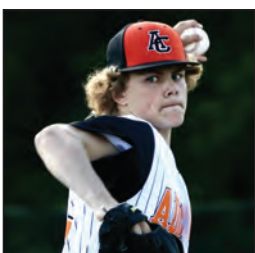




Garden guru

Expert Charlie Nardozzi will make a stop at Bristol's Rocky Dale Gardens. See Arts + Leisure.



AC starts well

The county Legion nine were 3-2 after taking on a tough early schedule. See Sports, Page 1B.



Good cop

Vergennes officer commended for bravery in the face of danger and community service. See Page 5B.

ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT

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Lincoln musician honored with statewide prize in arts

By MARIN HOWELL

LINCOLN — Lincoln resident Michael Chorney has spent much of his life making music.

It was music that first brought Chorney, 63, to the Green Mountain State as a teenager hoping to start a band. He's remained tethered to Vermont's music scene since then, taking

on projects as a musician, producer and composer; dabbling in genres from acid jazz to folk, while captivating audiences from Burlington to Broadway.

Chorney was recognized for his manifold contributions to the state's arts community this past Saturday, when he was awarded (See Chorney, Page 15A)

Suicide hits homeless community

Outreach workers cite challenges

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — Steven Parsons had spent his life battling demons.

Drugs.
Mental health problems.
Isolation.

He came to Middlebury from his native West Virginia looking for a life preserver and a way out.

After failing to live by the rules at the Charter House Emergency

Shelter, Parsons took to the streets, becoming part of the small settlement of houseless folks who camp and congregate off Bakery Lane and behind the Ilsley Library.

On June 17, Parsons found his way out.

He picked a tree along the periphery of the Marble Works and, tragically, hanged himself from it using a webbing strap.

He left no note, nor had he

confided in others his thoughts of self-harm.

Tyler Proulx, an outreach worker and recovery coach with the Turning Point Center of Addison County, said Parsons's suicide has had a profound impact on the houseless community.

"It was really dark," Proulx said of the impact. "People feel it when they lose somebody; there are always ripple effects from a loss like that. They're a pretty tight-knit community and it brought the

mood down for a long while there."

Proulx is one of several local human services workers who regularly check on the houseless community, offering them access to necessities like food and clothing, as well as an open door to mental health counseling and coaching for substance use disorder.

Proulx said he knew Parsons, though not for very long. Everybody's different, but Proulx noted a common lament among (See Struggles, Page 11A)



Grand ride

INTREPID CYCLISTS ON their own or in small groups braved the rain and sometimes chilly temps on Saturday to ride in the 10th Vermont Gran Fondo. With a start and finish in Bristol, several hundred riders climbed up and over as many as six mountain gaps and covered up to 145 miles. At left, Sean Sweeney of Leicester leads a peloton approaching Bread Loaf. See more photos on Page 10A.

Independent photos/Steve James



New OSHA rule threatens local fire & rescue groups

Would create new mandates, costs

By JOHN FLOWERS

ADDISON COUNTY

Newly proposed federal rules aimed at increasing the safety of first responders could ironically cause the death of many firefighting and rescue organizations in Vermont and throughout the country, according to public safety officials here in Addison County.

At issue is the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's proposed update of its Fire Brigades Standard (29 CFR 1910.156) that was first published in 1980. This proposed rule would expand the scope of the OSHA standard "from the original, small-scoped



CHIEF BRETT LAROSE

fire responder rule to standards that apply not just to industrial firefighters, but ... also to employees engaged in fire service activities, emergency medical services, and specialized rescue services," according to the National Volunteer Fire Council, or NVFC, a nonprofit representing volunteer fire,

EMS and rescue services.

The bottom line: Firefighters and rescue personnel would be subject to far greater training, planning and equipment/vehicle replacement mandates that local officials believe will dry up an already shallow volunteer pool and (See First responders, Page 8A)

Starksboro woman tapped for agricultural hall of fame

By MARIN HOWELL

STARKSBORO — From climate change to shifting consumer preferences and markets, Vermont's agriculture industry has faced obstacles and opportunities over the years.

Starksboro resident Ellen Kahler has spent nearly two decades collaborating with other

Vermonters to address those challenges and strengthen the state's food system.

She's done so largely through her role as executive director of the Vermont Sustainable Jobs Fund, or VSJF, a nonprofit organization with the mission of nurturing the sustainable development of the (See Kahler, Page 12A)

Take a walk to learn about city's history

Booklet to guide Vergennes tour

By ANDY KIRKALDY

VERGENNES — The history of Vergennes dates back to September of 1788, when leaders of the surrounding towns made final an agreement to carve a city out of their lands, basing it around Otter Creek's falls and the river basin below.

Vergennes thus became Vermont's first city and just the third in the young nation that called itself the United States of America.

Vergennes is also unique in the state in another way: It is the only Vermont city — as defined as a community governed by a mayor and a city council — not to have first been established as a town or village.

Now, 236 years later, Vergennes has a new nod to its rich past — a Historic Walking Tour.

The tour was also years in the making, according to project coordinator Julie Basol, the executive director of the Vergennes Partnership. That organization promotes the Vergennes area and the economic health of its downtown.

The tour includes many familiar landmarks, including the Bixby Library, the Kennedy Brothers building, the Stevens House, the Ryan and Stone blocks, all the downtown churches, Vergennes City Hall, the Shade Roller building, the Pump House that sits astride the Otter Creek falls, the General Strong House, plus many lesser known homes uncovered in

(See Vergennes, Page 12A)

Lincoln's past on display this summer

By MARIN HOWELL

LINCOLN — The Lincoln Historical Society's museum has opened for the season with a revamped exhibit space and two new displays for visitors to explore, including one diving into the rich history of the town's seven cemeteries.

"The Cemeteries of Lincoln, Vermont" is a collaborative project between the historical society and the Lincoln Library, as well as other organizations in town. It's designed to highlight and generate interest in the cemeteries in town and is one of several resources community members can peruse at the historical society's museum space at 88 Quaker St.

"It occurred to me that the cemeteries are something that we don't even really think about, we take them sort of for granted, and yet they mean a lot to some people, and they hold a lot of history and they're beautiful places," said Lincoln Library Director Wendy McIntosh, who came up with the idea for the project.

The library and historical society often collaborate on annual projects exploring topics like the history of schools in Lincoln or Burnham Hall's centennial in 2019.

Projects usually explore some aspect of Lincoln's history that the community has shown interest in, or that relate to, things



LINCOLN HISTORICAL SOCIETY Vice President Lucinda Cockrell stands in the museum's revamped exhibit space, which features one of two new displays being shown at the historical society this summer.

Independent photo/Marin Howell

going on in town.

"We want to perpetuate the legacy of Lincoln, but we also want to

know what people are interested in," explained Lucinda Cockrell, a member (See Lincoln history, Page 14A)

By the way



Gov. Phil Scott and the state's congressional delegation recently announced \$7.9 million in Northern Border Regional Commission Investments in seven Vermont communities — (See By the way, Page 14A)

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Housing project in Midd weighs rising costs

Stonecrop hopes for Nov. groundbreaking

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — Developers of Stonecrop Meadows — a proposed 218-unit, mixed-income housing project slated for 35 acres off Middlebury’s Seminary Street Extension — are readying their plan for a final review by the town in hopes for a November groundbreaking.

At the same time, Summit Development LLC officials are tempering expectations on the magnitude of the new neighborhood’s ultimate build-out, citing skyrocketing construction costs, inflation and financing challenges.

“We’re pretty confident in the first 100 units,” Summit COO Zeke Davisson said during a recent phone interview. “We have a path for the first 100. That’s a huge win. The next 100 has a much-less-clear path.”

Summit’s plans — which will come before the Middlebury Development Review Board on July 8 — show a total of 218 housing units that would be erected in five phases. Phase one involves 45 units contained in duplexes and townhomes. Phase two: 36 multi-family homes. Phase three: 27 units contained in “triplexes,” townhouses and “flats.” Phase four: 48 multifamily units. Phase five: 62 units of senior housing.

Davisson and his colleagues have spent the past two years designing the project and assembling financing. He acknowledged the financial climate for bankrolling a major housing development has changed dramatically since Stonecrop was first envisioned in early 2022.

“Since we started this project, construction costs have increased 50% and interest rates have essentially crushed homeowners’ purchasing power,” he said. “What was a really tall task when we announced this project two years ago has been made way more challenging. I don’t think we can understate that.”

The sobering financial news comes in spite of Summit’s considerable success in leveraging \$30 million in state and federal resources to draw down the costs of the for-sale homes, rental units and infrastructure that will be included in the initial buildout of Stonecrop.

“If you had told us two years ago that we would have raised \$30 million to build the first 80-100 units, we would have said, ‘Oh my goodness, we’re going to build the biggest, most incredible community,’” Davisson said.

But Summit has now “exhausted all the traditional resources to get to about the first 100 units,” he added.

Still, Davisson promised the South Burlington company would continue to search for “creative options to try to create structures and finance their construction that will work. We’re confident. It

(See Stonecrop, Page 3A)



Me and my shadow

CRYSTAL CLEAR WATER allow this frog’s shadow to make its presence known in a Lincoln pond recently.

Photo by Dale Cockrell

Bristol water project advances

Next phase of town-wide replacement effort underway

By MARIN HOWELL

BRISTOL — Bristol officials are chipping away at a multi-phase project aimed at replacing about half of the water lines in the town’s aging water distribution system, many of which are well over 100 years old and contributing to substantial water loss in the system.

Bristol residents could vote on a bond to support that project in November for a spring 2026 start date.

Town officials last year agreed on a schedule that would tackle replacement of the aging lines in four phases, beginning with a project on Pine Street that wrapped up this past fall.

The Bristol selectboard on June 10 received an update on the replacement project schedule from Steve Palmer of VTM Engineering, who serves as Bristol’s Town Engineer.

Palmer told the board that design work is now underway on the second phase of the project, which would replace waterlines in the part of town west of North Street. The plan is for residents to OK funding through a bond vote in November’s election and start digging in the spring of 2026.

“That project is on schedule I would say and, knock on wood, we’re probably a little ahead of schedule in some regards,” Palmer said.

As of 2023, the town’s water

system served around 1,170 residents in the village, in addition to 187 commercial connections. The system was evaluated in 2021 by the now-closed Green Mountain Engineering, which recommended that around 33,000 linear feet (57%) of water main in the existing water distribution system be replaced.

Many of the water lines identified for replacement are cast iron pipes with lead joints that were installed in 1905, and thus, well beyond their useful life expectancy of 50-80 years.

Town officials in the spring of last year decided on a phased-approach to the project that splits the town into four geographic areas representing four replacement projects: Pine Street, Bristol West, Bristol East and Rockydale.

“When we looked at the 1905 waterline replacement, we realized it was too big a project to take on as one single project,” Palmer recalled at the June 10 meeting. “Doing it in phases, and I think we were all on the same page, made a lot of sense at the end of the day.”

The Pine Street project completed this past fall marked the first phase of the larger replacement effort. The months-long project replaced around 2,570 feet of unlined, cast iron pipe that was installed in 1905.

The next phases of the project would replace around 10,000 feet

of water line in both the Bristol West and Bristol East areas. Palmer noted that town officials will likely need to explore alternatives for replacing water lines in the Rockydale area.

“We kept Rockydale off on its own because we all believe at the end of the day that we probably need to do some additional investigative work on what options are out there really for Rockydale,” Palmer said. “It’s so far out there, you’ve got to cross a mountain. There’s a lot of unknowns, and personally, I think there’s a tremendous amount of cost to replace it, I think everybody does.”

Palmer on June 10 proposed a revised schedule for the replacement project to the selectboard, which board members were in support of. That updated plan calls for engineers to wrap up design and permitting for the Bristol West project by the end of this year.

The town would then hold a bond vote for the project in November and apply for funding through the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) to support the project in January.

Palmer said town officials would likely find out if they received those funds by mid-summer 2025, bid for the project throughout the fall and winter and begin construction in the spring of 2026. The project would be completed over the course of two construction seasons, with around 5,000 lineal feet being replaced each year.

Work on the Bristol East phase of the project would follow a

Bristol church will host patriotic service

By MARIN HOWELL

BRISTOL — As Independence Day approaches, members of the First Baptist Church of Bristol are organizing a patriotic service to celebrate Americans’ freedom and recognize those who have served our country and the Addison County community.

The service is slated to take place on the Bristol Town Green this coming Sunday, July 7, at 6 p.m., and all are invited to attend.

Plans for the event got underway around a year ago, when the church community welcomed current pastor Isaac Dzomeku and his family to Vermont.

In one of his first services at the Bristol church, Dzomeku told the congregation of the journey from his home country of Ghana to the United States. Dzomeku had in 2003 moved from Koforidua, Ghana, to Massachusetts, where he lived until taking his current post at the Bristol church.

“He spoke so powerfully about his experience becoming a U.S. citizen,” recalled Greg Orvis, a member of the church’s board of deacons. “It really impacted me; what it is to be an American and how proud he is to be an American.”

Orvis, whose family has a long history of service in the U.S. military, felt a strong sense of patriotism and began thinking about how Dzomeku’s message could be shared with more of the community.

The Sunday, July 7, service will feature a brief message from Dzomeku on freedom, as well as a reading of excerpts from the Declaration of the Independence and the preamble of the Constitution of the United States.

The service will also include a salute to the flag, the Pledge of Allegiance and singing patriotic hymns and songs such as the national anthem.

Orvis said the service will recognize a host of local folks who serve. Anyone previously or currently serving in the military,



ISSAC DZOMEKU

fire department, rescue or first responder or law enforcement and their families are invited to attend. There will be refreshments at the end to allow time to personally honor these local heroes.

“As I look at the community of Bristol and throughout Addison County, the people that serve us, be it the fire departments, first responders, police departments... many of these people have full-time jobs and the training is very demanding and they have families, and yet they do it for us,” Orvis said.

“I think we ought not to forget that; that they make our communities much better.”

The service is open to all community members. Some seating will be provided, though attendees are encouraged to bring a lawn chair if possible. Refreshments will be served following the service.

In the case of rain, the service will take place at the First Baptist Church of Bristol at 10 Park St. For more information, community members can reach Greg and Nancy Orvis at 802-453-4573.

The First Baptist Church of Bristol is celebrating all those that are serving or have served our country and community on Sunday, July 7, starting at 6 p.m. on the town green near the bandstand. Anyone who has served is now serving in the military, fire or rescue service, as a first responder, or in law enforcement—and their families—are invited to attend. There will be refreshments at the end to allow time to personally honor these local heroes.

similar timeline, with design and permitting for that phase set to begin as soon as design and permitting is completed for Bristol West.

“According to this schedule, (beginning in) 2026 there will be, in the former village, construction at least for the next three or four years,” selectboard member Ian Albinston acknowledged.

Albinston also noted the success of the first phase of the project and the importance of replacing the aging water lines.

“The Pine Street project, though smaller, went very well,” he said. “Hopefully once this project is complete in three or four years

then we have a water system that’s going to help us for the next 100 years.”

Palmer explained that as part of the DWSRF funding process the town is required to have a public review of the project design at the 60% and 90% review marks. He presented the 60% design review to the selectboard at the June 10 meeting and noted the 90% review mark is approaching.

“We’re moving along quickly,” Palmer said.

The selectboard will further discuss engineering plans for the project at future public meetings.



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July 4 - July 10

Festival on the Green nears

"We had the festival fully booked by April, or so we thought," Miller said. "In late spring, several groups either cancelled or requested a change to their performance dates. It was quite nerve racking since not many performers of the caliber we

Beth Duquette and Richard Ruane, volunteered with the festival for many years. Duquette and Ruane are responsible for helping to make the Middlebury festival what it is today and bringing

(See Festival, Page 9A)

cancel shows because torrential rains flooded the town green. Throughout Addison County rivers overflowed and many roads and downtowns were flooded. Hopefully this year the weather will not make a repeat performance, but just in case, the festival has arranged alternate performance spaces so the festival can truly take place rain or shine. Rain locations include the St. Stephen's sanctuary and Town Hall Theater, among others. Concert-goers are urged to check the festival website, festivalonthegreen.org, before heading downtown to make sure they know when and where the shows will be held.

John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.

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Editorial

How to overshadow Trump and, hopefully, win in Nov.

Five days after the Biden debate debacle, thousands of pundits, political activists and political scientists have weighed in on whether Biden should toss in the towel. At the same time, top Democratic leaders have circled the wagons to excuse Biden’s poor performance and keep him in the race — if he chooses to remain.

The political calculus offers no definitive answer.

It has always been a close race, and those numbers aren’t likely to change by a huge swing. Biden is honest and trustworthy, and has accomplished much as president He and not only offers the nation a stable path forward, but also doesn’t pose a threat to its democracy. Trump is a dictator in waiting, spews nonsense, continuously lies (factfinders reported he told a lie every 90 seconds he spoke during the debate), is a convicted felon, faces more criminal charges, and has laid out plans that will substantially undermine the nation’s democracy.

The fundamental choice between the two candidates hasn’t changed. But, in American politics, performance matters.

A *Washington Post* podcast this past Saturday ran under the headline, “It takes a lot to overshadow Donald Trump. Biden managed to do it.” That Biden did it with an awful performance isn’t ideal, but the headline brings up a likely outcome that could help the Democrats more than they realize — the daily news cycle could swing to their advantage.

Trump is good at one thing: sucking the air out of the room. He’s so outlandish, so full of nonsensical garbage, so comfortable lying, so lacking in morals that his comments are irresistible fodder for TV news, and print — especially when he’s at his worst.

Meanwhile Biden, who appeals to wide swaths of Americans as a rational president who has stabilized the ship of state and makes wise decisions, hasn’t been able to capitalize on those accomplishments to sell his presidency. His poll numbers are mediocre not because of what he’s done, but because he can’t parlay his accomplishments into victories. It’s a reality that being a lousy communicator is a major shortcoming for a president, particularly in today’s communications-saturated world.

That party leaders have shielded Biden from public appearances and denied a competitive national primary were mistakes made obvious by Thursday’s debate. If party leaders choose to stick with him, today’s odds are Trump would win in November.

Could Biden be the “comeback kid?” Sure. Could Trump’s troubles spell his demise? Maybe. But here’s the thing: the past three years have proved the opposite. Joe being Joe won’t help him; Trump being Trump won’t hurt him.

As long as Trump dominates the news cycle, and as long as Biden struggles to make his much stronger case resonate with voters, Trump wins.

The alternative is for Biden to step aside, free his delegates and have the party conduct a search for alternative candidates.

Yes, there is peril in that process. There will likely be party squabbles, competing agendas, unflattering comments Democrats make against Democrats to ensure their candidate wins the nomination. It could be chaotic.

But there’s also a huge upside. Just like Biden overshadowed Trump on Thursday, five days later today’s news is all about what the Democrats are going to do. The political intrigue is not about what idiotic things Trump said in the past 24-72 hours, but rather is laser focused on the possibility of a presidential candidate who won’t be 80, can carry on a conversation that is lucid and informative, who addresses the questions, can provide a national vision for the future, and can shut down a buffoon who can’t speak without lying.

How refreshing, and how exciting that search would be.

And it would suck the air out of the news cycle for the next two months and longer. Here’s why that matters: If polls are to be believed, they’ve told us the public is extremely disenchanted with the choice they currently have (with 49% of the public wanting someone else to lead their tickets, according to an April Pew Research Center poll.) Imagine the excitement that a shortened, full-on press to find a dynamic, younger candidate to represent the Democratic Party could offer that huge block of voters.

And if the Democrats had a disciplined approach to such a selection, it gives them an opportunity to tout their platform and contrast it to the Republicans, which is Trump’s self-serving babble that benefits the wealthy and favors an isolationist foreign policy at a time when the U.S. needs even stronger ties with its allies. If done well, this contrast of platforms could be good news for Democrats up and down the ticket.

Yes, it’s risky. Presidential history suggests staying with the incumbent is the preferred choice. But these are not normal times, nor are Biden-Trump normal candidates. And with the Supreme Court’s recent rulings that strengthen the presidency to a king-like status by broadening immunity over official presidential actions, a Trump victory is even more threatening to our 248-year-old democracy.

It’s on Democrats to nominate the best candidate to beat Trump. To do that Democrats have to drop their blinders; it’s not just that Biden had a bad debate night, it’s that he hasn’t been able to lock in a majority of supporters over the past three years against a very flawed candidate who has been described as “a serial rapist, narcissist, pathological liar with autocratic and anti-democratic tendencies” and far worse. If your candidate is trailing against that, you have the wrong candidate.

Biden, who has been a stellar president and public servant throughout his life, deserves the highest of accolades. There’s still time, and hope, those closest to him will encourage him to step aside, allowing other Democrats to step forward and pose a stiffer challenge to Trump. That’s the surest way to preserve the noble legacy that would then be Biden’s to cherish.

Angelo Lynn



Wheels up
AS HE NEARS the top of the Appalachian Gap in Starksboro during Saturday’s Vermont Gran Fondo bike ride, Brian McInnis is so excited that he pops a wheelie. The owner of a bike shop in Medford, Mass., McInnis biked over four Green Mountain gaps during eight and a half rain-filled hours. He said he had a lovely time.

Independent photo/Steve James

Retiring LCS principal inspired all

In a field overlooking an iconic Green Mountain vista we gathered a few weeks ago to celebrate principal Tory Riley’s retirement. Her current and former staff sang a reworked version of Sweet Caroline to roast Tory while honoring her love of the Red Sox. Throughout the celebration, I reflected on our many years as colleagues.

Tory showed up at Lincoln Community School in a tee shirt and jeans around 35 years ago, shortly after I joined the staff. A resident of Lincoln, she took an interest in the local school and dove in. Over the years, she’s had a role at LCS as a classroom sub, math tutor, student teacher, classroom teacher and ultimately, just after becoming mom to her wonderful son Isaiah, principal. This past year, with a reduced population, she was both principal and school librarian. All this experience has certainly enriched Tory’s insight, flexibility and compassion as an educational leader.

Tory is also an artist. For her master’s thesis, she choreographed and performed a full length dance piece. She created Burst and Shatter with her 3rd through 4th graders, a multidimensional performance focused on the indigenous culture Columbus found when he landed in the New World and the changes that ensued. It included dance, music, art and drama. I recall a much younger Eric Harman creating and hanging a series of paintings onstage as the rest of the performance simultaneously unfolded.

During one in-service session, while still a classroom teacher, Tory performed a monologue for her colleagues in which she portrayed her mother on a plane sharing concerns about her sensitive daughter Tory with the

imagined stranger sitting beside her. It was a brilliant and effective way to reveal parts of herself. Bill Jesdale, our principal at the time, followed with another powerful monologue in which he became Branch Rickey explaining why he chose Jackie Robinson to integrate baseball.

More than once, colleagues teaching in other schools asked, “How do you get away with rehearsing plays during the school day in Lincoln?” I’d tell them it’s never been an issue. The ability to use one’s mind well while offering a public presentation is at the forefront of learning at LCS. Visual art, dance, music and theater are considered integral to the learning experience in Lincoln.

Tory is also passionate about the natural world. She enjoys dips in the New Haven River that meanders past the school and often showed up at staff meetings with wet hair and bare feet. She was known to snowshoe or cross-country ski to school in the winter. A champion of the outdoor classroom, she worked with colleagues to initiate a rich curriculum in the school’s natural habitat, a stretch of forest along the New Haven River.

Later Tory worked with the broader Lincoln community and the school’s community-based nonprofit Friends of Lincoln Community School to design, fund and develop Potato Hill Park on the school grounds. As the Friends of LCS website explains, it is “equipped with new baseball and soccer fields, an accessible walking path along the river, community garden beds, potting shed and greenhouse, an outdoor classroom, covered

(See Ways of Seeing, Page 5A)

Ways of Seeing

By Alice Leeds



Eyeing the Ghost Quartet: Part I

If we zoom out and look with cynicism at the health care crisis in America, we see a remarkably effective business plan: Grow the burgeoning health care business even larger from its current \$4.5 trillion per year in spending, and do so using two other lucrative industries — the chemical/industrial/agriculture partnership and the ultra-processed food industry.

By design or by default, these four industries — the “ghost quartet” — are an extraordinarily profitable business model. They make money making you sick and even more money trying to cure you.

Starting with the chemical/agricultural complex: The Great Lakes, the largest source of fresh water in America and the source of much of America’s drinking water is now toxified with PFAS, the “forever chemical.” Unlike some toxics, these chemicals endure in nature; 99% of humans, including fetuses have measurable levels of PFAS in their bloodstreams, as do most animals. The presence of PFAS in our bodies is linked to altered immune and thyroid function, liver disease, lipid and insulin deregulation, kidney disease, adverse reproductive and developmental outcomes, cancers and low birth weight in newborns.

By the 1970s, half a century ago, scientists at 3M knew that PFAS were appearing in human blood samples and that the chemicals were toxic. Virtually everyone now has at least one PFAS compound in their blood, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. According to an environmental chemist from Harvard University, given their presence in everyone, the chemicals are “reducing public health on an incredibly large scale.”

Community Forum

This week’s writer is author and commentator Bill Schubart

Other chemicals used in agriculture can also pose a danger. From a review published in the International Journal of Molecular Sciences: “Glyphosate, a non-selective systemic biocide with broad-spectrum activity, is the most widely used herbicide in the world. It can persist in the environment for days or months, and its intensive and large-scale use can constitute a major environmental and health problem.” It’s marketed worldwide by Monsanto as “Roundup.”

The International Agency for Research on Cancer has classified glyphosate as “probably carcinogenic to humans.” In the U.S., the Environmental Protection Agency decided it’s “not likely to be carcinogenic to humans.”

But the scientific review I cited previously states, “... it is unequivocal that exposure to glyphosate produces important alterations in the structure and function of the nervous system of humans, rodents, fish, and invertebrates.”

The insecticide chlorpyrifos is so dangerous it was banned for household use more than a decade ago. But a ban on crop use was overturned late last year, and this toxic insecticide may be used on thousands of acres of crops during the 2024 growing season despite having been linked to neurological damage and developmental problems in young people.

Dicamba, a brand of weed killer used in industrial agriculture, has been reported by farmers to have damaged millions of acres of crops, endangered species and natural areas. It was banned for a few months in 2020 but the Trump administration reversed the ban and it’s being applied again.

(See Community Forum, Page 5A)

Letters to the Editor

Federal land IDs are vital tools

Lands owned by the federal government have many designations. Moosalamoo is a National Recreation Area (MNRA). There are wildlife refuges, national parks, national forests, and others. These area titles are not simply meaningless, tedious bureaucratic inventions. Instead, most are Congressional designations that have been studied and intentionally designed to balance the multitude of values Americans hold for public lands.

Why should you care? Because the designation drives how the land is managed (or left alone) and what activities are allowed on such lands. National recreation areas, such as MNRA, are primarily created for recreation purposes. MNRA also has a goal of providing opportunities for education on the natural environment and forest management, which necessitates providing opportunities for all to access and enjoy the area. Management goals involve balancing varied public recreational interests with the protection of the natural character and resources.

Wilderness areas, such as the Joseph Battell Wilderness that abuts the MNRA, are to be protected in an “untrammeled” state by prohibiting things like motorized access and human development such as structures. These areas generally offer more solitude and are considered by many to be more “pristine.”

Other national forest areas without a recreation, wilderness, or other special designation are managed by the U.S. Forest Service for multiple uses such as logging, grazing, and recreation.

Both MNRA and Battell Wilderness were established in 2006. At that time, Congress also designated five other Wilderness areas in Vermont. While the MNRA is not wilderness, the goal is to keep it as natural as possible while still providing opportunities for public enjoyment.

There are different beliefs regarding what the human relationship to the land is or should be. Are we “managing” the land for its instrumental value, or does it have an intrinsic value and we should respect it for its own sake? There are no right answers or beliefs here, rather, we must continually balance often competing ideas and values.

Although not perfect, public land designations are a pretty good system that respects and attempts to operationalize the pluralism that is the foundation of our democracy. In other words, while the democratic experiment can be challenging at times, this country is founded on the idea that people with different interests, beliefs, and lifestyles can peacefully coexist, including while recreating.

The differences between the U.S. Forest Service and the National Park Service will be for another day.

Enjoy the land and tread lightly.
Susan Johnson
Executive Director
Moosalamoo Association
Brandon

Rodenticide poses a threat

As a conservation biologist, I am alarmed about recent data concerning the impact of Anticoagulant rodenticides on Vermont’s wildlife. ARs are commonly used to kill rodents in urban, rural, agricultural, industrial, and suburban locations. These toxins work by preventing blood from clotting and causing fatal internal hemorrhaging. ARs poison wildlife in two ways: when a targeted animal eats the bait and dies several days later, or when a predator or scavenger eats prey that has eaten poisoned bait. Secondary poisoning has been documented in birds of prey like eagles, hawks, and owls, as well as mammals like foxes, fishers, bobcats, and coyotes.

Fishers belong to the weasel family, are native to North America and closely related to the American
(See Lovett letter, Page 5A)

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The Addison Independent USPS 005-380

Letters to the Editor

Limited leadership immunity OK, but not blanket

Usually heads of state and armed forces and such have limited immunity. The story of Hornblower, who commanded wooden ships in the Napoleonic Wars of around 1814, had a run-in since people accused him of destroying their property. But he was immune as a combatant at war.

In real wars, combatants, including officers are immune. All our presidents are immune from effects of official acts. Imagine General Eisenhower being taken to court for all the damage by the

Allies capturing Europe from the Germans. Ike and his armies had legal immunity from civil liability.

On 6 Dec., Congress was officially deciding the next president, by official, time-tested methods. Trump was urging strangers to storm our Capitol to stop those official acts. Even though he was still the president, his actions were against the law and were not official, so his presidential immunity was voided, and he needs to be convicted as guilty of insurrection.

Another example: While Trump

was president, he said that the new COVID problem was just like a minor cold, so don't worry. If this was an official decree of an acting president, he is immune from legal charges of helping to create a medical problem. But if he was just making an off-the-cuff private statement, and he speaks this way often, then, since he held up action on providing help and cures, he might be liable for the resulting sickness and deaths.

Peter Grant
Bristol

Lovett letter

(Continued from Page 4A)

marten, an endangered species in Vermont. As top predators, fishers eat small- to medium-sized mammals, fruits, nuts, berries, reptiles, and amphibians. They are territorial, elusive, and solitary, and prefer dense forested habitat and nest hidden in the cavities of large trees. Fishers are extremely sensitive to human-caused environmental disturbances, and a healthy fisher population is the sign of a mature and well-balanced forest ecosystem. But fisher populations appear to be declining in New England due to habitat loss and fragmentation, recreational trapping, and the use of rodenticides.

Rodenticide poisoning of non-target wildlife is a significant conservation concern. Recently, multiple studies conducted across the country and in Canada have demonstrated that fishers, among other predators, are highly impacted by ARs, and that these toxins pose a threat to their populations. As a keystone and indicator species, declining fisher populations is a real cause for alarm. The impact of these toxins on other species is equally

concerning.

A 2023 study focused on the prevalence of AR exposure in fishers in New England. Biologists from the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department were among the researchers who found that 98% of the Vermont fishers in the study tested positive for AR compounds. Results demonstrated that fishers "are highly exposed to a wide spectrum of ARs across Vermont." The authors stated, "the near universal exposure of the fishers sampled suggest that AR exposure is widespread and represents an underestimated health risk to wild fishers." The data included in Vermont Fish & Wildlife's 2023 furbearer newsletter indicates that the fisher population is in decline.

In another study, conducted by researchers at SUNY Environmental Science and Forestry, fishers from five northeastern states were tested, and Vermont had the highest incidence of AR exposures with 100% of the fishers testing positive. The researchers found that "rodenticide exposure is an important driver of population decline."

Regulations associated with

ARs are aimed at protecting children and domestic pets from accessing poisons. Consequently, they are most often placed outside buildings in ready-to-use or refillable bait stations/containers making poisoned prey accessible to wildlife. Despite EPA regulations on the use of commercial rodenticide, ARs are still available online to anyone. Unlawful use is a serious problem and several states have recently introduced legislation to restrict or ban certain ARs.

Fishers are critically important to Vermont's ecosystems and data suggest rodenticides may play a large role in their decline. According to Audubon Vermont, there are more than 175 rat poison products available on the open market that do not pose the same level of risk to rodent-predators. In addition, many basic non-lethal preventative measures can reduce rodent infestations. A ban on the use of ARs would be environmentally beneficial and a moratorium on fisher trapping would add needed protections for this vulnerable and important species.

Jennifer Lovett
Starksboro

Ways of Seeing

(Continued from Page 4A)

pavilion and the most amazing play structure you will ever see." (friendsofcls.org/projects)

During the pandemic, Tory led this project even further, collaborating with teachers and students to design physical outdoor classrooms, where all aspects of learning would continue uninterrupted. Friends of LCS gathered the necessary funding, most locally. As one student explained, the outdoor classroom is "like a different world ... it opens up a whole new way of learning."

Tory has her signature on so much of the great work at the school, though she is not one to take credit. She prefers to acknowledge the accomplishments of those around her. She's a collaborator, often working with colleagues as well as students on difficult decisions, like how to cut many thousands of dollars from the school budget or how to adapt to a dramatically

reduced student population. This approach, along with the wisdom of an incredible community, helped the school weather recent trials to become its own district this past school year.

Tory also promoted excellence in the form of data driven test scores. When asked why, she readily admitted that high scores gave us the freedom to explore a far richer curriculum in all the ways noted above and more. Any teacher at the school knows that Tory is passionate about the school's essential purpose, to insist that all students use their minds well.

Being a principal can be a lonely job, particularly at a small, rural school like Lincoln where there's just one administrator. As an introvert, Tory is well-suited to that aspect of her role. But she also had a unique connection with every person in the school. Sometimes, at the end of a long day of teaching and

planning, I'd wander into her office well after students went home. We'd have a relaxed conversation, perhaps about a student but just as likely about travel or art or literature or whatever surfaced. Tory's presence at LCS was a gift she offered to all of us. As one teacher said, "She looked for creative ways for each child to be successful, and she engaged teachers in deep and insightful conversations about their practice."

Lincoln Community School has thrived as a result of outstanding leadership. Thank you, Tory Riley, for picking up the torch and allowing it to burn so brightly, illuminating the minds of children in this unique and wonderful mountain community.

Alice Leeds of Bristol taught in a variety of private and public schools and colleges for 40 years. Presently retired, she tries to engage in some useful endeavor each day.

TAM leadership seeking public input

As the Middlebury Area Land Trust approaches its 40th anniversary, we are at an important moment. Over the past three decades, our organization has grown from a small advisory committee to an essential part of our community's fabric by conserving more than 4,000 acres of land, building and maintaining more than 30 miles of trails — including our beloved TAM — and providing inspiring environmental education in our community.

As we look ahead to the next chapter, we are excited to launch a vision-setting process that will help shape the future of conservation, recreation, and outdoor education in our county.

Community Forum

This week's writer are Jamie Jo Horton, Executive Director of the Middlebury Area Land Trust and James Cryan, on of its board members.

This summer, we will be actively seeking your input and ideas. Through community meetings, this survey, and conversations with stakeholders — including at our summer camps' closing circles — we are eager to hear your priorities, ideas, and dreams for the future of our region. We will also share a little more of MALT's story in these pages.

We invite you to dream big with us:

- Why do you value MALT?
- By 2040, what do you envision for MALT?

Please share your ideas at bit.ly/maltvision.

As we embark on this journey, we are deeply appreciative of the

trust and support our community has shown us. Together, we have achieved so much over the past 37 years.

We look forward to hearing your thoughts, ideas, and aspirations as we work to create a vision that will inspire and guide. We are excited about the possibilities that lie ahead and are confident that, with your help, we can envision a future where our community and environment thrive.

Happy trails.



SCAN THIS QR code to take part in MALT's information gathering or visit bit.ly/maltvision.

Community Forum

(Continued from Page 4A)

And just this May, Gov. Phil Scott vetoed House bill 706, which would have banned the use of seeds treated with neonicotinoid pesticides in most instances. Although the most deleterious effect of "neonics" is on pollinators, on which we depend for regenerative agriculture, they may also have a deleterious effect on humans. The science is new but there are potential effects on human brain and nervous systems, especially in the young.

On another front, microplastics have now been found in blood clots in heart, brain and legs.

So, one practice of the ghost quartet is to poison our soils, waterways, and air to make us sick. Number two is to market us ultra-processed foods.

These are foods that contain ingredients "never or rarely used in kitchens, or classes of additives whose function is to make the final product palatable or more appealing," according to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

One nationally known example: Kraft Heinz Foods is marketing "Lunchables" to our school systems in place of traditional school cafeteria meals. They've been found to contain deleterious levels of lead and sodium and phthalates in their trays which can disrupt hormones in growing kids.

According to *National Geographic*, consuming ultra-processed foods that are typically high in salt, sugar and fat — and cheap and accessible — may boost the risk of heart disease, diabetes, anxiety, depression and cognitive decline.

According to MedPage Today,

a study showed that higher intake of ultra-processed foods upped the incidence of cognitive impairment or stroke. It also is believed to be one of the causes of early onset puberty in our children.

These reports are just the tip of the iceberg. Medical literature is rife with stories of the cognitive and physical damage caused by ultra-processed foods and the benefits of eating foods consistent with those found in nature. akin to the Mediterranean diet.

These industries spend a combined \$250M lobbying Congress to forestall regulation that might protect their customers from toxic agents. (Chemical: \$65M/ industrial food industry: \$28M/ agribusiness: \$170M)

Now that you're sick, let's look at the two world-class businesses we rely on to cure you: our cutting-edge pharmaceutical industry and the burgeoning and lucrative business of health care. To give you a sense of their market power, pharma's share of U.S. GDP is 3.2%, at \$625 billion, just \$200 billion below our U.S. defense budget. But health care spending is 17.3% of GDP — \$4.5 trillion in all, or \$13,493 per person, almost five times the defense budget.

Granted, from the consumer standpoint, there's a fault in this business model in that much of the damage caused in the customer base isn't yet curable. Science still has a lot to learn about recovery from many of the illnesses caused and some of you die prematurely, reducing the customer base. Setting that aside, the business model works.

Let me spare you further sarcasm and clarify my point if I have been

too abstruse:

As a society, we must decide whether we are about the expansive accretion and concentration of wealth and power for the few. Or whether we're about the common good of our citizens, our communities and, perhaps most important, our children who will inherit the ills or our venality.

As a friend, Will Patten, has written in a forthcoming book, the concentration of power that has cycled up and down throughout U.S. history is not about the intrinsic evil of capitalism. Capitalism is simply an economic tool to either enrich us all or just the few. That depends on whether or not we're willing to regulate our capitalist system and tax it appropriately.

In The Age of Enlightenment, starting in the late 17th century, capitalism became the way out of poverty and dependence for peasants who were otherwise in thrall to the king who owned everything, and the Church which controlled all knowledge. Capitalism gave succeeding generations the opportunity to earn income by adding value through manual labor and making possible independent businesses. This ultimately gave rise to a middle class and also a series of bloody revolutions against oligarchy.

Our failure today to slow the ascent of monopolies through regulation and to tax business appropriately is creating a new era of economic aggression that may well make our children and grandchildren a new generation of peasants.

We've Got Mulch!

Addison County Solid Waste Management District is giving away *FREE* wood chip mulch to District residents on a first-come, first-served basis while supplies last.

Stop by the District Transfer Station, located at 1223 Route 7 South, Middlebury, during our normal business hours (M-F, 7 AM - 3 PM and Sat, 8 AM - 1 PM) to pick up a load. BYOS (Bring Your Own Shovel), please! You may load your own, or District staff will load your truck or trailer for \$10 per scoop.

The mulch may contain some larger-size pieces of wood, but should be suitable for new tree or shrub plantings, weed control, or trail cover.

The mulch is made from branches, brush, and clean dimensional lumber collected at the District Transfer Station.

Questions? Give us a call at 388-2333 or visit AddisonCountyRecycles.org

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Elderly Services' ESI College Returns Summer 2024 — In Person!

What Causes Intelligence Failures: Pearl Harbor and the 10/7 Hamas Attack on Israel

Wednesday, July 17, 10:00-11:30 AM

The military intelligence failures that have been cited as major causes of the lack of preparedness by Israel on 10/7/23 are eerily similar to those that preceded the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. In both cases, human errors arising from preconceived views of the adversary's intentions and capabilities and communication failures had disastrous consequences. This lecture demonstrates that technological advances in intelligence gathering over the past eighty years have not resolved the key issues: human judgment and communication. **Russ Leng** is Professor Emeritus at Middlebury, where he taught international politics for 40 years. He has written extensively on international diplomacy, particularly crisis bargaining.

Seeking Freedom: The Underground Railroad and the Legacy of a Vermont Family

Tuesday, July 23, 10-11:30 a.m.

Learn what's new at the Rokeby! This National Landmark site is a historical treasure, telling the story of the Underground Railroad through the many generations of the Robinson family who lived at Rokeby in Ferrisburgh from 1793 to 1961. The Rokeby is unique because of the abolitionists who were active in the antislavery movement— and the later generations saved the antislavery documents. **Lindsay Varner** is the executive director at Rokeby Museum. She has taught at several higher education institutions, including Dickinson College and Elizabethtown College.

Register Now!
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ADDISON
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Obituaries

Edward ‘Ted’ S. Perry, 87, of Middlebury

Note: This obituary was originally shared with the college community by Middlebury College President Laurie Patton.

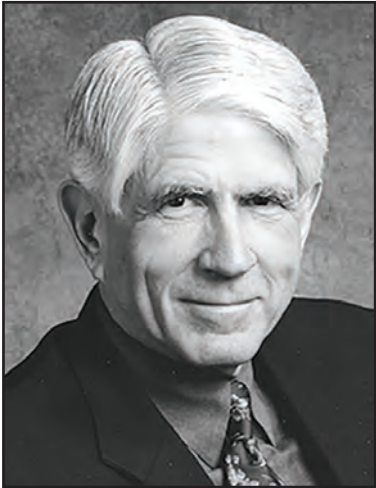
MIDDLEBURY — Edward “Ted” S. Perry, Fletcher Professor Emeritus of the Arts, died on June 10, 2024, in Middlebury, Vermont. He was 87 years old. With an extensive résumé in film, Perry arrived at the College in the 1970s to start a film studies program and was instrumental in its evolution into the Department of Film and Media Culture.

“Ted Perry built film studies from the ground up,” said friend and colleague Leger Grindon, professor emeritus of film studies. “He was tireless in initiating new classes, hiring engaging faculty, and constantly seeking benefits for students: informative courses, excellent equipment, exciting film screenings, and provocative guests. In addition, he had a wonderful classroom presence of his own.”

Perry was born June 4, 1937, and grew up in New Orleans, where he began going to the movies with his father at an early age and, at nine years old, bought himself a 16 mm camera and cheap projector so he could make home movies. He earned his bachelor’s degree in drama and English from Baylor University in 1960 and a master’s and PhD in speech and dramatic art in 1966 and 1968, respectively, from the University of Iowa. He then embarked on his impressive career.

“Before he was persuaded to come to Middlebury, Ted’s extraordinary odyssey included positions at the University of Iowa, the University of Texas at Austin, the Department of Cinema Studies at New York University, and the Museum of Modern Art—all places that were indisputably at the center of the action, incubators of talent and serious accomplishment,” said friend Stephen Donadio, John Hamilton Fulton Professor Emeritus of Humanities.

Perry joined the Middlebury faculty in 1978 as a professor of theatre and dean of the arts and humanities, after serving as the director of the Department of Film at the Museum of Modern Art and the Visiting Henry Luce Professor



EDWARD ‘TED’ S. PERRY

at Harvard University. He quickly made his impact as he sought to rectify the fact that the College had no offerings in the field of cinema and not the means to develop students’ interests in learning about or creating films.

“Ted recognized the instrumental value for students to be not only well read but also well viewed,” said Michelle McCauley, longtime colleague and now provost. “He led Middlebury to develop a robust film curriculum far ahead of many of our peers. Our nationally renowned film and media culture program is a testament to his inspiring vision.” Among his many endeavors, Perry implemented film courses with talented faculty, acquired state-of-the-art film equipment, had Dana Auditorium reconfigured to be able to project 35 mm films, and brought in major figures from the film industry to speak.

Over the years his many talents were put to good use at the College as he took on important teaching and administrative positions, including dean for program development, faculty associate of Ross Commons, director of the New England Young Writers’ Conference, professor of film and media culture and art, faculty liaison to the Commons, and chair of numerous committees as well as of the Department of Music and the Department of Theatre. Middlebury was not the only recipient of his knowledge and expertise. Highly regarded in the industry, he held positions, including as trustee and trustee emeritus, for the American

Film Institute, where he also served as a visiting professor and jury member; chair and lecturer at the Salzburg Seminar on Film; director of the Silberman Symposium on the Holocaust and Cinema; member of the board of advisors of the Harvard Film Archive; and member of the advisory committee for Anthology Film Archives in New York.

An accomplished and prolific writer, Perry produced numerous books, articles, and plays over the years. He wrote and edited pieces on Michelangelo Antonioni, Federico Fellini, and Robert Gardner, as well as sculptor Buky Schwartz, and was the writer, director, and/or producer of 15 motion picture documentaries that aired on TV networks. In 2001, he published his autobiography, *My Reel Story*, in which he examined, in a series of trips back to his native New Orleans, his childhood and family relationships and the impact they had on his life’s work.

Perry’s contributions to the College were invaluable and stemmed from his core belief in the cultural importance of films. In an article he wrote in 1988 for *Middlebury Magazine* titled “Why I Teach Film,” he said, “Investigating the history and criticism and the aesthetics of the moving image is important, not only because the moving image is an independent art form, but also because the moving image has inflected the culture of this century.” With the belief that “any liberal arts education in the 20th century has to engage the issue of the moving image,” Perry shepherded the film and media program through its development, which grew to include teaching a hands-on approach to making videos.

“In addition to creating an incomparably ambitious program in film at Middlebury (incorporating both scholarly analysis and production), Ted, in his many capacities over the years, worked tirelessly to increase the range and quality of offerings across the curriculum and beyond,” said Donadio. “No one ever did more to elevate the College’s cultural and intellectual profile, or more to advance the careers of Middlebury students. We are all in his debt.”

Perry is survived by his wife of nearly 63 years, Miriam; his twin sons, John and Thad; daughter Megan Perry Smith ’92; daughter Melissa Perry Fountain ’88, and son-in-law Michael Fountain; nine grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

A family graveside gathering will be held in Mississippi in the fall. Memorial contributions may be made to a charity of one’s choice. The family wishes to acknowledge the outpouring of messages from far and wide. Also, our thanks go out to the wonderful Palliative Care team at Porter Hospital.◊

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.

Joanne Valley, 91, of Shoreham



JOANNE VALLEY

Joanne retired in 1992. However, Joanne did not sit around. She helped her son Bill raise two granddaughters, Lisa and Jennifer, and then her great-grandchildren.

Joanne enjoyed blackberry picking, jigsaw puzzles and baking. Her reverse chocolate chip cookies were a hit across four generations. She was smart as a whip and had an inordinate amount of common sense. She wasn’t fooled by much, by world events, politicians or teenagers. Most of all though, she excelled at being a mom. A comforter and advocate always. A hug, or a story, a loan or a push on a swing came first before she ever thought of herself. She never stopped loving, never turned her back, and never gave up on her kids, no matter the circumstances.

Joanne was predeceased by her husband Clifford and son Jeff. She is survived by her sons Tom, Brian, Bill, and Peter, and her grandchildren Vanessa, Stephanie, Lisa, Jennifer, and little Pete, and her great grandchildren.◊

ADDISON COUNTY
School News Briefs

Brooke Bertrand, a resident of Whiting, was honored for academic achievement by being named to the dean’s list at Delaware Valley University for the spring 2024 semester.

Community College of Vermont has released its honor roll for the spring 2024 semester, including its dean’s list, president’s list and student honors list.

Students named to the dean’s list include:

Bristol — Maegan Conrad, Maxine Cromis and Zackery Preston Sr.

Ferrisburgh — Tyler Bergmans, Cecilia Mills and Julia Reitz.

Salisbury — Catherine Carpenter.

Vergennes — Neil Brons and Clara Kelly.

Students named to the president’s list include:

Lincoln — Natalie Atkins and Dillon M. L’heureux.

Starksboro — Ava Young

Vergennes — Dustin Benway
Students named to the student honors list include:

Bristol — Halie Cornet, Shelby Gurney, Makayla Lambert, Margaret Lyczak and Sydney Perlee.

Ferrisburgh — Cierra Hoyt

Middlebury — Stephanie Hutchins, Katie Nop, Harvinder Singh and Micaela Tully.

New Haven — Kristine Downey and Bethany Scott.

Panton — Jennifer Coyle and Mavis Shepard.

Vergennes — Vivian Boateng, Kathryn Stone and Kristen Vincent.

Whiting — Connor Watters.



JANET VANWOERT COLE

Janet Cole
celebration of life

FERRISBURGH — Please join the family of Janet Cole at the Kingsland Bay State Park in Ferrisburgh on Thursday, July 25, from 4-7 p.m., to commemorate the life of Janet who died on March 26, 2024 and share memories. Rain or Shine.◊

Cullen Bouvier
celebration of life

CHARLOTTE — A celebration of life for Cullen E. Bouvier, 41, formerly of Bristol, Vt., who passed on April 10, 2024, will be held at the Old Lantern in Charlotte, Vt. on Saturday, July 13, beginning at 2 p.m.



Royal sighting

A NEWLY ARRIVED Monarch butterfly has a milkweed snack in a Lincoln garden. Perhaps it followed some of Addison County’s Pollinator Pathways to get there.

Photo by Dale Cockrell



In Loving Memory

Join us as we celebrate the life of
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November 19, 1965 - November 22, 2023

July 13, 2024 | 1 PM to 4 PM
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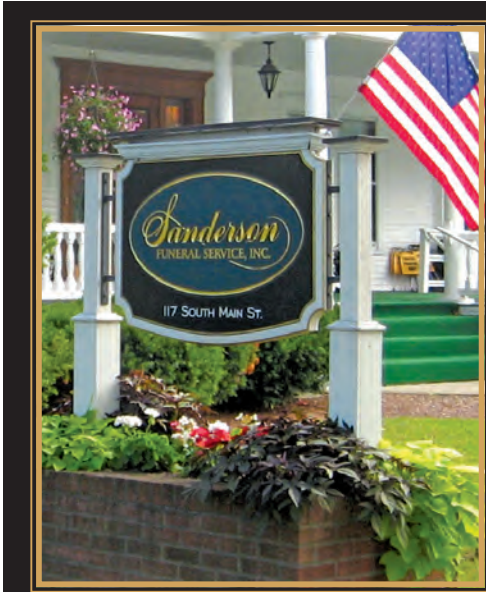
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Secondhand shop opens in Monkton

By MARIN HOWELL
MONKTON — Ever since Monkton’s municipal operations relocated to the new town office building in 2021, the former Monkton Town Hall at 280 Monkton Ridge Road has sat largely devoid of the hustle and bustle that once filled it.

Now, the historic building is bustling once more. Monkton resident Nina Badger has transformed the interior of the former town hall into “Used to Be Someone’s,” a secondhand store she says has something for everyone.

Badger officially opened the shop June 15 and plans to sell a variety of gently-used items, from home décor to children’s toys.

“It’s a little bit of everything and surprisingly unique things,” Badger said of the store’s offerings.

After the new town office building was completed a few years ago, Badger and other Monkton residents began brainstorming ideas for what to do with the historic structure, which was built in 1859 and added to the National Historic Register in the 1970s. The Monkton Museum and Historical Society had considered purchasing the building to convert into a museum, though that purchase proved to be nonviable.

Monkton residents ultimately voted to sell the building on Town Meeting Day in 2023, 57-33, after the sales agreement was amended to include that the future buyer maintain the building’s exterior in accordance with the national historic preservation standards.

Badger’s partner and fellow Monkton resident Bob Wahl later purchased the building. Wahl had in 2022 bought the former Russell Memorial Library building across the street — the structure’s water and sewer connections are tied up with that of the old town hall building.

Badger said she’d considered helping start a secondhand store in the former library, but limited space and other extenuating circumstances upended that idea. When Wahl purchased the old town hall building, it proved to be the spot Badger had long been looking for.

“I’ve been wanting to do a secondhand shop for over 25 years, maybe even longer,” Badger said.

In the meantime, she’s acquired a variety of experience from other ventures, including running the former ND’s bar and tavern in Bristol; working at the Bobcat Café; driving a school bus for 15 years; and staging houses for real estate agents.

Some of the pieces currently for sale at the shop are items Badger has accumulated for staging. Other merchandise has come from donations and a collection Badger has spent years building.

“Throughout the years I’ve collected a lot of unique stuff,” Badger said. “I like to have something that somebody else doesn’t have.”

Badger plans to sell a variety of furniture, artwork, antiques, children’s items and men’s and women’s clothing, along with several other items. She said there will be new pieces for customers to peruse each time they stop by.

“I believe there’s a little bit of everything for everybody,” she said.

In addition to offering secondhand items, Badger also plans to rent out space at the shop for Monkton artisans to sell their wares at a low monthly fee. So far, customers can find handmade rolling pins, walking sticks, earrings and other items created by local vendors at the shop.

She also plans to train a couple of local retirees to work at the shop part-time.

“I want to give back to the community by allowing them to hopefully and helpfully earn their own money,” Badger said.

Prices for new, handmade items for sale currently range from around \$5-\$60, and Badger said she plans to keep prices reasonable for the secondhand items she sells.

Once she’s settled in, Badger plans to begin accepting donated items. Eventually, she’d like to donate a portion of the profit she makes to Monkton’s food pantry.

LOCAL HISTORY

A portion of the building has also been turned into a space for the Monkton Museum and Historical Society, which community members are encouraged to visit whenever the shop is open.

“Monkton Museum & Historical



NINA BADGER IS selling fresh flowers at a stand outside her new used stuff store in the former Monkton Town Hall.
Independent photos/Marin Howell

Society is excited to occupy the vault space of Nina’s shop. They feel right at home in the Historic 1859 Monkton Town Hall,” MM&HS member Robin Hopps said of the space. “While it is not a museum per se, the room will serve as a comfortable sitting area to read their publications — some with QR codes — and notebooks on various historic Monkton topics.”

Hopps said one corner of the space will be devoted to a children’s space, filled with old-fashioned wooden toys, new stuffed animals, puzzles, a small rocking horse and games.

“The walls will have maps of Monkton from centuries ago, plus Then & Now images of familiar local places,” Hopps said. “A member of MM&HS will staff the vault on occasion. The actual MM&HS Collection will be displayed in another location at a later date.”

Badger plans to be open Wednesday through Friday, 11 a.m.- 5 p.m., and Saturdays, 10 a.m.- 4 p.m.

She said the response from the

community has been positive and that she’s thankful for its support. Badger credited her sister and fellow Monkton resident Valerie Mullin, as well as other friends, family and neighbors in helping her transform the secondhand shop from an idea into a reality over the past several months.

“Without the help that I had from individual people, even if it was only for an hour, it wouldn’t have happened, or it would’ve happened but a year from now,” Badger said. “I want to thank everybody that’s helped me. And the community too, for saying when I first thought of (the store), they responded that it was a great idea. It was encouraging that people were going to support doing something with the building.”

The longtime Monkton resident said she hopes to support that community in turn through her work at the shop.

“I want to give back to the community that helped build me,” she said.



MONKTON RESIDENT NINA Badger recently opened a new secondhand store in the former Monkton Town Hall building. She plans to sell a variety of gently-used items, as well as rent out space for local artisans to sell their wares.



THE NEW SECONDHAND store called Used to Be Someone’s fills the former Monkton town hall with affordable treasures collected by proprietor Nina Badger over the years.

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Bridport students tend their garden

BRIDPORT — There’s something happening in the Bridport School flower garden. On May 24, Bridport Central School students checked it out.

Bridport’s Mountain View 4-H group, led by Kristy Whipple, had established the garden. Bridport Blooms, a volunteer group that is part of Pollinator Pathway of Addison County, has been revitalizing it by weeding and adding native plants.

Students enjoyed stomping down the new pavers that had just been laid for a path through the garden. They planted a few each of native bee balm, anise hyssop, and black-eyed Susans to feed and shelter native pollinators. Plant markers were added. Older students held the hose to fill watering cans held by younger ones. Materials such as pavers, gravel and markers were made possible by a grant from the Middlebury Garden Club.

As a follow-up on June 4, fifth-grade teacher Amy Poulin and Bridport Blooms volunteer Jill Vickers had the class examine a garden pest and a garden pest predator, the gray tree frog, and research different types of bees. Each student received a purple coneflower and study sheet on why and how to plant this native flower. The class then planted some coneflowers in the school garden and watered all the new transplants.

When students were surveyed about what they would like to have in the garden and how they would like to help, raking, weeding and watering were mentioned, but eating was the most popular. Maybe there is a strawberry patch in the future for the school garden.

BRIDPORT CENTRAL SCHOOL students got to explore the newly weeded and refurbished school garden on May 24. The garden is part of the Pollinator Pathway of Addison County.
Photos courtesy of Jill Vickers



First responders

(Continued from Page 1A)
make local emergency-response service too expensive for many communities to afford.

The alternative? Perhaps a single, countywide department staffed by career firefighters, raising concerns about response time and potential impacts on homeowners’ insurance.

Corey Pratt, a captain with the Bridport Fire Department and vice president of the Addison County Firefighters Association, didn’t mince words.

“It’ll cripple the country,” he said during a recent interview. “(OSHA) is creating regulations that are trying to keep firefighters safe; I can totally appreciate that. But the scary part is the level to which they’re creating this standard.”

Here are some of the new mandates contained in the proposed new 600-page Fire Brigades Standard, which emergency responders have until July 22 to critique in hope of exacting some major adjustments:

- Medical Exams: Firefighters will have to pass a National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1582 medical exam every two years, or annually if they’ve been exposed to “combustion products” 15 or more times. This rigorous exam will cost roughly \$1,400 per firefighter, according to the NVFC.

The rule says the exams would assure “counseling/therapy to firefighters in light of the difficult job and horrendous scenes they sometimes witness.”

- Officer Training: All officers will be required to have training that meets or exceeds NFPA 1021 Fire Officer Training. “This training is a one-size-fits-all approach, outside the scope of many small departments, costly and not readily available. According to the National Associations Fire Training directors, Fire Officer 3 training is only available in 26 states,” according to NVFC officials.

The proposed training mandates would essentially double the training commitment for a volunteer firefighter, according to area fire officials.

Most of the firefighters also hold full-time jobs and have families.

“It’s just not feasible for working families,” Pratt said of the additional responsibilities proposed by OSHA.

- Replacement of firefighting vehicles every 15 years, and vehicle tires every seven years.

Some Addison County fire departments have been nursing vehicles for around 30 years. Fire trucks these days can cost \$1 million or more.

“Just because a vehicle is 15 years old, does that mean it’s bad?” Bristol Fire Chief Brett LaRose asked.

- Only personnel with Vermont Department of Transportation training and chassis inspection training will be able to perform annual and quarterly truck checks.

- Rotation of crews at complex or lengthy incident sites.

- Creation of a health/fitness program. “To hold people accountable to a certain level of fitness could potentially eliminate someone from being able to provide service,” said LaRose, who noted Bristol fire department’s members range in age from 18 to 75.

- New administrative tasks including creation of a “community emergency response plan,” creation of pre-incident plans for high- or special-risk properties in town, and creation of a risk-management plan for the department.

These plans would need to be updated every year.

“OSHA estimates that one-time setup of these various administrative requirements would take about 92 hours and an additional 43 hours to review annually,” the NVFC stated. “The NVFC believes much more time would be needed to comply with these requirements.”

The proposed OSHA rule excludes volunteers but would apply to departments in which members receive compensation and/or in states with OSHA-approved state emergency response programs. And while Addison County has no “career” fire department positions, the trained

volunteers receive nominal hourly compensation when responding to calls, and each local department is a municipal entity. As such, they would fall under the OSHA rule, according to local fire officials.

Not complying with the rule would leave departments subject to fines, as well as lawsuits if a firefighter should become injured in service to a non-compliant department.

And trying to comply with the rule would be an expensive, arduous task, according to Pratt.

“OSHA created the standards with the idea the average annual budget for a fire department was \$300,000. My department’s budget just went up to \$20,000. And we’re better off than some in the country; some departments have budgets of \$3,000 to \$5,000, which more or less covers their fuel.”

LaRose has attended multiple webinars to bring himself and his firefighters up to speed on the proposed OSHA rule.

Like Pratt, he has big concerns.

“If this were to pass, in my opinion, it would literally put the majority of volunteer-type organizations out of business because they don’t have the resources and the financial backing to implement what would be asked of us,” LaRose said.

He noted all but four current Bristol Fire Department members have Firefighter 1 certification; half the department’s members are certified at the Firefighter 2 level. But if the OSHA rule passes in its present form, all firefighters would have to achieve Firefighter 2, according to LaRose.

Moreover, to qualify as a fire chief, a candidate would need “level 3” fire officer certification and training. That training isn’t offered in Vermont right now, LaRose said.

He agreed with other first responders that OSHA’s motivation for the rule change is well placed.

“What they’re trying to do here is good; it’s about health, safety and protecting everybody,” LaRose said. “It’s just that they’re throwing a lot at us at one time, and in my opinion, not much thought has been given to the repercussions of this.”

The *Independent* reached out to Michael Desrochers, executive director of the Vermont Department of Public Safety’s fire safety division.

In a voicemail, he said, “We are evaluating and assessing what these rule changes mean and what the impact will be on emergency services,” adding he’ll have more to say in another week.

RESCUE SQUADS

Kate Rothwell is executive director of Middlebury Regional EMS, which serves 10 Addison County towns. She shares some of the same

concerns as her firefighting counterparts, including the new training, fitness and health examination mandates OSHA is pitching.

“I don’t know where we’re going to find the resources for this,” said Rothwell, who promised to weigh in on the OSHA rule before the July 22 deadline.

Local public safety officials hope their comments will have an impact, as they said the OSHA rules — as presented — would produce devastating results.

“It could end rural firefighters across the country,” Pratt said. “There are so many departments on the cusp right now because volunteerism is at an all-time low. It’s hard to have enough bodies to do the job to begin with.”

Reporter John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.

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Cold, wet and muddy

Since 2013, cyclists from up and down the East Coast and further afield have come to Addison County to challenge themselves in an event that has them ride up and over the Green Mountains on a loop that stretches many, many miles. It's called the Vermont Gran Fondo, and has its roots in the Italian Fondos that offer similar physical challenges.

This year's Gran Fondo started and finished at the Bristol Rec Park this past Saturday. The earliest start was at 7 a.m. for riders taking part in the new Gran-X course, which had bicyclists traverse six gaps across 145 miles with 13,700 feet of vertical climb. The shortest route was 40 miles.

Despite the rainy weather, several hundred folks from all over the U.S. and Canada rode in Saturday's event.

Pete Zelonis, who pedaled the Gran-X course, said the terrible weather really added to the challenge. Like everyone that day, he got soaked, but was glad he did it. "All of the volunteers were amazing for being out in the cold rain and keeping the riders' spirits up," Zelonis said.

Independent photos/Steve James and John S. McCright



Struggles

(Continued from Page 1A)
Parsons and the majority of the county’s houseless population.
“It’s that sense of ‘no way out; I feel like I’m playing against a stacked deck,’” Proulx said, referring to the hurdles of inflation, a lack of available permanent housing, and the challenges of reclaiming one’s sobriety and/or mental health.
Those issues are personified in some of the approximately 10 people who, for a second year in a row, are spending the warmer months camping off Bakery Lane, the Abbey Pond Trailhead, and along portions of Otter Creek. A few have gained notoriety through occasional acts of vandalism, assault, public urination and alcohol consumption, theft and violations of court orders. Those offenses are chronicled weekly in the crime log published in the *Independent*.

But what isn’t brought to the fore, according to outreach workers, is the extent to which most of the houseless community is too focused on survival to delve into crime, and the level to which they’ve been looking after their own. Proulx pointed out a member of the community named “Rob,” who’s become an unofficial leader. The *Independent* accompanied Proulx during his rounds one day late last week. Rob declined an interview offer.

“For the most part, they’re very amicable; they know us by name and are happy to see us — even when they don’t need services,” Proulx said. “They’re thankful.”
Proulx beamed while recalling community efforts to help houseless individuals during a recent spate of hot weather.

“I was constantly hearing about people dropping off coolers of ice water,” he said. “They would stop by in their cars and ask, ‘Are you guys OK, do you need anything?’”
Advocates are aware of the reactions that many observers have when seeing the Bakery Lane encampment, such as:

“Some of those people look able-bodied, why aren’t they working?”
“Can’t they find someplace else to go?”
Proulx has heard it all.

“I find in human services work it’s very helpful to educate yourself constantly; that way you can better reinforce your empathy for your fellow human beings out there,” he



JENNIFER STEFANI

said. “The more you know about brain chemistry, mental health and substance use disorder, the more you realize it isn’t ‘just’ getting a job so they can ‘just’ get a house. It’s really not that simple. There’s a lot going on. We don’t even think about the people we walk by on the sidewalk every day; you don’t know what they’re going through. And it’s even more so for the people who live on those sidewalks.”

IN SURVIVAL MODE

Jennifer Stefani is coordinator of the Counseling Service of Addison County’s Emergency Team, which delivers mental health services to those in need. Stefani has become acutely aware of the circumstances surrounding those living on the streets in downtown Middlebury.

“Being in survival mode, not having a phone, not being able to get to a place at a certain time, feeling fear from other people, not having a place to store your few belongings, and stress,”

are some of Stefani’s observations. “Then there’s the stigma, poverty, sleeplessness — all these things create a sort of need to be in a protected place.”

Barring an involuntary hospitalization, mental health officials can’t force someone to undergo treatment; they can only convey encouragement and availability, Stefani noted.

“The idea of mental health help is usually either ‘talk therapy’ or medications that don’t really seem pertinent to some of those basic survival issues,” she added. “The way we try to approach it is to create relationships wherever we can, by building familiarity and a sense of welcome and availability.”

She said people with urgent mental health needs are urged

to make a same day visit to CSAC’s offices, or the agency’s mobile crisis team can travel to the patient. Folks in need can call CSAC at 802-388-7641 around the clock.

“The reality of homelessness can seem very bleak, and it can be hard to hold on to hope,” Stefani said. “We try to respond with compassion and understanding because systemic injustice is hard to ignore, escape, or change — and at the same time, we try to hold on to hope for compassionate legislation and understanding and kind responses from our entire community.”

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Sadly, Steven Parsons is among several houseless people for whom Middlebury was the last stop on life’s journey.

In January 2018, 45-year-old Suad Teocanin froze to death on a bench on the Middlebury town green, ironically just a stone’s throw away from the Charter House shelter.

Middlebury Police Detective Chris Mason — who investigated the Parsons death — recalled a woman who starved herself to death while living off the Trail Around Middlebury a few years ago.

As a detective, Mason spearheads a lot of in-depth investigations and thus doesn’t have a ton of interaction with the houseless population. But he knows Middlebury PD has ramped up its patrols in the downtown to conduct welfare checks and make sure law and order is maintained. Mason likes the fact that the strategy has changed from a “you come to us” model of assistance to proactive outreach.

“It’s built a lot of relationships, and a lot of the people are pretty well known through community policing,” Mason said. “We generally have very positive relationships with (that community).”

Charter House officials are also playing a huge role in outreach efforts. Savanna Montoya is associate director of the 27 North Pleasant St. shelter, which maintains 25 beds and an “overflow” area that recently accommodated seven additional houseless people. The shelter’s 25 beds are now full, with a wait list that’s ballooned to around 25, according to Montoya.

But she and her colleagues aren’t just focused on folks they serve inside the shelter. They have Chelsea Delisle, an outreach worker who networks with homeless folks who either can’t be served at Charter House because of the wait list, or who can’t/won’t conform to a structured setting.

Delisle spends around three days each week visiting houseless people on the streets and in known encampments elsewhere,



TYLER PROULX, SHOWN with some houseless people’s stuff stored under the Cross Street Bridge, is an outreach worker and recovery coach with the Turning Point Center of Addison County. He spends a lot of time networking with Middlebury’s houseless population and shared his thoughts on the current status of the houseless community and how it has reacted to the recent suicide death of one of its own. Independent photo/John Flowers

handing out provisions like camping supplies and food. Folks are also encouraged to come to the Charter House for prepared meals and to chat with social service providers, according to Montoya.

“We’re seeing a lot of people from out of state,” Montoya said of the current Middlebury houseless population. “From what I’m hearing, people are saying Vermont has a lot of good resources. But I don’t think they’re also realizing that when they get here, there’s a housing shortage and almost all the other shelters in the state are full. We try to meet whatever barriers they have, but they don’t recognize (the hurdles) until they’re here.”

And Vermont’s homeless programs will soon become less generous.

The Vermont Department for Children & Families recently reminded communities leaders

of “significant” changes in the state’s General Assistance Emergency Housing Program that took effect on July 1.

Under this new law, individuals must now meet specific eligibility criteria to qualify for a maximum of 80 nights of assistance from the program.

“Consequently, not all individuals experiencing homelessness will be eligible for this program. The legislation also stipulates a cap on the number of rooms the program can use. Specifically, from Sept. 15, 2024, to Nov. 30, 2024, and from April 1, 2025, to June 30, 2025, the program will be limited to using a maximum of 1,100 hotel or motel rooms statewide.”

STAFFS ARE AFFECTED

Montoya said Charter House guests shared in the grief surrounding Parsons’s recent suicide. And while Parsons was

told to leave the shelter due to his behavior, his loss was also felt by staff. Parsons was one of two former Charter House guests who died last week (the other due to a medical condition), according to Montoya.

“To have back-to-back (deaths)... it’s definitely impacted everybody here,” she said.

Proulx remembers the last conversation he had with Parsons, five days before his death.

“He was very much in a state of mind that ‘We, as a society, should look out for each other more,’” Proulx recalled. “He wanted to write all this stuff down, but he never got around to doing it. He wanted to fill journals with little nuggets of wisdom he gained over the years. I think he had some good perspectives on the world we live in.”

Reporter John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.

“We don’t even think about the people we walk by on the sidewalk every day; you don’t know what they’re going through. And it’s even more so for the people who live on those sidewalks.”

— Tyler Proulx

“We’re seeing a lot of people from out of state. From what I’m hearing, people are saying Vermont has a lot of good resources. But I don’t think they’re also realizing that when they get here, there’s a housing shortage and almost all the other shelters in the state are full.”

— Savanna Montoya

“The reality of homelessness can seem very bleak, and it can be hard to hold on to hope. We try to respond with compassion and understanding because systemic injustice is hard to ignore, escape, or change.”

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Vergennes

(Continued from Page 1A)
research by project volunteers.

There are 42 sites in all, ranging geographically from the renovated train depot that was moved over the city line into Ferrisburgh at one end, to the Strong House Inn on West Main Street at the other.

A thousand booklets, printed just last week, map the 42 sites and explain their significance. They can be found at the Bixby Library and at project sponsor M&T Bank, and soon they will be available at City Hall, Basol said. A digital version is available at vergennesdowntown.org/walking-tour.

Basol was inspired to start the project a half-dozen years ago while rummaging through the Partnership’s city hall office. There, she discovered the previous walking tours gathering dust. There was plenty of good material, but Basol thought more could be done to improve the product, and she began recruiting help.

“Cleaning out that Partnership office I found two other versions of it. It was back in the day,” she said. “So we kind of used that as a launch pad. And the next thing you know I was looking at this piece of gold.”

Invaluable volunteers and sponsors made the project work, she said. The first name she mentioned was city resident Nancy Remsen, who Basol said researched and wrote most of the history capsules that accompany photos and addresses of the properties. Remsen’s efforts included making “several trips to Montpelier for deep dives into the Vermont historical archives,” Basol said.

“It was incredible the amount of research she did, discovering houses ... I was driving by for the last 30-some years and not really thinking about their historical significance,” Basol added.

Local artist Erin Daigle contributed a colorful and atmospheric cover painting of downtown Vergennes for the booklet, plus another work for the inside of the back cover.

Basol cited three other residents



VERGENNES PARTNERSHIP EXECUTIVE Director Julie Basol poses with three of the thousand new Vergennes History Tour booklets available at the Bixby Library or the M&T Bank. They will guide visitors or residents on a tour of 42 historic city sites. An online version is also available.

Photo courtesy of the Vergennes Partnership

in particular. She said Christine Garrow photographed most of the properties, at times “dropping everything on days to capture best-lighted moments of a given site.” Amy Hoffman also helped with photography “and encouragement to keep the project alive during early COVID days, while Sue Ferland from the Vergennes Historical Society contributed knowledge and “support and encouragement along the way.”

Funding from M&T Bank and Coldwell Banker Hickok & Boardman provided critical support, Basol said, enough for the inventory of 1,000 booklets on the first run.

Basol and the partnership will evaluate over the winter where things stand with the project: “I hope I have enough inventory to make it through fall foliage. Then I have to re-assess.”

Basol said the online booklet

is not specifically designed to be phone-friendly, but anyone with map-app capability should be able to navigate from site to site easily enough. Signs at the waterfront and at the Stevens House will offer a QR code that will link to the website.

“It will work on your phone as well,” Basol said, pointing out both digital and printed pages provide addresses, thus it won’t be difficult to navigate with either the printed or digital brochure from landmark to landmark either way.

As well as the signs, Basol plans a social media campaign right after July 4 to introduce the Historic Walking Tour to the community and its visitors, starting by highlighting the 42 properties individually.

“I’m going to be featuring the properties one-by-one over the next month,” she said.

Another plan calls for breaking down the tour into manageable chunks.

“I’m also proposing 10 different little sub-walks,” Basol said.

For example, one could include the four downtown churches, she said, while another more ambitious walk could be “end-to-end,” Kennedy Brothers to the Strong House Inn. A third could call for visits to the three Strong houses: the inn, the General Strong House, and the Luke Strong House.

There were challenges for Basol and the many volunteers to finish this project, especially with a pandemic hitting not too long after they began.

“It really got put on the shelf during COVID,” Basol said. “We just took on different lives during COVID.”

But now that the Vergennes History Tour is being rolled out those difficulties are just part of another tale to tell.

“It’s so rewarding to capture this history,” Basol said. “I’m very, very pleased that it’s done.”

Kahler

(Continued from Page 1A)
state’s economy.

Kahler’s various contributions to the ag industry have earned her a spot among those selected as this year’s inductees into the Vermont Agricultural Hall of Fame. Kahler was chosen as this year’s Ag Innovator, a category recognizing Vermonters who have “demonstrated a fresh and forward-thinking approach to agriculture.”

“I was totally surprised, totally humbled,” Kahler said of her induction. “The ‘Ag Hall of Fame’ makes it kind of sound like you’ve been doing it your whole lifetime, and I’ve been doing it for a while but compared to the other inductees, I haven’t been doing it nearly as long. But I’m thrilled and humbled and feel very fortunate that I’ve been able to do this work, because it’s a passion of mine.”

Kahler and the other 2024 Vermont Agricultural Hall of Fame inductees will be celebrated during the Champlain Valley Fair in Essex Junction later this summer.

She said she’s grateful for the opportunity to be involved in the work that earned her the distinction, particularly having grown up in an area of western New York where many farms were lost to housing and suburban development.

“When I moved to Vermont in 1989, I came here because I wanted to be connected to the land and be able to go to farmers markets, interact with farms and see farms actively working and have access to really good food that was still really local and contributed to the local economy,” Kahler said. “I’m very driven to do whatever I can so that Vermont doesn’t look like the suburbs that I ended up growing up in western New York or in other parts of the country that have gotten so away from their farming roots and food production roots.”

Kahler began serving as executive director of the VSJF in 2005. The organization was created in 1995 by an act of the Vermont Legislature to partner with the state government, private sector businesses and nonprofits to “build a thriving economic, social and ecological future for Vermont,” according to its website.

VSJF provides network development, strategic planning, and other services in the areas of agriculture and food systems, forest products, renewable energy and environmental technology.

FARM TO PLATE

In 2009, the Legislature tasked VSJF with developing a 10-year strategic plan for expanding and strengthening Vermont’s ag and food sector — an initiative known as the Vermont Farm to Plate Investment Program.

Vermont agriculture at the time was facing substantial challenges: the dairy industry was going through a crisis with milk prices and the Great Recession was underway.

Though, Kahler noted, it was also a time filled with hope and optimism; the state’s farm-to-school program was becoming more active, the Vermont Fresh

Network was taking off and farmers markets and Community Supported Agriculture options were increasingly popular.

“It was this really exciting time in some aspects of the farm and food sector and then really economic challenging time in the other parts of the farm and food sector,” Kahler said. “The Legislature was like, ‘What’s going on, why is this like this, and could you spend some more time learning more about this and figuring out how to advance and strengthen the entire farm and food sector.’”

VSJF was asked to take a holistic view of the farm and food sector, rather than focusing solely on production agriculture. The organization began by developing a graphic of the soil-to-soil cycle of the food system and organized summits around the state to discuss the current conditions of Vermont’s agriculture and food sector.

“What we were trying to do was help educate people about the totality of the food system and not pit any kind of agriculture against some other kind, that’s not the point here,” Kahler said. “We need it all. We need a diversified, whole system view of food production.”

Following an extensive public engagement process, the organization helped develop the first Farm to Plate Strategic Plan in 2011. VSJF was reauthorized to continue its work with the program in 2019, and two years later released the Vermont Agriculture and Food Systems Strategic Plan for 2021-2030.

Increasing local consumption of local food production has been at the heart of much of VSJF’s work with the program, Kahler said. VSJF estimated that in 2009 Vermont food products made up 5% of all in-state food purchases. In 2020, that number had risen to 16.1%.

The latest strategic plan sets a goal of further increasing local food consumption to 25% of all in-state food purchases by 2030. Kahler noted there are a few key challenges the state faces in reaching that goal, such as availability of farmland.

Kahler said the state has a finite amount of land, about 80% of which is forested. A portion of the remaining land consists of open farmland in areas like Addison and Franklin counties.

“All of that land is increasing in land value so much that it becomes harder and harder to maintain it in agriculture or for young people, the next generation, to get into agriculture,” Kahler said. “At the very time that we’re trying to increase local food production and consumption, we have this huge downward pressure on land, meaning to keep that prime ag land in agriculture production is becoming harder and harder to do at a time when we need it to become easier.”

Other challenges include climate change and massive consolidation within the distribution system



ELLEN KAHLER

(trucking companies and warehouses) and retail grocery space.

“That has made it more difficult for Vermont small and mid-scale producers to be able to sell their products into the wholesale market,” Kahler said, adding that access to those markets is a key part of increasing local consumption of local food production.

“Selling food in Vermont to only direct markets like farmers markets, CSAs, farmstands, only represents about 3% of total ag sales,” Kahler said. “We’re not going to get to 25% (of local consumption) just by doing farmers markets and CSAs and farmstands, we have to have producers getting into grocery stores and restaurants.”

Kahler noted that VSJF has collaborated with various Vermont entities to address these challenges. The organization has also seen several successes come out of its work with Vermont Farm to Plate, including greater awareness among consumers of the state’s food system and its value and increased understanding of the importance of collaboration across the supply chain.

Kahler is also excited by a growing awareness of the regional food system. Vermont Farm to Plate and its counterparts around New England have teamed up on “New England Feeding New England,” an effort to achieve 30% regional consumption of regional production by 2030.

“We’re working to try to help them to accelerate their local food system development work as well, because that’s going to help our producers here in Vermont,” she said. “If we can get more of our product in Vermont down into Massachusetts markets and Connecticut markets and Rhode Island markets where there’s wealthier people then they can potentially get a higher price point for some of their products, and it expands the market overall of getting their food out of state more.”

FOOD SYSTEM CAREERS

Outside of Vermont Farm to Plate, Kahler’s role at VSJF has allowed her to help tackle development of the state’s food and agriculture sector in other ways. She said VSJF is involved in efforts to raise awareness of the careers available within the food system, such as by creating a food system career guide.

Kahler noted that over 62,000 people are employed in the state’s food system today, which represents about 10% of the private sectors jobs in Vermont.

“Food system jobs are not just farm jobs. There’s marketing and brand development jobs, there’s meat slaughter and processing jobs, there’s truck drivers,” Kahler said. “There’s this whole incredible, amazing array of career opportunities for young people to get into the field and we want to expose them to that.”

Kahler has also worked closely with Glenn Evans, Vermont State University executive director for the Center for Agriculture & Food Entrepreneurship, and others to start a new center on the university’s Randolph campus.

“The idea is to really revamp the whole curriculum and offering so that it still supports the dairy community and having young people that want a career in dairy farm management, but that it also is broadened to all types of agriculture and food processing and food entrepreneurship,” she explained.

Kahler said that curriculum is currently being developed, with the hope of having the program approved and ready to accept new students in 2025. She noted the Patricia A. Hannaford Career Center could serve as a feeder into the program once it’s up and running.

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Domestic assault suspect flees police

ADDISON COUNTY — Vermont State Police late last week cited a Whiting man for an alleged sexual assault earlier in the month. Troopers on June 28 cited 20-year-old Carson Bertrand for sexual assault. State police detectives on June 10 began investigating an incident that occurred on June 4. Police said they determined that Bertrand engaged in nonconsensual sexual contact with an adult victim. Bertrand is due to answer the charge in Addison County Superior Court, Criminal Division, on July 3. A different Addison County man was cited for two counts of domestic assault in a separate incident last week. On June 25 at 6:45 p.m., state police responded to a home on Route 12A in Granville for a reported domestic assault. Troopers determined John Stambaugh, 24, of Granville, had caused “fear of pain and injury” to two domestic partners. Stambaugh initially fled the scene, and police were unsuccessful in finding him after a lengthy search. Troopers were then notified that Stambaugh had returned to his home, so they went there, took him into custody and cited him. In a third incident, state police cited a Bridport man for his role in a car-versus-tractor-trailer crash early Sunday morning.

On June 30 at 1:31 a.m., state police responded to a two-vehicle crash on Route 22A near the intersection with Route 125 in Bridport. Police said 29-year-old Luis Sotero of Bridport was driving a 2008 Subaru Impreza northbound on 22A when his car crossed the centerline and collided with the left rear of a southbound utility trailer attached to a 2018 Freightliner Cascadia driven by Mohit Nonamegivent, 24, of Fresno, Calif. The Subaru came to uncontrolled rest in the center of Route 22A and the Freightliner stopped in the southbound lane of Route 22A. The trailer sustained contact damage; the Subaru was a total loss. Nonamegivent was not injured. Sotero was taken to Porter Medical Center for suspected minor injuries. Troopers later cited Sotero for driving under the influence. They also issued civil tickets for driving on roadways laned for traffic, driving without liability insurance, and vehicle not inspected within 15 days of registration. Altogether, the tickets carry fines of \$387 and four points on Sotero’s insurance. Troopers were assisted at the scene by members of the Bridport Fire Department, Middlebury Regional EMS, Snow and Tow Services, and Treadway Hauling and Repair. Route 22A near the crash site

Vt. State Police Log

was reduced to one lane for approximately 2.5 hours. In other recent activity, state police: • On June 21, cited Amanda LaMonda, 40, of Ferrisburgh, for driving with a criminally suspended license on Route 7 North in Middlebury. • On June 25 at 4:45 p.m., started an investigation that led to a citation issued to David Ouellette, 58, of Waltham, for violation of a relief from abuse order in Waltham. • On June 25 at around 10:05 p.m., saw a motor vehicle violation on Case Street near Lindale Circle in Middlebury, stopped the car, and cited Jordan S. Atwood, 29, of Rutland City, for driving with a criminally suspended license and not using the required ignition interlock device in his vehicle. State police at the New Haven barracks and other Addison County law enforcement agencies will conduct DUI sobriety checkpoints during the week of July 7 with the focus on people who are under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Vermonters are urged to use a designated driver when necessary.



Her moment to shine
A FEMALE BOBOLINK takes a breather on some milkweed in Lincoln recently. Photo by Dale Cockrell

Offbeat romantic comedy comes to Vergennes

VERGENNES — The Middlebury Community Players will present the offbeat romantic comedy “First Night” at the Vergennes Opera House next weekend, July 11-14. Thursday through Saturday performances are at 7:30 p.m., and the Sunday performance is a 2 p.m. matinee. Directed by Suzanna Miller and starring Connor Kendall and Merrill Cameron, “First Night” is a play that will send you out of the theater with a smile on your face and a renewed hope in the power of love. Let’s set the stage: It’s 1985. Danny Fleming, the owner of a

video store, dreamy, movie-struck, and unfulfilled as he sees his 40th birthday looming ahead of him, is alone — again — on New Year’s Eve. As he is about to close the shop, one last customer hustles in and he recognizes Meredith O’Connor, his mad crush in eighth grade, who left high school to take holy orders and become a nun before Danny ever got the chance to tell her his feelings. He instantly realizes the spark is still there but obviously Sister Meredith Louise is off limits, until she tells him that she rethought her life path, left the convent, and is ready to experience love. What

follows is the hilarious meeting of two lost souls, working their way through insecurity, desire, societal pressures and Catholicism. As they explore their past that never happened, they realize that their future is still very possible. Theater lovers may recognize the duo from the Lyric Theatre Company’s fall 2022 production of “Into the Woods,” when Kendall played The Baker and Cameron was Cinderella. Tickets to next week’s show are \$10 at the door, cash or check only. For reservations, handicap access information, or any other questions, call 802-377-3540.

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to hear. The story of the ball disappearing before it was pitched. The bat singing Lift Every Voice and Sing. Another one of love’s anthems.

— Gary Margolis

ADDISON COUNTY School Briefs

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. With 3.92 grade point averages or higher, **Sam Tropp** of Bristol and **Livia Bernhardt** of Salisbury were named to the dean’s list at Bates College for the winter 2024 semester.

45th Annual Middlebury Festival on-the-Green

July 7-13 2024

Sunday, July 7th at 7:00 for 2 sets
Twisted Pine

Monday, July 8th
Samirah Evans & Her Handsome Devils @ 7:00,
Eureka Shoes @ 8:30

Brown Bag Lunches @ noon
Mon. - Magician Tom Verner
Tues. - Troubador John Gailmor

Tuesday, July 9th
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By the way

(Continued from Page 1A)
including two major projects in Middlebury. Those projects include a major expansion of the Otter Creek Child Center off Weybridge Street, and construction of an additional municipal water-storage tank on Chipman Hill. The Northern Borders grant for the OCC amounts to \$397,806, while the storage tank grant amounts to \$1 million. The *Independent* had previously reported on the grant applications, and now they’ve been confirmed.

State government revenue collections for the month of May have been compiled. Vermont’s General, Transportation and Education Fund receipts were a combined \$206.8 million during the month, exceeding the \$193.1 million monthly consensus target by 7.1%, according to Interim Secretary of Administration Sarah Clark. General Fund revenues totaled \$123.6 million — 11.9% above the \$110.5 million target for the month. Transportation revenues topped their \$27.8 million May target by 3.9%, yielding \$28.9 million. And Education Fund revenues in May amounted to \$54.4 million, which was around \$500K shy of their May target of \$54.9 million. According to Clark: “Interest earnings in each of the three funds were one of the largest offsets to gains made by other revenue components. This is not unexpected as obligated federal receipts are increasingly disbursed. Revised expectations will be presented next month as part of the July consensus revenue forecast. In the meantime, the administration is confident the state will end the fiscal year in a healthy financial position.”

Calling all pie bakers: The Rokeby Museum needs you for annual Pie & Ice Cream Social, which raises money for the nonprofit institution at 4334

Route 7 in Ferrisburgh. This year’s Pie & Ice Cream Social will take place on Sunday, Aug. 11, from 1-4 p.m., and you’re invited to join the fun. Expect a delightful afternoon filled with live music, exciting raffles, and scrumptious pies. This won’t be just any day; it’s one of the museum’s most anticipated events of the year, and its success lies in the hands of brilliant home bakers who generously donate their delicious pies. Would you like to contribute a pie (or more)? Simply fill out the brief form at tinyurl.com/4uz2nc4a. The Rokeby is a historic farm property that offers a nationally significant Underground Railroad story on its 90 acres.

Join your friends and neighbors on the New Haven Town Green on Saturday, July 20, starting at 5 p.m. for the Second Annual “Music on the Green.” Noah Hahn will perform an acoustic set of music from 6-7:15 p.m. In addition, the New Haven Friends of the Community Library will hold a dessert fundraiser to raise money for the Community Library. There will be a craft activity for the kids, courtesy of the Congregational Church on the Green. Pick up your chicken dinner from the Fire Department at nearby Beeman Elementary and then come on over to the green. Bring a chair or blanket and bring your friends.

Bridport will hold its town-wide yard sale in mid-August, but if you are thinking about getting your sale on the official map then you should know that Charlene Barrett will be taking names and addresses for the map until Aug. 7. The Bridport town-wide yard sale will begin Aug. 17 at 9 a.m., and continue until Sunday, Aug. 18, at 4 p.m. To register, call Charlene at 802-758-2850.



THIS SUMMER, LINCOLN Historical Society visitors can check out an exhibit on Lincoln’s cemeteries, connected to a related display at the Lincoln Library shown above, artifacts and equipment housed in the historical society barn, and an exhibit on the history of the town’s general stores.

Independent photos/Marin Howell

Lincoln history

(Continued from Page 1A)
of the historical society. The annual projects are typically displayed in the library’s community room and later expanded on and moved to the Lincoln Historical Society.

Work on the cemeteries exhibit kicked off this past January with a brainstorming meeting at the library. Interested townspeople developed several goals and smaller projects for the initiative, which multiple organizations in Lincoln have contributed to.

The library hosted a sharing/storytelling event on Lincoln’s cemeteries in April, which was so well attended it had to be moved into a bigger room to accommodate all attendees.

“Local and neighboring people discussed their memories of the various cemeteries, asked questions, and generated interest in keeping the momentum going for cleaning some of the more remote cemeteries,” Cockrell said.

Cockrell said the project has generated a lot of interest among Lincoln residents, and the town’s selectboard has shown support for helping clean up cemeteries that

have fallen into disarray.

“I had no idea people were so interested in cemeteries, but they are,” she said. “It’s been an eyeopener.”

A display on the town’s cemeteries was housed in the library’s community room in May and replaced last month by “a photographic journey through the seven cemeteries in Lincoln,” featuring photos taken by Lincoln artist and photographer Kathryn Wyatt.

The Lincoln cemeteries exhibit includes posters featuring the town’s cemeteries, highlighting someone buried in each of them. The display is housed in one of the museum’s two main rooms, which formerly served as the historical society’s office.

“This is the first time we’ve really had this whole space opened up,” Cockrell said of the revamped exhibit area.

Each poster in the exhibit includes information about the former Lincoln resident featured and is accompanied by artifacts from the historical society’s collection corresponding to the time period in which that person lived.

Among those highlighted in the exhibit is Chase Purinton, one of the town’s first settlers who’s buried in Friends Cemetery, or Old Quaker Cemetery.

Purinton was told by his father to “search until he found a good source of water,” and left New Hampshire with his family, four oxen, six cows and two horses. He settled in Lincoln in 1803 and became the town’s first blacksmith. In 1806, he constructed the town’s first gristmill, which ground locally grown feed and grain.

Purinton died in 1826 at age 69. Included in the display is the Purinton family hair book, which contains a lock of Chase Purinton’s hair and that of his family members.

“This is something that people did in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries,” Cockrell



said of the artifact. “There were no photographs, obviously, so this is what you would do to memorialize your loved ones; you kept a lock of their hair.”

Others featured in the exhibit include Annette Thayer Morgan, who founded the town’s library, Lincoln’s last postmaster Lindley Bicknell, and Ziba Pope, a cattle smuggler turned reverend.

“(Ziba) smuggled cattle through Maine and New Brunswick, but then in the War of 1812 he stopped at a religious camp meeting and was converted and became a preacher,” Cockrell said. “He was the first Free Will Baptist preacher here.”

Each exhibit panel includes a

historical fiction narrative penned by third- and fourth-graders at the Lincoln Community School. Students visited the historical society this spring to help curate the exhibit and later conducted research to compile the narratives that accompany the displays.

Another exhibit on display at the historical society this summer explores the history of general stores in Lincoln. One room in the museum features glass cases from one of the town’s former general stores, showing visitors what it would be like to patronize such shops in the late 1800s and early 1900s.

The exhibit also includes photos of the town’s general stores and items that were offered in the shops. The display in particular highlights the Lincoln General Store, still in operation on East River Road.

“At one point we had a quite a few general stores in the area, but this (exhibit) just shows the larger store in Lincoln Center that’s still going on today in a different capacity,” Cockrell said.

Those who visit the historical society can also browse the organization’s collection of documents, images and artifacts. A barn on the property showcases equipment and objects from the town’s past, including a pair of ice tongs used to cut ice from lakes and ponds to keep food fresh before refrigerators became popular, and clapboards manufactured and stamped with the names of the former lumber mills in town.

Visitors can also look through the historical society’s archives, which includes notebooks, pictures and documents on the history of the town’s fire department, schools and other topics.

Parts of the collection are included on the historical society’s website, which Cockrell said the group hopes to add to. The historical society recently received a grant from the Vermont Community Foundation and a portion of Lincoln’s American Rescue Plan Act funds to purchase scanners, which will allow the group to scan and upload more of the photos and documents in its collection online.

“That’s a new development that we’re excited about,” Cockrell said. Those interested in learning more about the historical society and this year’s exhibits can visit lincolnvthistory.org.

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Chorney

(Continued from Page 1A)
the 2024 Herb Lockwood Prize in the Arts during a ceremony held at the BCA Center in Burlington.

The prestigious award is administered by Burlington City Arts and recognizes Vermont artists who’ve produced significant work in the areas of visual arts, music, writing, drama, dance, film and fine woodworking, while encouraging fellow artists to do the same.

“I was floored,” Chorney said of his reaction to receiving the award. “The Vermont nature of it is really evident, that paying attention to how the work extends out into the community, and I think that’s a really beautiful thing to focus on. I’m just really incredibly honored.”

Chorney is a self-taught guitarist and saxophonist. He started playing music during his late teens and said his work as a professional artist truly began when he moved to Vermont with a group of fellow musicians in 1979.

“We all quit college and moved to Vermont to start a band, which is such a cliché, but that’s what we did,” Chorney recalled with a laugh.

Once in Vermont, Chorney played alongside fellow Addison County musicians Richard Ruane, Michael Corn and Ron Rost in the acoustic band “Feast or Famine.” The group released albums together and toured around the Northeast and Upper Midwest during the 1980s.

Chorney has taken part in several other ensembles since then, leading the 11-piece, acid-jazz band “ViperHouse” during the ’90s; playing arrangements of composer Kurt Weill with the septet “Seven Deadly Sins” during the 2000s; and more recently, performing with the group “Freeway Clyde,” which specializes in “instrumental psych rock film scores for nonexistent movies,” to name a few.

He’s written and composed original works for the various groups he’s been a part of and for solo performances, as well as collaborated with other artists as an arranger and producer. Chorney also worked as a dance program collaborator at Middlebury College.

Perhaps his most well-known collaboration was with singer-songwriter and former New Haven resident Anais Mitchell on “Hadestown,” a folk opera based on the Greek myth of Orpheus and Eurydice that premiered in Barre a decade and a half ago and has now run for five years on Broadway. For a while, Chorney played guitar for the musical’s on-stage band on Broadway.

The musical won eight of the 14 Tony Awards for which it was nominated in 2019, with Chorney and co-orchestrator and co-arranger Todd Sickafoose earning the honor for Best Orchestration.

His favorite part of the various projects of which he’s been part? “Absolutely the playing of the music,” Chorney said. “Whatever work has gone into it ahead of time, when it comes to the moment of actually being able to play, that’s

what I sort of live for artistically, because if something like a ‘low state’ is available, it’s a pretty great place to be.”

Chorney said an unceasing curiosity is what’s guided him across different genres and musical projects through the years.

“I’ve always remained so curious. That’s why I’ve done work that could be classified as acoustic music or folk, but I’ve also played extremely experimental, improvised music,” he said. “My curiosity has led me to all of these different places.”

WORKING WITH OTHERS

Collaboration with other artists has been another guiding force throughout Chorney’s career and one central to his work.

“Always, always, always at the heart of it is collaboration, in the sense of making music with other musicians,” he said.

In the past, that collaboration was more geared toward writing music to “try and realize a sound I might have in my head,” Chorney said. Since returning to Vermont from New York City at the start of the pandemic and forming Freeway Clyde, Chorney feels that a collaborative method he’s been developing over the years is now coming to fruition.

“I write these little themes for us

“Really improvisation is just composition at a different speed.”

— Michael Chorney

to work with, but the way we’ve developed playing together, we’re in our third year now, is so incredibly collaborative,” he explained. “There’s nothing really set down other than some of these simple melodies I write, which might last 30 seconds but could blossom into a 30-minute-long piece.”

The group recently performed a set at the Plex Arts Festival in Burlington that was completely improvised, as was Freeway Clyde’s latest album.

“A friend was listening to it with me and said, ‘This sounds composed,’ and really improvisation is just composition at a different speed,” Chorney said.

From Freeway Clyde to the other ensembles he’s formed over the years, Chorney said he’s fallen into collaborations with other artists in different ways, sometimes just by conversing with each other about music.

“It’s pretty easy to determine if you’re sort of on the same wavelength creatively, and when that pops up, I always try to take advantage of it because it’s a beautiful and rare thing,” he explained.

Chorney’s work with other Vermont artists is part of why he was selected as this year’s recipient of the Herb Lockwood Prize in the Arts, which aims to recognize artists for their encouragement of, and influence on, their peers.

“That aspect of the award is what I find really moving,” Chorney said.

He’s found collaboration to be fundamental to his partnerships with other artists throughout his career.

“Not only in my collaborative work with the people I’ve worked with, but through the years



LINCOLN RESIDENT MICHAEL Chorney has left his mark on the Vermont music scene over the years as a musician, producer, composer and arranger. Chorney was recognized for his various contributions to the state's arts community this past Saturday, when he was awarded the 2024 Herb Lockwood Prize in the Arts at a ceremony in Burlington.

Photo by Chuck Terranova

I’ve helped produce records for younger artists or play for them, and I never see that as mentorship, I always enter it as a collaborator, as an equal,” he said.

The Lockwood Prize is named for Herb Lockwood, a multidisciplinary Burlington artist who died in a workplace accident in 1987 at age 27.

In addition to honoring Lockwood and his legacy, the award is intended “to validate the work of the recipient, to energize that artist’s future,” and encourage other artists to work ambitiously, according to the prize’s website. Past recipients have included award-winning movie director Jay Craven and puppeteer and theater director Peter Schumann.

There’s no application for the prize and artists don’t know they’re being considered for it. Recipients also receive a \$10,000 cash award,

which Chorney was given at the ceremony this past Saturday.

Looking ahead, there are plenty more artistic collaborations on the horizon for Chorney. Freeway Clyde is getting ready to release two more albums, and Chorney is keeping busy with “The Albany Sound,” a group he formed with fellow musicians Lowell Thompson, Pat Melvin and Jeremy Fredrick during the pandemic.

The ensemble used to play together at the former Hatch 31 restaurant in Bristol and has begun performing twice a month at the Tillerman Inn & Restaurant, also in Bristol.

Chorney recently repopulated his former studio in Bristol and plans to begin working on projects there. He summarizes his current work:

“Just trying to have fun and stay curious.”

Vt. supports repair of manufactured homes

MONTPELIER — The popular Manufactured Home Improvement and Repair Program is closing its current round of applications this summer to maximize the impact of remaining funds.

MHIR offers financial assistance to manufactured home communities (commonly known as mobile home parks) for park improvements, home repairs, and foundation installation.

“With an average grant of just over \$13,000, it has supported more than 400 projects, offering a relatively low-cost solution to keep Vermonters in their homes, enable some Vermonters to become homeowners, and allow parks to make necessary repairs to the betterment of their entire communities,” said Department of Housing and Community Development Commissioner Alex Farrell.

The new MHIR application deadlines are designed to prevent the program from becoming oversubscribed. They will also allow program staff to continue to support as many Vermonters as possible to take advantage of this unique funding opportunity.

The types of MHIR awards and application deadlines are listed below:

- Home Repair Awards: assist homeowners with covering the cost of repairing existing homes to prevent displacement. The deadline for Home Repair applications is June 30, 2024.
- Infill Awards: available for

park owners to infill vacant lots through utility improvements, septic systems, safety issues, legal fees, and disposal of abandoned homes. The deadline for Infill applications is August 31, 2024.

- Foundation Awards: help homeowners pay for a foundation or make lot preparation for a vacant lot. The deadline for Foundation applications is August 31, 2024.
- Emergency Home Repairs: for when a home is at risk of becoming uninhabitable because of an emergency like the loss of heat, electricity, or water. Emergency Home Repairs are not affected by these deadline changes. Applications will continue to be accepted and processed.

Applicants with existing incomplete MHIR applications can continue to access and complete their applications in the portal after the closing dates. They will also be able to upload missing or required documents using the portal.

Since February 2023, MHIR has received \$8 million in funding and approved \$4.8 million in awards at more than 70 Vermont manufactured home communities. The state budget that passed during the recent legislative session allocates an additional \$2 million in funding for MHIR. Information about the 2025 MHIR application round will be available in early 2025. The application portal is tentatively set to open in March 2025.

The new MHIR application deadlines are designed to prevent the program from becoming oversubscribed. They will also allow program staff to continue to support as many Vermonters as possible to take advantage of this unique funding opportunity.

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Three honored at Eco-Spirit night

RIPTON — The Spirit In Nature Annual Meeting for 2024, held at the Ripton Community Center on May 12, combined tradition and innovation as SpIN celebrated the 25th anniversary of its founding on Mothers’ Day 2009. The meeting included honoring the 2024 Eco-Spirit award recipients and a symposium with six past EcoSpirit honorees.

The Eco-Spirit Awards honored three organizers of Addison County’s Pollinator Pathway: Bethany Barry, Brett Gilman and Fran Putnam. In their work to promote habitat protection and restoration to support pollinators such as bees and butterflies, each of the awardees applied their unique talents. They combined Gilman’s career path in landscape architecture and conservation biology, Barry’s network of locally active ecologists and gardeners, and Putnam’s experiences with legislative advocacy working on H.706, the pollinator protection bill.

The Eco-Spirit Award has been presented annually since 2001, to a person or persons “whose lives are illuminated by their appreciation

of the beauty, mystery, and preciousness of the natural world. They are dynamic role models who engage us in debate, and urge us to explore the implications of our behavior during our present global environmental crisis.”

The symposium gathered six Eco-Spirit Awardees to discuss what changes they have seen that give us them for the next twenty-five years to come, and what direction might people take from this day to move the world from hope to happening.

Participants brought their particular insights and expertise, and reflected on a variety of issues. In broad terms, the discussion proceeded from specific activities to considerations of underlying beliefs and attitudes.

Bill McKibben talked about the importance of organizing to change our ways of living to become more sustainable, especially by reducing fossil fuel burning to reduce the speed of climate change. McKibben views us in a race “between physics, which is implacable, and politics and economics which we should be able to move if we continue to

build those movements.”

David Brynn brought in his knowledge of forestry, praising the ability of forests to regenerate themselves when given the opportunity, and noting that healthy forests also contribute to flood mitigation. “And I would say that in terms of forests, a lot of times the default ought to be to leave the forest alone, as opposed to having the default having always to be to cut the mature trees and to manipulate, to think that forests need to be manipulated. Because they don’t.”

Fran Putnam said, “In the last few years I’ve noticed that the important work has moved in some ways from the national level — because of the years that we couldn’t do anything about climate — it’s kind of moved to the state level and the local level,” and explained her recent experience working as a member of a state-wide coalition of citizens, scientists, and organizers. Laura Asermily highlighted the importance of building resilience, caring for others, and climate justice to handle the stresses brought about by our changing climate. Brett Gilman



CRAIG ZONDAG LEADS a nature walk on the Unitarian Universalist path at SpIN earlier this year. Photo by Jonathan Blake

picked up on the importance of building community, noting that by changing our landscape and our built environment to become more eco-friendly, we also can “re-world” — imagine and develop the world in a different way.

Ross Conrad then reflected, “I think a lot of the stories, the myths that form our beliefs and therefore

our actions, are not always fully understood or accurate... We need to change these, we need new stories that have a different future and a different role for humanity.” Conrad discussed the importance of creative people — artists, poets, musicians, philosophers — in this process.

And as David Brynn summed it up, “So it’s a prescription for getting to truth, to realizing that there’s many paths up Truth Mountain, everybody has something to contribute, and humanity has remarkable capacity if we tap all of the consciousness and resources

that are available to us.”

While the Symposium was a new feature, just for the 25th anniversary, walking the paths at Spirit In Nature, observing and just being there, is the most important thing that SpIN offers to the community. Whether alone or participating in a guided nature walk or other activity, the SpIN board of trustees encourages everyone to explore the network of paths and quotations found just off Goshen Road, heading east out of Ripton on Route 125. For more information, see the SpIN website, www.spiritinnature.org.



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ECO-SPIRIT AWARDEES Brett Gilman, left, Bethany Barry and Fran Putnam were honorees at the Spirit in Nature’s annual meeting and 25th anniversary symposium on May 12.

Photo by Jonathan Blake

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Legion baseball starts out over .500

Wins three out of five in tough stretch

By **ANDY KIRKALDY**
MIDDLEBURY — The Addison County American Legion baseball team opened its summer campaign by winning three out of five games between June 25 and 30 after bad weather wiped out AC's first few outings.

AC played three straight home games on June 25, 26, and 27, topping Champlain Valley, 7-4, and Franklin County, 4-3, before falling to South Burlington, 2-0.

On Sunday the local nine traveled to Montpelier for a rescheduled doubleheader and lost the first game, 3-2, but bounced back to take the nightcap, 12-0.

Last week, after his team took two outings against teams expected to contend for playoff berths, AC Coach Tim Paquette said he believed this summer's AC team could play with anybody.

"I'm happy. The pitching's been good. We've been getting timely hitting the last couple games, and the boys have been playing solid defense," Paquette said. "There's good camaraderie."

AC was set to host defending Vermont Legion baseball champion Essex on Tuesday at this summer's home field, the Middlebury Union High School varsity diamond. That game was played after the early holiday edition for this edition of the *Independent*.

AC is scheduled to host Franklin County for two games on Saturday beginning at noon and Montpelier for one game on



SECOND BASEMAN COLE Warren goes into a slide as he heads home, but was tagged out on the play during the Addison County Legion baseball team's June 27 home game vs. South Burlington.

Independent photos/Steve James

Sunday at noon. The team's next six games on the official schedule are all on the road, although some makeup games might be sprinkled in.

AC TOPS CV

On June 25 AC took the field for the first time and claimed a 7-4 victory over visiting Champlain Valley, scoring late to secure the result. Tyler Kimball started for AC and pitched 6.1 innings, allowing four runs on eight hits and four walks, striking out five. Cole Warren took the mound for the final two outs and earned a save.

Alex Sperry sparked the offense with three hits, three stolen bases, two runs, and an RBI. Eyon Tembreull, Kimball, and Sperry each doubled; Kimball scored two runs; and Tembreull, Ryan Brouillard, Kimball, and Warren picked up RBIs.

ADDISON COUNTY PITCHER Tucker Wright winds up to deliver an offering during the AC Legion baseball team's June 27 home game vs. South Burlington. Wright allowed just two runs in six-plus innings.



AC NIPS FRANKLIN

On June 26, AC picked up a dramatic 4-3 victory over Franklin County that was not sealed until a Franklin baserunning miscue ended the game. Franklin, featuring players from high school Division I teams St. Albans and D-II top seed Missisquoi, scored all three of its runs, two earned off Tembreull, the winning pitcher, in the top of the first inning.

The Tigers fought back in the course of the game with an RBI groundout from Ethan Sweet,

an RBI double from Sperry, and RBI triples from Carter Paquette and Tembreull to take a one-run lead into the top of the seventh. FC then tried to rally with a pair of hits, and the runners advanced to second and third base on a ground-out.

The next batter hit a shallow fly ball that was caught. The runner tagged up to score, but AC believed he left early, and threw to third base to double him up. The umpires agreed, and the double play won the game for the

home side.

Tembreull allowed seven hits, struck out five and walked none.

SB wins, 2-0

On June 27, visiting South Burlington emerged on top of a pitchers' duel, 2-0. Tucker Wright (six-plus innings; two runs, one earned; four hits, six walks and seven strikeouts) and Brody Barnard (one inning, no hits, one walk) combined to keep SB in check.

Meanwhile, SB hurlers David (See *Legion baseball*, Page 2B)



AC THIRD BASEMAN Eyon Tembreull applies the tag on a South Burlington baserunner during the Addison County Legion baseball team's June 27 home game at the Middlebury Union High School field.

Champ swimmers cruise in their summer opener

By **ANDY KIRKALDY**

VERGENNES — The Vergennes Champs swim team on Thursday, June 27, splashed past visiting Winooski in their opening meet of the Champlain Valley Swim League season, 357-119.

The Champs were expecting a stiffer test on this Tuesday, when they were set to visit defending CVSL and Vermont champion Burlington Tennis Club. That meet was contested after the early holiday deadline for this edition. The Vergennes team's next

meet is this coming Tuesday at St. Albans.

Against the Waves at home this past Thursday, the Champs got off to a fast start, winning all but one of the contested medley relays. Overall, Vergennes swimmers won 15 out of 18 relays in which a victor was declared and 35 of 40 individual races.

Five Champs won three races apiece: Brantley Cooke, Connor Husk, Riker Cooley, Jordan Hutchins and Savannah Wallace.

Another five touched first in two events

each: Acadia Clark, Lydia Bearor, Khanlen Ouimette, Ella Bearor and Scarlet Giroux.

Champs scoring points for their team with top-three finishes in individual races were:

BUTTERFLY

- U-8 girls: 1. Savannah Wallace, 19.94; 2. Jade Eylar.
- U-8 boys: 1. Riker Cooley, 19.43; 2. Rhett Cooke.
- U-10 girls: 1. Lydia Bearor, 20.04; 2. Mabelle Fidalgo.

- U-10 boys: 1. Brantley Cooke, 18.82; 3. Lawson Trombley;
- U-12 girls: 1. Cecilia Neffinger, 43.22.
- U-12 boys: 1. Connor Husk, 32.60.
- U-14 girls: 1. Ella Bearor, 29.64.
- U-14 boys: 1. Khanlen Ouimette, 28.53.
- U-18 girls: 1. Acadia Clark, 29.93.
- U-18 boys: 2. Will Clark, 26.68; 3. Noah Smits, 27.19.

BACKSTROKE

- U-8 girls: 1. Margaret Smits, 23.58; 2. (See *Champs*, Page 3B)

Midd Marlins open season with a win

By **ANDY KIRKALDY**

BURLINGTON — The Middlebury Marlins swim team opened its season on Tuesday, June 25, by defeating host Burlington Country Club, 207-148.

Henry Cadoret, Sadie Chance and Felix Poduschnick each won three races to lead the Marlins, while Cassandra Bellmann, Constantin Bellmann and Daniel Power each touched the wall first twice. Middlebury also prevailed in eight of 12 completed relays.

On June 27 the Marlins had a bye, but held a practice "mock meet" at their home pool to help prepare what is a young team for upcoming competitive meets.

The Marlins were set to visit Essex on Tuesday after the early deadline for this holiday issue of the *Independent*. On this coming

Tuesday they are set to host the Burlington Tennis Club team at the Middlebury town pool.

Scoring points for the Marlins with top-three finisher on June 25 against the Burlington Tennis Club team were:

BUTTERFLY

- U-10 girls: 1. Cassandra Bellmann, 17.38
 - U-10 boys: 1. Felix Poduschnick, 15.16
 - U-12 girls: 1. Eleanor O'Leary, 43.50; 2. Nicola Power.
 - U-12 boys: 1. Henry Cadoret, 38.68; 3. Henry Schmidt.
 - U-14 girls: 1. Sadie Chance; 3. Louisa Orten.
 - U-14 boys: 1. Constantin Bellmann, 41.69
- ### BACKSTROKE
- U-8 girls: 2. Lettie Kubacki; 3. Harper Nelson.

- U-10 girls: 2. Vela Remaniak.
- U-10 boys: 2. Patrick Martin.
- U-12 girls: 2. N. Power; 3. June Hill.

- U-12 boys: 1. George Martin, 41.73
 - U-14 girls: 1. S. Chance, 33.12; 2. Abigail Hamilton.
 - U-14 boys: 1. Daniel Power, 38.07
- ### BREASTSTROKE

- U-10 girls: 1. Ca. Bellmann, 20.34; 3. V. Remaniak.
 - U-10 boys: 1. F. Poduschnick, 20.15; 2. P. Martin.
 - U-12 girls: 1. Evelyn Fuller, 42.75; 3. Ju. Hill.
 - U-12 boys: 1. H. Cadoret, 44.97; 2. G. Martin.
 - U-14 girls: S. Chance, 35.72; 2. Selma Citarella; 3. Mitzi Poduschnick.
- (See *Marlins*, Page 3B)



A MIDDLEBURY MARLINS swimmer slices through the Middlebury pool water during the team's practice meet on June 27.

Photo courtesy of Caleb Kenna

Sports BRIEFS

H.S. baseball stars selected

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

One of those players, Tiger senior Carter Paquette, was also chosen to represent Vermont in the annual Twin-State Senior All-Star Games that will be held this Saturday. Also, MUHS Coach Tim Paquette was named the Lake Division's Co-Coach of the year after the Division II champion Tigers also earned a share of the Lake title with Missisquoi.

Named to the Lake Division First Team from MUHS were Tucker Morter, Carter Paquette and Alex Sperry; from Mount Abraham were Cameron Castillo, Stefan Johnson and Abraham Ready; and from VUHS were Tyler Kimball, Reese Paquette and Eyon Tembreull.

Named SVL B Division First-Team All-Stars were Otters Jackson Howe and Isaiah Wood.

Earning Honorable Mention from the Lake Division were Tigers Ethan Sweet and Timothy Whitney, Eagles Aricin Griffin and Clark Crary, and Commodores Aiden Fuller and Gabe Scribner.

Earning Honorable Mention from the SVL B Division were Otters Luciano Falco and Jacob Warrell.

Girls' lacrosse all-stars named

ADDISON COUNTY — Nine members of the Division II Mount Abraham-Vergennes cooperative girls' lacrosse team and three members of the young Division I Middlebury Union High School girls' team earned all-state recognition from Vermont's lacrosse coaches.

MUHS junior midfielder Ada Weaber was chosen for the D-I First Team.

Named to the D-II First Team were three MAV seniors, goalie Carley Cook and midfielders Annie Dufault and Nell Harvey. Those three were also chosen to play in the annual Twin-State game against New Hampshire seniors this past Saturday. The Granite State won, 21-13. Dufault scored a goal in that game, and Cook made seven saves in part-time action.

Four Commodores earned spots on the D-II Second Team: junior defender Safoura Camara, senior midfielder Siena Stanley, senior attacker Anna Stilwell, and freshman middie Meredith Dufault.

Earning D-I Honorable Mention from MUHS were two ninth-graders, midfielder Izzy Quinn and goalie Ida Blackwell.

Two MAV players earned D-II Honorable Mention: senior defender Kennedy Denecker and sophomore attacker June Yates-Rusch.



MIDDLEBURY ASSISTANT SWIM Coach Aidan Chance works with some of the team's young swimmers during the team's practice meet in the Middlebury town pool on June 27.

Photo courtesy of Caleb Kenna



MIDDLEBURY MARLINS SWIMMERS are ready to dive off the starting blocks in one race during the team's practice meet in the Middlebury town pool on June 27.

Photo courtesy of Caleb Kenna

Marlins

- (Continued from Page 1B)
- U-14 boys: Co. Bellmann, 42.44.
 - FREESTYLE**
 - U-8 girls: 3. L Kubacki.
 - U-8 boys: 3. Jonas Hill.
 - U-10 girls: 2. Ca. Bellmann.
 - U-10 boys: 1. F. Poduschnick, 13.94.
 - U-12 girls: N. Power, 37.0; 2. E. Fuller.
 - U-12 boys: 1. H. Cadoret, 44.97; 2. G. Martin.
 - U-14 girls: 1. S. Chance, 28.54; 3. S. Citronella.
 - U-14 boys: 1. D. Power, 31.87; 2. Co. Bellmann.

Champs

- (Continued from Page 1B)
- Morgan Amaya.
- U-8 boys: 1. R. Cooke, 22.06;
 - 2. Evan Angier.
 - U-10 girls: 1. Scarlet Giroux, 20.53; 2. Zoey Kress.
 - U-10 boys: 1. B. Cooke, 19.06;
 - 3. Martin Gee.
 - U-12 girls: 1. Jordan Hutchins, 35.84.
 - U-12 boys: 1. C. Husk, 35.53;
 - 2. Skyler James.
 - U-14 girls: 2. Lauren Husk; 3. Casey Clark.
 - U-14 boys: 2. K. Ouimette; 2. Rowan Neffinger.
 - U-18 girls: 1. A. Clark, 33.13;
 - 3. Ella Romond.
 - U-18 boys: 1. W. Clark, 28.06;
 - 3. Calder Rakowski.
- BREASTSTROKE**
- U-8 girls: 1. S. Wallace, 22.53;
 - 2. M. Smits.
 - U-8 boys: 1. R. Cooley, 26.4;
 - 2. E. Angier.
 - U-10 girls: 1. S. Giroux, 21.49;
 - 2. Mikhan Ouimette.
 - U-10 boys: 2. Martin Gee.
 - U-12 girls: 1. J. Hutchins, 40.63; 2. C Neffinger.
 - U-12 boys: 1. Sk. James, 50.0;
 - 3. Enli Parrillo.
 - U-14 girls: 1. Sophia James, 38.53; 3. Rose Roberts.
 - U-14 boys: 3. R. Neffinger.
 - U-18 girls: 1. Ellie Eckels, 39.62.
 - U-18 boys: 1. N Smits, 32.95.
 - FREESTYLE**
 - U-8 girls: 1. S. Wallace, 16.76;

R. Myhre stages member event

MIDDLEBURY — The First Flight Gross winners in the Ralph Myhre Golf Course Member-Member Tournament, which concluded on June 29, was the team of Paul Fine-Lease and Lucas Politano.

The Second Place Gross team was Kevin Breault and Max Breault, and Kyle Goodman and Kirk Goodman were third.

The First Place Net winners were Brett Barrett and Matt Randall. The Second Place Net team was Steve Myhre and Kris Kelton, and Russell Barrett and Robert Clark were third.

The Senior Flight First Place Gross winning team was David Holbrook and Brady Fallon, followed by Eric Bergland and Bert Phinney in second, and Douglas Biklen and Chris Prickett in third.

The Senior Flight First Place Net team was Jim Johnston and Robert Kirkpatrick, followed by Bill Brown and Jeff Stetson in second, and Robert Peters and Wade Provencher in third.

Ralph Myhre hosted a VSWG State Day on June 25. In the Forward Tee Division Eileen Sims won First Place Gross, and Jean Goodwin took First Place Net to highlight the results.

Also, Nicole LaBerge in Flight 2 earned 1st Place Net; Susan Rand in Flight 2 earned 8th Place Gross; Eva Mastalos in Flight 3 earned 2nd Place Gross; Giselle Lafleche in Flight 3 earned 6th Place Gross; and Amy Nuceder in Flight 1 earned 5th Place Net.

In regular Thursday Men's League play on June 27, the foursome of George Cady, Jim Johnston, Neil Mackey and Tom McGinn prevailed. Mackey shot the low net score.

Joe Thilbourg, Tom Maxwell, Larry Duffany and Richard Hodgson were second, and Eric Bergland and Hayden Bernhardt and Donald Dayton and Bill Beaney were third.

Gary Wright and George Ramsayer won closest-to-the-pin contests.

In the Friday Evening Mixer the next day, the trio of Craig and Susan Miner and Father Skip Baltz emerged victorious. Taking second were Dale and Jill White, Garvi Jesso-White and Brian Sperry, and in third were Nicole and Bill Laberge and Cindy and Dave Wemette.

Police respond to a knife fight

MIDDLEBURY — Middlebury police responded to Main Street during around 11:15 a.m. on June 30 on a report argument between two people, one of whom had allegedly brandished a knife. Police said both people had left the scene upon officers' arrival.

In addition to conducting continuous regular patrols of the Bakery Lane area to monitor a local settlement of houseless persons, Middlebury police in the past week:

- Warned a houseless person about holding an open container of alcohol in the Bakery Lane area on June 24.
- Checked on a local person known to be having a mental health crisis on June 24.
- Investigated a retail theft from a Court Street store on June 24.
- Cited Kenneth Gilbert, 49, houseless, for violating the conditions of his release in the Washington Street area on June 24.
- Responded to a shoplifting complaint at Shaw's Supermarket on June 24.
- Assisted Middlebury Regional EMS on June 24 with a patient who said she wanted to harm herself.
- Spoke with a man in the Abbey Pond Road area on June 24 who said he thought "some of his stones" had been stolen.
- Located a runaway juvenile and returned them to their guardian on June 25.
- Were called to investigate four loud "bangs" in the Benedict Lane area on June 25. Police believe the noise resulted from fireworks or gunfire.
- Gave a ride to a transient person with no transportation on June 25.
- Assisted Vermont State Police at a drunken driving stop on Route 7 South on June 25.
- Removed an unwanted camper from private property off Maple Street on June 25.
- Responded to a domestic dispute in the High Street area on June 25.
- Located a runaway juvenile and returned them to their guardian on June 26.
- Searched, in vain, for a person who had reportedly being urinating in public downtown on June 26.
- Responded to a North Pleasant Street store after a customer allegedly become disorderly after having been carded to purchase

Middlebury Police Log

alcohol on June 26.

- Were informed of the alleged theft of some electronic equipment from a North Pleasant Street home on June 26.
- Served a temporary restraining order on a man in the Bakery Lane area on June 26.
- Responded on June 26 to a noise-related dispute involving two tenants of a Rogers Road building.
- Assisted a stranded transient man in Court Square on June 26.
- Investigated a dispute between some South Village Green neighbors on June 26.
- Received a report that property was stolen from a vehicle parked off Abbey Pond Road on June 27.
- Investigated a report of a vehicle stolen from the Mill Street parking lot on June 27. The case remains under investigation.
- On June 27, assisted two transient men in need of services.
- Searched in vain for a fox that was allegedly seen "acting strangely" in the Chipman Park area on June 27.
- Conducted, at the request of the Counseling Service of Addison County, a welfare check on some houseless people in the Bakery Lane area on June 27.
- Responded to a report of a verbal argument in the Jackson Lane area on June 28.
- Assisted a Jackson Lane resident who had allegedly been threatened by a neighbor on June 28.
- Took a stray dog found on Halladay Road to Homeward Bound on June 28.
- Helped Middlebury Regional EMS with a person who was pinned under a lawn tractor on a Washington Street Extension property on June 28.
- Helped a person found bleeding in the Bakery Lane neighborhood on June 28. Police said the person's injuries stemmed from an earlier fight between some individuals hanging out in the area.
- Received a report about a man allegedly shouting obscenities toward women walking along

Merchants Row and Main Street on the afternoon of June 28.

- Cited Dillion MacDougall, 26, for retail theft, following an incident at a Washington Street business on June 28.
- Responded to a complaint of "loud, drunk people" in the Bakery Lane area during the afternoon of June 28.
- Received a complaint from a Charter House Emergency Shelter resident on June 28.
- Responded to a report of three people arguing in Cannon Park on June 28.
- Were informed of the theft of property from an unlocked vehicle parked on Mill Street on June 28.
- Gave a courtesy ride to a drunken woman in the Jayne Court area on June 29.
- Patrolled the walking paths along the Otter Creek near Bakery Lane on June 29.
- Responded to a report of a juvenile allegedly running away from a Leno Lane home on June 29.
- Restored the peace following a report of a domestic disturbance in the High Street area on June 29.
- Responded to a report of a car-versus-pole accident near the intersection of South Main Street and Hepburn Road on June 29.
- Responded to Porter Hospital to assist staff with an out-of-control patient on June 30.
- Offered support and referral info to a local person who was experiencing a mental health crisis on June 30.
- Assisted a Middlebury College student who had received a threatening text message on June 30.
- Assisted Porter Hospital with a patient who had shown threatening behavior on June 30.
- Took a drunken man to Porter Hospital after investigating a report of a "scuffle" behind the Ilsley Library on June 30. Police said the man and witnesses refused to provide details on the scuffle.
- Received a report that someone had stolen a leaf blower from a vehicle parked near the intersection of Route 116 and Abbey Pond Road on June 30.
- Gave a courtesy ride to a local resident whose car had broken down in the Jayne Court area on June 30.

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ADDISON COUNTY
School News Briefs

Leah Croke of Ferrisburgh and Catherine Schmitt of Middlebury received their Bachelor of Arts degrees from Hamilton College at the school's Commencement ceremony on Sunday, May 19. Croke majored in Computer Science. Schmitt, a Neuroscience and Philosophy major, graduated summa cum laude with departmental honors.

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Reader Comments

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

A subscriber from Cornwall writes:

“Important, wonderful resource for local news - helps foster civic engagement!”

Quotes are taken from reader comments submitted with subscription renewals.



ADDISON COUNTY
INDEPENDENT

community
calendar

july 4 THURSDAY

Fourth of July celebration in Bristol. Thursday, July 4, 7 a.m. to early afternoon, Downtown Bristol. Bristol's yearly salute to Independence Day begins with a road race starting at Mount Abe, outhouse races at 9 a.m., an 11 a.m. parade (theme: Beach Party) and festival on the green at noon. Always a fun 4th in Bristol!

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.

july 5 FRIDAY

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.

july 6 SATURDAY

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, Isley Library Community Room.

"King Pede" card party in Ferrisburgh. Saturday, July 6, 6:30 p.m., Ferrisburgh Town Hall and Community Center, Route 7. The evening begins with a sandwich supper and then on to the games.

july 7 SUNDAY

Battle of Hubbardton commemoration in Hubbardton. Sunday, July 7, 10 a.m.-7:30 p.m., Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site, Monument Hill Rd.

Adda Kridder, 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.

july 8 MONDAY

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. Abigail at pastormewhavernchurch@gmail.com for more information.

Magician Tom Verner in Middlebury. Monday, July 8, noon-1 p.m., on the green. Magician Tom Verner is the Founder of Magicians Without Borders. He has toured the world entertaining



A different perspective

FORMER SLAVE FREDERICK Douglass had a different take of the meaning of American Independence. Join Rokeby Museum for their annual reading of Douglass's speech, "What to the Slave is the Fourth of July?" on this Friday, July 5, at 1 p.m., in Ferrisburgh. See listing for details.

children wherever a little magic and laughter is desperately needed including multiple trips recently to Ukraine. Since 2002, Magicians Without Borders has traveled to over 40 countries using magic to entertain, educate empower. Free. A Festival on the Green brown bag performance. More info at festivalonthegreen.org.

Escape Room in Shoreham. Monday, July 8, 5:30 p.m., Platt Memorial Library, 279 Main St. Find the clues, solve the puzzles, unlock the locks to get into the box and escape the challenge set before you. Ages 9 and up.

Samirah Evans & Her Handsome Devils in Middlebury. Monday, July 8, 7-8:15 p.m., on the green. Samirah Evans sultry, sometimes silken, and always smoking hot vocals and vibrant stage presence made her the toast of pre-Katrina New Orleans. Following Hurricane Katrina, Samirah relocated to Vermont and she has since been performing throughout the northeast with her band. Free. A Festival on the Green performance. More info at festivalonthegreen.org.

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

Eureka Shoes in Middlebury. Monday, July 8, 8:30-9:45 p.m., on the green. A new songwriting power group of Jean Rohe, Charlie Burnham and Skye Steele. Plan on hearing delicious three-part harmonies, other-worldly twin fiddling and lyrics "that will break your heart and put it back together again better." Free. A Festival on the Green performance. More info at festivalonthegreen.org.

july 9 TUESDAY

Jon Gailmor in Middlebury. Tuesday, July 9, noon-1 p.m., on the green. Music for humans prenatal through prehistoric, spanning the entire emotional spectrum. Humor and audience involvement are integral parts of every live performance. Free. A Festival on the Green brown bag performance. More info at festivalonthegreen.org.

Pizza by the Pond fundraiser in Goshen. Tuesday, July 9, Blueberry Hill Inn, Goshen Rd. Join Brandon Free Public Library around the pond for live music and wood-fired pizza. Open to the public, all ages, BYOB. Includes all-you-can-eat wood-fired pizza buffet, lemonade and iced tea. Bring a picnic blanket/chairs. Limited to 80 attendees. Tickets must be purchased in advance. All proceeds will benefit the Library Renovation. More info at brandonpubliclibrary.org/library-events.

Bread & Bones in Middlebury. Tuesday, July 9, 7-8:15 p.m., on the green. A harmony driven acoustics trio that plays original music with a strong traditional-roots foundation. A Festival on the Green performance. More info at festivalonthegreen.org.

Le Winston Band in Middlebury. Tuesday, July 9, 8:30-9:45 p.m., on the green. Le Winston Band is a unique Montreal band that blends its French-Canadian roots with Zydeco and Cajun music. Since 2012, they have been fusing the rich Louisiana musical tradition with their own Montreal identity. A Festival on the Green performance. More info at festivalonthegreen.org.

july 10 WEDNESDAY

No Strings Marionettes in Middlebury. Wednesday, July 10, noon-1 p.m., on the green. Puppeteers Dan Baginski and Barbara Paulson's traveling stage transforms any space into an intimate theater, where the seamless blend of movement, music and masterful manipulation captivates young and old alike. Free. A Festival on the Green brown bag performance. More info at festivalonthegreen.org.

Magic Paper Flashlight Pictures in Shoreham. Wednesday, July 10, 3 p.m., Platt Memorial

Library, 279 Main St. Create a picture that comes to life with your paper flashlight. Just like magic! For ages 3 and up.

Make a pillowcase or simple bag in Lincoln. Wednesday, July 10, 3-5 p.m., Lincoln Library, River Rd. A "Pop in People" event.

Erin Cassels-Brown and Albany Sound in Bristol. Wednesday, July 10, 5-9 p.m., The Tillerman, 1868 N. 116 Rd. Hear live music in the Tillerman's barn. Music is free. Cassels Brown 5-6:30 p.m., followed by Albany Sound (Michael Chorney, Lowell Thompson, Pat Melvin and Jeremy Frederick) 7-9 p.m.

Deb Brisson & the Hay Burners in Brandon. Wednesday, July 10, 6 p.m., behind the Brandon Inn. Roots, soulful and bluesy rockin' alt country. Bring a chair or a blanket. A Music On The Riverbend performance.

Town Band on the Green in Bristol. Wednesday, July 10, 7-8:30 p.m. Bring a lawn chair or blanket, sit back and enjoy this 150-year tradition.

Bon Débarras in Middlebury. Wednesday, July 10, 7-9:45 p.m., on the green. Bon Débarras unites the worlds of music, dance and poetry through a collaboration between Montreal artists Dominic Desrochers, Jean-François Dumas and Véronique Plasse. On guitar, banjo, violin and harmonica, the group carries an identity, a style and an energy-filled zest for life. Free. A Festival on the Green performance. More info at festivalonthegreen.org.

july 11 THURSDAY

Basin Bluegrass Festival in Brandon. Thursday, July 11, Basin Rd. Four days of great music with bands like Canaan's Land, Serene Green, Bloodroot Gap, The Seth Sawyer Band and Remington Ryde. More info and a full schedule at basinbluegrassfestival.com.

Playtime Party at the Platt in Shoreham. Thursday, July 11, 9:30-10:30 a.m., Platt Memorial Library, 279 Main St. Join us for a low-key playtime at the Platt before our regular open hours. We'll have books, toys, and fun. Ages 0-3 and their adults.

Stephen Gratto in Middlebury. Thursday, July 11, noon-1 p.m., on the green. A school superintendent by day, Stephen Gratto moonlights as a physical comedian and circus performer. His performances are fast-paced and include exciting displays of many classic vaudeville and circus skills including juggling, unicycling, rope walking, object balancing and many other feats of daring, bravery, and side-splitting foolishness. Free. A Festival on the Green brown bag performance. More info at festivalonthegreen.org.

Book Donation Day in Vergennes. Thursday, July 11, 3-6 p.m., Bixby Memorial Library, 258 Main St. Bring your used books in good condition to the Bixby Library in the back parking lot. Fiction should be published after 2013 or a popular author, and non-fiction should be current and saleable.

Incredible Invertebrates in Orwell. Thursday, July 11, 4 p.m., Orwell Free Library, 473 Main St. Come learn about insect pollinators and pollination and let's find them together on flowers.

Plant medicine workshop in Monkton. Thursday, July 11, 5-7:30 p.m., meet at Russell Memorial Library, 92 Monkton Ridge. Mark your calendar for Plant Medicine Workshop No.3 — a plant walk around Raven Ridge. Learn about what plants are growing and how to identify them. Walkers will meet at the library at 5 p.m. and carpool to Raven Ridge. Limit 12 students. Cost \$15. Email russellmemilibrary@gmail.com to sign up.



VERGENNES POLICE SGT. Mark Barber, second from left, accepts the Robert H. Vincelette Vermont Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award from former Vermont American Legion Department Commander Tom Scanlon. Vergennes Police Chief Jason Ouellette, next to Barber, and current Vermont American Legion Department Commander Mark Coultier were also at the ceremony.

Photo courtesy of Vergennes Police

City officer wins Legion award

By ANDY KIRKALDY

VERGENNES — Longtime Vergennes Police Department Sgt. Mark Barber was recently honored by the Vermont American Legion with its 2023 Robert H. Vincelette Vermont Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award.

According to Middlebury’s Tom Scanlon, the chair of the Vermont

Legion’s Law & Order Committee and a former Vermont American Legion Department Commander, the committee bases the award on community service, overall professional career and education, contribution to the officer’s agency and its mission, heroism on the job, and other relevant criteria that could include “non-professional awards and recognition.”

Barber follows in the footsteps of Vergennes Police Chief Jason Ouellette, who won the 2021 Legion honor as a detective sergeant for the city police department before his promotion to chief after the 2022 retirement of Chief George Merkel.

As Merkel did for Ouellette, Ouellette wrote a glowing nomination letter for Barber.

“As an accomplished law enforcement professional, Sgt. Mark Barber has consistently demonstrated exceptional dedication, leadership, and bravery throughout his career, making him an outstanding candidate for this prestigious award,” Ouellette wrote.

As Scanlon noted, the award is multi-faceted. Ouellette cited

Barber’s work in the field. “Sgt. Mark Barber’s bravery and self-reliance in the face of danger truly set him apart. On multiple occasions, he has responded to high-risk calls without backup, showcasing his courage and unwavering commitment to protecting the community.”

“One such incident involved a dangerous individual armed with a gun who had shot another man. Officer Mark Barber’s swift and decisive action in this situation is a testament to his exceptional bravery and ability to maintain public safety under the most challenging circumstances.”

Ouellette added much more. “Sgt. Mark Barber’s commitment to serving his community extends far beyond his role in law enforcement,” he wrote.

Among his public service efforts are:

- He has served on the Board of Directors of the Ticonderoga Chamber of Commerce since 2018.
- He has been a

volunteer EMT for the Ticonderoga Emergency Squad since 2007, including as a captain from 2009 to 2017.

- He is the president of New England Police Benevolent Association Local 429, which represents Vergennes police officers in negotiating wages and benefit packages with the city’s administration.

Ouellette wrote, “These examples highlight how Sgt. Mark Barber is committed to community participation and leadership and is

dedicated to positively impacting the lives of those around him.”

Barber has also sought to advance his knowledge in the profession by pursuing both master’s-level courses in Public Safety Administration and his certification as a Drug Recognition Expert.

Dedication to education “further demonstrates his commitment to personal and professional growth,” Ouellette said, including his willingness to take on “many self-initiated leadership roles within the agency, which enhances public safety for the City of Vergennes and underscores his strong leadership skills.”

Ouellette told the *Independent* he wished the award nomination form gave him more room to praise Barber, who he called “an incredible officer and an incredible person.”

In the letter, Ouellette said Barber’s core values include “integrity, courage, honesty, loyalty, and duty to his community, country, and family. Other than his professionalism as a law enforcement officer, emergency medical technician, and business owner, he is loyal to his family.”

Ouellette added, “His inspiring achievements, both in and out of uniform, serve as a shining example for all those who strive to make a positive impact in the lives of others.”

Vergennes City Manager Ron Redmond said was happy for Barber and the entire police department, but maybe not completely surprised that the Vermont American Legion has in recent years chosen to honor two of its members, given what he called the quality of the department.

“We are honored and humbled to be chosen twice in three years,” Redmond said. “For us it’s a validation of our department’s leadership, training and professionalism. Our officers truly love working for Vergennes residents.”



Autograph, please

VERMONT LAKE MONSTERS team members visited the Starksboro Public Library on Thursday, June 27. They read stories and signed baseballs, and all attendees had a hotdog lunch.

Photo courtesy of Cathy Townshend

Monkton

Have a news tip?

Contact Liz Pecor at rascal0406@gmavt.net

NEWS

MONKTON — The Friends Methodist Church will be holding its annual yard sale on Saturday, July 6, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., rain or shine. In addition to the usual selection of books, puzzles, home goods, furniture, etc. we will also be serving hotdogs and beverages. If you have any questions about the yard sale call Priscilla at 802-453-2870.

The proceeds of this yard sale, which in the past of gone to local non-profits such as the Monkton Wood Bank, the Monkton Fire Department, The Little Free Pantry, and the John Graham Center to name a few, will be used to help

pay for repainting the exterior of the church. As many of you may be aware, the church is badly in need of scraping and painting as well as possible wood siding replacement. While most of what is done at the church is done with volunteer help, we needed to hire a contractor who is certified to deal with lead paint abatement to tackle the scraping and painting. This \$15,000 to \$20,000 project is beyond the ability of our congregation, and we are asking for help from our community. If you would like to make a donation to the painting fund checks can be made out to the MFMC with a Painting Fund

notation on the memo line and mailed to PO Box 105, Monkton, VT 05469.

There still may be time to sign up for the Plant Medicine Workshop No. 3, Plant Walk at Raven Ridge, on Thursday, July 11, from 5 to 7:30 p.m. The class is limited to 12 students at the cost of \$15 each. Email russellmemlibrary@gmail.com for information and to sign up.

Also mark your calendar for Storytime with Amy Huntington on Saturday, July 13, at the library, from 10 a.m. till noon. More info to follow.

Have a safe and Happy Independence Day!

Ferrisburgh

Have a news tip?

Email Sally Kerschner at smwkersch@comcast.net

NEWS

FERRISBURGH — The famous Ferrisburgh Grange “King Pede” card parties are scheduled for the Saturdays of July 6 and July 20. These community get-togethers are held at the Ferrisburgh Town Hall and Community Center. The evening begins at 6:30 p.m. with a sandwich supper and then on to the games. King Pede involves “trick-taking” such as in Hearts and Spades or Pitch. These are fun events, but come prepared to use your strategic thinking.

It is time to begin planning for this year’s Ferrisburgh Day. This event, that celebrates our Ferrisburgh community, will be held on Sunday, Sept. 15, from 11 a.m.–3 p.m. Those who would like to help in the preparation, feel free to contact Ashley LaFlam at unionmeetinghall@gmail.org.

The Lake Champlain Maritime Museum is hosting a wide variety of summer exhibits and workshops — too many to list here. Events include open hours for the Revolutionary War gunboat the Philadelphia II, Anthropology 101 and the Giant Map, presentations on lake ecology, touring shipwrecks, and visiting the many ongoing exhibits. Additionally, the Museum is holding its popular After-Hours Summer Party on Friday, July 12, from 5-8 p.m. This event offers a chance to enjoy a summer evening of live music, tasty eats and drinks, museum exhibits, and good company. The evening will include live music by the local band, Unruly Allies. Tickets are \$50 per person and include food for the night (pizza, salad, and ice cream) and one raffle ticket. Children under 10 are admitted free. For more information on the Summer Party and other

events, visit www.lcmm.org.

Rokeby Museum’s hiking trail are open year-round and the summer is a great time to explore the area that was once associated with the Robinson estate. Further information is available at the Rokeby Information Desk and a map of the trails can be found at tinyurl.com/Rokeby-trails.

Rokeby’s new ongoing exhibition is “Seeking Freedom: The Underground Railroad and the Legacy of an Abolitionist Family.” This newly curated exhibit, along with several other displays, explores the history and ongoing legacy of enslavement in the U.S. and the complicated story of Rokeby’s Robinson family as they evolved from enslavers in earlier generations to abolitionists in the 19th century. A short film explores the national significance of the family’s antislavery activities and the stories of the individuals who sought freedom on the Underground Railroad. A gallery talk about the research informing this exhibit will be held on Thursday, July 25, from 12:30-1 p.m.

Lots going on at the Bixby Library this summer, such as the regular children’s story times, ArtDay Fridays, and the book club for adults. There are two sessions of Paint Your Own Flowerpot on Saturday, July 13 at 10 a.m. and noon. This is a fun summer family activity and all materials are supplied. Contact the library to register. Also, enjoy the children’s sing along with Linda Bassick, Vermont’s talented musician who has deep experience in children’s music development, on Wednesday, July 17, 11:30 a.m.–noon.

During these summer heatwaves,

remember that the Bixby Library is a designated Cooling Center in Addison County. If you need a reprieve from the summer hot weather, the library’s Vermont Room, Children’s Room, and Bixby Hall are air-conditioned and provide a great way to beat the heat while enjoying the library’s extensive collections of books, magazines, and board games, and also the free WiFi.

RE-ELECT SENATOR CHRIS BRAY

“Chris Bray is a prepared, passionate, and fearless lawmaker. His leadership of the Natural Resources and Energy Committee has been groundbreaking. Vermont needs Chris back in the Senate to continue this vital work.”

—Sen. Phil Baruth, President Pro Tem of the Vermont Senate



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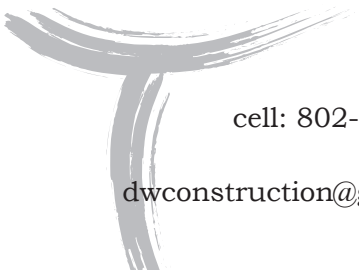
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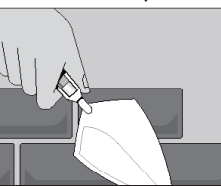
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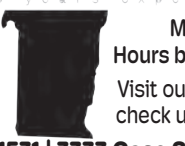
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CLASSIFIEDS

Cards of Thanks

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

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://aavt.org/> or call the 24 hour hotline at 802-802-AAVT (2288).

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

Public Meetings

VERGENNES FREE THINKERS Founded in 1935 on the principle of one alcoholic helping another to achieve sobriety, A.A. is an effective and enduring program of recovery that has changed countless lives. A.A. has always been committed to making its program of recovery available to anyone, anywhere, who reaches out for help with an alcohol problem. The Vergennes Free Thinkers meeting was created in January of this year to maintain a tradition of free expression, conduct a meeting where alcoholics may feel free to express any beliefs, doubts or disbelief they may have, to share their own personal form of spiritual experience, their search for it, and/or their rejection of it, without having to accept anyone else's beliefs or having to deny their own. Meetings are held with a high regard for compassion and inclusion without judgment or exception. If you think we can help, please join us on Thursdays at 6pm

Public Meetings

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.

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

Help Wanted

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

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

ROUNDTREE CONSTRUCTION

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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.

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Apply to rsantamaria@roundtree.bz and/or call Ric at 802-343-5589 | www.roundtreeconstruction.com

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

Addison County Parent/Child Center

VAN DRIVER JOB OPENING

Addison County Parent/Child Center

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

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

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

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

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

Addison County Parent/Child Center

Join the Parent/Child Center Team

CHILDCARE WORKER/PARENT EDUCATOR

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

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

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

RUTLAND NORTHEAST SUPERVISORY UNION

CUSTODIANS NEEDED

Rutland Northeast Supervisory Union is accepting applications for:

- Full time Head Custodian at Otter Valley High School, 8 hours per day
- Full time custodian at Otter Valley High School, 8 hours per day
- Part time custodian at Otter Valley High School, 5 hours per day
- Full time custodian at Neshobe Elementary School, 8 hours per day
- Part time custodian at Neshobe Elementary School, 4 hours per day
- Part time custodian at RNESU Central Office, Otter Valley North Campus and Otter Creek Academy, 3 hours per day

Starting rate of pay is \$19.18, with increase based on like experience. Positions will begin July 1, 2024.

Most positions are eligible for health benefits per Act 11. Full-time positions are eligible for dental, long term disability, life insurance and AD&D and Vermont Municipal Employee Retirement benefits.

Qualifications: A minimum of a High School Diploma, GED or equivalent with demonstrated custodial experience preferred.

If interested please apply on schoolspring.com to Rich Vigue, Supervisor of Facilities and Transportation.

To request a paper application and/or job description contact RNESU Central Office, 802-247-5757.

Opportunities

Opportunities

Opportunities

Opportunities

Opportunities

Opportunities



Green Mountain Foster Grandparent Program

The Foster Grandparent Program is seeking classroom aides to assist in educational settings throughout Addison County. The Foster Grandparent Program (FGP) is a federally funded program that has successfully placed thousands of volunteers in educational settings nationwide. Individuals must be at least 55 and willing to work a minimum of 10 hours per week. Participants receive travel reimbursement, fifty paid vacation/sick days, and a tax-free hourly stipend if they are income eligible.

If you are interested or would like more information, please contact RSVP at 802-468-7056.

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Help Wanted

Help Wanted

Starksboro
VERMONT

Assistant Town Clerk

Seeking an assistant to provide administrative support for the Town of Starksboro up to 16 hrs./week. Duties include: clerical work to help maintain municipal records, issuing various licenses, assisting with elections, and providing information to the public and all town departments. Other related work as assigned. Administrative experience preferred.

Contact Amy McCormick, Starksboro Town Clerk for details at 802-453-2639 or amy@starksborovt.org



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.



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

AGWAY

Positions offer generous, twice a year bonuses as well as an employee discount on all products!

Warehouse Worker

Loading and assisting with customer orders from the yard, warehouse and store; Stocking shelves and Filling propane tanks. Skills/Qualifications: Ability to lift 50 lbs repeatedly throughout the day. Ability to demonstrate strong organizational skills. Valid Driver's License.

Weekends and dependability a MUST! Forklift & Skid steer experience a plus. Preferable age 18+.

Cashier - Customer Service

Immediate Openings available. Must be able to work until 6pm. Weekdays and Weekends a MUST. Up to 40 hours per week. Wage commensurate with experience.

Please send resumes to info@middleburyagway.com or fill out an application at **Middlebury Agway**, 338 Exchange Street, Middlebury VT.

Please no phone calls.

Middlebury Agway 338 Exchange St. – Middlebury, VT.

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ADDISON: LAKE CHAM-PLAIN waterfront camp. Beautiful views, gorgeous sunsets, private beach, dock, rowboat and canoe included. \$999. weekly, or call for weekends. 802-349-4212, no texts.

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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.

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!

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Contact Harris Gerner
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For Rent



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MIDDLEBURY SUGAR-WOOD APARTMENTS is currently taking waitlist applications for 2, 3, 4 bedroom apartments. Minimum occupancy requirements. No smoking/ No pets. Income limits apply- Rent based on income. Equal Housing Opportunity 802-247-0165 TTY: 800-253-0191 www.SummitPMG.com.

MIDDLEBURY, OFF CAMPUS HOUSING available. 802-388-4831, AJ Neri Property Rentals.

VERGENNES VALLEY VIEW APARTMENTS is currently taking wait list applications. Occupants must be 62+ years of age. No smoking/ No pets. Income limits apply - Rent based on income. Equal Housing Opportunity. 802-247-0165 TTY: 800-253-0191 www.SummitPMG.com.

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Att. Farmers

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TOWN OF BRISTOL PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Bristol Development Review Board will hold the following hearings on July 23, 2024 beginning at 7:00 P.M. The hearings will be held in person at the Town Office, located at 1 South Street. The hearings will also be available via Zoom and login information is below.

Permit #24-400: T&M Bouvier LLC of 68 Pine Street (Parcel #205118) is requesting a Preliminary Plat review for a 5 lot subdivision per Bristol Unified Development Regulations Article IX, Section 920.

Copies of the complete zoning applications are available for review at the Bristol Town Office during regular business hours.

Remote Access: Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/85786761083> • Passcode: 805823
Phone In: 1-646-558-8656 • Meeting ID: 857 8676 1083 • Passcode: 805823
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85786761083?pwd=RFIWSGFwamJRG5KOEpaINITDczdz09>

TOWN OF MIDDLEBURY SELECTBOARD MEETING ROOM 116 – LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM TOWN OFFICES – 77 MAIN STREET TUESDAY, JULY 9, 2024 - 7:00 P.M.

Also available via Zoom:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84911750112>
By Phone: +1 646-558-8656 (not toll-free)
Webinar ID: 849 1175 0112

For those wishing to watch but not participate: Selectboard meetings are livestreamed to MCTV's YouTube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/user/MCTVTVermont> and also broadcast live on Comcast Channel 1071

AGENDA

- 7:00
1. **Call to Order
 2. *Approval of Agenda
 3. *Approval of Consent Agenda
 - 3a. Approval of Minutes of the June 25, 2024 Regular Selectboard Meeting
 - 3b. Acceptance of Selectboard Subcommittee Meeting Minutes
 - 3c. Approval of Renewal Applications for 1st, 2nd, & 3rd Class Liquor Licenses, Outside Consumption Permits, and Entertainment Permits
 - 3d. Consent Agenda Placeholder
 - 3e. Consent Agenda Placeholder
 - 3f. Consent Agenda Placeholder
 - 3g. Consent Agenda Placeholder
 - 3h. Town Manager's Report
 - Northern Borders Regional Commission Grant Award for \$1M for Construction of Water Storage Tank on Chipman Hill
 4. *Citizen Comments (Opportunity to raise or address issues not otherwise included on this agenda)
- 7:05
- 7:10
5. *Agenda Placeholder
 6. * Downtown Parking & Next Steps - Discussion of Ordinance Amendments & Parking Fine Increases
- 7:25
7. *Retreat Follow-Up: Discussion of Increased Advertising and Presence in the *Addison Independent*
- 7:35
8. *Assistant Town Manager David Sophrin with Recommendations from the Policy Review Committee Meeting of June 27, 2024
 - 8.a. *Approval of Policy on Naming/Renaming of Public Spaces
 - 8.b. *Approval of Policy on Town Security Cameras
 - 8.c. *Approval of Policy on Placement of Religious Symbols/ Objects on Public Property
 - 8.d. **Updates on other assigned policy topics: Easements for Town Property and Electric Vehicles & Town Purchases
- 8:00
9. *Approval of Proposed Road Names for Stonecrop Housing Project (if available)
- 8:10
10. **Update on Stonecrop Housing Project – continued Review of Draft Development Agreement (if any update is available)
- 8:15
- 8:20
- 8:25
11. *Agenda Placeholder
 12. *Agenda Placeholder
 13. *Approval of Check Warrants
 14. **Board Member Concerns
 15. *Executive Session - Anticipated - Contracts & Probable Litigation
 16. **Action on Matters Discussed in Executive Session
- 8:40
17. *Adjourn
- * Decision Item ** Possible Decision

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

REACH THE COUNTY, PLACE YOUR AD HERE. CALL 388-4944

Public Notices

can be found in this
ADDISON INDEPENDENT
on Pages 9B and 10B.

Email your Public Notices to legals@addisonindependent.com and Jenna makes sure it gets in the paper

FULL PASSPORT SERVICE

The Addison County Clerk located in the **Frank Mahady Courthouse in Middlebury** is available to accept passport applications and provide passport photos.

REGULAR HOURS

Monday - 8:30am to 4:00pm
Tuesday - 9:00am to 12:30pm
Wednesday - **Closed**
Thursday - 12:30pm to 4:00pm
Friday - 9:00am to 12:30pm

APPOINTMENTS REQUIRED

For appointment, go to www.addisoncountyclerkvt.com or call 802-388-1966.

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 4:30p.m.

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.



AUCTIONS

MARKET REPORT
ADDISON COUNTY
COMMISSION SALES

RT. 125 • EAST MIDDLEBURY, VT
Sales for 6/27/24 & 7/1/24

BEEF	LBS.	/LB	\$
Vorsteveld	1570	1.67	\$2621.90
Woodnotch	1445	1.65	\$2384.25
H. Degraaf	1720	1.50	\$2580.00
A. Brisson	1760	1.49	\$2622.40
Blue Spruce	1935	1.45	\$2805.75
P. Livingston	1920	1.40	\$2688.00
Gosliga	1570	1.40	\$2198.00

CALVES	LBS.	/LB	\$
Savello Farm	80	10.00	\$800.00
K. Gray	80	9.30	\$744.00
Clifford	85	9.00	\$765.00
A. Brisson	109	8.50	\$926.50
Wilcon	85	8.50	\$722.50
Hoyt Hill Farm	100	9.00	\$900.00

Total Beef - 150 Total Calves - 278
We value our faithful customers.
Sales at 3 pm - Mon. & Thurs.
call 1-802-388-2661

Man cited for outstanding warrant, suspended license

VERGENNES — Vergennes police on June 25 issued four citations to a Pantan man after stopping a vehicle he was driving on Pantan Road because it lacked a front license plate and a valid inspection sticker.

City police cited Nicholas Pecor on an outstanding warrant issued by a Rutland Court for driving with a suspended license, operating a vehicle without a registration, and driving without insurance. They released Pecor when he made bail.

In other action between June 24 and 30, Vergennes police conducted 15 patrols, 14 in cruisers and one on foot, and 16 traffic stops, including two commercial motor vehicle inspections; processed two fingerprint requests; were called out on two false alarms; and also:

- On June 25:
 - Took a report of a vehicle accident for insurance purposes.
 - Went to Pantan Road when told a couple were going door-to-door asking to use restrooms. Police learned they were kayakers, one of whom had a digestive issue, and offered advice.
- On June 26:
 - Accepted a wallet found on Pantan Road by a cyclist.
 - Conducted a background

Vergennes
Police Log

investigation on a potential applicant for a department opening.

- Following an investigation, cited Dean Bushee Jr., 26, of Bristol, for driving with a suspended license and leaving the scene of a June 21 accident in the Maplefields parking lot off Main Street.

- On June 27:
 - Responded along with Vergennes Area Rescue Squad and Vergennes Fire Department personnel to an accident with injuries on Main Street near city hall. Police said an elderly woman apparently failed to put her car in park — although the exact cause remains under investigation — and was struck by her own vehicle. VARS took her to the UVM Medical Center to be treated for serious injuries, police said.
 - At the station, questioned two Northlands Job Corps students who had been fighting and determined it was a mutual event without injuries and thus did not cite either for the incident. One student, however, was asked to leave the program, police said.

- On June 28, looked into a complaint of a suspicious behavior on South Maple Street, but found no problem.
- On June 29:



Hear them roar

MIDDLEBURY LION John Hamel, left, was presented with the Melvin Jones Fellowship at the club's annual officer installation and awards ceremony on June 17. Fellow Lion Tom Broughton presented Hamel with the award for his many years of volunteerism in the county. Lions Wes Smith and Roger Desabrais were also given awards: The International President's Certificate of Appreciation for Smith and the Key Award for Membership for Desabrais.

Photo by David Morse

- Took a phone message from an Otter Creek Mobile Home Park resident complaining that a neighbor was parking in front of his home. Police are looking into

the complaint.

- Were alerted by phone that a window was open at the National Guard Armory on Monkton Road. Police alerted the Guard.
- On June 30:
 - Took a complaint that a Champlain Farms customer's

credit card had been overcharged for gas purchased there. Police on Monday were looking into the issue.

- Took a phone call from a city business owner who was concerned a former employee was disgruntled and could cause a problem.

GREAT BRANDON
36th AUCTION
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.

**TOWN OF ADDISON
DRB PUBLIC NOTICE**

Town of Addison Development Review Board will convene a public hearing on Monday, July 29, 2024 at 6:00PM at the former Addison Central School located at VT RTE 22A and VT RTE 17 West Addison, VT. **Please note time & date changes.**

- Application (DRB 24-13) for a 2-lot subdivision submitted by Jack and Billie Jo Forgues proposed for being +/- 10 acres. The property is located at 6211 VT RTE 17W. Parcel ID# VW6211.
- Application (DRB #24-14) for the Conditional-Use application for the Town of Addison Community Center located in the former Addison Central School located at 121 VT RTE 17W—Parcel ID# VWO121. X. The proposed Community Center will encompass the inter-building and surrounding grounds.
- Application (DRB #24-11) for Michelle Bishop to consider an application for a Conditional-Use application for establishing and operating a Preschool for no more than 20 children. Location in the Town of Addison Community Center: VT 22A and VT RTE 17 West Addison, VT 05491 This was voted to have continuing deliberation until the July meeting and needs to meet certain criteria before final approval is granted.

The applications are available for inspection at the Town Clerk's Office during normal office hours. Interested parties who wish to appeal or to be heard must attend the hearing or may be represented by an agent or an attorney. Communications relating to the application may be filed in writing with the Board either before or during the hearings.

N.B.: Participation in a hearing is necessary to establish status as an "interested party" and the right to appeal a decision rendered in that hearing, according to the provisions of 24 V.S.A. 117 S.S.4464 (a) (1) (C), 4465(b) and 4471 (a). Participation consists of offering through oral or written testimony, evidence or a statement of concern directly related to the subject of the hearing.

Respectfully Submitted,
Alden Harwood, Chair
Starr Phillips, Board Secretary
Michael Wojocieczowski, Zoning Administrator

NEED A NIGHT OUT?

Read the Calendar and Entertainment Pages every Thursday.

**TOWN OF MIDDLEBURY
NOTICE OF PROPOSED CONVEYANCE**

In accordance with 24 V.S.A. §1061, the Middlebury Selectboard hereby gives notice of the proposed terms of conveyance of a natural gas easement in perpetuity, from the Town of Middlebury (the "Town") to Vermont Gas Systems, Inc. ("VGS"). The easement will apply to Town property commonly known as the Town Green and bounded by Pleasant Street, Merchants Row, and Main Street in Middlebury, Vermont.

The proposed terms are set forth in a proposed Easement Deed and accompanying plans, all of which are on file in the office of the Middlebury Town Manager. The following is a summary of the key terms of the proposed transaction:

- The Town will convey to VGS a permanent easement and right-of-way authorizing VGS to construct, reconstruct, maintain, move, relocate, alter, inspect, repair, replace, remove, and change the size of subsurface pipeline(s) to be used by Grantee for the distribution of gaseous energy products.
- The proposed location of the easement begins at South Pleasant Street and proceeds westerly to St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, as shown on the plans. The easement will be ten feet in width, five feet on either side of the pipeline as it is installed and will include rights of access and other terms and conditions set forth in the Easement Deed.
- If the Town determines that the location of the easement unreasonably interferes with the present or future use of the Town's land, then VGS will be obligated to relocate the easement at no cost to the Town. In addition, if the easement is abandoned, then unless the Town and VGS agree otherwise in writing, VGS will be obligated to remove the pipeline and related infrastructure and return the area to its pre-removal condition, save normal wear and tear. The provisions described in this paragraph will terminate in the event that the Town conveys its property to a third party.
- The purchase price of the easement will be One Dollar (\$1.00). In addition, VGS will be responsible for all for all taxes, recording fees, Town Attorney fees, surveyors' fees, permit fees, and costs of notice publication, and any other expenses associated with this transaction.

This notice will be posted in three public places in the Town of Middlebury (the Town Offices, the Post Office, and the Ilsley Public Library). Notice shall also be published in the *Addison Independent*, a newspaper of general circulation within the municipality, at least 30 days prior to the date of the proposed conveyance. Unless a petition objecting to the conveyance is filed in accordance with 24 V.S.A. § 1061(2), the Selectboard may proceed with the conveyance.

If a petition signed by five percent of the legal voters of the municipality objecting to the proposed conveyance is presented to the municipal clerk within 30 days of the date of posting and publication of this notice, the Selectboard shall cause the question of whether the municipality shall convey the easement to be considered at a special or annual meeting called for that purpose. After the meeting, the easement may be conveyed unless a majority of the voters of the municipality present and voting vote to disapprove of the conveyance.

Middlebury Selectboard
June 25, 2024

Public Notices Index

Public Notices for the following can be found in this **ADDISON INDEPENDENT** on **Pages 9B and 10B.**

- Addison (1)
- Addison County Courthouse (1)
- Bristol (1)
- Leicester (1)
- Middlebury (2)
- Monkton (1)
- Starksboro (1)
- State of Vermont (1)
- United States Probation Office (1)

Pet of the week

Send us your pet!
news@addisonindependent.com

**TOWN OF LEICESTER
NOTICE OF TERMS OF PROPOSED REAL ESTATE CONVEYANCE
PURSUANT TO 24 V.S.A. §1061(a)(1)**

The Town of Leicester hereby provides notice of the terms of a proposed conveyance of a utility easement on real estate owned by the Town of Leicester pursuant to 24 V.S.A. §1061(a)(1). The terms of the conveyance are set forth in a proposed Utility Easement Deed by and between the Town of Leicester (the "Grantor") and Addison County Communications Union District dba Maple Broadband (the "Grantee"), a draft copy of which is posted and available for review at the Leicester Town Offices located at 44 Schoolhouse Road, Leicester, Vermont. The terms of the conveyance include the following:

Description of Conveyance: The perpetual right and easement to erect, place, construct, reconstruct, bury, operate, repair, maintain, replace, upgrade, patrol and remove overhead and/or underground cables (including fiber), wires, lines, conduits, handholes, poles, guys, anchors, braces, transformers, cabinets, foundations, and backup power equipment, above and below ground equipment, fixtures and appurtenances for the transmission and/or distribution of electricity and for all telecommunications uses and transmission (including data, information, video and voice), as well as for fiber optic cable or other overhead facilities/service, under, upon or across an area of Grantor's land in Leicester, Vermont, being a portion of a certain real property conveyed to the Town of Leicester by Warranty Deed of Perry, dated April 15, 1815, recorded in Book 4, Page 156 of the Leicester Land Records, and by Warranty Deed of Savery dated August 20, 1891, recorded in Book 14, Pages 501-502 of the Leicester Land Records; said property being located on the easterly side of Leicester-Whiting Road, in the Town of Leicester, in Addison County, State of Vermont, Parcel ID #060034, SPAN #345-107-10803, commonly known and referred to as Brookside Cemetery, Leicester-Whiting Road, Leicester, Vermont.

The Easement Area will be sixteen (16) feet (+/-) by thirty (30) feet (+/-), commencing at a point located near the Grantor's northwesterly property boundary.

Consideration: Four Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$4,500.00).

Notice is hereby provided, pursuant to 24 V.S.A. §1061(a)(2) that:

If a petition signed by five percent of the legal voters of the municipality objecting to the proposed conveyance is presented to the municipal clerk within 30 days of the date of posting and publication of the notice required by subdivision (1) of this subsection, the legislative body shall cause the question of whether the municipality shall convey the real estate to be considered at a special or annual meeting called for that purpose. After the meeting, the real estate may be conveyed unless a majority of the voters of the municipality present and voting vote to disapprove of the conveyance.

Notice is also hereby provided that unless a petition is filed in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §1061(a)(2) as stated above, the Leicester Selectboard will be authorized to proceed with the conveyance on the terms set forth in this Notice.

Respectfully submitted.
LEICESTER SELECTBOARD
BY: Diane Benware, Chair and Duly Authorized Agent
6/27/2024

ARTS+LIFE

The Addison Independent

July 4, 2024



Gardening sage Charlie Nardozzi will share his decades of planting and cultivating knowledge with guests at an Art On Main fundraiser to be held at Rocky Dale Gardens in Bristol on July 14.

COURTESY PHOTO

Nardozzi to share the science & art of gardens at Rocky Dale

Get excited about a garden walk with Charlie Nardozzi presented this month as Art on Main's summer fundraiser! The "See You in the Garden" event will take place on Sunday, July 14, from 4-6 p.m. at Rocky Dale Gardens, a display garden and nursery located in the ledges protruding from the base of South Mountain just north of Bristol village.

BY **CAROLINE JIAO**

Participants can enjoy exuberant guidance from their favorite gardener as well as a tour the exceptional landscapes of Rocky Dale with its unique conifers, trees, shrubs and perennials.

Art on Main is also running a special exhibit now in the gallery in conjunction with the garden event, collaborating with local watercolorist Annelein Beukenkamp, who will be painting at Rocky Dale during Nardozzi's tour.

As part of the organization's year-round

fundraising effort, the money will go to supporting and displaying creative works, offering special exhibits, featuring artist shows and hosting craft classes.

Annie Perkins, an Art on Main Board member who was also gallery manager for several years, is delighted about this event, and thinks Nardozzi will be a big draw.

"We are (also) trying to attract some people from farther away, maybe people from Charlotte or Burlington," she said.

If all goes as planned this time, the organization will try to build on the excitement.

"We have a bigger garden tour in the works for next summer," Perkins said. "We've been wanting to feature gardeners, so we thought this is a fun way to start."

Bringing a bigshot gardener to a beloved local display garden is more than a satisfactory

combination.

"Charlie is a local and world-renowned garden artist," Perkins said. "So we decided it would be fun to work with Rocky Dale, who is very supportive of Bristol, and bring the two together."

A North Ferrisburgh resident, Nardozzi explained he usually doesn't do talks and travels during weekends in summer, but this opportunity was hard to pass up.

"It's nice to support any of the arts and local businesses that are doing nice things to bring people out," he said.

The event will include a slow walk around the demonstration garden, tailored to whatever the audience has to ask about their own gardens.

"As I walk around and talk about the garden, I'll ask for gardening questions related to whatever people are interested in," Nardozzi

SEE GARDEN ON PAGE 3

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.

MONDAY, JULY 8TH

At 7pm, enjoy **Samirah Evans & Her Handsome Devils'** sultry, dynamic vocals and vibrant stage presence. At 8:30pm, don't miss **Eureka Shoes**, a new songwriting group known for their three-part harmonies and twin fiddling.



Photo by Enika Klein

TUESDAY, JULY 9TH

Bread and Bones, an acoustic trio with harmony-driven traditional-roots originals, performs at 7pm. At 8:30pm, **Le Winston Band** from Montreal blends French-Canadian roots with Zydeco and Cajun music.



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.

THURSDAY, JULY 11TH

Matt LaRocca & Friends, a cross-genre composer and performer, starts at 7pm with his versatile quartet. At 8:30pm, singer/songwriter **Myra Flynn Band** delivers original indie/soul songs with soulful vocals.



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.



SATURDAY, JULY 13, 7:00 VERMONT JAZZ ENSEMBLE STREET DANCE:

We shut down Main Street for you to boogie and jive!



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.).

Be sure to check our website for updates and any possible changes due to inclement weather! | festivalonthegreen.org



GARDEN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

gardening."

Anne Majusiak, an Art on Main Board member and an avid gardener, has heard Charlie Nardozzi's garden tips on Vermont Public Radio for years and is excited to have a chance to meet him in person.

"The gardens and surrounding landscape at Rocky Dale are so unusual that it will be fascinating to hear what Charlie has to say about them," Majusiak said. "It's one of my favorite gardens to visit and I have found many special shrubs and trees there for my own garden."

A walking tour in April with Ed Burke, current owner of Rocky Dale, solidified Majusiak's plan for this collaboration. In an email she wrote to the fellow organizers of the event, Majusiak pointed out Burke's passion for the distinctive specimen trees at Rocky Dale, to which many will soon be privy. She wrote that Burke believes a "Tour of Trees" talk would be different from the usual "using perennials in your garden" type of talks.

"I ALWAYS WANT TO MAKE GARDENING FUN AND ACCESSIBLE TO EVERYONE, GIVING THEM INFORMATION SO THEY CAN BE BETTER GARDENERS. IF THEY'RE BETTER GARDENERS, IT'S MORE LIKELY THAT THEY CONTINUE GARDENING."

— Charlie Nardozzi

The Rocky Dale owner is excited to provide the venue for the Nardozzi event.

"I've supported Art on Main ever since I've owned Rocky Dale, and I believe in their mission," Burke said. "If they want to use Rocky Dale as a fundraiser, I'd be more than happy to oblige."

The north-facing ledges along the base of South Mountain have created a special microclimate that allows the nursery to cultivate a diverse and unusual collection of trees.

"We have taken advantage of that microclimate to grow plants that are more fragile in our environment," Burke said.

Majusiak remembered the various precious tree specimens, such as different kinds of beeches, many types of Japanese maples and ginkos, and the dazzling evergreens, while recalling Burke's description of them as "adding a type of living structure and architecture to a garden."

SEE ROCKY DALE ON PAGE 4

MIDDLEBURY NEW FILMMAKERS FESTIVAL

10TH
ANNIVERSARY

CELEBRATING TEN GREAT YEARS OF
SHOWCASING NEW FILMMAKERS
FROM AROUND THE WORLD

WEDNESDAY-SUNDAY
AUGUST 21-25



GET PASSES, TICKETS & INFO
middfilmfest.org

Instagram Facebook Twitter
MIDDFILMFEST



PRESENTING
SPONSOR

IPJ
Real
Estate

ROCKY DALE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

"Rocky Dale is a fantastic local nursery," Perkins said. "It's not just a place where you go buy flowers. It's cultivated and designed with interesting trees and rock formations. It's just spectacular. It's kind of a destination; local gardeners love Rocky Dale. They're very generous in supporting the community."

All considered, to have an expert like Nardozzi talk about this high-quality location would be unprecedented.

"Hopefully they'll walk away with a few plants,"

People naturally appreciate the genuine work put into designing and maintaining the garden.

Nardozzi joked. "And mostly I want them to walk away with some information to be better gardeners."

Connecting the dots of visual art and the art of gardening seemed so natural for Art on Main Board members, as they themselves are devout artists and gardeners.

"Every garden is so different and unique and often reflects the person doing the planting," Perkins said. "One person might have a homesteading type garden, one person has a lot of cool garden art, another person just has amazing plantings. Gardens are very artful."

Perkins believes the manual aspect of gardening also makes it an engaging and interactive form of art.

"I think people are just visually drawn, and hands-on drawn," Perkins said. "The overlap (between art and gardening) is really the beauty, the design, and the hands-on quality of it. People love to see what other people do."

Nardozzi holds the same view. He encourages fellow gardeners to perceive the practice as a self-expression.

"Gardening is two things for sure," he said. "It's science. You need to know about how things grow. It's also an expression of who you are. It's an expression of your values and how you see the world. That's the art part of it."

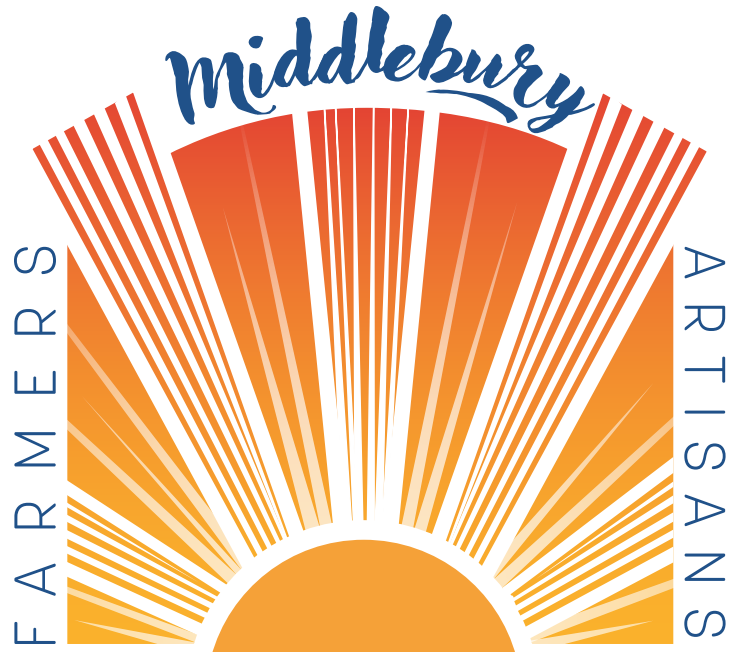


The unusual microclimates created by the ledges at the foot of South Mountain make it possible for Rocky Dale Gardens in Bristol to feature an unusually broad array of plants, which Charlie Nardozzi will discuss on a July 14 garden walk.

INDEPENDENT PHOTO/JOHN S. MCCRIGHT

"I believe that gardening is not only good for the planet, for the wildlife, for insects and pollinators, but also good for people," Nardozzi added. "People feel better when they garden. They get exercise, they get more relaxed because they're around plants and because they're doing something rewarding. So the more people that can garden, I think the world will be a better place."

Tickets for See You in the Garden are \$30 and can be purchased in advance at Art on Main in Bristol, online at artonmainvt.com or by calling 802-453-4032.



SUMMER MARKET

EVERY WEDNESDAY AND SATURDAY

JUNE 1 - AUGUST 31

4-8pm Wednesdays • 9am-noon Saturdays

Triangle Park Plaza, Middlebury

SPECIAL MARKET DATES:

Aug 10 - Non-profit Expo!

Email us to apply as a vendor.

Aug 24 - Youth Day!

Youth programming & makers/growers ages 10-18 encouraged to apply! Email for info.

We still have space for regular vendors at Wednesday AND Saturday markets!

Email BMPMARKETS802@GMAIL.COM to learn more.

EXPERIENCEMIDDLEBURY.COM

POWERED BY THE BETTER MIDDLEBURY PARTNERSHIP





Basin Harbor

beat the heat

School is out,
temperatures are rising;
time to cool off
and slow down.

Join us at Basin Harbor this
July 7th - July 11th and enjoy 40% off!



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 AT THE FALLS

1 Mill Street, Middlebury

For more info visit edgewatergallery.com, call 802-458-0098 or email info@edgewatergallery-vt.com.

"Form & Nature: Contemporary Still Life Interpretations." Ellen Rolli presents a solo exhibit featuring her still life paintings that play with perspective, through a flattening of the expected spacial relationships and a simplification of her chosen objects. On view through Aug. 10.

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.

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.

SEE EXHIBITS ON PAGE 15



ARIES: March 21/April 20. Aries, keep moving forward when you find yourself in a tough situation. It's best not to linger, but to find a path forward. Wait for the dust to settle before getting involved.

TAURUS: April 21/May 21. Taurus, you have a tendency to go overboard at times. Perhaps take a more middle-of-the-road strategy this week when a task falls in your lap. Give it time before acting.

GEMINI: May 22/June 21. Gemini, you have a lot going on in your life right now to keep you busy. With so much happening, try not to worry about what is going on with others. Stay in your lane.

CANCER: June 22/July 22. Family matters may be causing you some strain this week, Cancer. While it is nice to get together, it also can cause some stress. Space out visits so you can recharge in between.

LEO: July 23/Aug. 23. Leo, don't worry if you can't see the path forward too clearly right now. Things will be revealed in due time and you'll have all the information you need to proceed.

VIRGO: Aug. 24/Sept. 22.

Virgo, when a difficulty arises, your first response is to get right in the middle of it and try to work things out or force it to go away. That isn't always the most effective approach.

LIBRA: Sept. 23/Oct. 23. Libra, when it comes to your personal passions, you are full speed ahead and very regimented in the path you take. Put

those skills to the test this week with a new venture.

SCORPIO: Oct. 24/Nov. 22. Scorpio, if anyone assembled a crack team of experts to get through tough times, you certainly would be included. You'll help a loved one with a last-minute problem soon enough.

SAGITTARIUS: Nov. 23/Dec. 21. You have a natural curiosity and zeal for life, Sagittarius. These traits may cascade over others and inspire them to try new things this week. Join along in the fun.

CAPRICORN: Dec. 22/Jan. 20. Someone from the past could come back into your life, Capricorn. He or she could provide some answers you have been looking for. Stay tuned and be a good listener.

AQUARIUS: Jan. 21/Feb. 18. You soon get the opportunity to hang out with someone you haven't seen in awhile, Aquarius. You may stay up late catching up on all of the moments you have missed lately.

PISCES: Feb. 19/March 20. A mistake that someone else made will be a learning experience for you, Pisces. This experience could serve as a cautionary tale of how to approach life or similar situations.

Don't forget your travel projects this holiday weekend!

Wed-Thurs 11am-5pm
Fri 11-7pm, Sat 10am-5pm
Sun 12-4pm
Closed Mon-Tues

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FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

JULY 5 — Shohei Ohtani, baseball player (30)
JULY 6 — Frida Kahlo, artist (d)
JULY 7 — Ringo Starr, singer (84)
JULY 8 — Artemisia Gentileschi, artist (d)

JULY 9 — David Hockney, artist (87)
JULY 10 — Arthur Ashe, tennis player (d)
JULY 11 — E. B. White, writer (d)

CALENDAR

JULY 4-12
2024



WEDNESDAY, JULY 3

TWANGTOWN PARAMOURS AND SCARLETT ANNIE IN BRISTOL. Wednesday, July 3, 5-9 p.m., The Tillerman, 1868 N. 116 Rd. Twangtown Paramours perform from 5-6:30 p.m., followed by Scarlett Annie 7-9 p.m. Free.

THE LOCAL TALENT IN BRANDON. Wednesday, July 3, 6 p.m., Behind the Brandon Inn. This summer's Music by the Riverbend commences with alt country with a hint of rock'n'roll. Bring a chair or a blanket for listenin' or nappin' and your fingers and toes for snappin' & tappin'.

INDEPENDENCE EVE PARTY AND FIREWORKS IN BRISTOL. Wednesday, July 3, 6 p.m., Bristol Recreation fields, Airport Rd. Music by the 40th Army Band and DJ Jam Man. Food and craft vendors, games, raffle tickets winding up with fireworks at dusk.

FIREWORKS IN VERGENNES. Wednesday, July 3, around dusk, Vergennes Union High School grounds. The American Legion Post 14 and Fraternal Order of Eagles of Addison County invite you to see their public fireworks display to celebrate Independence Day. Don't forget chairs, blankets and bug spray. Parking is available in the high school lot. Please be respectful to property and pedestrians.

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. 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

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 to the Fourth of July?" by Frederick Douglass. The public is invited to read the pre-divided sections of the speech. Free.

KEVIN KAREKAS IN NEW HAVEN. Friday, July 5, 3-5 p.m., Lincoln Peak Vineyard, 142 River Rd. Celebrate the Fourth with Lincoln Peak, Kevin Karekas and food from Dino Bones BBQ.

SATURDAY, JULY 6

GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB HIKE IN LINCOLN. Saturday, July 6, Cooley Glen-Emily Proctor Loop. This strenuous hike through the beautiful Bread Loaf Wilderness Area is more than 12 miles with 3,000 feet of elevation gain. Contact Ellen Cronan for more information, 908-595-2926. More at gmcbreadloaf.org.

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

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.

SUNDAY, JULY 7

BATTLE OF HUBBARDTON COMMEMORATION IN HUBBARDTON.

Sunday, July 7, 10 a.m.-7:30 p.m., Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site, Monument Hill Rd.

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.

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

MAGICIAN TOM VERNER IN MIDDLEBURY. Monday, July 8, noon-1 p.m., on the green. Magician Tom Verner is the Founder of Magicians Without Borders. He has toured the world entertaining children wherever a little magic and laughter is desperately needed including multiple trips recently to Ukraine. Since 2002, Magicians Without Borders has traveled to over 40 countries using magic to entertain, educate empower. Free. A Festival on

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

MCTV SCHEDULE Channels 1071 & 1091		MIDDLEBURY COMMUNITY TELEVISION: P.O. Box 785, Middlebury, Vt. 05753		Please see the MCTV website, www.middleburycommunitytv.org, for changes in the schedule; MCTV events, classes and news; and to view many programs online. Submit listings to the above address, or call 388-3062.	
Channel 1071 Friday, July 5 Through the Night: Public Affairs 6 a.m. Press Conferences 7:30 a.m. Congregational Church 10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 4 p.m. Memorial Baptist Service 6:30 p.m. Energy Week 7:30 p.m. Public Affairs 11 p.m. Dr. John Campbell Saturday, July 6 Through the Night: Public Affairs 4:30 a.m. Dr. John Campbell 6:30 a.m. The Juxtaposition 7 a.m. Press Conf., Public Affairs 10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 4 p.m. Memorial Baptist Service 5:30 p.m. Eckankar 6 p.m. Energy Week 7 p.m. Catholic Mass 7:30 p.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs Sunday, July 7 Through the Night: Public Affairs 8 a.m. Energy Week 9 a.m. Catholic Mass 11 a.m. Memorial Baptist Service 12:30 p.m. Energy Week 1:30 p.m. Press Conf., Public Affairs 4 p.m. Congregational Service 6:30 p.m. Eckankar	7 p.m. Catholic Mass 7:30 p.m. Energy Week 8:30 p.m. The Juxtaposition 10 p.m. Dr. John Campbell Monday, July 8 Through the Night: Public Affairs 5:30 a.m. Eckankar 6 a.m. Press Conf., Public Affairs 8:30 a.m. The Juxtaposition 9 a.m. Energy Week 10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 4 p.m. Dr. John Campbell 5 p.m. Press Conf., Public Affairs Tuesday, July 9 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 [Live], Public Affairs 11 p.m. Energy Week Wednesday, July 10 Through the Night: Public Affairs 5 a.m. Dr. John Campbell 6:30 a.m. Energy Week 7:30 a.m. Memorial Baptist Service 9:30 a.m. Catholic Mass 10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 7 p.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 11 p.m. The Juxtaposition	Thursday, July 11 Through the Night: Public Affairs 6 a.m. The Juxtaposition 6:30 a.m. Press Conf., Public Affairs 8 a.m. Congregational Services 12 p.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 8:30 p.m. Energy Week 9:30 p.m. Eckankar 10 p.m. Dr. John Campbell Channel 1091 Friday, July 5 5:20 a.m. Replay Runway - Children's Fashion Show 5:30 a.m. Richard Kemp Center - Mural 6:05 a.m. Tai Chi 6:30 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. OPUS 38 Concert 6 p.m. Howard Coffin - Ancient Standing Stones 7:02 p.m. Maiden Vermont 7:20 p.m. Poets and Authors Saturday, July 6 4 p.m. Maiden Vermont 5:20 a.m. OPUS 38 film 6 a.m. Ancient Standing Stones	7:02 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. Festival on the Green Archives 4 p.m. OPUS 38 Concert 6 p.m. Ancient Standing Stones 7:02 p.m. Maiden Vermont 9 p.m. Kindergarten Orientation 9:50 p.m. Poets and Authors Sunday, July 7 5 p.m. Poets and Authors 7:30 a.m. School Board Meeting/s 12 p.m. Kindergarten Orientation 12:50 p.m. Replay 1 p.m. Festival on the Green Archives 2:42 p.m. Maiden Vermont 4 p.m. OPUS 38 Concert 9 p.m. Poets and Authors Monday, July 8 5 a.m. All Things LGBTQ 6 a.m. Chair Yoga 7 a.m. Tai Chi 7:30 a.m. School Board Meeting/s 12 p.m. Maiden Vermont 1:30 p.m. Ancient Standing Stones 2:02 p.m. OPUS 38 Concert 4 p.m. Festival On the Green 6 p.m. Tai Chi 6:30 p.m. Word Time with Miss Markee	7 p.m. Festival On the Green Tuesday, July 9 6 a.m. Maiden Vermont 7:20 a.m. Replay Runway 7:30 a.m. School Board Meetings 3 p.m. Festival On the Green 5 p.m. All Things LGBTQ 6 p.m. Festival On the Green Wednesday, July 10 6 a.m. All Things LGBTQ 7 a.m. Tai Chi 7:30 a.m. Festival On the Green 9 a.m. School Board Meeting/s 4 p.m. Ancient Standing Stones 5:01 p.m. Festival On the Green 10 p.m. Maiden Vermont 11:20 p.m. Festival On the Green Thursday, July 11 5 a.m. Festival On the Green 7 a.m. First Tuesdays 7:30 a.m. Tai Chi 8 a.m. Chair Yoga 9 a.m. School Board Meeting/s 2 p.m. Festival On the Green 5:30 p.m. OPUS 38 Concert 7:30 p.m. Festival On the Green 9 p.m. All Things LGBTQ 10 p.m. Festival On the Green	

the Green brown bag performance. More info at festivalonthegreen.org.

SAMIRAH EVANS & HER HANDSOME DEVILS IN MIDDLEBURY. Monday, July 8, 7-8:15 p.m., on the green. Samirah Evans sultry, sometimes silken, and always smoking hot vocals and vibrant stage presence made her the toast of pre-Katrina New Orleans. Following Hurricane Katrina, Samirah relocated to Vermont and she has since been performing throughout the northeast with her band. Free. A Festival on the Green performance. More info at festivalonthegreen.org.

CITY BAND IN VERGENNES. Monday, July 8, 7-8 p.m., City Green. Relax on the green and listen to some great free summer music.

EUREKA SHOES IN MIDDLEBURY. Monday, July 8, 8:30-9:45 p.m., on the green. A new songwriting power group of Jean Rohe, Charlie Burnham and Skye Steele. Plan on hearing delicious three-part harmonies, other-worldly twin fiddling and lyrics "that will break your heart and put it back together again better." Free. A Festival on the Green performance. More info at festivalonthegreen.org.

TUESDAY, JULY 9

JON GAILMOR IN MIDDLEBURY. Tuesday, July 9, noon-1 p.m., on the green. Music for humans prenatal through prehistoric, spanning the entire emotional spectrum. Humor and audience involvement are integral parts of every live performance. Free. A Festival on the Green brown bag performance. More info at festivalonthegreen.org.

PIZZA BY THE POND FUNDRAISER IN GOSHEN. Tuesday, July 9, Blueberry Hill Inn, Goshen Rd. Join Brandon Free Public Library around the pond for live music and wood-fired pizza. Open to the public, all ages, BYOB. Includes all-you-can-eat wood-fired pizza buffet, lemonade and iced tea. Bring a picnic blanket/chairs. Limited to 80 attendees. Tickets must be purchased in advance. All proceeds will benefit

the Library Renovation. More info at brandonpubliclibrary.org/library-events.

BREAD & BONES IN MIDDLEBURY. Tuesday, July 9, 7-8:15 p.m., on the green. A harmony driven acoustics trio that plays original music with a strong traditional-roots foundation. A Festival on the Green performance. More info at festivalonthegreen.org.

LE WINSTON BAND IN MIDDLEBURY. Tuesday, July 9, 8:30-9:45 p.m., on the green. Le Winston Band is a unique Montreal band that blends its French-Canadian roots with Zydeco and Cajun music. Since 2012, they have been fusing the rich Louisiana musical tradition with their own Montreal identity. A Festival on the Green performance. More info at festivalonthegreen.org.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 10

NO STRINGS MARIONETTES IN MIDDLEBURY. Wednesday, July 10, noon-1 p.m., on the green. Puppeteers Dan Baginski and Barbara Paulson's traveling stage transforms any space into an intimate theater, where the seamless blend of movement, music and masterful manipulation captivates young and old alike. Free. A Festival on the Green brown bag performance. More info at festivalonthegreen.org.

ERIN CASSELS-BROWN AND ALBANY SOUND IN BRISTOL. Wednesday, July 10, 5-9 p.m., The Tillerman, 1868 N. 116 Rd. Hear live music in The Tillerman's barn. Music is free. Cassels Brown 5-6:30 p.m., followed by Albany Sound (Michael Chorney, Lowell Thompson, Pat Melvin and Jeremy Frederick) 7-9 p.m.

DEB BRISSON & THE HAY BURNERS IN BRANDON. Wednesday, July 10, 6 p.m., behind the Brandon Inn. Rootsy, soulful and bluesy rockin' alt country. Bring a chair or a blanket. A Music On The Riverbend performance.

TOWN BAND ON THE

GREEN IN BRISTOL. Wednesday, July 10, 7-8:30 p.m. Bring a lawn chair or blanket, sit back and enjoy this 150-year tradition.

BON DÉBARRAS IN MIDDLEBURY. Wednesday, July 10, 7-9:45 p.m., on the green. Bon Débarras unites the worlds of music, dance and poetry through a collaboration between Montreal artists Dominic Desrochers, Jean-François Dumas and Véronique Plasse. On guitar, banjo, violin and harmonica, the group carries an identity, a style and an energy-filled zest for life. Free. A Festival on the Green performance. More info at festivalonthegreen.org.

THURSDAY, JULY 11

BASIN BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL IN BRANDON. Thursday, July 11, Basin Rd. Four days of great music with bands like Canaan's Land, Serene Green, Bloodroot Gap, The Seth Sawyer Band and Remington Ryde. More info and a full schedule at basinbluegrassfestival.com.

STEPHEN GRATTO IN MIDDLEBURY. Thursday, July 11, noon-1 p.m., on the green. A school superintendent by day, Stephen Gratto moonlights as a physical comedian and circus performer. His performances are fast-paced and include exciting displays of many classic vaudeville and circus skills including juggling, unicycling, rope walking, object balancing and many other feats of daring, bravery, and side-splitting foolishness. Free. A Festival on the Green brown bag performance. More info at festivalonthegreen.org.

PLANT MEDICINE WORKSHOP IN MONKTON. Thursday, July 11, 5-7:30 p.m., meet at Russell Memorial Library, 92

Monkton Ridge. Plant Medicine Workshop No.3 is a plant walk around Raven Ridge. Learn about what plants are growing and how to identify them. Walkers will meet at the library at 5 p.m. and carpool to Raven Ridge. Limit 12 students. Cost \$15. Email russellmemlibrary@gmail.com to sign up.

JEAN HANFF KORELITZ AND REBECCA MAKKAI IN CONVERSATION IN MIDDLEBURY. Thursday, July 11, 6 p.m., Everything Nice, 51 Main St. Jean Hanff Korelitz is author of "The Plot," which Stephen King called, "one of the best novels I've ever read about writers and writing... insanely readable." Rebecca Makkai wrote "I Have Some Questions for You," which Maureen Corrigan called, "a stylishly self-aware novel of ideas." They will appear downstairs at 51 Main in collaboration with Everything Nice. Korelitz's "The Sequel" will be published in October.

JACK NEARY'S "FIRST NIGHT" IN VERGENNES. Thursday, July 11, 7:30 p.m., Vergennes Opera House, 120 Main St. Danny Fleming's video store gets its only New Year's Eve customer a few minutes before closing. To his shock, he recognizes Meredith O'Connor, his high school crush. To his even bigger shock, he learns that she became a nun after high school. Only now, 20 years later, she's left the order and is wondering if she can find the love and romance that she mistakenly gave up. Tickets \$10 at the door, cash or check only. More info at (802) 377-3540 or visit middleburycommunityplayers.org/first-night.

MATT LAROCCA & FRIENDS IN MIDDLEBURY. Thursday, July 11, 7-8:15 p.m., on the green. Matt LaRocca
SEE CALENDAR ON PAGE 11



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A newly curated cocktail menu, live music, and stunning views of the Green Mountains. Our tavern is the perfect place to unwind after a long week, kick off the weekend in style, or close a deal over lunch.

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Today dawned for the third in a row with frost on the grass and vehicles. Overnight temperatures have been flirting with 30 degrees, but have shepherded welcome daytime clear skies and bright sun. This string of cool weather follows last Sunday's boiling rain which caused universal discomfort amongst the natives of the Hilton Head Low-country.

BY **JUDITH & STEVE HARRIS**

To those of us from northern New England, such weather is a dramatic release from the boilerplate cloud cover and penetrating fridity of the calendar's shortest days. There is an old aphorism about the stubborn, contrary nature of Vermont's farmers (sure, go ahead and find one, these days) that suggests that their favorite day of the year is December 21 (the shortest), because "it can't get any worse than this!"

Today we are scheduled to travel 120 miles further south to Jekyll Island for an eight-day stay through the Christmas Holiday Season. It will also be a cultural transition from contemporary privileged wealth to a carefully preserved community of "Old Money." Jekyll Island was the coastal retreat and playground for the "Robber Baron" families of the Gilded Age.

Jekyll's brief history goes like this: 50 years after Columbus arrived, French and Spanish interests started fighting over the place. The indigenous peoples were enslaved, exterminated or pushed inland, while both empires gleefully attacked their regional rivals wherever they tried to get serious.

The British finally awakened to the coastline's importance and shouldered their way in as their navy began to control the sea lanes. The first cash crop was indigo for extracted pigment, but the market for it collapsed as the Eastern expansion of the Empire provided less expensive substitutes from India. Then along came Sea Island Cotton, a variety of especially long fibers that was perfectly suited to the soils and climate of the "Georgia Bight." But it was a labor-intensive crop, so naturally, slaves were imported to see to its success. Then, along came Eli Whitney with his Cotton Gin, and agrarian life in the Low-country was very profitable for a while.

By the time the Island soil gave out, and the weevils rampaged across the southeast, cotton production had moved to the banks of the Mississippi where a different variety of the plant was king, and Jekyll once again became back water. When the Civil War broke out, Jekyll was quickly occupied by the Union blockaders

and all civilian activity was suspended until Americans grew weary of killing each other. After the collapse of Reconstruction, the heirs of a French royalist family (Bignon) that had escaped the carnage of their own revolution ended up owning the Island outright again.

In 1888 and with a developer's vision, they built an exclusive club/resort hotel that, until 1942, attracted a large number of the world's richest families. Limited originally to 100 members, the Jekyll Island Club was born. The members usually came by yacht to recreate and build their own retreats over the years. A busy marina, a larger hotel and a variety of shared amusements (indoor tennis, a golf course and beachfront access) were re-opened every January for the "season" and thrived until the outbreak of World War II.

The federal government took it over to defend the coastline at a moment when the Club was on the wane. (Robber-baron money was finite, after-all...) After that war ended, the State of Georgia bought it back in the late '40s with the intention of absorbing it into the state park system. However, they decided instead to establish a "special commission" of seven governor-appointed prominent citizens to look after the place with its own budget, fund-raising authority

and full control over development. This governing body is still functioning today. Jekyll Island's special status and museum-like nature persists. It is a truly unique and still uncrowded resource for residents and visitors alike.

Jekyll Island is six miles long and now sports five golf-courses, an assortment of modest resort motels facing the open ocean, a dozen restored, 24-room "cottages" available for rent (think Corporate Retreats), a main, immaculately restored three-story hotel, a water park, and twenty miles of circumferential walking and biking trails. Its crown jewel is a sea-turtle rescue "hospital" and educational center, where multiple patients are recovering from various outrages inflicted upon them by human activities (fishing and boating).

The 866 permanent residents have created an artists' colony of some stature, and are eco-warriors of the first rank. They support preserving what is here and resist efforts to over-commercialize the place. Its five-mile causeway entrance is gated, making it essentially a monitored enclave. Every car admitted is charged \$8, money that goes to support fastidious maintenance and ecologically sensitive improvements.

There is one RV park at the otherwise uninhabited north end, tastefully nestled under a live oak canopy. The atmosphere is like a fairyland, and fellow campers include families and guests that visit for the maximum 90-day limit and have done so for many years.

Jekyll takes the Holiday Season seriously, drawing mainlanders for self-guided walking or auto tours, and trolley rides through extraordinary lighted displays while acquainting the curious visitor with its architecture and history. Even Scrooge would smile.

A FEW NOTES FOR LIVING ON THE RUN:

There are many levels of space and comfort supported by the American "campground" industry, from tent sites (sometimes called car camping) to sites that are provided with full utility connections,



Typical roadway under live oaks and spanish moss.

drive-through concrete slabs with attached patios, gas barbecues and outdoor furnishings (glamping). This array of availability, fees and amenities (including swimming pools, arcades, playgrounds, daily group activities, bocci and corn-hole tournaments, gyms, restaurants, even theaters!) continues to expand to catch up to the recent acceleration of demand.

More and more frequently over the last 10 years, campgrounds have started providing cabins and "tiny houses" with full heat/air conditioning, plumbing and porches, in their mix of offerings. All are reminiscent of the old cabin/motel model which evolved in the early days of automobile use a century ago. This feature makes it easier for non-camping friends and relatives to join your party when you perch in some attractive place, as well as offering the road-weary a break from the rigors of conventional RV life.

Wall Street has weighed in as well, buying out non-corporate owners, improving infrastructure, raising fees, increasing attractions and even converting under-used golf courses where demand justifies the expense.

The State-owned and operated facilities are usually more like parks, with lower fees, wider spacing between sites and better scenery but less sophisticated operational support. They long-ago outsourced their reservation system to internet services and limit stays to two weeks or less. Reservation phone or website lines open at 8 a.m. for the day, 11 to 13 months in advance, and available spots are frequently gone within minutes! Ten years ago, we built our itineraries around state campgrounds. We have since given up since the user competition is too fierce and the on-line time required to secure a spot has become overwhelming.

Our chosen level of RV usage has been to select a trailer (27-foot Airstream), use it for two to four months a year, travel regionally (so far, up and down the eastern seaboard) and mix our old favorite destinations with an equal number of new places, usually based on in-person scouting from the previous year, or a trusted recommendation. We prepare almost all our own food and focus on a meandering approach which prioritizes local immersion over distance traveled, states visited, or landmarks crossed off a bucket list. One favorite side-trip is to seek out the original historic core of cities that have long-since succumbed to sprawl. It tells you the likely story of why such a place was originally settled.

During our time on-the-road, a full day about every three or four is spent grocery shopping, doing laundry (usually done at the campground) and making minor repairs or re-shuffling gear. The trailer has two modes, "struck" — battened down for travel — or "set-up" with leveling feet down, utilities connected, awning out, exterior furnishings deployed, and decorative lights energized.



Jekyll Island Club, Grand Hotel.

The interior of the tow vehicle and the trailer are likewise subject to "striking" camp or "setting-up." These transitions take a full hour once you occupy your rented space if there are two of you. Trying to do either after dark is really complicated and unsafe, reason enough to arrive at your destination no later than 3 p.m.

A few items that are indispensable: a good golf umbrella, a rechargeable vacuum (think "dust-buster") and rechargeable LED flashlights, at least two, extra lengths of hose and electrical cords, and basic repair tools.

We have also come to appreciate excellent coffee, favorite herbal teas and Tupelo honey (it never crystallizes and boasts a lower sugar content) in good supply, plus a fully-stocked pantry of those specialty items that are comforting favorites, but not generally available. These are civilizing influences that smooth off the rough edges of any sacrifices made because of leaving one's home. Routine creates a sense of controlled safety and comfort not enjoyed by travelers who rent hotel rooms and eat from restaurants. Ah — the joys of a familiar bed, no worries about having gear with you for changes in weather or circumstance, and the sense of organization afforded by bringing home with you, like the proverbial turtle!

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

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ACROSS

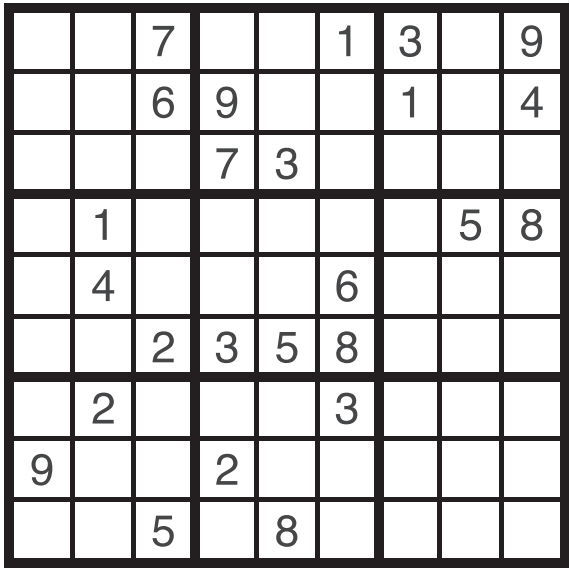
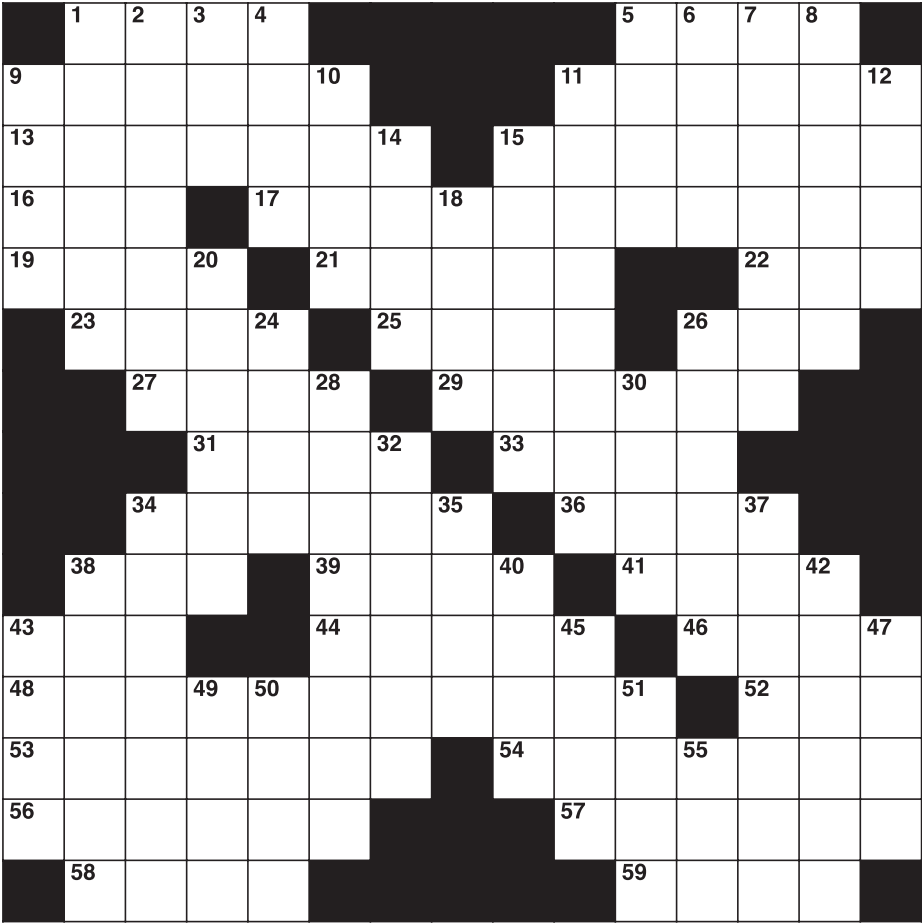
1. Six (Spanish)
5. Invests in little enterprises
9. Large dung beetle
11. Gored
13. Partially paralyzed
15. Still a little wet
16. Legal field media company
17. Not working
19. 500 sheets of paper
21. Church structure
22. Sheep disease
23. Small drink of whiskey
25. Weaving

- tradition
26. Pestilence
27. Body part
29. Nabs
31. Places to stay
33. Witnesses
34. Looked for
36. Arranges
38. Political action committee
39. Middle eastern nation (alt. sp.)
41. Hair-like structure
43. Parts producer
44. Greek city
46. Subway dwellers
48. Norm from "Cheers"

52. Clean a floor
53. Vied for
54. Canned fish
56. Inspire with love
57. Sent down moisture
58. Wrest
59. Partner to carrots

DOWN

1. Mounted
2. Assign
3. Wrath
4. Self-immolation by fire ritual
5. Parts of an organism
6. Person from England



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

7. Tropical plants of the pea family
8. Body part
9. Practice boxing
10. Containers
11. Contrary beliefs
12. Bleached
14. Pre-Islamic Egyptian
15. A group of similar things ordered one after another
18. Innermost spinal cord membranes
20. Cassava
24. A restaurant's list of offerings
26. Annoy constantly
28. Orchestrate
30. Z Z Z
32. Astute
34. Highly decorated tea urn
35. Teach to behave
37. Endurance
38. Urinating
40. Barbie friend
dolls
42. Repents
43. Man-eating giant
45. Jewish calendar month
47. Accelerated
49. Husband of Sita in Hindu
50. Lump of semiliquid substance
51. Lying in wait
55. Cease to exist

This week's puzzle solutions can be found on Page 13.

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CALENDAR

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

electric improvisation experience. Matt has worked as an arranger for Guster, Kat Wright, Francesca Blanchard, William Lee Ellis and many others. Free. A Festival on the Green performance. More info at festivalonthegreen.org.

MYRA FLYNN IN MIDDLEBURY. Thursday, July 11, 8:30-9:45 p.m., on the green. Singer/songwriter Myra Flynn, half Irish and half African American, crafts her original indie/soul songs in a blend of soulful vocals. Free. A Festival on the Green performance. More info at festivalonthegreen.org.

FRIDAY, JULY 12

GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB HIKE IN EAST MIDDLEBURY. Friday, July 12, Frost Mountain. Moderate hike of 5.4 miles round trip up National Forest Rd. 234, on the west side of Frost Mt. with nice views of the Adirondacks. Meet at the parking lot in East Middlebury on the uphill side of Sand Hill Bridge, on Route 125 over the gorge. There is an option to end our outing with popping into the Waybury Inn for a beverage and snack. Contact Anne Christie at 802-388-4347 (home) or 802-989-9771 (cell) for more information and to sign up. More at gmcbreadloaf.org.

BASIN BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL IN BRANDON. Friday, July 12, Basin Rd. See July 11 listing.

THE GOLDEN GOOSE COMPANY ON STAGE IN MIDDLEBURY. Friday, July 12, 11:30 a.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. See what a group of talented 8- to 12-year-olds have learned during THT Golden Goose Company theater camp, which focuses on physical theater and comedic acting while immersed in the world of The Brothers Grimm.

ZILI MISIK WORKSHOP IN MIDDLEBURY. Friday, July 12, noon-1 p.m., on the green. A noon time workshop will be led by Kera M. Washington, the founder and band leader. Kera has been performing and teaching music to children and adults for over 20 years in the Boston area. Free. A Festival on the Green brown bag performance. More info at festivalonthegreen.org.

BRETT HUGHES IN NEW HAVEN. Friday, July 12, 5-7 p.m., Lincoln Peak Vineyard, 142 River Rd. Free music by the Vineyard pond. Wine available for purchase, as well as food from Dino Bones BBQ.

performs on both guitar and viola and currently is a member of Freeway Clyde, an 8-piece

ZILI MISIK IN MIDDLEBURY. Friday, July 12, 7-8:15 p.m., on the green. This all female band performs an acoustic & electronic fusion of roots music of the African diaspora, retracing routes of forced exile and cultural resistance through rhythm and song. Free. A Festival on the Green performance. More info at festivalonthegreen.org.

JACK NEARY'S "FIRST NIGHT" IN VERGENNES. Friday, July 12, 7:30 p.m., Vergennes Opera House, 120 Main St. See July 11 listing.

POINT COUNTERPOINT FACULTY CONCERT IN MIDDLEBURY. Friday, July 12, 7:30 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. Constance Holden Memorial Concert. Admission is free, and goodwill donations are gratefully accepted.

KRISHNA GUTHRIE BAND IN MIDDLEBURY. Friday, July 12, 8:30-9:45 p.m., on the green. The Krishna Guthrie Band plays roots, blues and rock music woven with influences of Krishna's grandfather, Arlo Guthrie, and great-grandfather Woody Guthrie. Free. A Festival on the Green at performance. More info at festivalonthegreen.org.

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Pets In Need

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Kittens

You want kittens, we've got kittens!

They likely won't be posted to our website because they get adopted so quickly, so please swing by the shelter during our open hours (Tuesday-Saturday, 9:00am-3:00pm) to meet those ready for adoption. We have a wonderful variety, and they are all cute, cute, cute!

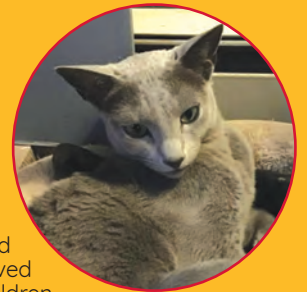


Cici

My name is **Cici** and I am a gorgeous and fluffy 9-month-old gal. I love playing and am looking for a home where I can have plenty of playtime. I am the perfect mix of sweet yet independent and would do well in a home where I can choose when I want affection. Dogs have been my best friend and I have peacefully coexisted with children. I have been known to play rough with other cats but generally have been okay living with them.

Bentley

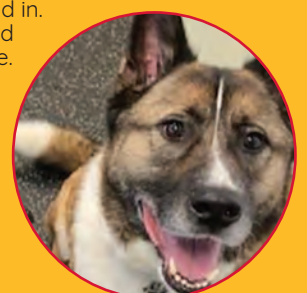
Bentley is an 8-year-old Russian Blue. He's active, independent, and fearless. He loves to explore outside and needs to find a home where that is possible. Bentley has been around other cats and they have mostly ignored each other. He is possessive of his yard and will follow them around to make sure they leave. He has not lived with dogs, nor has he been around children. Bentley is very intelligent and knows quite a few words. He is hilarious. He is an excellent mouser and brings them to you as presents! He would do best as an only kitty in a quieter home, in a more rural area where he can go outside. He sometimes takes a little time to warm up to new people but does like a lap to sit on in the evening.



Spirit and Renny

We are **Spirit** and **Renny**, 5-year-old litter mates and a unique mix of Siberian Husky/Akita and Labrador Retriever. We grew up together and have developed a strong bond and a deep sibling relationship. Therefore, we want to go to a home together without any other dogs. Our play may seem intense at times, but it's just silly fun. It would be helpful

for us to have a big yard to run around in. We lived with young children but would do best with older ones due to our size. Cats are okay if they are dog savvy, but be mindful of our high prey drive. All we want is a family that can provide us with all the snuggles and snacks, as well as long hikes! If you're ready to welcome a brother/sister duo into your life, we can promise endless cuddles!



Want to learn more?

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1413 BROWN ROAD, SHOREHAM
\$749,000

THE HOME

A LOOK INSIDE ADDISON COUNTY HOMES FOR SALE

Cozy farmhouse on conserved land

This charming farmhouse offers a perfect blend of historic charm and modern convenience. Set on a sprawling 67+ acres, this property offers beautiful views of the fields and pasture surrounding. The farmhouse itself exudes warmth and character, with original hardwood floors, a cozy fireplace, and a small wood stove. The spacious kitchen features updated appliances and plenty of counter space, making it the perfect spot for cooking and entertaining. With an expansive screened porch overlooking the pond, there is plenty of space for family and guests to relax and unwind. Outside, the property features a large barn that can be used for storage or converted into a workshop or studio. The expansive yard is ideal for outdoor gatherings and activities, with plenty of room for gardening or raising animals. Located just a short drive from charming downtowns and outdoor recreational opportunities, this Vermont farmhouse offers the perfect combination of tranquility and convenience. Much of the land is under a conservation easement with Vermont Land Trust.



*This week's property is managed by IPJ Real Estate.
More info at middvermontrealestate.com.*



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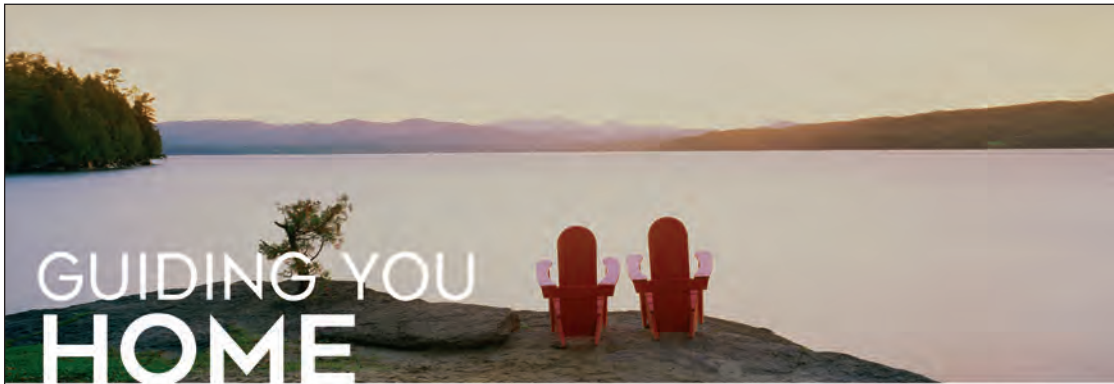


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JULY 4, 2024

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BRIDPORT NEW LISTING!
51 ISLAND DRIVE

MLS #5000386 | \$169,000
2 BD | 1 BA | 666 SF | 0.21 AC

This charming cottage on Torrey Lane is the cozy retreat you've been seeking, whether for a vacation home or year-round residence. Rustic charm with modern amenities in this open-concept haven. Watch the sunset over the water. Listen to the waves lapping on the shores of Lake Champlain. Property is on leased land with 31 years left on the lease (\$15 annually).

SHOREHAM NEW LISTING!
1413 BROWN ROAD

MLS #50003034 | \$749,000
3 BD | 2 BA | 2405 SF | 67.15 AC

This charming farmhouse offers a perfect blend of historic charm and modern convenience. Set on a sprawling 67+ acres, this property offers beautiful views of the fields and pasture surrounding. The farmhouse itself exudes warmth and character, with original hardwood floors, a cozy fireplace and a small woodstove. The spacious kitchen features updated appliances and plenty of counter space, making it the perfect spot for cooking and entertaining. With an expansive screened porch overlooking the pond there is plenty of space for family and guests to relax and unwind. Outside, the property features a large barn that can be used for storage or converted into a workshop or studio. The expansive yard is ideal for outdoor gatherings and activities, with plenty of room for gardening or raising animals. Located just a short drive from charming downtowns and outdoor recreational opportunities, this Vermont farmhouse offers the perfect combination of tranquility and convenience. Much of the land is under a conservation easement with Vermont Land Trust.



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Fern Lake & Brandon



FERN LAKE: Nestled on a serene 0.71 A lot, a delightful, yr-rd. home w/150' of lake frontage, stunning views & tranquil surroundings. A cozy 2 Bedroom, 1 Bath home with 1,080 sqft. of comfortable living space, perfect for a small family or just seeking a peaceful retreat. Property features a spacious Living Room with fireplace, a well-appointed Kitchen & a charming outdoor deck overlooking the lake. Lakefront living at its best with abundant natural beauty all around. **\$560,000.**



BRANDON: Excellent, established in-town location. 1464 sqft. of living space. (7+ rooms) incl. a mudroom & plus a back storage shed. LR with hrwd. flooring, open DR/kitchen, nice kitchen - lots of counter & storage space, Bath/Laundry. 3 BRs on 2nd floor & a half bath. Home is updated throughout, fully insulated, 3 mini splits, insulated glass replacement windows, metal roof. 0.45 A. lot. Huge barn/garage for a workshop/additional storage plus a second (10x16) storage shed. **\$299,000.**



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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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EXHIBITS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

"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.

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE MUSEUM OF ART

72 Porter Field Rd., Middlebury

For more info visit middlebury.edu/museum/exhibitions or call 802-443-5007.

"Apocalypse Road Show: On Tour with the Bread & Puppet Theater." An exhibit of photographs by Garrett MacLean (Middlebury College, Class of 1999), a professional photographer who traveled with the company for more than three months in the fall of 2022. This exhibit, which coincides with both Peter Schumann's 90th birthday and the 50th anniversary of the theater group performing in Glover, will also include several of the over life-size puppets used in previous performances, as well as various posters and banners produced

over the years by the Bread and Puppet Press. On view May 24-Aug. 11.

"Hunter Barnes: A World Away," offers a rare glimpse into a largely visually undocumented period in Sri Lankan history by photographer Hunter Barnes. On view May 24-Aug. 11.

PHOTOPLACE GALLERY

3 Park Street, Middlebury

For more info visit photoplacegallery.com.

"Botanical." In this juried photography exhibit, images were created in the landscape, garden or studio that capture the spirit and character of plants, as well as our intimate connection to the plant world. Juror Lee Anne White selected approximately 35 images for exhibition in the Middlebury gallery, and 40 more for the online gallery. On view July 5-26.

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 Rokeby 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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Happy 4th of July!



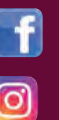
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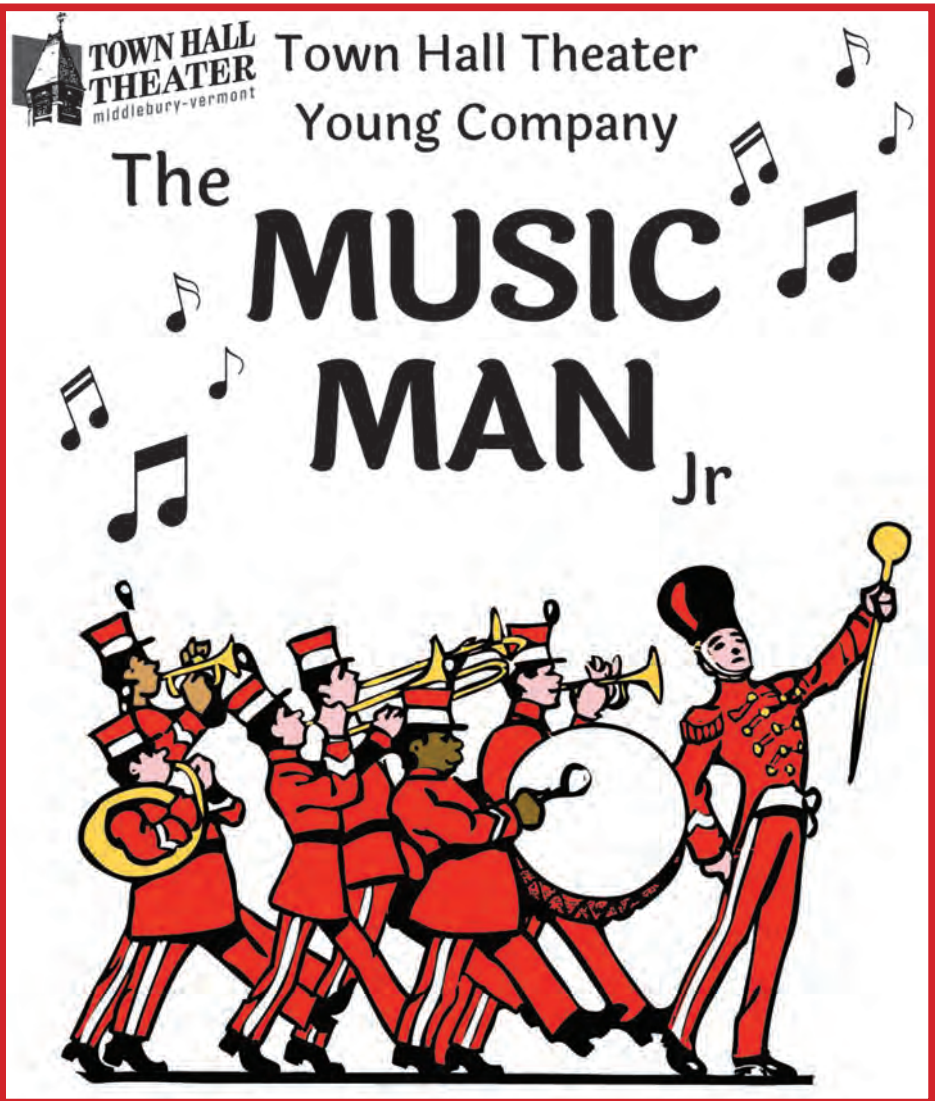
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Town Hall Theater
Young Company Musical Presents
The Music Man Jr.
July 26 @ 7pm & July 27, 28 @ 2pm

Directed by Doug Anderson
Musical direction by Jennifer Allred
Choreography by Elisa Van Duyne
Tickets
Children Under 12 \$10
Adults \$15
Generous Ticket \$25



Based on Meredith Wilson’s six-time-Tony Award-Winning Musical Comedy most recently on Broadway featuring Hugh Jackman and Sutton Foster, the Music Man includes many famous songs including “76 Trombones,” “Till There Was You” and “Ya Got Trouble.” Directed by THT Artistic Director and American Musical Historian Doug Anderson, the production features a cast of 26 young actors, singers and dancers, including: Eve Menguc, Maddie Diop, Mira Biancosino, Isi Malzac, Piper Donlon, Abby Halby, Elise Almstrand, Sapphire Evans Nash, Adelynn Leonard, Paras Biancosino, Raine Evans Nash, Constantin Bellmann, Charlotte Coffey, Geni Rathbun, Mazin Swepston, Mak Bagnulo, Cierra Miller, Petra Fearon, Thalia Wygmans, Megan Bowers, Willow Heywood, Lily Ryersbach, Zia Hamilton, Frankie Bently, Posie George and Taylor Mandigo.

Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$10 for children 12 and under. This year we will continue to offer a generous ticket for \$25. The proceeds for the generous ticket directly benefit our education scholarship program, ensuring that anyone of any age can take part in our classes and camps.

“I always think there’s a band, kid.” - Harold Hill

What’s Coming Up

Point CounterPoint
Faculty Concert
July 12 @ 7:30

Modern Times Theater
Baffo Box Puppet
Show
July 20 @ 10 & 12

Jay Craven’s
Lost Nation
July 20th @ 7pm

Kora Concert
Madou Sidiki Diabate
& Salif Bamakora
July 24 @ 7:30pm

Champlain
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August 4 @ 6pm

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