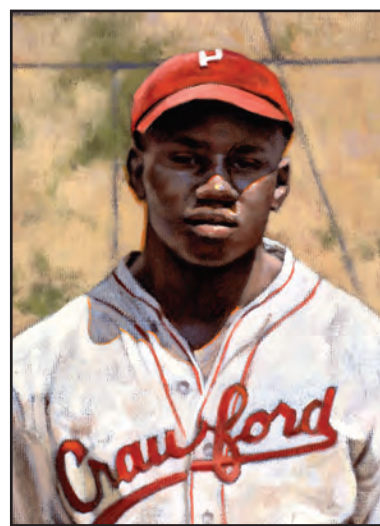
In all, 2,023 Negro league players now have their numbers included in the new MLB integrated database. Those players who played in both the Negro Leagues and then integrated the previously white Major League Baseball have seen their numbers adjusted upward, in many cases quite significantly.

Roy Campanella, great Dodger catcher, played eight seasons (starting at 15!) in the Negro Leagues, mostly for the Baltimore Elite Giants, and 10 years in the Majors for Brooklyn. He gains 274 hits (total 1,435), 167 RBIs (1,053), and 19 homers (261) in his overall statistics.

Monte Irvin played for the Newark Eagles from 1938-48 and eight years in MLB for the New York Giants. His 363 hits for the Eagles raises his



ROY CAMPANELLA PLAYED eight years for the Baltimore Elite Giants (starting at age 15!) and 10 years in the MLB for the Brooklyn Dodgers. His official statistics have been significantly upgraded by the addition of his Negro League stats.
Art by Graig Kreindler with permission of Jay Caldwell)



NEGRO LEAGUE LEGEND Josh Gibson, here in his Pittsburgh Crawfords uniform, is now the Major League leader in many batting categories, with the addition of Negro League stats to the official MLB database. His lifetime batting average of .373 supplants Ty Cobb's .367.
Art by Graig Kreindler with permission of Jay Caldwell)

lifetime batting average from .293 to .305.

Minnie Minoso, the Cuban Comet, integrated the Chicago White Sox in 1951. His 150 hits with the New York Cubans (1946-48) gives him over 2,000 for his career (2,113).

Satchel Paige won 28 games in MLB in his five years, starting in Cleveland (6-1) in 1948 at age 42. He now is credited with another 97 wins — and his only home run, hit in 1929 for the Birmingham Black Barons. His career officially spans over 35 years, from 1929 to 1965!

These changes, these statistical adjustments, don't begin the tell the story of Black baseball and the hardships and humiliations of segregation . . . but it surely is a gesture in the right direction.

Willie Mays only had 43 at-bats in 13 games in the Negro Leagues. He played at age 17 in 1948 for the Birmingham Black Barons. He had 10 hits for the Barons, giving him a total of 3,283, including two doubles, a triple, and a homer. The homer (which was widely acknowledged) doesn't count because there's no box score documentation. So Willie's home run total remains at 660.

Willie died last week at age 93 on the eve of a spectacular celebration of the Negro Leagues in Birmingham, where Willie's life and career began. Last Thursday, the St. Louis Cardinals and San Francisco Giants played an MLB game at Rickwood Field, the oldest ballpark in continuous play in the U.S. Built in 1910, it was the home field of the



LAST THURSDAY, JUNE 20, Major League Baseball hosted a celebration of the Negro leagues at Rickwood Field in Birmingham, Ala., the oldest ballpark in continuous use in the country. Willie Mays first played for the Birmingham Black Barons at Rickwood. The columnist visited Rickwood in 2010 at a Negro Leagues Conference, a highlight of his baseball experience.
Photo by Karl Lindholm

Triathlon

(Continued from Page 1B)

getting used to having to make this kind of decision.

"Four of our last five race dates have been in the worst conditions we have seen in our 39-year history, which included our second ever cancellation last year," he said. "It seems this crazy weather is becoming the new normal and we have to push through it moving forward. We always have had such great weather in the past, hopefully July and August will be beautiful."

The Vermont Sun Triathlon will

be held again on July 21 and Aug. 18. The Branbury Classic to be held July 21 is a 1.5-mile paddle, 13-mile bike and 3.1-mile run. The Lake Dunmore Triathlon (1,600-yard swim, 28-mile bike and 6.2-mile run) will be held Aug. 18. All the events are open to individuals and teams of two or three.

The triathlons benefit the Brandon fire and rescue squad, the Lake Dunmore Fern Lake Association, Branbury State Park and the Middlebury Union Middle School cross-country team.

Black Barons for nearly 50 years.

The Rickwood game was entertaining and competitive, a 6-5 Cardinals win. The extensive pregame festivities were both exciting and poignant as Willie was remembered for his extraordinary life.

It was a fitting remembrance for

the game's greatest player.

Karl Lindholm, Ph.D., taught a Negro Leagues course in the American Studies Program at Middlebury College. "Segregation in America: Baseball and Race." He can be reached at lindholm@middlebury.edu.

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Golf

(Continued from Page 3B)

Fine-Lease & Justin Kumpulian; 3. Brent Raymond & Luther Tenny.

First Place Net: 1. Steve Myhre & Kris Kelton; 2. Brett Barrett & Matt Randall; 3. Sean Deering & Andre Deering.

Senior Flight Gross: 1. David Holbrook & Brady Fallon; 2. Jim Johnston & Robert Kirkpatrick; 3. Eric Bergland & Bert Phinney.

Senior Flight Net: 1. Bill Brown & Jeff Stetson; 2. Brian Dodds & Gary Wright; 3. George Ramsayer & Nick Causton.

Ralph Myhre golfers also competed at Vermont State Women's Golf Association State Days on other courses.

On June 18 at Sugarbush Golf Club, Nicole Laberge took Second Place Gross honors in the second flight, and Jean Goodwin was the Seventh Place Gross finisher in the third flight.

On the same day at the Champlain Golf Club, Susan Rand shot the Second Place Gross score.

In regular Thursday Men's League play on June 20, the team of John Myhre, Richard Romagnoli and Marsdin Van Order prevailed.

The threesome of Robert Kirkpatrick, Jeff Stetson and Nick Causton was second, and the trio of Joe Thilbourg, Matthew Biette and George Ramsayer took third.

David Zarowin shot the low net score, and Myhre won the Closest-to-the-Pin contest.

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Here's what one reader has to say about us!

A subscriber from Bristol writes:

"It is what a newspaper should be. Thanks for covering local events in such detail."

Quotes are taken from reader comments submitted with subscription renewals.



ADDISON COUNTY
INDEPENDENT

community calendar

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 **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

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.

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 LCMH 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

June 30 **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.

Mac 'N' Cheese Cook Off in Orwell. Sunday, June 30, 1-3 p.m., Farmers Haven, 318 Route 22A. Any type of Mac n cheese is welcome to enter. 1st, 2nd, 3rd place cash prizes. Tasting tickets \$5. This event will be held indoors while our outdoors market is taking place 9 a.m.-3 p.m. To enter email Makayla.davis96@gmail.com or call 802-349-3038.

MONDAY

July 1 **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.

THURSDAY

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 **LEGO marble mazes in Shoreham.** Wednesday, July 3, 2 p.m., Platt Memorial Library, 279 Main St. Use our collection of LEGOs to create a maze for a marble. For ages 5 and up.

Stars and Stripes: A craft for the parade in



Strawberry delight

MONKTON'S ANNUAL STRAWBERRY festival is on tap for Sunday, June 30, at Monkton Town Hall. Hosted by Russell Memorial Library, the festival will include used books, two bands, kids' games and, of course, strawberry shortcake.

Independent photo/Sarah Pope

Lincoln. Wednesday, July 3, 3-5 p.m. Lincoln Library, River Rd. Create something stars-and-stripey for Bristol's Fourth of July Parade. Supported with books and snacks for all-around fun, literacy and activity.

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.

THURSDAY

July 4 **Strawberry Social in Cornwall.** Thursday, July 4, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., intersection of Routes 30 and 74. Ethan and Mary Baker Allen DAR Chapter will host a Strawberry Social for the community.

Green Mountain Bicycle Club holiday ride special in Salisbury. Thursday, July 4, 1 p.m., meet at 3-Mile Bridge Rd. More info contact leader John Bertelsen at 802-864-0101 or jo.bertel@gmail.com, or co-leader Karla Ferrelli at 802-864-0101 or karla.ferrelli@gmail.com.

Ice Cream Social in Salisbury. Thursday, July 4, 2-4 p.m., Salisbury Meetinghouse, 853 Maple St. Come celebrate Salisbury's 49th annual Ice Cream Social with cones, sundaes, and pie with ice cream. Under tents on the lawn. Prices by donation to support area benefits. Rain or shine, the ice cream's fine.

FRIDAY

July 5 **Annual Brandon Chamber of Commerce Auction in Brandon.** Begins Friday, July 5-Thursday, July 13. More info at brandon.org/great-brandon-auction.

Reading Frederick Douglass in Ferrisburgh. Friday, July 5, 1 p.m., Rokeby Museum, 4334 Route 7. Join the museum for its annual reading of "What to the Slave is the Fourth of July?" by Frederick Douglass. The public is invited to read the pre-divided sections of the speech. Free.

SATURDAY

July 6 **Battle of Hubbardton Revolutionary War encampment in Hubbardton.** Saturday, July 6, Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site, 5696 Monument Hill Rd. A living history weekend encampment honors the 247th anniversary of the July 7, 1777, Revolutionary War battle fought here. Scores of reenactors portray the American, British, and German soldiers. Tactical military and other special demonstrations, camp life activities, guided tours, and talks. Opportunities for all ages. Entry fee \$8 adults, \$1 children ages 6-14, under 6 free. More info at 802-273-2282.

Peasant Market in Middlebury. Saturday, July 6, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., on the green. Fabulous deals on jewelry, toys, sporting goods, garden accessories, plants, household goods, linens, antiques, and collectibles. Also fresh-squeezed lemonade, homemade baked goods and our

wonderful fruit pies.

Benefit yard sale in Monkton. Saturday, July 6, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Monkton Friends Methodist Church, 78 Monkton Ridge. Help the church raise funds for a paint job. Lots of items, plus hot dogs and cold drinks. Rain or shine.

Drag Queen Story Hour in Bristol. Saturday, July 6, 9:30-10:30 a.m., Lawrence Memorial Library, 40 North St. Join Emoji Nightmare and Katniss Everqueer for a very special story hour at the library. No registration required.

Independence Day Celebration in Brandon. Saturday, July 6, beginning at 10 a.m., downtown. Free events all day and evening for all ages — a parade, music in the parks, contests, beer garden, street dance and fireworks at dusk right from downtown. More info at brandon.org.

Ice Rescue in Shoreham. Saturday, July 6, 10 a.m., Platt Memorial Library, 279 Main St. Dress to get wet! For all ages.

Used Book Sale in Middlebury. Saturday, July 6, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Town Offices Plaza. Rain location, Ilsley Library Community Room.

SUNDAY

July 7 **Adda Kriddler, violin; Mary Rowell, violin; Ani Kalajian, cello, Cynthia Huard, piano in Rochester.** Sunday, July 7, 4 p.m., Federated Church in Rochester, North Main St. Bach E Major Sonata, violin and piano, Nico Muhly, Drones, Khachaturian Waltz from "Masquerade", Carolyn Shaw, Thousandth Orange, Fauré, Quartet in C Minor. Admission by donation. No tickets required. More info at rcmsvt.org or call 802-767-9234.

Honoring those who served in Bristol. Sunday, July 7, 6 p.m., on the green. The First Baptist Church of Bristol is celebrating all those that are and have served our country and community. Anyone previously or currently serving in the military, fire department, rescue or first responder or law enforcement and their families are invited to attend. Refreshments served.

Twisted Pine in Middlebury. Sunday, July 7, 7-9:45 p.m., on the green. Come hear Twisted Pine present 2 sets of jazzy bluegrass, poppy indie-folk & funky grooves. Free. A Festival on the Green performance. More info at festivalonthegreen.org.

MONDAY

July 8 **Creation camp: herbal potions and creations in New Haven.** Monday, July 8, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., New Haven Congregational Church, 91 Town Hill Rd. A garden-themed camp for ages 6-9. Includes arts, storytelling, singing, and faith exploration in the context of environmental justice. This session has creation stories from Jewish and Christian traditions and making herbal remedies and crafts. \$50 suggested donation. Contact Rev. Biggail at pastornewhavenchurch@gmail.com for more information.

BE SURE TO CHECK OUT OUR

CALENDAR ONLINE

addisonindependent.com

Around TOWN

Coffin to lead July 4th parade

BRISTOL — The Bristol Fourth of July Committee has selected Sylvia Coffin as the Grand Marshal for this year's Independence Day parade. Coffin, a lifelong resident of Bristol and a tireless community advocate, will lead the procession in celebration of America's birthday.

Known for her volunteer work and dedication to preserving Bristol's rich history, Coffin embodies the spirit of community and patriotism that the Fourth of July parade seeks to celebrate. Her involvement in numerous local organizations, including the Bristol Historical Society, has made her a beloved figure in the community.

Coffin expressed her gratitude for the honor. "I am honored to be chosen as the Grand Marshal for this year's parade," she said.



SYLVIA COFFIN

The parade, a highlight of Bristol's year, promises to be a spectacular event with a lineup of

vibrant floats, fire trucks, marching bands, and performances that reflect the town's patriotic spirit.

The parade will kick off at 10:30 a.m. Residents and visitors are encouraged to arrive early to secure the best viewing spots and to join in the pre-parade festivities including the outhouse race.

As the town prepares for this annual tradition, the excitement is palpable. Sylvia Coffin's selection as Grand Marshal adds a personal touch to this year's parade, highlighting the importance of community and the enduring values that Bristol holds dear.

For more information on the parade and other Independence Day events, visit the Bristol Fourth of July Committee's website at www.Bristol4th.com, and on Facebook at 4th of July Bristol Vermont.

The Buzz on this year's mosquito crop

By STEPHEN BELCHER

Summer and wet weather bring mosquitoes, particularly around Lake Dunmore and in the floodplains of the Otter Creek. This is why, in the late 1970s, Art Doty and others formed a n Insect Control District to mitigate the mosquitoes. The organization has changed over the years; Goshen, Pittsford, and Proctor later joined the original trio of Brandon, Leicester, and Salisbury.

Anyone interested in exploring its activities and recommendations should check the website: <http://ocwicd.com>.

This spring has not been as wet as last year's, and our operations coordinator also reported seeing little fish and many frogs in the pools in floodplains such as the Pomaineville WMA between Pittsford and Brandon. This is good news: It means the floodplain ecosystem is recovering and developing a population of creatures who view mosquito larvae as food. This may reduce the need for treatment in some areas.

There have also been changes in personnel and policy at the State level, in the Agency of Agriculture that regulates the

use of pesticides and oversees the OCWICD. Last year, their concern for advance notification before adulticiding treatments led the State to require a schedule of treatment. Weather, however, is not subject to human scheduling, and the result was that many parts of the members towns were under-treated because the weather did not allow treatment on their scheduled days. This year, the scheduling requirement has been dropped, but the thresholds and frequency testing have been adjusted.

Treatment for larviciding (i.e. the use of biological agents in the water) and adulticiding (the spraying at ultra-low volume of chemicals that kill adult mosquitoes) both require sampling before treatment. OCW personnel go out to designated locations to leave traps (for 24 hours) or to capture larvae in the water with dip-nets and mosquitoes in the air with larger nets. The state has also required the district to equip its trucks with flow meters to measure and modify the rate of spraying according to the speed of the truck.

The district is very grateful to the Lake Dunmore Fern Lake

Association for a grant that covered the cost of this equipment. The district is now prepared to start treatment as conditions allow.

It is worth repeating — people can also do much to reduce their exposure to mosquitoes and to protect themselves on their own. Remove or treat all sources of standing water around your houses — this includes things such as birdbaths, tires and gutters. Larvicidal products for garden features are readily available at most hardware stores. Spray the clothing you wear outside the house with a product such as permethrin (that also protects against ticks) and use long-sleeved shirts and long pants. Adult mosquitoes are most active in the evening (which is why the OCD sprays at that time). More such information is available on the OCW website. It is also provided by Town Health Officers through town newsletters and on town websites.

At this time, anyone who wishes not to be sprayed should have informed the district of that preference. Notices were published in newspapers and in some Front Porch Forums. If you haven't, informed the district, please do so promptly.

or better yet, pack and use bear resistant containers. If possible, in backcountry areas, place sleeping tents at least 100 yards away from food storage and cooking areas. Persons should report bear incidents or damage caused by bears through the Vermont Fish & Wildlife website at tinyurl.com/bear-report. Vermont Fish & Wildlife personnel will recommend appropriate measures or control strategies that can alleviate bear related problems.



Tips for camping with bears in Vermont

VERMONT — This week Forest Service officials in Vermont began posting alert notices at developed campsites to notify recreation users about the recent spike in bear activity. It is vital that people recreating in the forest keep a clean campsite to ensure that bears and other animals have no opportunity to forage for human food.

Given this, please remember:

- Always keep a clean camp.
- Don't leave any food (including condiments and pet food) out when not in use.

- Store food in bear-resistant units (available to borrow from the Ranger Station), hard-shelled vehicles, or car trunks.
- Keep sleeping areas, tents, and sleeping bags free of food and odor (like toothpaste or deodorant).
- Don't sleep in clothes you cooked or handled fish or game in.
- Never bury or burn food waste.
- If camping in the backcountry, hang your food bag at least 12 feet off the ground and 6 feet out from a tree limb that could support a bear,

Vt. Fish and Game needs help monitoring turkeys

MONTPELIER — The Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department is asking for help with monitoring wild turkeys.

Since 2007, the department has run an annual online survey in August for reporting turkey broods. Beginning in 2021, the survey was expanded to include July. The use of citizen scientists in this way facilitates the department's ability to collect important turkey population and productivity data from all corners of the state.

If you see a flock of turkeys in

Vermont during July and August, the department asks you to go to the turkey brood survey on its website (www.vtfishandwildlife.com) and report your observations, including where and when you observed the turkeys with the number of adult and young turkeys you observed. The value of the data collected improves when more people participate.

"Information gathered from this survey helps us monitor long-term trends in the productivity of Vermont's wild turkey

population," said Vermont Fish and Wildlife's turkey biologist Chris Bernier. "It also helps us assess the impacts of spring weather on the survival of poults and adult turkeys which is an important consideration in the management of turkeys."

"We monitor and manage wild turkey numbers annually in order to maintain a healthy, abundant and sustainable population of these iconic and ecologically significant birds throughout the state," added Bernier.



BOARD MEMBERS FROM the Corner School Resource Center of Granville recently received a grant from the Preservation Trust of Vermont. Trust President Ben Doyle, left awarded the grant to Mike Eramo, Diane Eramo, Roger Strauss and Kate Youngdahl.

Photo courtesy of Kate Strauss

Corner School receives preservation award

GRANVILLE — The Corner School was one of eight organizations chosen by The Preservation Trust of Vermont for a preservation award. The Corner School will use the grant to upgrade

and repair masonry and other needs in the building. The grants are earmarked for organizations that have made special contributions to preserving Vermont's historic built and cultural landscapes.

Lincoln

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

NEWS

LINCOLN — Calling all kids! The library is looking for a summer display for the glass display case. Now is your chance to share your hobby, your creations, or collections in a locked display cabinet. Previous displays include rock/gem collections, postcards, gnomes, fairy houses, papier maché masks and moose antlers. If you're interested in showing off your collection, contact Wendy at the library, email lincolnlibraryvt@gmail.com or call 802-453-2665.

Stop by the Lincoln Historical Society Museum and check out

their two new displays. The Lincoln 3rd and 4th grade students did some imagining of their own this spring. After reading bios of historical Lincoln figures and viewing period artifacts, they wrote short pieces of historical fiction. Their stories are on display at the museum alongside the artifacts, clothing, biographies, and photographs. The kids' spin on the past is sure to put a smile on your face! The museum is open the second and fourth Sundays through mid-October from noon to 4 p.m. Admission is free, though donations are greatly appreciated.

The next Pop-In People session will be held on Wednesday, July 3, from 3 to 5 p.m. at the library. In this special stars-and-stripes session, participants will be making a craft for the Fourth of July parade. Snacks will be provided.

On Wednesday, July 10, the library will be hosting a sewing Pop-In People session from 3 to 5 p.m. In this session, participants will be sewing either a pillowcase or a simple bag. Please sign up at the library if you are interested in attending. Until next time... Happy July 4th!

Monkton

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

NEWS

MONKTON — Get ready to enjoy some wonderful strawberry shortcake, hot dogs and lemonade at Russell Memorial Library's annual Strawberry Festival. This wonderful event is at 92 Monkton Ridge from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Sunday, June 30. As always, there will be a book sale, kids activities, lawn games and music. Enjoy browsing the books while munching the goodies and listening to great music. The Ridge Runners will perform from 10 a.m. to noon, while the Cassarino Family

Band will play from noon until 2 p.m. Contact russellmemlibrary@gmail.com for any questions.

Mark your calendar for Plant Medicine Workshop No. 3 — a plant walk around Raven Ridge in Monkton on Thursday, July 11, from 5 to 7:30 p.m. You will be able to learn about what plants are growing and how to identify them. You can attend this workshop even though you had not attended the others. Walkers will meet at the library at 5 p.m. and carpooling to

Raven Ridge. This class is limited to 12 students and cost \$15 each. Email russellmemlibrary@gmail.com to sign up.

Also at the library on Saturday, July 13, there will be storytime with Amy Huntington from 10 a.m. to noon. You can come and listen to a special storytime with this Vermont author and illustrator. Bring your bathing suits and towel for water play after the story time. This event is sponsored by Clif Summer Readers Grant.

Lions Club auction needs donations

MIDDLEBURY — The Middlebury Lions Club's 69th annual Barbeque and Auction is coming up next month, and the organization is looking to round out their offerings with stuff that members of the public want to donate to the cause.

If you've got good, saleable items to donate, the Lions will auction them off and use the money to donate to worthy local causes. Every year the Middlebury Lions Club

gives many thousands of dollars to Addison County individuals and organization who need it.

They are looking for donations of good used furniture, antiques, sports equipment, things for the deck or other quality goods that need a new home. Please, don't try to donate appliances, electronics or garage sale leftovers.

To donate, call Lions Dave Morse (802-578-3518) or Matt Broughton (802-989-1494) and they will come

pick up your donations. If you'd rather drop things off, call Morse or Broughton to set up an appointment at the Lions' storage locker.

Please get them your donations before July 11 — the sooner the better. The Barbeque and Auction will take place at the Middlebury VFW Hall on Exchange Street on Wednesday, July 17, with food at 4 p.m. and the auction beginning at 6 p.m.

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Questions? CALL HARRIS TODAY!

ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT

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ADDISON COUNTY School Briefs

CCV names Addison County graduates

MONTPELIER — The following students at the Community College of Vermont earned associate degrees at CCV's 2024 Commencement on Saturday, June 1:

Brandon: Crystal Phillips and Melissa A. Thompson.
Bridport: Jessica Norris

Bristol: Jennifer Allred, Maria Bedell, Stephanie Havey, Louise Johnson, Star Porter and Jonah Wheelock.

Ferrisburgh: Thane Gill and Vladislav Moore.

Middlebury: Ruby Carter.

North Ferrisburgh: Holly Shepard.

Panton: Cassidy Quinlan.
Salisbury: Christian Bowdish.

Starksboro: Renata Khusyainova and Liana Szczecinski.

Vergennes: Allie Clark, Ryan Furchmanchin, Brian Goodyear and Opal Sutton.

Whiting: Anna M. Krans-Gould.



ELKE YARBROUGH OF Ferrisburgh was one of two Ferrisburgh Central School students to receive an award from the Rogers & Hazard Relief Society for their demonstration of kindness, compassion, respect and care for others. With him are his parents, Kate and Finn Yarbrough, and R&H President Karlene DeVine

Photo courtesy of Karlene DeVine



FIFTH-GRADER EMRY Mosehauer was one of two Ferrisburgh Central School students to receive an award from the Rogers & Hazard Relief Society for their demonstration of kindness, compassion, respect and care for others. Mosehauer is flanked by her father, Tim Mosehauer; mother, Anja Mosehauer; and R&H Presidents Karlene DeVine

Photo courtesy of Karlene DeVine

Police investigate threats to teacher

VERGENNES — Vergennes police on June 17 handled a report from the Vergennes Union High School administration that a parent had threatened a teacher during a phone call. Police contacted the individual involved and warned against future such behavior, and said VUHS authorities were obtaining a no-trespass order against the offending party.

Vergennes Police Log

In other incidents between June 17 and 23, city police conducted 16 cruiser patrols, 11 traffic stops and one VIN inspection; processed seven fingerprint requests; responded to a false alarm; and also:

- On June 17:
 - Were sent a copy of a no-trespass order by the Maplefields convenience store.
 - Took a call reporting a minor two-car accident in the Shaw's Supermarket parking lot.
 - Were flagged down in Ferrisburgh by a citizen concerned by what appeared to be a person carrying wild animals in a have-a-heart trap near Lewis Creek. Police found no one.
- On June 18:
 - Cited Valley Vista client Kelsey Clan, 30, described as homeless, for disorderly conduct at the 1 Alden Place facility.
 - Issued a case number for a vehicle that had sustained damage from another vehicle at an unknown time.
 - Backed up Vermont State Police on an accident in West Ferrisburgh.
- On June 19:
 - Took a report that a vehicle struck a deer on Pantown Road.
 - Met with lifeguards at the city pool.
 - Along with rescue personnel, helped parents who called because a child with medical needs was refusing care, including transportation to the hospital. The family called again the next day with a similar problem, and police offered a list of other resources that might be able to help with their situation.
 - Responded to a complaint of a possible out-of-control off-leash dog at Falls Park; the animal was gone when police arrived.
- On June 21 responded to a two-car accident at Maplefields, an incident that remained under investigation earlier this week.
- On June 22 cited Jeremiah Delorme, 28, for violation of conditions of release. Police said before citing him they contacted him while skateboarding after 11 p.m. and were concerned for his safety.

Ferrisburgh students recognized for kindness, care for others

FERRISBURGH — As the Ferrisburgh Central School 5th- and 6th-graders prepared for their Step-Up ceremony on Thursday, June 13, the skies opened with big rain drops. Being an outside event, the crowd ran for cover. Fifteen minutes later, the crowd reconvened outside and Principal Rae Donovan emceed the event in fashionably sunny Vermont weather. Each 5th- and 6th- grade student walked forward to be recognized with the reading of a heartfelt message from one of

their teachers. President of the Rogers and Hazard Neighbor Helping Neighbor, Karlene DeVine, had a surprise presentation for one 5th and one 6th grader. DeVine explained that in 1887, Mr. Rogers and Mr. Hazard formed the Rogers & Hazard Relief Society with the purpose of relieving the wants of the sick and poor residents of Ferrisburgh. Today, 137 years later, the definition of "sick and poor" can be interpreted as lack of housing,

lack of heat and running water, lack of transportation, lack of good food sources, and lack of support for other reasons — such as having lost a loved one or pet or feeling lonely or being moved to live with a different family. Mr. Rogers and Mr. Hazard knew then that if neighbors didn't support neighbors, the town would not thrive. They knew that if one neighbor didn't show kindness to another neighbor, caring and consideration would go by the wayside.

The Addison Northwest School District vision statement begins "We envision a kind, collaborative, and creative community" and ends by stating that students would become "Productive citizens, cultivating resilience in an ever-changing world." Translated into common practice, it's helping kids feel positive about themselves and others. Helping them build supportive relationships and make good choices.

The Rogers and Hazard Board decided last year that residents of Ferrisburgh needed to know about the existence of R&H. Most importantly, it understood that kindness and compassion begins when people are young. Therefore, it should recognize these qualities at a point of life in local elementary school students. Selected by FCS staff, 6th-grader Elke Yarbrough and 5th-grader Emry Mosehauer were selected to receive a certificate for their demonstration of kindness, compassion, respect and care for

others, thus making the world a better place. Each student also received a \$100 gift card. At the Vergennes Union High School awards ceremony on June 5, Ferrisburgh graduates Ben Hargett and Sam Moriglioni received similar awards to recognize their demonstration of kindness, compassion, respect and care for others and making the world a better place. Each award recipient also received a \$100 gift card. In the past year, R&H Neighbor Helping Neighbor has supported Ferrisburgh residents using the Vergennes Food Shelf, aided migrant workers in Ferrisburgh with household furniture needs, funded the holiday baskets distributed through Ferrisburgh Central School, produced a tri-fold brochure about R&H, assured that a resident has potable water and much more. If you know of someone or some family that has health or safety needs, contact the Ferrisburgh Town Clerk for contact information.

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ADDISON COUNTY School News Briefs

North Ferrisburgh's **Natalie Adams** was named to Bryant University's president's list for the spring 2024 semester. The list is an academic distinction reserved for Bryant's highest achievers, who earn a GPA of 4.0 for at least 12 semester hours of work.

Reagan Kayhart of North Ferrisburgh has been named to the dean's list at Worcester Polytechnic Institute for the spring 2024 semester. Kayhart is majoring in Aerospace Engineering.

Erich Reitz of Ferrisburgh received a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science from the University of Alabama at its recent commencement ceremonies. Reitz finished out his time at Alabama with high honors, being named to the president's list for the spring 2024 semester.

Ashley Tierney of Vergennes has been named to the Plymouth State University dean's list for the spring 2024 semester. Tierney is a Nursing major at Plymouth State.

Vergennes Union High School music students **Calvin Gramling, Megan Mentzer, Riley Gagnon, Ben Hargett, Brody McGuire** and **Chance Koenig** placed 3rd in the Beats for Good Music Contest sponsored by the National Life Group. Their Band, Cal and the Maple Nuts, earned a \$1,000 donation to the VUHS music program and back stage passes to the Do Good Fest on July 13 in Montpelier.

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ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT

A sickness for love: MCP finds connection on stage

Sweet resolution to a bitter symptom

“Love/Sick,” performed on the Vergennes Opera House stage by the Middlebury Community Players this past weekend, is a whimsical, dark and romantic play. It wants its audience to live, laugh and love the reality of relationships.

Theater Review

By CAROLINE JIAO

While the content of this play in some way casts a shadow on human relationships, the way it was produced and performed by MCP leaves one hopeful about the ability of humans to relate to one another.

Playwright John Cariani’s “Love/Sick,” like his earlier play “Almost, Maine,” is presented in vignette format, though this one presents a slightly darker side of love. The wind-up of each of the nine vignettes in “Love/Sick” is more open-ended than hopeful.

Still, humor combines with conflicts in the characters’ relationships, which in Vergennes prompted the supportive audience to crack a good laugh.

The MCP production featured three directors: Kevin Commins, Kristin Ginsburg and Kush Sharma. Each was in charge of three sections out of the nine, instilling their own touches and flavors into their scenes.

Given the title, the “Sickness” of the characters or the situations truly speaks. We see compulsive impulsive disorder stemming from sheer loneliness, stress-related deafness from years of being closeted, panic attacks from being shoved onto an unexamined route of grow-up-get-married, bloodlust (or is it really?) from an imbalanced expectation for marriage.

Even the most hopeful vignette of all, the one featuring the lesbian couple, shows human beings still suffering from a traditional gendered division of labor: one seemed destined to be a bread-winner and the other a caretaker. Their resolution would not have come without the bread-winner eventually giving up earning her bread in the money-run world.

A symbolic location across the vignettes is the SuperCenter, a Walmart-like supermarket to which every couple in the play has somehow left its marks. It reminds me of Ezra Pound’s famous poem “In a Station of the Metro,” where

“apparitions” of strangers float unknowingly and unfeeling in a postindustrial mega space.

Except here in Love/Sick’s SuperCenter, couples do meet, chitchat and even form a love interest or two in this more commercialized space. Yet they still part, and their sprinkles of love are often proved to be no more than Pound’s “petals on a wet black bough.”

The directors agreed that the “Love/Sick” is about communication, or the failure of it. The play begs the question: Is communication still possible when the structures around us that should draw us closer are actually breaking us apart?

Well, it seems to be possible through the staging of the play, which experienced success on its opening of a four-day run this past Thursday, June 20, in Vergennes.

“There were close to 150 people here,” Commins said. “We had a lot of pre-sales, and a lot of family of the cast came. People were talking about coming back for a second night.”

Commins noted that enthusiasm for producing this particular play grew as the actors got to know it.

“For some plays, the interest is on the stage, not on the page,” he commented. “It’s a bittersweet play. On the page, the bitter comes through. The sweet is done through the humor — it doesn’t come across on the page. When you get it on its feet, when you start working on it, you realize it’s actually very, very funny.”

Compared to other small productions, where the number of cast members can be limited, “Love/Sick” with its nine succinct vignettes allowed the flexibility for directors to work with a more substantial troupe of 16 people.

“It’s about giving people the opportunity,” Commins said.

Ginsburg was hopeful about the script from the start.

“We have some brand-new people who haven’t been on stage before or haven’t been since high school or junior high,” she said. “It’s such a joy to see them bring the characters to life.”

What brings the lines to life are the players, or more precisely, the Middlebury Community Players.



JILLIAN TORRES AND Michael Eaton manifest a dramatic scene from “Love/Sick” where a wife points a gun at her husband because he is boring her. The audience soon finds out this horrendous act is part of her scheme to spice up their marriage a little bit.

Photos by David Devine, Sarah Stone and Susan Woloojjan

“It is a rather diverse group, people of all walks of life,” Ginsburg said. “We become a family in the course of the work.”

MCP has, since its founding in 1959, aimed to further the interest of theater in Addison County. It welcomes actors, directors, technicians and production personnel from the county and beyond, as well as anybody interested in taking a role on its board. They also have Company Be, which is a branch dedicated to producing small, intimate, “black box theater” plays.

While the audience lauded “Love/Sick” for vitalizing many real aspects of life and their relationships, director Commins observes a more liminal connection between theater and reality.

“I don’t know anybody who comes to the theater for real life,” he said. “You come from reflection on real life, or comment on real life.”

“... or an escape from real life,” Ginsburg added.

At the end of the day, the charm of a play will never merely show through the words on the page. It’s a combination of that and more — to experience it, support it, and perhaps perform in it.

If you had fun watching it, imagine the fun ACTING in it!



BEATRICE SCOTT AND Adam Gould enact the scene in the Middlebury Community Player’s recent production of “Love/Sick” where a confused couple tries to figure out the state of their marriage on their wedding day.

“We have some brand-new people who haven’t been on stage before or haven’t been since high school or junior high. It’s such a joy to see them bring the characters to life.”

— Kristin Ginsburg

Vermont State Police Log

ADDISON COUNTY — Twice in one day last week, Vermont State Police were called to Cornwall to deal with a man who apparently endangering drivers on Route 30 near Swamp Road.

In the first cast on Wednesday, June 19, troopers at 9:05 a.m. responded to a report of a man swinging a hose at traffic on Route 30. Police said they determined that Vincent Gardon, 46, of Cornwall blocked traffic and struck the vehicle of a Bridport woman with a hose, causing damage. After

investigating, they cited Gardon for disorderly conduct and unlawful mischief.

Addison County Sheriff’s deputies and Middlebury Regional EMS assisted state police.

Then, a little after 5:30 p.m. that same day, troopers were notified of a suspicious person on Route 30 near the same intersection in Cornwall. Police said their investigation showed that Gardon brandished and discharged a firearm on the shoulder of the state highway, and that he also stood in the middle of

Route 30, stopping traffic while waving a firearm.

They took Gardon into custody and then released him with a citation to appear before in court to answer the charges of unlawful mischief, disorderly conduct and recklessly endangering another person.

In a separate incident later that evening, at around 20 minutes after 9 p.m., troopers from the Royalton barracks responded to a reported domestic assault in Granville. Troopers determined that Jozef Eller, 32, of Granville had caused

pain and fear of serious bodily injury to a household member. They arrested Eller, cited him for aggravated domestic assault and released him with conditions.

Separately, state police this week reported that in other recent activity they had cited two people for driving with a criminally suspended license: Donald Douglas, 59, of Colchester on Route 7 at Dog Team Road in New Haven on June 5 at 9:19 a.m.; and Logan Lewis, 23, of Leicester on June 11 at 10:37 a.m. on Interstate 91 in Guilford.



A FESTIVE PARADE is one of the highlights of Brandon’s Annual Independence Day celebrations. This year the 40th Army Band from the Vermont National Guard will be marching — the first time since 2013.

Photo courtesy of Brandon Chamber of Commerce

Brandon Independence Day Parade highlights

BRANDON — Celebrate Independence Day in Brandon with free events all day on Saturday, July 6. There will be the parade, contests, children’s activities, a beer garden, auctions, a street dance, fireworks and much more. One of the parade highlights this year will be the 40th Army Band from the Vermont National Guard. About 20 members of the band will be attending and proudly marching along the parade route. The 40th Army Band was originally started in 1907.

Brandon’s parade kicks off on Saturday beginning at 10 a.m. Plan to stay all day — Brandon knows how to throw a party and there are free events planned from morning to night and for everyone in the family. The Street Dance starts at 6:30 p.m. and fireworks, which will be visible from all over downtown, begin at dusk.

Hardworking volunteers have

thought of it all: Easy parking with a convenient shuttle, fantastic food vendors/trucks, a crowd-pleasing parade, loads of free activities, favorite music groups in the parks, super-fun fundraising opportunities (those fireworks are expensive!) including a silent auction, the Ducks over the Neshobe River contest and a 50/50 raffle (the pot is growing daily — last year’s winner took home more than \$1,000).

As for the 40th Army Band, Sgt First Class Yulia Benson said the Band is delighted to be marching in this year’s Brandon parade. Band members recently returned from representing the United States by performing at an Officer’s ball in Austria. The last time they marched down Brandon’s streets was in 2013.

For a complete schedule and more information, visit brandon.org and click the Events and Happenings page or on Facebook at www.facebook.com.

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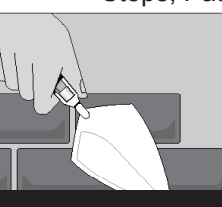


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WE REPUBLICANS wish to thank the community for your petition signatures. All applications have been filed. We sincerely appreciate your cheerful support. I, Lesley J. Bienvenue, MBA, Med, EMG, Secretary of the Addison County Republican Party am campaigning for the position of VT SENATOR. Request for monetary donations for campaign expenses is appreciated. All campaign finance laws will be upheld. Mailing address is 2997 Lake Dunmore Rd., Leicester VT 05733.

Public Meetings

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Public Meetings

inclusion without judgment or exception. If you think we can help, please join us on Thursdays at 6pm by contacting Vergennes-freethinkers@gmail.com for Zoom and in-person meeting information.

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

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

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

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

More Help Wanted ads can be found on Page 11B.



Marion's Place
A Unique Resale Store Supporting HOPE's Poverty Relief Programs

Are you looking for a job with a predictable schedule, no evening hours, and great benefits? Do you want work that helps make a difference in your community? If so, Marion's Place might be just right for you.

Marion's Place, the resale store at HOPE, needs another team member to assist customers, prepare items for sale, and more. We offer competitive wages, generous paid time off, top-tier medical insurance, matched retirement savings, Sundays and Mondays off, and some fun perks.

To apply, send your resume to receptionist@hope-vt.org, or mail it to us at HOPE, 282 Boardman Street, Suite 1A, Middlebury.

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.

Help Wanted

MELISSA'S QUALITY CLEANING Services. Residential and commercial. Fully insured. Great rates. Reliable and thorough cleaning. 802-345-6257.

Help Wanted

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.

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

Help Wanted



VERMONT ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Agriculture Resource Specialist/ Projects Coordinator
Middlebury, VT

Join the effort to help Addison County's land stewards improve soil health, protect water quality, increase climate resilience, and strengthen farm viability!

The Vermont Association of Conservation Districts is hiring an **Agriculture Resource Specialist/Projects Coordinator** to be based in Middlebury, VT. The successful candidate will become knowledgeable about financial assistance programs provided by the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, the US Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service, and other funders, and will provide, outreach, education, technical assistance, program navigation, and coordination services, as well as help farmers and forest land managers in Addison County access financial support for conservation best management practice implementation. In addition, they will assist the Otter Creek Natural Resources Conservation District with needs assessments, community engagement initiatives, and project coordination.

Applicants must demonstrate a commitment and connection to conservation of natural resources and supporting the agricultural community, have 2-3 years of relevant on-the-job experience, be able to self-direct and work independently within a complex programmatic context, and have a valid driver's license and insured motor vehicle to use for work. In addition, we seek strong written and verbal communication skills, ability to work collaboratively with a diversity of farmers, peers and partner organizations, strong computer literacy in a range of software, comfort in both office and field environments, and familiarity with the natural resource concerns affecting Vermont and Addison County.

Starting wage is \$24.00 per hour, with a 40-hour work week. Benefits include paid holiday, vacation, and sick leave; health, dental, and HSA options; dependent care reimbursement; a 401(k)-retirement plan; and extensive training.

Visit www.vacd.org for a detailed job description. To apply, send cover letter, resume, and three professional references to amanda.harris@vacd.org by 5 pm, Monday July 8th.

VACD is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

Help Wanted



ROUNDTREE CONSTRUCTION

Experienced carpenter needed for high-end, well established custom home builder

A minimum of 5 years experience in all types of carpentry required. The ideal candidate will be proficient in rough framing, interior & exterior trim carpentry as well as in the placement of casework/cabinetry. Our carpenters set the plates, frame, trim the inside & outside, place windows & doors, and mount the cabinets.

The company offers competitive wages (\$30-35/hr), retirement plans with a match, tool allowance, paid personal/vacation time, and health & dental insurance.

Come join our team!
Apply to rsantamaria@roundtree.bz and/or call Ric at 802-343-5589



ROUNDTREE CONSTRUCTION

Office Manager for Busy Construction Company in Vergennes

Successful candidate will manage our office, interface with bookkeeper/accountant; process paperwork including invoices and insurance documents; data entry; HR liaison & records; office mail, email & phones. Update clients on progress via email; workers comp and other insurance management; social media updates/postings; and subcontractor agreements & lien releases.

You must have significant experience in a similar setting and/or an associate's degree in business management/ accounting. Minimum 30 hours per week between the hours of 7:30AM-4:30PM M-F.

Benefits include paid vacation, personal & holidays; health and dental insurance as well as retirement plan matching. Pay commensurate with experience.

Apply to rsantamaria@roundtree.bz and/or call Ric at 802-343-5589 | www.roundtreeconstruction.com

Opportunities

Opportunities

Opportunities

Opportunities

Opportunities


Opportunities

What does it take to make BIG change?

YOU.

Nothing makes us happier than connecting a volunteer to the needs in our community

To learn more about volunteer opportunities across Addison County, reach out to Amy Hoekstra at: amyh@unitedwayaddisoncounty.org or visit UWAC's online volunteer center at www.unitedwayaddisoncounty.org/volunteer

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**

Addison Independent **CLASSIFIED ORDER FORM**

ADDISON INDEPENDENT
58 Maple Street, Middlebury, VT 05753
802-388-4944
addisonindependent.com • email: classifieds@addisonindependent.com

Cash in on our 4-for-3 rates! Pay for 3 issues, get 4th issue free! An ad placed for consecutive issues runs the 4th time for free!

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____

Or, submit your classified ad on our website: addisonindependent.com

RATES

DEADLINE: Monday at 5 p.m.

- 25¢ per word • minimum \$2.50 per ad
- \$2 internet listing for up to 4 issues • minimum 2 insertions

- Special 4 for 3 rates not valid for the following categories: Services, Opportunities, Real Estate, Wood heat, Attn. Farmers, For Rent & Help Wanted
- Notices Work Wanted Att. Farmers
- Card of Thanks Help Wanted Motorcycles
- Personals For Sale Cars
- Services Public Meetings** Trucks
- Free** For Rent SUVs
- Lost 'N Found** Want to Rent Snowmobiles
- Garage Sales Wood Heat Boats
- Lawn & Garden Real Estate Wanted
- Opportunities Animals Real Estate Wanted
- Adoption Vacation Rentals

** no charge for these ads Spotlight with large ✓ \$2

PLEASE PRINT YOUR AD...

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

The Independent assumes no financial responsibility for errors in ads, but will rerun classified ad in which the error occurred. No refunds will be possible. Advertiser will please notify us of any errors which may occur after first publication.

Addison Independent CLASSIFIEDS

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

FURNITURE, 2 BIKES one women's, one men's Magna brand. Red and Blue willow, electric water pot, Christmas dishes, ladies large and extra large tops, men's hats new, Dog stroller and carry on, electric fans with controls. Too many items to list. 896 Maple St. Salisbury, VT 05769. Saturday, Sunday, Monday and Tuesday June 29th through July 2nd. 9:00-4:00.

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.

YARD SALE. A lifetime collection of fine fabrics, JD Brush Hog, furniture, tires, kitchen items, garden tools, fencing, and much more. 98 Lafayette Rd South Starksboro June 29, 8-2.

Help Wanted



Shipping & Receiving

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.

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



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.

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

For Sale

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.

Vacation Rentals

ADDISON: LAKE CHAMPLAIN waterfront camp. Beautiful views, gorgeous sunsets, private beach, dock, rowboat and canoe included. \$999 weekly, or call for weekends. 802-349-4212, no texts.

For Sale

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.

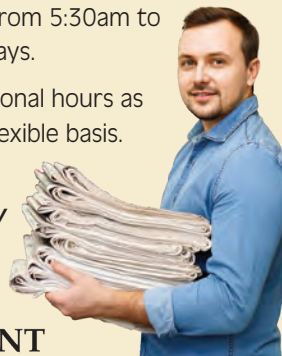
Help Wanted

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

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.

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.

Help Wanted

For Rent

ALL REAL ESTATE advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 as amended which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, national origin, sexual orientation, or persons receiving public assistance or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertisement for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination, call HUD Toll-free at 1-800-424-8590. For the Washington, DC area please call HUD at 426-3500.

COMMERCIAL/OFFICE SPACE - 3000 sq ft - Middlebury. Loading dock. Tall ceilings. \$2,500.00 p/month. 802-558-6092.

VERGENNES WILLOW APARTMENTS is currently taking waitlist applications for 1 and 2 bedroom apartments. No smoking/no pets. Income limits apply - Rent based on income. Equal Housing Opportunity 802-247-0165 TTY: 800-253-0191 www.SummitPMG.com.

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.

MIDDLEBURY, OFF CAMPUS HOUSING available. 802-388-4831, AJ Neri Property Rentals.

VERGENNES VALLEY VIEW APARTMENTS is currently taking wait list applications. Occupants must be 62+ years of age. No smoking/ No pets. Income limits apply - Rent based on income. Equal Housing Opportunity. 802-247-0165 TTY: 800-253-0191 www.SummitPMG.com.

VERGENNES WILLOW APARTMENTS is currently taking waitlist applications for 1 and 2 bedroom apartments. No smoking/no pets. Income limits apply - Rent rate based on income. Equal Housing Opportunity 802-247-0165 TTY: 800-253-0191 www.SummitPMG.com.

Wood Heat

DRY OR GREEN firewood for sale. Delivery available. 802-349-4212.

FIREWOOD for sale. 802-247-9782.

Animals

F1 GOLDEN DOODLE PUPPIES Ready mid July, utd on shots/vet checked, rare color variations, parents generally tested. Call/text 802-309-7780.

Att. Farmers

WHITNEY'S CUSTOM FARM WORK Pond agitating, liquid manure hauling, drag line aerating. Call for price. 462-2755, John Whitney.

HORSE BLANKET WASH and repair. Accepting non-leather (for now) horsewear of all kinds for cleaning and repairing at my Weybridge location. Call or text Sue Miller at 802-377-5945 or email svdwmiller@icloud.com with "horse" in the subject line for more information.

Public Notices

can be found in this ADDISON INDEPENDENT on Pages 11B and 12B.

TOWN OF MIDDLEBURY NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS

Notice is hereby given in accord with 32 VSA §4111 that on June 24, 2024 the Abstract of the 2024 Grand List was lodged in the office of the Town Clerk. Owners of properties with value changes were mailed notices. Grievances must be received in writing at the Listers' Office by 4:30 p.m., July 9, 2024. The Listers will meet at the Town Office at 10:00 a.m., July 10, 2024 to hear grievances. Contact the listers at listeners@townofmiddlebury.org, 802-388-8100 x207, or 77 Main St., Middlebury VT 05753 if you have questions or would like an appointment for a hearing.

Middlebury Listers: Beth Dow, Gary Baker, Hudson Tilford

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.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ADDISON COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Orwell Municipal Planning Consultation

The Addison County Regional Planning Commission (ACRPC) will meet on **July 17, 2024 at 7:00PM**, for a public hearing with the Town of Orwell's Planning Commission.

The meeting will take place in person, with a hybrid option, at the Orwell Clerk's Office, 436 Main St, Orwell, VT 05760. Virtual meeting login credentials below.

As per 24 V.S.A. §4350, ACRPC will consult with Orwell in regards to the municipality's planning efforts, ascertain Orwell's planning needs, identify needed assistance from ACRPC and confirm that the municipality is:

- (1) is engaged in a continuing planning process that, within a reasonable time, will result in a plan that is consistent with the goals contained in section 4302 of this title;
- (2) is engaged in a process to implement its municipal plan, consistent with the program for implementation required under section 4382 of this title; and
- (3) is maintaining its efforts to provide local funds for municipal and regional planning purposes.

VIRTUAL MEETING INFO

Join Zoom meeting - <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87159590685>
ID# 871 595 0685

Questions, please call either:

Adam Lougee, Executive Director
Addison County Regional
Planning Commission
802-388-3141

Joseph Andriano
Chair, Planning Commission
Town of Orwell
802-948-2032

TOWN OF ADDISON PUBLIC NOTICE

The Addison Planning Commission meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 16, 2024 at the Addison Community Center School at 6:30 PM (former Addison Central School).

1. Open the meeting.
2. Roll call given.
3. Open meeting for Katie's next presentation on Chap. 2 "Land Use Plan" for the Town Plan revisions. To continue with updates with Town Survey and to be mailed.
4. Katie from A.C.R.P.C. presentation on "Land Use Plan" for the revised Town Plan.
5. Approve meeting minutes for June 18, 2024 (to continue the business meeting).
6. Public Comment time allowed (beginning & end if deemed necessary).
7. Discussion on public hearing results — decision to pass the Revised Zoning Regulations to the Selectboard for their input or approve them. Continue to work on updating & reviewing the Zoning & Subdivision Regulations & public hearing outcome. Discussion on appointing new replacement for a board member who has retired.
8. If time, we may decide to work on the comments from the public hearing or Town Survey.
9. Adjourn

If needed allow public comment time at the end.

*Deliberative Session if needed ---after the meeting.

We are planning to have a work meeting after the regular monthly meeting if needed.

Jeff Kauffman Jr., Chair
Starr Phillips, Secretary
Addison Planning Commission

In print or online, find your dream job with help from the Addy Indy.

addisonindependent.com/help-wanted

ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT



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



Positions offer generous, twice a year bonuses as well as an employee discount on all products!

Warehouse Worker

Loading and assisting with customer orders from the yard, warehouse and store; Stocking shelves and Filling propane tanks. Skills/Qualifications: Ability to lift 50 lbs repeatedly throughout the day. Ability to demonstrate strong organizational skills. Valid Driver's License.

Weekends and dependability a MUST! Forklift & Skid steer experience a plus. Preferable age 18+.

Cashier - Customer Service

Immediate Openings available. Must be able to work until 6pm. Weekdays and Weekends a MUST. Up to 40 hours per week. Wage commensurate with experience.

Please send resumes to info@middleburyagway.com or fill out an application at Middlebury Agway, 338 Exchange Street, Middlebury VT.

Please no phone calls.

Middlebury Agway 338 Exchange St. - Middlebury, VT.

Public Notices

can be found in this
ADDISON INDEPENDENT on Pages 11B and 12B.

TOWN OF NEW HAVEN DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD NOTICE OF HEARING

Pursuant to 24 V.S.A. §4464, a public hearing before the New Haven Development Review Board will be held at the Town Clerk's Office, 78 North Street, New Haven, VT on Monday, July 15, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. to consider the following:

- Final Plat Review on Application #2024-DRB-09-SD submitted by Cody and Britney Cyr on behalf of Four-Hills Gen 3, LLC (classified as a minor subdivision April 1, 2024), per Section 923 of the New Haven Zoning and Subdivision Regulations adopted April 2024.

Please note that participation in the local proceeding is a prerequisite to the right to take any subsequent appeal. The hearing will be held as a hybrid meeting, either in person at the Town Clerk's office, or by remote:

<https://zoom.us/j/98142119190?pwd=U0pFdDQ2a1ZRZzVCRkN4ZGcyYUF3dz09>

Meeting ID: 981 4211 9190
Passcode: 4jYbTA

An electronic copy of the application may be obtained by emailing the zoning administrator at: newhavenzoning@gmavt.net; a hard copy is available at the Town Clerk's office during normal business hours, or on the Town's website: <https://www.newhavenvt.com/>

New Haven Zoning Administrator
(802) 453-3516

TOWN OF BRIDPORT PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Bridport Zoning Board of Adjustments will hold a public hearing on July 19, 2024 at 7pm in the Bridport Town Office, at 82 Crown Point Road, on each and to consider each of the following application(s):

- At 7:00 PM on Application (#24-21) by Alexandra Lee and Russell Hules are requesting a Waiver to make camper located less than 100' from the centerline of Route 125 a year around residence. Tax ID# 06-011.2 District R-2 Residential-2 owned by Alexandra Lee and Russell Hules. The property is located at 6454 VT Route 125, Bridport, VT 05734.
- At 7:15 on Application (24-22) by Alexandra Lee and Russell Hules is requesting a Conditional Use Permit for the 53' semi-trailer parked less than 100' from the centerline of Route 125 in front of the residence located at 6454 VT Route 125. Tax ID# 06-011.2 District R-2 Residential-2 owned by Alexandra Lee and Russell Hules. The property is located at 6454 VT Route 125, Bridport, VT 05734.

Plans and additional information regarding any such application may be viewed at said Town Office or by calling (802) 758-2483, Ext. 2. Participation in the Bridport Zoning Board of Adjustments proceeding is a prerequisite to the right to take any subsequent appeal on any decision of it on an application.

Dinah Bain, Chair
Al Zaccor, Secretary
Michael Wojciechowski, Zoning Administrator

TOWN OF MONKTON NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED TOWN PLAN

The Monkton Planning Commission will hold a hybrid in-person and Zoom Public Hearing at 8:00 pm, on Tuesday, July 30, 2024, at the Monkton Town Hall (92 Monkton Ridge), to take public testimony on the proposed Town Plan for the Town of Monkton.

The Planning Commission will discuss and vote on any proposed changes directly after this Public Hearing.

Statement of Purpose

The purpose of a town plan is to provide a vision for orderly development within the town. It is essentially a "picture in time" that uses existing conditions to guide zoning and development decisions for the eight-year period covered by the next Town Plan.

Our new town plan is a partial revision of the plan adopted in 2020.

The proposed Town Plan affects all the land within the Town of Monkton. It updates sections that use US Census data to current 2020 data and adds information from the natural resources inventory conducted for the town in 2022-2023.

The Planning Commission believes the following are the significant changes offered by the plan:

- The following sections have had data updated: Population, Housing, Education and Childcare, and Economic Development.
- The Utilities and Facilities section had information updated to be current on the New Town Hall, Library, and the Recreation and Cultural Resources sections.
- The Natural Resource sections on Forests and Water Resources have had information added from the natural resources inventory, including new maps. The Forests section has a new sub-section on Forest Integrity that identifies core forest blocks and habitat connectors, which allows the town to meet Act 171 State Law requirements. Water Resources section had buffers better defined.
- The Plan Implementation section was reorganized and updated.

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While the Town Plan sets forth the community goals and objectives, the policies and other means of achieving those ends are set forth in the town zoning and subdivision regulations. A town plan should not be a prescriptive document. This version of the Monkton Town Plan mostly adheres to this principle.

Copies of the Town Plan are available for review or obtained at the Town Offices, 92 Monkton Ridge during normal business hours. They may also be viewed on the town website at: <http://monktonvt.com/boards-and-committees/planning-commission/>

Written testimony will be accepted by the Commission if received by 7/29/2024 at planningcommission@monktonvt.com, or the Planning Commission's mailbox at the Town Hall (before close of business on Monday at 1 pm).

Zoom Meeting Information:

Link to join a Zoom meeting by computer video: <https://zoom.us/join>
Monkton's Zoom meeting ID: 802-453-3800
Monkton's Zoom Password: 1762

Telephone Number to attend meeting by phone: 646-558-8656

For more information please contact: Marilyn Cargill (802) 453-5192 or Wendy Sue Harper, (802) 453-2680 Co-Chairs of the Planning Commission at planningcommission@monktonvt.com, or Sharon Gomez, the Town Clerk at (802) 453-3800.

Please note: There will be an informational session from 7:00 to 7:45pm on July 30th at the Town Hall prior to the public hearing.

Mike New, Clerk
Monkton Planning Commission

Veterans dedicate replaced gravestones

VERGENNES — The weather report was ominous, but the groups involved in the Remembrance Ceremony and Memorial Dedication for two veterans interred in the Vergennes Burying Ground decided to forge ahead with a solemn, yet shortened,



THE JAMES A. Garfield Camp of the Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War performed a ceremony at the newly replaced gravestone of Civil War veteran Private Sanford Ayres recently placed in the Vergennes Burial Ground.

Photo courtesy of Joy Minns

TOWN OF HANCOCK, VT REQUEST FOR BIDS

For 980 linear feet of ditch cleaning and lining on Tucker Brook Rd. Bidding information at www.hancockvt.org. Dan Perera, 802-431-5158

service on June 23rd.

Heather Simons, who led the creation of the VBG Restoration Project, gave a short introduction about the Burying Ground. The

dedications started with the Pledge of Allegiance from the Sons of the Veterans Reserve (SVR) Color Guard, standing in the rain.

This was followed by members of the Seth Warner—Rhoda Farrand Chapter of the DAR dedicating a new marker at the grave of Major Jesse Lyman. Lyman first enlisted at the age of 16 as a private, right

in the middle of the Revolutionary War. He also served in the War of 1812, earning the title of Major. He died as a result of wounds incurred at the Battle of Plattsburgh.

The second ceremony was performed by the James A. Garfield Camp of the Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) at the newly replaced gravestone of Private Sanford Ayres. The VBG Restoration team had secured a stone from the VA this spring to replace the badly damaged original stone. The SUVCW provided a new marker for Sanford's grave and also presented certificates of commendation for several VBG team members for their hard work in restoring the cemetery.

The plan to play Taps at the end of the ceremonies was dispensed with as lightning flashed around the gathered group and the rain poured down. Despite the storm, a sizeable group braved the elements to honor these war veterans.

REQUEST FOR BIDS TOWN OF STARKSBORO

The Town of Starksboro is accepting sealed bids for the purchase and installation of a 2-stop vertical wheelchair lift to be installed at the Starksboro Town Hall & Library located at 2827 VT Route 116, Starksboro, VT 05487.

Bid specs and submission details available at www.starksborovt.org/bids or email rebecca@starksborovt.org Questions due by 7/9/2024 at 4:30pm. Proposals due by 7/11/2024 at 4:30pm.

HEARING NOTICE TOWN OF ORWELL DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD

The Orwell Development Review Board will meet in person on Wednesday, July 17th, 2024 at 7:00pm at the Orwell Town Clerk's Office located at 436 Main Street, Orwell, VT.

By Zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87159590685> or phone 1-929-205-6099

- use meeting ID: #871 5959 0685 to conduct the following business:
- Permit #5-15-24: Raymond & Cynthia Bradish for a 2 Lot Subdivision located at 674 Route 73 and frontage on Fisher Road, Orwell, VT.
 - Permit #5-18-24: Michael E Downey, Marion M Downey Michael C Downey 2 Lot Subdivision located between 6 & 84 Knox Hill Road.

Information pertaining to this matter may be viewed M, T, Th 9:00-12:00 & 1:00-4:00, W 9:00-12:00 & 1:00-3:30 & Fri 9:00-12:00 & 1:00-6:00 at the Orwell Town Clerk's Office located at 436 Main Street, Orwell, VT.

Joseph Andriano, Chair
Orwell Development Review Board

TOWN OF MONKTON NOTICE OF HEARING

Application: #24-501, a Boundary Line Adjustment application submitted by The A. Johnson Co., LLC (Parcel # 11.105.042.000) located at Old Airport Road and Hardscrabble Roads Parcel and Mark A. Bowman (Parcel # 11.105.048.005) located at 768 Old Airport Road.

Application: #24-502 a Boundary Line Adjustment application submitted by Susan Boise (Parcel # 14.101.120.002) located at 1307 Monkton Road and (Parcel # 14.101.120.001) located at 1277 Monkton Road.

Application: #24-401 Preliminary Plat Review 2-Lot Subdivision, Thomas & Christine Steadman, 4588 Monkton Road, Parcel ID #07.101.197.001

The Development Review Board will hold a Public Hearing on these applications on July 8th, 2024 at the Monkton Town Hall, 92 Monkton Ridge Road. The meeting opens at 7:30 pm

Copies of these applications are available at Monkton Town Offices during regular business hours.

Pursuant to 24 V.S.A. 4464(a)(1)(C) and 4471(a), participation in this local proceeding is prerequisite to the right to take any subsequent appeal.

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

MARKET REPORT ADDISON COUNTY COMMISSION SALES

RT. 125 • EAST MIDDLEBURY, VT
Sales for 6/20/24 & 6/24/24

	COST		
BEEF	LBS.	/LB	\$
Nop Bros	1410	1.50	\$2115.00
Britton Farm	1590	1.45	\$2305.50
Robeth	1155	1.43	\$1651.65
Westminster	1490	1.42	\$2115.80
Goodrich	1700	1.40	\$2380.00
Barnes Bros	1400	1.39	\$1946.00
Blue Spruce	1395	1.36	\$1897.20

	COST		
CALVES	LBS.	/LB	\$
Savello Farm	87	9.60	\$835.20
Conants	103	9.00	\$927.00
Clifford Farm	79	8.60	\$679.40
P. Doton	81	8.20	\$664.20
Vorsteveld	105	8.00	\$840.00

Total Beef - 122 Total Calves - 207
We value our faithful customers.
Sales at 3 pm - Mon. & Thurs.
call 1-802-388-2661

AUCTIONS





GREAT BRANDON

AUCTION

36th

Friday, July 5th ~ Saturday, July 13th

In the Brandon Town Hall

Fri, July 5: 2-7:30pm
Sat, July 6: 8am-10pm
(This is also Brandon's Independence Day celebration & Parade!)
Sun, July 7: 11-5pm
Mon, July 8 thru Thu, July 11: 11-7pm
Fri, July 12: 11-7:30pm
Sat, July 13: 8am-2pm *(Auction Closes!)*
Sun, July 14: 10am-2pm *(For pick up of items only)*

IF YOU WANT TO ATTEND A GREAT AUCTION THIS SUMMER, MAKE IT THIS ONE. The Chamber has found a PERMANENT HOME, the beautiful Brandon Town Hall!

Our great air-conditioned indoor location will be staffed by volunteers for 9 days, and items will be set up for silent auction bidding and eBay style "Buy It Now" format so you can walk out the door with your treasure!

The Auction offers antiques, collectibles, new merchandise, Vermont-made items, and surprises & treasures from attics and barns. Featuring work from many of our famous local artists and lots of gift certificates to local businesses including restaurants, brew pubs, fuel oil, massages, services, and much more!

802-247-6401 info@brandon.org
Go to www.brandon.org for more info and pictures.

ADDISON NORTHWEST SCHOOL DISTRICT NOTICE

The Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations Part 763.93 (g) (4) requires that written notification be given that the following schools have Asbestos Management Plans for the safe control and maintenance of asbestos-containing materials found in their buildings. The Asbestos Management Plans are available and accessible to the public at the administrative office of the school as well as the Superintendent's office.

Vergennes Union High School 50 Monkton Rd., Vergennes, VT 877-2938	Ferrisburgh Central School 56 Little Chicago Rd., Ferrisburgh, VT 877-3463
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Vergennes Union Elem. School 43 East St., Vergennes, VT 877-3761	Addison Northwest SD 11 Main St., Ste. B100, Vergennes, VT 877-3332
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Real Estate

Exhibits

Entertainment

Music

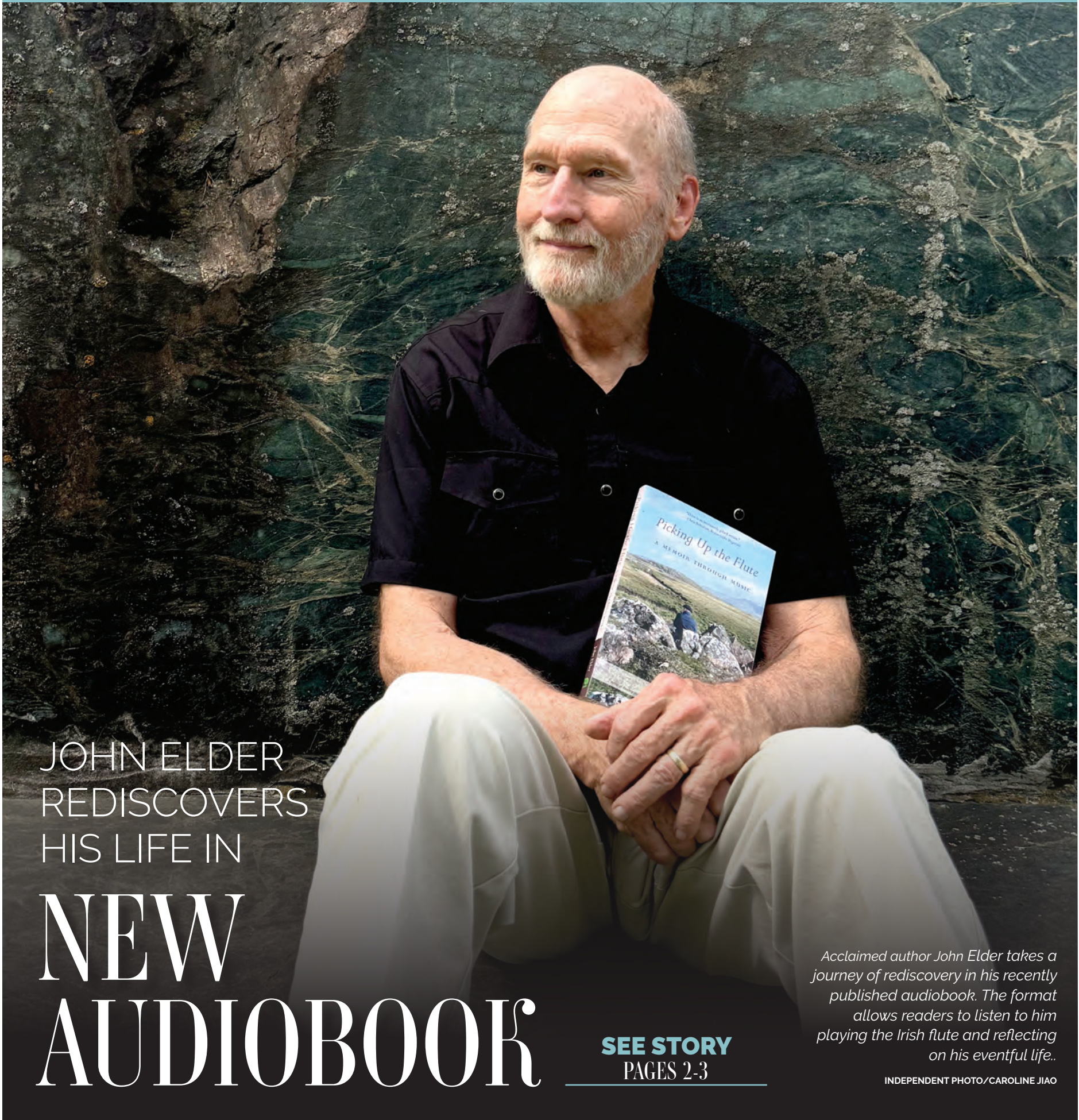
Calendar

Feature Interviews

ARTS + LEISURE

The Addison Independent

June 27, 2024



JOHN ELDER
REDISCOVERS
HIS LIFE IN

NEW
AUDIOBOOK

SEE STORY
PAGES 2-3

Acclaimed author John Elder takes a journey of rediscovery in his recently published audiobook. The format allows readers to listen to him playing the Irish flute and reflecting on his eventful life..

INDEPENDENT PHOTO/CAROLINE JIAO

In 8th decade, Elder finds himself still a beginner

A
BY CAROLINE
JIAO

n educator, environmentalist, service-based teacher, acclaimed writer, former professor, ever-evolving musician and, as he believes he is and strives to be, a beginner. If you have been around Addison County for as long as he has, you're probably familiar with his name — John Elder.

In a newly published audiobook version of his book "Picking Up the Flute: A Memoir Through Music" we can listen to snippets of Elder's musical performance when he was just starting to learn the Irish flute along with spoken narratives about his retirement from a career as a Middlebury College professor and his almost-54-year marriage to his wife, Rita Elder. Through it all, 77-year-old John Elder lets himself tell the story of "beginning."

"I was always a beginner, and that's what I liked," he said. "The ways I've taught and the books I've written have always related to areas of strong interest in which I'm not an expert."

The same internal yearning for new knowledge and experiences as a beginner

had, in the past, drawn Elder to Japanese culture: calligraphy, the game of Go, and its deep roots in and appreciation for the natural world.

"In the beginner's mind there are many possibilities, in the experts, there are few," he quotes from Shynryu Suzuki, the author of "Zen Mind, Beginner's Mind." "And the point is, not so bad to be a beginner, because you can think about what interests you. Maybe it's a funny angle you're taking, but it's your angle."

What, you may ask, is his unique angle?

Elder believes in a notion of time and place, deeply intertwined with each other, that constitutes memory and eventually cumulates into the wholeness of life.

"A passage from Wordsworth, from 'The Prelude,' Book 12, 'There are in our existence spots of time.' It's an interesting phrase," said Elder. "It combines the spatial and the temporal."

"For Wordsworth, to remember something, is to be taken back to the place you experienced it," said Elder. "And to go back to the place

where you experienced something vivid is to return to the time when you experienced it."

His book explores ways that new endeavors or new connections in life tie everything and everywhere before.

Each chapter of the book is embedded with a tune that Elder played with his flute. "They were associated in some ways with an aspect of our lives," he said.

"The logic of this book is that, to learn a new tune, you have to play it over and over and over again before you really have it. And the place where you lived when you were learning that tune and the part of your life when you were learning it become inseparable from the tune. It becomes the soundtrack." Elder said. "These tunes are like spots of time. My little pun is they are spots of tune. The tune captures the time and the spot."

A paper version of the book came out in 2016, though the audiobook was published just last month. "I did not intend to write this book," Elder said. "I was doing a little blog because I wanted to write essays about Ireland and

SEE FLUTE ON PAGE 3

BRANDON'S Independence Day Celebration

July 6, 2024



EVENTS & ACTIVITIES - ALL DAY!

Highlights:

- 9am-4pm:** Silent Auction, Congregational Church Fellowship Hall
- 10am:** Parade starts on Park St., through downtown featuring Vermont's own 40th Army Band; Parade ends at Ace Hardware
- 6:30-10pm:** Street Dance with Jam Man Entertainment in front of the Banks!
- Dusk:** Fireworks over Downtown Brandon viewable around town!

Daylong activities: Between the Parade and the Street Dance, there will be bands in the parks, free train rides starting at the Brandon Inn, free family games including face painting, End User playing & much more behind the Brandon Inn, the famous Little Debbie Swiss Roll Eating Contest, music and beer garden in Green Park, and the Duck Race over the Neshobe Falls.

- Handicapped accessible parking available in front of the Ayrshire Building, 5 Carver St.
- Public parking location will be announced soon. There will be a day-long shuttle running.
- There will be Port-A-Lets around town and bathrooms at Town Hall and Brandon Museum
- Food: Restaurants and food vendors offer a wide variety of meals, snacks, drinks and desserts.

Full schedule of events at brandon.org





Friday, June 28
Salisbury Meeting House
853 Maple St. Salisbury

Friday, July 12
Middlebury Town Hall Theater,
Constance Holden Memorial Concert

Friday, July 26 Salisbury Meeting House

Friday, August 9 Salisbury Meeting House

Thursday, August 22 Salisbury Meeting House

Friday, August 30 CVUUS, 2 Duane Court, Middlebury

Chamber Ensemble Concerts featuring the Point CounterPoint Summer Faculty

Each faculty concert differs in repertoire, instrumentation, and performers.

All concerts start at 7:30 p.m. • Admission is FREE. All are welcome!

Goodwill donations are gratefully accepted.

POINTCP.COM

FLUTE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

about our lives at this point, and also to let people hear the tunes, which were the leitmotifs."

The journey into Irish music manifested into many more journeys to the place. "We began to go to Ireland," Elder said. "I got to know a community of writers who were interested in nature writing in Ireland, in Connemara, which is a peninsula west of Galway. Through them we got to know a part of Ireland where we could go and play music with people and experience music in a place where it originated.

Elder had expressed this wish to his editor at Green Writer's Press. "They say, 'You record it and we'll get it out,'" Elder recalled.

With the help of Lincoln musician Michael Chorney, Elder recorded the audio of him reading and playing in Chorney's studio.

The non-traditional format brought the music to life. "I was pleased when the publisher let me know last month that all the final arrangements had been made and the audiobook was available," Elder said. "This had been one of our goals from the start, and I was happy when it became a reality."

Just for fun John and Rita Elder picked up different instruments in 2008 after Rita retired from being a special educator at Lincoln Community School. "She bought a concertina, and I got a wooden flute," Elder said. "The fun thing about them was, not only were they portable, but rather than learning from sheet music, you learn by ear, and that's the tradition."

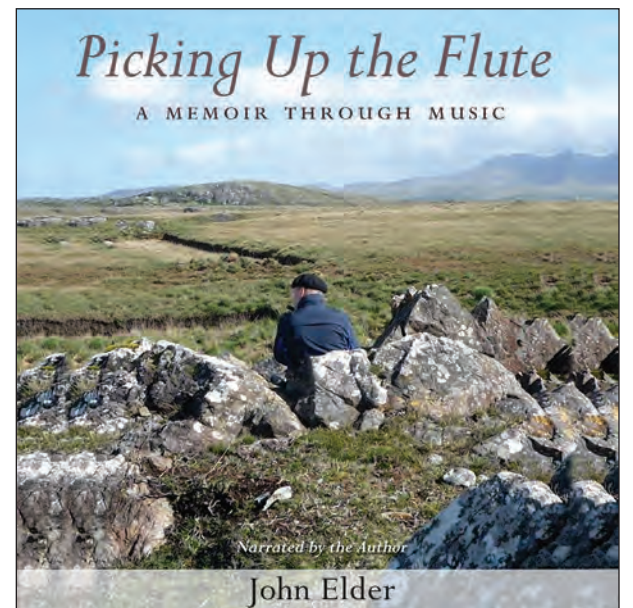
"THE WAYS I'VE TAUGHT AND THE BOOKS I'VE WRITTEN HAVE ALWAYS RELATED TO AREAS OF STRONG INTEREST IN WHICH I'M NOT AN EXPERT."

— John Elder

Communities newly fostered have brought Elder to reminisce many circles of deep connections that came before. "A word I'd use to describe my attitude toward this book is 'discovery,'" he said. In his past teaching experiences, a community of learners worked together to discover "aspects of literature that no one could've had come to."

"It feels that way in writing for me too," Elder said. "I drew some connections in this book I never expected to draw." From the many communities he is part of, he discovered a deeper agreement—the love of land and the love of each other.

The trips and experiences in a tight-knit community in Ireland are commemorated with a sense of loss since the couple let go of traveling once and for all due to Rita's health conditions. "For about six or seven years we went to Ireland constantly," Elder said. "We'll never go



there again, and we will not see those people anymore. But we write to them, and we play tunes that make us think of them."

Elder speaks of loss as a pathway that returns to a "grateful presentness," as a response to retirement and aging. "Elegiac in a literary sense is, everything that you've experienced, and everything meaningful to you, is related simultaneously to loss and discovery," he said. "To move through time is to lose things. I find that very meaningful."

"I do think the wholeness of a life is like the wholeness of a tree. The (outer) circles enclose (inner circles) in tree rings. Everything I do now, even if it's new, is related to everything I've experienced before. And even if some aspect of life is lost, it endures in memory and can be shaped into relation to what's happening now."



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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, on display for the Bixby's Celestial Soirée, the library's annual fundraiser on Friday, May 31. From pastels, paintings, and prints, much of Corey's work is done en plein air. The exhibit features a painting of a planetary nebula inspired by Corey's love of Astronomy. On view through early summer.

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 tastes of local women and the growing Middlebury tailoring scene from the 1800s to the early 20th century. On view through Jan. 4, 2025.

SEE EXHIBITS ON PAGE 14

Cosmic Forecast

ARIES: March 21/April 20. After some time, a difficult situation is beginning to settle down, Aries. Enjoy this well-earned peace and consider how a new perspective can help going forward.

TAURUS: April 21/May 21. Taurus, a new plan can be just what you need to make notable progress. Finding a mentor or someone who has forged a path already can be a useful step.

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. It is a fine week to really think about your future. Cancer. If you have goals to start a business, start hashing out plans and give thought to seeking a partner.

LEO: July 23/Aug. 23. Leo, this week you start out with a lot of energy, but likely will burn through it early on. If you want to reach your goal, you are going to have to learn how to pace yourself.

VIRGO: Aug. 24/ Sept. 22. A lot of emotions are running through your mind, Virgo. They may be very confusing. It is alright to feel out of sorts. Perhaps talking to someone can offer you perspective.

LIBRA: Sept. 23/Oct. 23. Libra, you may be feeling introspective and philosophical, so much so that people may catch you staring into space and lost in thought. Now is not the time to make heavy decisions.

SCORPIO: Oct. 24/Nov. 22. Scorpio, this might not be the week for parties or large social events. You are experiencing some introverted feelings right now and are best in situations that have only a few people.

SAGITTARIUS: Nov. 23/Dec. 21. Life isn't always fair, Sagittarius. Recognize that sometimes things won't go your way. Your resolve could be tested this week so be aware.

CAPRICORN: Dec. 22/Jan. 20. Capricorn, it may be tempting to let someone else take over when the going gets tough. That likely will not be best for you, so continue to make decisions and let things play out.

AQUARIUS: Jan. 21/ Feb. 18. Aquarius, you are due for a big break after going through a lot of emotional ups and downs. Your positive attitude has paved the way for some brighter skies ahead.

PISCES: Feb. 19/March 20. No one else is going to do a tough job for you, Pisces. You have to dig in your heels and make a plan. You are ready for this kind of assignment and the pressure that comes with it.

Celebrating three years in business!

Wed-Thurs 11am-5pm
Fri 11-7pm, Sat 10am-5pm
Sun 12-4pm
Closed Mon-Tues



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FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

JUNE 28 — Henry VIII, king of England (d)
JUNE 29 — Little Eva, singer (d)
JUNE 30 — Lena Horne, singer (d)
JULY 1 — Twyla Tharp, choreographer (d)

JULY 2 — Alex Morgan, soccer player (35)
JULY 3 — Tom Stoppard, playwright (87)
JULY 4 — Giuseppe Garibaldi, general (d)

CALENDAR

JUNE 27-JULY 4
2024



THURSDAY, JUNE 27

"LET'S GO TO THE MOON" PAINT NIGHT IN MIDDLEBURY. Thursday, June 27, 6 p.m., Ilesley 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.

REBECCA PADULA + CLARE INNES AT PIZZA BY THE POND IN GOSHEN. Friday, June 28, 6-8 p.m., Blueberry Hill Inn, Goshen Rd. Michele Fay Band couldn't make it, but enjoy wood-fired pizza and live music by this entertaining duo that draws deeply from the American Songbook. \$43 per person (age 13 and older) for all-you-can-eat pizza and soft drinks. Kids 8-12 \$23; 7 and under free! 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.

TOP PICK

The Goshen VT 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 (1915-2011) purchasing the old farmhouse in Goshen in 1956. Stone was Vermont Poet Laureate from 2007-2011. Her independent spirit will be displayed through her granddaughter Bianca Stone and her husband, Ben Pease at the house on Hathaway Rd. The event will start at 2 p.m., on Saturday, June 29, at the Goshen Town Hall with some history and 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" with Bianca and Ben. Everyone is welcome. Admission by free will offering.

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 - Sunday June 30, 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.

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.

CHAMPLAIN VALLEY FIDDLERS IN BRANDON. Sunday, June 30, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., American Legion, Franklin St. (Changed from original schedule). Come join the jam. 50/50 raffle, door prize and refreshments available. \$3 cover.

SEE CALENDAR ON PAGE 11

MCTV SCHEDULE Channels 1071 & 1091		MIDDLEBURY COMMUNITY TELEVISION: P.O. Box 785, Middlebury, Vt. 05753		
<p>Channel 1071 Friday, June 28 Through the Night: Gov. & Public Affairs 6 a.m. Press Conferences 7:30 a.m. Congregational Church 10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 4 p.m. Memorial Baptist Church 6:30 p.m. Energy Week 7:30 p.m. Public Affairs</p> <p>Saturday, June 29 Through the Night: Gov. & Public Affairs 4:30 a.m. Dr. John Campbell 5:30 a.m. Justice On the Global Stage - Analyzing the ICJ Genocide Case 7 a.m. Press Conf., Public Affairs 10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 2:30 p.m. Justice On the Global Stage 4 p.m. Memorial Baptist Service 5:30 p.m. Eckankar 6 p.m. Energy Week 7 p.m. Catholic Mass 7:30 p.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs</p> <p>Sunday, June 30 Through the Night: Gov. & Public Affairs 8 a.m. Energy Week 9 a.m. Catholic Mass 11 a.m. Memorial Baptist Service 12:30 p.m. Energy Week</p>	<p>1:30 p.m. Press Conf., Public Affairs 4 p.m. Congregational Service 6:30 p.m. Eckankar 7 p.m. Catholic Mass 7:30 p.m. Energy Week 8:30 p.m. Justice On the Global Stage 10 p.m. Dr. John Campbell</p> <p>Monday, July 1 Through the Night: Gov. & Public Affairs 5:30 a.m. Eckankar 6 a.m. Press Conf., Public Affairs 7:30 a.m. Justice On the Global Stage 9 a.m. Energy Week 10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 4 p.m. Dr. John Campbell 5 p.m. Press Conf., Public Affairs</p> <p>Tuesday, July 2 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</p> <p>Wednesday, July 3 Through the Night: Public Affairs 5 a.m. Dr. John Campbell 6:30 a.m. Energy Week 7:30 a.m. Memorial Baptist Service</p>	<p>9:30 a.m. Catholic Mass 10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 7 p.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 10 p.m. Justice On the Global Stage</p> <p>Thursday, July 4 Through the Night: Public Affairs 5 a.m. Justice On the Global Stage 6:30 a.m. Press Conf., Public Affairs 8 a.m. Congregational Church 12 p.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 8:30 p.m. Energy Week 9:30 p.m. Eckankar 10 p.m. Dr. John Campbell</p> <p>Channel 1091 Friday, June 28 6 a.m. Why The Middle East Will Always Matter 7 a.m. Chair Yoga 8 a.m. All Things LGBTQ 9 a.m. Word Time with Miss Markee 12 p.m. School Board Meeting/s 4 p.m. Under The Dome - on School Construction & other Education Work in the Vermont Legislature</p> <p>8 p.m. Poets and Authors</p> <p>Saturday, June 29 4:13 a.m. VT Global Exchange -</p>	<p>6 a.m. Dealing with Misinformation 7 a.m. The Middle East 7:30 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. The Middle East 2 p.m. Festival on the Green Archives 7 p.m. Kindergarten Orientation 9 p.m. Poets and Authors</p> <p>Sunday, June 30 6:30 a.m. Under The 7:30 a.m. School Board Meeting/s 12 p.m. Kindergarten Orientation 12:50 p.m. Aphasia Choir 2 p.m. Poets and Authors 6 p.m. Festival on the Green Archives 8 p.m. All Things LGBTQ 9 p.m. Poets and Authors</p> <p>Monday, July 1 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 4:45 p.m. Replay Runway - Children's Fashion Show 4:55 p.m. Tai Chi</p>	<p>5:30 p.m. Author DonnaRae Menard (6 p.m. Burlington Civic Symphony 7:15 p.m. Laura Macaluso - Thomas Jefferson's Virginia</p> <p>8 p.m. Aphasia Choir</p> <p>Tuesday, July 2 7:30 a.m. Chair Yoga 8:30 a.m. Tai Chi 8:55 a.m. Word Time with Miss Markee 12 p.m. School Board Meeting/s 5 p.m. All Things LGBTQ</p> <p>Wednesday, July 3 6 a.m. All Things LGBTQ 7 a.m. Tai Chi 7:30 a.m. Festival on the Green Archives 2:30 p.m. Poets and Authors 8 p.m. Kindergarten Orientation 9 p.m. School Board Meeting/s</p> <p>Thursday, July 4 5 a.m. Festival On the Green Archives 7 a.m. First Tuesdays 7:30 a.m. Tai Chi 8 a.m. Chair Yoga 9 a.m. School Board Meeting/s 5:30 p.m. Festival On the Green Archives 9:30 p.m. All Things LGBTQ</p>

Please see the MCTV website, www.middleburycommunitytv.org, for changes in the schedule; MCTV events, classes and news; and to view many programs online. Submit listings to the above address, or call 388-3062.

MiniBury

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A RELIABLE RESOURCE FOR PARENTS SEEKING FAMILY-FRIENDLY EVENTS, ACTIVITIES, CAMPS AND CLASSES IN AND AROUND MIDDLEBURY

Rainy Day Fun

We have reached a development milestone: Playing Monopoly is suddenly fun. So fun, in fact, that in the heat of the game one recent weekend, I forgot to temper my thirst for power and inadvertently transformed into a heartless real estate mogul before my children's eyes. While my unsuspecting daughters tootled around making sensible investments, I splurged on houses, building up a corner of the board so heavily that I swear I saw actual tears in my competitive 10-year-old's eyes when she approached it, knowing she would have to mortgage several high-value properties to pay her slumlord mother just to pass through. Did this stop me? Not yet. She paid me two back-to-back \$750 rents and then fell to the floor, wailing, "I want moneeeeeeeeeey!" What a delightful lesson in the evils of capitalism. That's when I suggested that perhaps we were due for a visit from The Generosity Fairy in the form of my younger daughter raiding the bank for \$500 bills and distributing them evenly among us. Call it an economic stimulus package. But the stimulus high was fleeting. My daughters' biggest bills quickly became mine. This led to an interesting chat about the difference between equality and equity — but it also depressed them. I thought I'd gone too far, snuffed out any interest they still had in the game. But this morning I found the girls huddled around the board, giggling and strategizing. They're planning to join forces to destroy me tonight. Bring it on.

BY **MEGAN
JAMES**



Fourth of July Festivities

Outhouse races, Little Debby Swiss Roll eating contests, boat parades — oh yeah, and fireworks. There are many idiosyncratic ways to celebrate Independence Day in Addison County. Here's what's on the docket this year:

ON WEDNESDAY, JULY 3, catch a fireworks display at dusk at Vergennes Union High School or on the Bristol rec fields, which will also be buzzing with live music, fair food and games.

ON THURSDAY, JULY 4, the Great Bristol Outhouse Race, like in the photo above, takes off on Main Street at 9 a.m. and the parade follows at 10:30 a.m. Head to Lake Dunmore in the afternoon if you want to catch the boat parade at 1 p.m.

Finally, the town of Brandon celebrates **ON SATURDAY, JULY 6**, with all-day train rides and activities, the Swiss Roll-eating contest and rubber duckie race; a parade at 10 a.m.; and fireworks at dusk.

Summer Playgroups etc.

When school wraps up for the summer, the local playgroup/storytime schedule changes, too. Here are opportunities for families with little ones to get together each week through August.

Mondays

Playgroup @ Quarry Hill School in Middlebury, 9:30-11:30 a.m.
Storytime @ Lawrence Memorial Library in Bristol, 10:30 a.m.
LEGO Club @ Ilsley Library in Middlebury, 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Tuesdays

Playgroup for incoming Mary Hogan kindergarteners @ Mary Hogan School, 9:30-11 a.m.
Storytime @ Sarah Partridge Library in East Middlebury, 9:30-10:30 a.m.
Storytime @ New Haven Library, 10:30-11:30 a.m.
Pre-K Art in the Garden @ Ilsley Library, 9:30-11:30 a.m. (starts July 9)
Storytime @ Salisbury Library, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Wednesdays

Bounce & Read With Miss Tricia @ Ilsley Library, 9-9:45 a.m.
Playgroup at Quarry Hill School, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Thursdays

Read-aloud Storytime @ Ilsley Library in Middlebury, 9:15-10 a.m.
Storytime @ Lawrence Memorial Library in Bristol, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Fridays

Storytime @ Bixby Library in Vergennes, 10:30-11 a.m.
Storytime @ Lincoln Library, 10:30 a.m.
Art Day Friday @ Bixby Library, noon to 2 p.m.
Storytime @ Brandon Town Hall in Brandon, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

See more online

MiniBury.com

THINGS TO DO • MEET PARENTS & FRIENDS
NEWS FOR FAMILIES • TIPS, TRICKS & TRENDS • CALENDAR

SANTEE LAKES

HILTON HEAD, SOUTH CAROLINA



EPISODE 2 24 STOPS IN 15 WEEKS — DECEMBER 2023 – APRIL 2024

TRAVEL

Glamping and walking trails line a repurposed golf course in Hilton Head, S.C.

Our last stop along I-95 took us 120 miles to South Carolina where we camped along the shore of Lake Marion in the village of Santee Lakes. Enabled by FDR in the '30s, it is one of the 50 largest lakes in the country. The village boasts 797 permanent residents, three golf courses, over 30 motels and three RV campgrounds. (The residents must all be working in these roadside attractions.)

BY **JUDITH & STEVE HARRIS**

We did find the Lumber River before we left North Carolina, a meandering series of oxbows and wandering snake-like contortions surprisingly deep and showing a current strong enough to have earned its name as a delivery system for logs before trucks and their roads were born. Lumberton was repeatedly flooded before the construction of huge levies (40-foot tall, topped by paved walking and biking paths) which dominate a beautiful (and unoccupied) 200-acre park sporting sidewalks, bridges, ponds, fishing piers, fountains and the requisite "disc-golf course." Empty of humans when we discovered it, buried in the Town's center, and

not visibly promoted at all, it provided us with a delightful walk.

I also bought me some new Sketchers in Lumberton from an actual shoe store. Sketchers are still inexpensive, now available for wide feet (like my EEE's) and a balm to complaining feet wrestling through the accumulating indignities of advancing years and increasing discomfort. If you don't have a pair yet, run don't walk to your nearest retailer! Stella (the Wonder-Corgi) and I walk 5-miles a day to stay in fighting trim. Climate and shoes are a big deal in our routine.

Our KOA in Santee Lakes was on the lake shore in the mature evergreen trees and far enough from I-95 that the omni-present tire whine couldn't be heard. Campsites were less than 25% occupied for the Christmas season. The fresh-water impoundment is home to trophy-sized large-mouth bass, the State Bird of the South. (The best billboard of the day was for a truck dealer, showing a jacked-up, tricked out Ram pick-up with a message that read, "Time to upgrade your tackle box!") Striped bass are also in the water, but carefully singled out for protection. "Keepers" must be between 23" and

25" (BTW, a big fish to catch on light tackle), suggesting the detailed protection of State game laws. The striped bass I am familiar with (saltwater version) are voracious and insatiable, approaching pest status along the ocean coasts...offering "stripers" protection would be like awarding blanket immunity to the Hell's Angels, or Rudy Giuliani.

The fresh water in Lake Marion, like most waters in the low country of the southern tier, has been stained dark or even black by the tannin from predominant oak tree leaves. This obscurity provides good cover for opportunistic predators and is disconcerting to northern eyes accustomed to seeing the bottoms of brooks and rivers. However, even the northern reaches of the Mississippi River are tea-colored for the same reason.

A significant storm of rain and winds up to 50 mph is predicted during our stay at the lakeside. We plan to hunker down here and avoid the rooster tails of fellow travelers blasting by us with no regard for the thrills of hydroplaning. So far, we adhere to the "rule of avoidance" as far as frisky weather is concerned. We have had nothing so far other

than dry pavement, calm breezes and light traffic. In past years, we have tried bulling through challenging driving conditions and we learned a simple, one word rule for hauling a trailer in tough weather; "Don't!"

As predicted, on Sunday, Dec. 17, most of the water in the Gulf of Mexico decided to get airborne and come ashore along Florida's Nature Coast and dash north and east up towards Maine. Huge and fast-moving with high winds and endless reserves of rainfall, we hid out from the tempest huddled inside our Airstream listening to the water drum on the aluminum skin for 12 hours. This tropical fire hose should have been given a name. I would have approved of "Culvert," in memory of all those washed out in the fierce rainfall of the last few years. Monday dawned glorious, clear and dry. We resumed our meandering on a 102-mile trip south and east to Hilton Head Island. At the same moment, most of New England was losing power and expecting yet another dose of flood water.

The first obvious change for us was the foliage. Live oak trees start to increase in density and reach. They have proven Darwin was onto something by figuring out how to grow out rather than up, important as they cling to the coast and must survive high winds frequently. Their olive-like leaves do fall off annually, but are replaced promptly and sequentially in the spring, making them appear "evergreen." Hence the name, live oak. Where there is live oak, there is also Spanish moss, a true epiphyte, living on airborne nutrients alone. It is not clear to me why this plant is drawn exclusively to the live oak, but it is. The live oak nut output is prodigious as they produce large acorns that are primary food sources for birds, squirrels, bear and all the smaller mammals of the coastal marshes. This tree's salubrious habitat for Spanish moss and resurrection fern that makes it remarkably unique and visually memorable. As you get closer to the coast, the draped and nearly horizontal branches meet over the road and create magical tunnels of cool shade.

The landscape also quickly flattens out and frequently drops down into standing water while sabal palmetto palms, the South Carolina state symbol, start to mix in with slash pines, and saw palmetto underbrush. Mistletoe (technically a dioecious epiphytic evergreen hemiparasite) along with all manner of creepers reach up into the canopy. Within 50 miles of the coast, the roads are increasingly built up or supported on stilts, connecting the traffic from one bridge to the next. Welcome to the "Lowcountry" (one word).

Hilton Head Island is unique to this region for its wealth and population. It is 12 miles long facing the Atlantic Ocean and has a permanent population of 38,000 souls (which balloons to 150,000 during the summer), nearly 80% white and only 6% black. A full 70% of the land area consists of "gated" communities, and the median household income is over \$85K. If the mainland



settlements surrounding the Island itself are included, this southeasternmost corner of South Carolina has over 250,000 residents.

After spending more than a week in the disadvantaged rural "midlands" traveling on and camping around I-95, the transition for us was abrupt and startling. The day felt like a quick trip from Dogpatch to Beverly Hills. The aura of comfort and privilege seems to rise out of the ground as the pavement improves, the signage aims at a whole different class of customer and the roadside retail becomes nearly continuous and fully occupied. And the traffic blooms...

We are returning to a "campground" built recently on the grounds of Hilton Head National Golf Club where a secondary course was repurposed into the Hilton Head National RV Resort two years ago. It boasts swimming pools, hot tubs, a spa, elaborate and extensive walking trails, mostly paved, restaurants, dog parks, private room-style toilet facilities that rival resort hotels and concrete pads for RV parking that are large enough to accommodate buses, and extensively landscaped.

We view it as an intentional anomaly in our travels, a chance to settle in, catch up on laundry and groceries and take another inventory of gear that needs to be purchased or surrendered (today we had to track down measuring cups and a mixing bowl so Judith can make sourdough bread on board) and we spent a glorious hour grocery shopping in a Publix Market for items hard to find in less sophisticated communities.

We had a lovely cocktail hour watching the sunset and enjoying our first campfire of this trip. Two more nights here (with the low temperatures flirting with freezing) and on to a 10-day stay on Jekyll Island, a preserved museum of "old money" vs. Hilton Head's "new capitalism." The cultural whiplash we feel making this short hop certainly helps to explain that "income disparity" is nothing new in our battered country.

Christmas is coming...locally it looks like the day itself is going to be a rainy one. One clerk in a small shop said, "It's been so cold lately, although it is winter! I'd like just one day of snow a year — Christmas Day, for the kids." May all of us receive what we truly need and spread peace, generosity and love to spare.

Steve and Judith Harris met on a construction site in Burlington 37 years ago. They were married in Lincoln, Vt., 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.

PUZZLES

sponsored by **SPARROW ART SUPPLY**

ACROSS

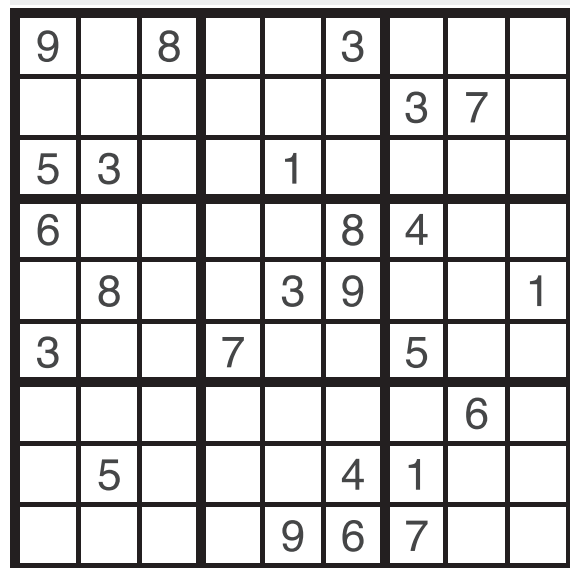
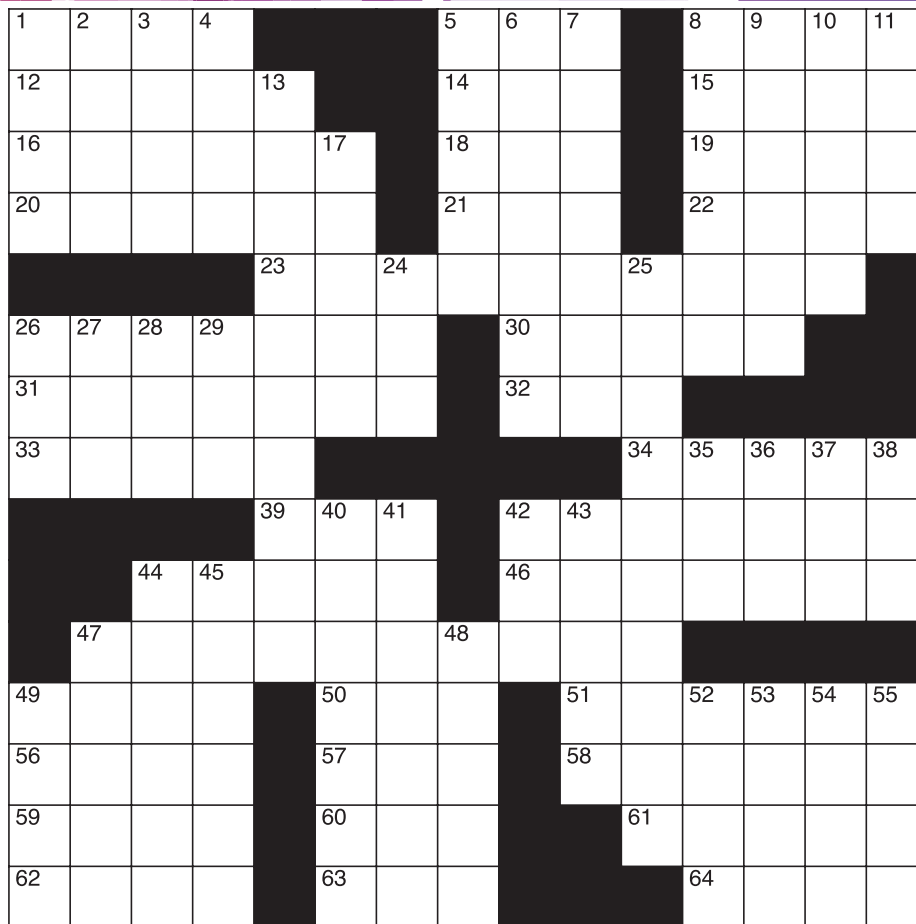
- 1. Volunteer school groups
- 5. Cash machine
- 8. Title of various Muslim rulers
- 12. Indian hand clash cymbals
- 14. Scarf
- 15. Easily manageable
- 16. Cry
- 18. Financial term
- 19. Reactive structure in organic chemistry (abbr.)
- 20. Clean out a riverbed
- 21. Seaport (abbr.)
- 22. English seascape painter
- 23. Bring back again
- 26. Subtracted from
- 30. Related on the

- mother's side
- 31. Mooches
- 32. Commotion
- 33. Boer War general
- 34. Silklike nylon fabric
- 39. CNN's founder
- 42. Sarcastic in a bitter way
- 44. Minute reproductive unit
- 46. Nourishment
- 47. Large predatory tropical fish
- 49. Small, rich sponge cake
- 50. Drink a small amount
- 51. Golfer Rodriguez
- 56. Norse personification of old age
- 57. Large flightless bird

- 58. Capsized
- 59. Convicted American spy
- 60. Music genre
- 61. Makes tractors
- 62. Undergo cell disintegration
- 63. Patti Hearst's captors
- 64. Selfs

DOWN

- 1. Post-traumatic stress disorder
- 2. Goat-like mammal
- 3. Swiss river
- 4. Slithered
- 5. Humiliate
- 6. Tumbled
- 7. Popular alcoholic drink
- 8. Small round hole in a leather cloth



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

- 9. Fertilizer
- 10. State of affairs that seems deliberately contrary
- 11. Count on
- 13. One who discriminates against
- 17. New Hampshire city
- 24. One who cares for teeth
- 25. Sent off
- 26. Mutual savings bank
- 27. Initial public offering
- 28. Denial
- 29. Northeastern institution of higher learning (abbr.)
- 35. A doctrine
- 36. Consumed
- 37. Trent Reznor's band
- 38. Perform in a movie
- 40. Schoolhouse implements
- 41. Mathematical term
- 42. Man who behaves dishonorably
- 43. Expression of regret
- 44. Martens
- 45. Approval
- 47. Pleasantly warm
- 48. The Eurasian hoopoe
- 49. NBAer Bradley
- 52. Engineering organization
- 53. Horsefly
- 54. Type of sandwich
- 55. A day in the middle of the month

This week's puzzle solutions can be found on Page 13.




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CALENDAR

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

SUNDAY SESSION WITH LIZ REEDY IN MIDDLEBURY.

Sunday, June 30, 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. 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.

TUESDAY, JULY 2

FRAN MCINTOSH AUTHOR TALK IN MIDDLEBURY.

Tuesday, July 2, 6 p.m. Ilseley 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.

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.

THURSDAY, JULY 4

FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION IN BRISTOL.

Thursday, July 4, begins at 7:45 a.m. Downtown Bristol. Bristol's yearly road race, outhouse races, parade and festival on the green always make for a fun 4th.

GREEN MOUNTAIN BICYCLE CLUB HOLIDAY RIDE SPECIAL IN SALISBURY. Thursday, July 4, 1 p.m., meet at 3-Mile Bridge Rd. More info contact leader John Bertelsen at 802-864-0101 or jo.bertel@gmail.com, or co-leader Karla Ferrelli at 802-864-0101 or karla.ferrelli@gmail.com.

ICE CREAM SOCIAL IN SALISBURY. Thursday, July 4, 2-4 p.m., Salisbury Meetinghouse, 853 Maple St. Come celebrate Salisbury's 49th annual Ice Cream Social with cones, sundaes, and pie with ice cream. Under tents on the lawn. Prices by donation to support area benefits. Rain or shine, the ice cream's fine.

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BLUE SEAL



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Boots

My name is **Boots** and I am a snuggly 2-year-old guy. I am very loveable and have been described as a lap cat and a couch potato. Catnip is one of my favorite things and I enjoy rolling around and playing with my toys. I have peacefully coexisted with dogs and have done well with children but I have not gotten along with other cats.



Rocky

My name is **Rocky** and I am a shy 3-year-old old boy. I spend a lot of time hiding in my cat tree but I come out to eat and sit on the bench. Noise scares me back into hiding so I would like to live in a quiet home where I can come out at my own pace. I get along with cats but dogs frighten me.

Shadow

My name is **Shadow** and I am a sweet and shy 4-year-old girl. I am looking for a calm, indoor-only home where I can show my loving side at my own pace. Other animals and children make me nervous so I am hoping to be the only pet in my new home. I have been very loving and affectionate with the staff at Homeward Bound and have even enjoyed some belly rubs.



Tommy

My name is **Tommy** and I am a sweet lovebug! I am around 2 years old and I really enjoy catnip and treats. I have peacefully coexisted with a dog and have done well with children but I do not get along with other cats.

Ashe

Hi! I'm **Ashe!** I'm a 5-year-old Blue Heeler/Staffordshire Terrier mix and I weigh around 60 pounds. I'm currently being fed extra meals to gain more weight since I was slightly underweight when I came to the shelter. In my previous home, I lived with young children, cats, and livestock. I'm a nervous boy and I'm shy around people I don't know, especially men. Because I can be nervous and insecure, I would do best in a home with older children. Treats and food are my favorite and it helps me warm up in new situations. I love to play with toys and to be outside where I can run. I'm an absolute cuddle bug and love to be around family. I like to go for walks and I know a few basic commands. I came in with skin issues that are being resolved.



Want to learn more?

Call or check our website. We may have a pet for you!
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236 Boardman Street | Middlebury, VT



238 HIGH STREET, BRIDPORT
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THE HOME

A LOOK INSIDE ADDISON COUNTY HOMES FOR SALE

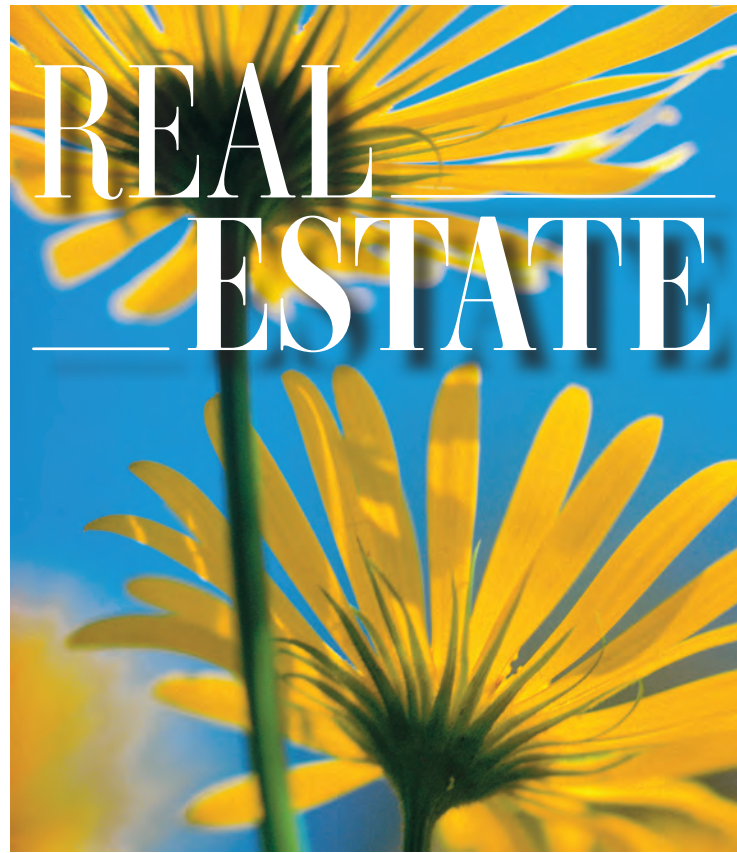
DELIGHTFUL VERMONT COUNTRY PROPERTY

Tucked away on 10.39 acres in Bridport, this sunny 3 bedroom, 2 bath cape-style home offers modern Vermont living with an open floor plan, windows galore, and a private setting. 1,592 square feet filled with charming character! You will be delighted by the cathedral ceiling, skylights, post and beam style, new tile and hardwood flooring, updated baths, central air, and the cozy woodstove with brick hearth and chimney accent. A well-designed kitchen, a bath on each level, and the first-floor primary bedroom provide convenience and versatility. An awesome walkway connects the two upstairs bedrooms. Walk-in closets, combo laundry-pantry, full basement, and the 2-car detached garage add up to lots of storage. The spacious yard lends itself perfectly to gardens, entertaining, and just relaxing while viewing the property, a blend of open and wooded land. Each season will showcase Vermont's beauty. Middlebury and Vergennes are just minutes away with eclectic shopping, delicious restaurants, recreation and cultural venues. And Lake Champlain sits just across town. A must-see and very well-priced property for today's market. You won't be disappointed!



BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY | VERMONT REALTY GROUP
HOMESERVICES

This week's property is managed by Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices. More info at vtregroup.com.



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Sweet & comfy 2 bedroom + den, cozy living room warmed by fireplace with gorgeous mtn view & deck. Solar panels, fruit orchard, flower & veggie gardens, garage, and barn with power & water for animals & tools. The best of Vermont living! **\$549,000**

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3700 sq. ft. finished space! 3 bedrooms, 4 baths, 2 decks, 2nd mini kitchen, multiple rooms for office, hobbies, recreation. 2 garages, 10 acres, trails for hiking, wheeling, wildlife. Near Vergennes & Middlebury. Bonus Items: hot tub, pool table, truck & plow!
\$750,000



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**MIDDLEBURY
12 EAST ROAD**

MLS #4996467 | \$299,000
2 BD | 1 BA | 864 SF

Very sweet, bright, end-unit condo in the popular Middlebury East neighborhood. Enjoy the ease of single level living whether you're interested in aging in place, or looking for the convenience of having everything at your fingertips! Efficiently designed with two bedrooms, a full bath and a kitchen which is open to the living area—there is no wasted space here. Upgraded with a heat pump and benefitted by a single car detached garage. Within very close proximity to the town of Middlebury where you've got plenty of options for shopping, restaurants, recreational opportunities and green space!



**MIDDLEBURY NEW LISTING!
12 OVERBROOK DRIVE**

MLS #5001554 | \$395,000
3 BD | 2 BA | 1875 SF | CONDO

A charming and spacious three bedroom, two bath condo located in the desirable Overbrook community. This beautiful home offers comfort and convenience. Upon entering the condo, you are greeted by a bright and airy living room that flows seamlessly into the dining area and kitchen. The kitchen is equipped with modern appliances, ample cabinet space, and a breakfast bar for casual dining. The living area opens up to a private deck, perfect for enjoying your morning coffee or entertaining guests. Two bedrooms on the main floor and one additional bedroom in the lower level walkout basement. Downstairs, find a family room/home office/exercise area—use it to suit your needs. This versatile, finished space adorned with abundant built-in storage provides endless possibilities for customization. All this right in the heart of Middlebury where sidewalks lead to grocery stores, dining, churches, schools and all the local shops and gathering spaces you love to frequent.



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34 Main Street, downtown Middlebury
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EXHIBITS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

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.

ROKEBY MUSEUM

4334 Route 7, Ferrisburgh

For more info visit rokeby.org or call 802-877-3406.

"Seeking Freedom: The Underground Railroad and the Legacy of an Abolitionist Family." Explore the history and ongoing legacy of enslavement in the U.S. and the complicated story of the Robinson family as they went from enslavers in earlier generations to abolitionists in the 19th century. Ongoing exhibit on view through Oct. 15

"Artifacts & Anecdotes: A Behind-the-Scenes Look at Rokey Museum," highlights volunteers and staff who work year-round to research and preserve the Robinson family collection. Their work gives them unique access to the family's collection, and in this exhibition, they share a few of their favorite objects and stories. On view through Oct. 13.



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ART ON EXHIBIT

Bristol artist exhibits work in Shelburne

Bristol artist Brenda Myrick will present "Stillness in Motion — Horses, Birds, and Spirit Animals," at the Shelburne Wine and Coffee Annex Gallery. An art opening will be happening on Saturday, July 13, from 4-6 p.m. Complementary wine, pelligrino, and small bites will be served. The exhibit will run from July 1-30.

"I've always felt a deep connection with animals, the landscape, and also a sense of place. I use this as a point of departure for my studio practice, so it is pretty natural

that animals appear and reappear in my work," Myrick said. "Whether I am working in oil, acrylic, or watercolor, in landscape, or abstract, one thing never changes—and that is my work is a response to nature and also the beings that we live with. I believe there is a relationship to be found with everything around us. If I can see it, feel it, and respond to it passionately— I want to paint it."

See this compelling exhibit that skillfully melds realism with abstract elements into stunning semi-abstract paintings at the Village



See Brenda Myrick's work at the Shelburne Wine and Coffee Annex Gallery through the month of July. An opening reception will be held on July 13, from 4-6 p.m.

Wine and Coffee Gallery located at 5288 Shelburne Road, in Shelburne. Open hours are Monday 9 a.m.-5 p.m., and Tuesday-Saturday 9 a.m.-6 p.m. For more info call 802-985-8922 or email brendamyrickart@gmail.com.



983 Creek Road
Crown Point, NY
12928



Total Bedrooms: 4 ♦ Total Full Bathrooms: 4
Living Area: 4,100 SF ♦ Lot Size: 29.07 Acres
Year Built: 1800

Extensively renovated 1800s home in historic Crown Point's Ironville hamlet on mostly 29.5 wooded acres with a small pond. 3 car garage, greenhouse, breakfast and family rooms. Large chef's kitchen. Lovely vintage living room and dining area with stone fireplace. The house was originally an Inn including a tavern which remains a charming feature of the home. Drilled well, geothermal heat/cooling, and whole house backup generator. Fiber-based internet service with speeds up to 100MPPS, making remote working ideal. Beautiful 2-level wrap-around porch for watching hummingbirds and wildlife, and enjoying the cool Adirondack weather. Within an hour to all ADK High Peaks, minutes to Lake Champlain/Lake George and all Vermont has to offer. Many ski resorts within easy day travel. This would/ could also be a high-end Air BnB/Rental!

\$775,000

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45th
Annual
Middlebury

Festival on-the- Green

July 7-13
2024

Free, family-friendly music series
on the Village Green in Middlebury, VT

SUNDAY, JULY 7TH



Twisted Pine kicks off the Festival at 7pm with two sets of jazzy bluegrass, indie-folk, and funky grooves. This Boston-based quartet, originally a bluegrass band, now offers a diverse string band sound similar to Punch Brothers and Nickel Creek.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 10TH



Bon Débarras presents a double set at 7pm. Known for their original repertoire filled with poetry and rhythmic sounds, their performance features distinctive Quebec flavors and energetic, boundary-transcending music.

MONDAY, JULY 8TH



Samirah Evans - 7pm
Eureka Shoes - 8:30 pm



Photo by Erika Klein

THURSDAY, JULY 11TH

Matt LaRocca - 7pm
Myra Flynn - 8:30 pm



FRIDAY, JULY 12TH

Tjovi Ginen performs at 7pm, bringing Haitian music and African sounds mixed with Reggae, Ska, and dub poetry. At 8:30pm, **Krishna Guthrie Band** infuses rock, blues, and modern influences into their music, promising an engaging and powerful show.



TUESDAY, JULY 9TH

Bread and Bones - 7pm
Le Winston - 8:30 pm



Brown Bag Lunches at 12pm featuring Magician Tom Verner (Mon.), Troubadour John Gailmor (Tues.), No Strings Marionette Company (Wed.), Stephen Gratto (Thurs.), and Tjovi Ginen (Fri).

SATURDAY, JULY 13, 7:00 VERMONT JAZZ ENSEMBLE STREET DANCE:

We shut down Main Street for you to boogie and jive!

Support this year's Festival at the "donate" link on our website or by mailing to: Festival on-the-Green, PO Box 451, Middlebury, VT 05753

Be sure to check our website for updates! | festivalonthegreen.org

