



Full circle
A local native and arts entrepreneur returns to her roots with a Vergennes gallery. Arts + Leisure.



AC surging
The Legion baseball team is pushing for a playoff berth as the postseason looms. See Page 1B.



Community
Over 100 area businesses are profiled in our annual special section in today's issue!

ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT

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10th MNFF swings for the fences

BY JOHN FLOWERS
MIDDLEBURY — Organizers of the Middlebury New Filmmakers Festival (MNFF) always try to amp up the invite list to generate more buzz for what is an annual showcase of work by up-and-coming movie makers. And this year's 10th MNFF, set for Aug. 21-25, will feature an A-lister by anyone's cinematographic barometer: Four-time Academy Award-winning filmmaker Oliver Stone, whose

resume includes "Platoon," "Wall Street," and "Born on the Fourth of July." Stone is the best known among a cast of seven esteemed honorees/guests for MNFF10, and two of them — Bess O'Brien and Andy Mitchell — possess strong local ties. But more on them later. The festival's *raison d'être* is introducing the world to the inspiring work of first- and second-time filmmakers, and MNFF10 has that in abundance.

This year's fest will offer around 120 films (66 features, the rest shorts) to be screened at five venues in Middlebury during the five-day extravaganza — downtown at the Town Hall and Marquis theatres; and at Wilson Hall, Dana Auditorium and Twilight Hall on the Middlebury College campus. Around 25 of the films have been curated or matched with the festival honorees who were involved with them. The remaining (See MNFF preview, Page 11A)



CAITLIN BOYLE

MNFF hires its own 'Swiss Army knife' for filmmakers

By JOHN FLOWERS
MIDDLEBURY — One of the most highly anticipated attendees at this year's Middlebury New Filmmakers Festival (MNFF) won't have a film advertised on the marquee. But she'll have tremendous influence over future editions of the MNFF, which this year celebrates its 10th birthday. The film festival's brain trust confirmed on Saturday that

Caitlin Boyle — a nationally-known, Vermont-based consultant who for the past 20 years has facilitated production of scores of independent films — has been picked as MNFF's first-ever executive director. "She's been described in the (film) industry as 'a Swiss Army knife for filmmakers,'" said Jay Craven, a renowned filmmaker in his own right and the MNFF's (See Boyle, Page 12A)

Solutions sought for Seymour St. flooding

By JOHN FLOWERS
MIDDLEBURY — The town of Middlebury will work with Danforth Pewter, the Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) and Vermont Rail System to potentially site an emergency access across train tracks to make sure the Seymour Street neighborhood can be accessed by the community's largest emergency response vehicles during future major flood events.

Middlebury selectboard members met with some Seymour Street neighbors — including the owners of County Tire and the former Middlebury Rail Depot — on Tuesday to discuss their concerns about recent rain events that have flooded the Seymour Street underpass leading to the Marble Works, the Middlebury police station, and many area residences.

Their concerns went beyond flooded basements. They noted that when the underpass is out of commission — as it was during a part of Saturday, July 13, due to floodwaters — the only other access to the Seymour Street neighborhood is through the Pulp Mill Bridge via Pulp Mill Bridge Road. And the historic covered bridge can't accommodate the (See Seymour St., Page 12A)



By the way
Vermont's Green Mountain Care Board will hold a "Healthcare Community Meeting" on Tuesday, July 30, from 6-7:30 p.m. in Middlebury's Ilesley Public Library Community Meeting Room. This gathering will feature an independent clinician who will present what organizers described as "important financial data regarding healthcare affordability in Vermont." Following the presentation, (See By the way, Page 14A)



Fun in the pool

MIDDLEBURY MARLIN SWIMMER Willow Hunt competes in the 11-12 girls' breaststroke race on Tuesday in her team's home pool. See story and more photos in section B.

Independent photo/Steve James

Bristol eyes answers for Briggs Hill Road

Several road projects also on tap in town

By MARIN HOWELL
BRISTOL — Bristol officials are tackling several road-related projects around town, the subject of discussions at the Bristol selectboard meeting on Monday. Those discussions focused on efforts to address a stretch of Briggs Hill Road that was badly damaged by storms last summer and has experienced more erosion since then, and the potentially high cost of solving those problems.

The road is supported by a slope that runs between Briggs Hill and Lincoln Road, a portion of which failed during a bout of storms in July 2023, undermining the shoulder and pavement on a section (See Bristol, Page 12A)

Midd. manager takes a bow

Ramsay, who deftly managed crises, ready for new gig

By JOHN FLOWERS
MIDDLEBURY — One of Middlebury Town Manager Kathleen Ramsay's biggest attributes, recalled former selectboard Chair John Tenny, was being able to "manage the storm, without being caught in the center of it."

Ramsay will truly put that aphorism to the test during the next chapter of her professional life, as she takes on a new role with the Vermont League of Cities and Towns (VLCT) that will literally put her at the center of future storms, helping communities recover from floods and other natural disasters. But right now, Ramsay is taking a much-deserved bow for the combined total of 20 years she's

spent putting municipal policy into action for the town of Middlebury. Ramsay will step down on Sept. 6. The selectboard has begun recruiting her replacement in hopes of having a successor on board sometime between Oct. 10 and Nov. 10.

Ramsay likely won't be on board to help the new town manager learn the ropes, but she's put in place a capable, seasoned corps of municipal officials who'll provide stability during the transition. They include Assistant Manager David Sophrin; Police Chief Jason Covey; Bill Kernan, director of public works operations; Emmalee Cherington, director of public works planning; and Jennifer Murray, director of planning & zoning.

"One thing I'm particularly proud of is the hires that have made a difference for the town," she said.

Those workers will carry on a legacy that Ramsay leaves following 36 years in municipal government that has included town manager positions in Pittsford, Killington and Middlebury.

Her first tour with the shire town came as assistant town manager, from 2000-2007.

"I was impressed with her well organized management and cheerful good spirit," said Tenny, who was on the selectboard at the time. "She helped a great deal in the work of the Selectboard and committees to keep us well prepared."

Ramsay liked the assistant job in Middlebury, but wanted to boost her career trajectory. So in 2007, she became top administrator (See Ramsay, Page 14A)



KATHLEEN RAMSAY HAS served as Middlebury's town manager during several watershed events. She's moving on after a 12-year stint as the shire town's top administrator and is drawing kudos for her service. Independent photo/Steve James

MAUSD seeks to fill seats

By MARIN HOWELL
BRISTOL — The Mount Abraham Unified School District Board is looking to fill two open seats — one in Starksboro and another in New Haven.

The open New Haven seat was formerly filled by Ashley Bessette, who was recently hired by the three county public school districts as the new Universal Pre-K Coordinator for Addison County.

The board has 30 days from July 11 to appoint a New Haven resident to fill the vacancy. Once appointed, the new board member would serve until next March, when they'd have the opportunity to run for the remaining two years of the seat term. (See MAUSD, Page 14A)

Local wildlife affected by heavy rains, flooding

By MARIN HOWELL
ADDISON COUNTY — When heavy rains inundated parts of the state on July 10 and 11, much of the damage done to homes, businesses and public infrastructure was clear to see.

What was perhaps less evident was the storm's impact on local wildlife, such as the fish, reptiles and amphibians that inhabit Vermont's waterways.

Wildlife officials say this month's heavy rainfall and flooding will likely result in a decline in some fish and herptile (reptile and amphibians) populations. While those populations are expected to bounce back within a few years, experts note that it's unclear how species will fare as severe

storms become increasingly common due to climate change.

"We've had three major flood events in some areas (in the past year). Honestly, we're in uncharted territory," said Will Eldridge, an aquatic habitat biologist with the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department. "This is not the kind of thing that we've seen, and this is not what's supposed to happen. We're going to monitor populations to see how they respond to repeat flooding."

Major floods over the past year include a mid-December storm that triggered road closures and school dismissals in Addison County and greater damage elsewhere in the state, as well as destructive deluges

that hit Vermont in July of 2023 and again earlier this month.

Eldridge said when such storms occur, the immediate impact can be detrimental to smaller fish, particularly those born within the past year.

"Those guys are just not as able to hold their position in the water column, or they're more susceptible to predation after an event," he explained.

He noted that in areas like Brandon and Cornwall with plentiful wetlands, fish will go up into wetlands to get out of flood waters during a storm.

"But as the waters recede, we'll see birds, herons, come in and they are feeding off the fish in those flood plains," Eldridge said.

POPULATION DECLINES

A decline in fish populations can be seen after flooding events like the one earlier this month, Eldridge said, but the fish that survive often thrive with more food available and less competition.

He noted that flooding events can also enhance fish habitats, for instance by bringing log jams that serve as forage and refuge spots for fish.

"For a variety of reasons, the fish that survive actually do better," he said.

Floods can also lead to reductions in populations of salamanders that live and lay their eggs in streams.

Kate Kelly is a herpetologist with the (See Extreme weather, Page 16A)

Index

- Obituaries.....6A
- Classifieds.....5B-9B
- Service Directory.....6B-7B
- Entertainment.....Arts + Leisure
- Community Calendar.....5B
- Arts Calendar.....Arts + Leisure
- Sports.....1B-4B

7 18122 07300 9

Drag Story Hour swept Bristol

By CAROLINE JIAO

BRISTOL— From a child's point of view, it might have been that two fairies manifested from a secret garden and made their way to the local library.

This is pretty close to what happened in reality. Emoji Nightmare and Katniss Everqueer, two local drag queens currently co-directing the Drag Story Hour Vermont Chapter, had launched their 2024 Rural Outreach Program from April to July with the help of the Samara Fund at the Vermont Community Foundation. That fund allowed them to read stories to kids at eight rural libraries.

The pair shone brightly in Bristol on July 6, an event hosted by the Lawrence Memorial Library, bringing glitter on themselves and laughter from the crowd.

A total of 85 parents and kids enjoyed the reading, which is almost triple the attendance in the library's usual story hour.

On the official website of Drag Story Hour Vermont Chapter, the event is said to capture "the imagination and play of the gender fluidity of childhood and gives kids glamorous, positive, and unabashedly queer role models." It's stated goal is to allow kids who live without gender restrictions to imagine "a world where people can present as they wish, where dress

up is real."

Their performance in Bristol was only the second time they'd reached Addison County, after having been hosted in Middlebury a few years prior.

Cambridge, Vermont resident Justin Marsh, who embodies the performance persona of Emoji Nightmare, recognizes the importance of outreach and bringing opportunities for representation to a wider audience, especially in more rural areas.

"When I founded the chapter with Nikki Champagne, who was the performing persona of representative Taylor Small, she knew my passion for rural advocacy was paramount, so we devised a plan to make sure we reached out to as many rural communities as possible. That was always tantamount to our work," Marsh explained.

The performers had a goal to reach all of Vermont's 14 counties in the first three years since the founding of the chapter, which went well until the pandemic hit.

"We really did get out to all the back roads. I discovered towns I've never been to before, libraries that are on dirt roads, libraries without plumbing," Marsh recounted. "I'm always kind of floored by how these libraries are able to produce so many amazingly vibrant programs

on a shoestring budget."

The Drag Story Hour operates the same way a common story hour does. The performers read and enact several children's stories to the audience. The event in Bristol closed with a craft-making session where children decorated their own fans with stickers and gems.

"There were songs throughout the program," library director Katie Male-Riordan said. "Welcoming songs, movement songs to help kids release some energy because they've been sitting for a little bit, and then a song to close out."

"It was just some masterclass storytelling by Katniss and Emoji," Male-Riordan said. "It was so incredible watching people be absolutely riveted. There was lots of laughter. You could tell when people found themselves reflected in the experience of what the characters were going through in the book and were deeply moved by some of the messages of the stories, which were things like identity, acceptance, friendship, inclusivity. It was such a good feeling in the room."

The queens had thoughtfully picked stories that would appeal to the kids.

"We're looking for books that have a lot of dialogue since we're unique that there's two of us, and that is not common in the drag story hour world internationally," Marsh explained.

They would look for stories with touches on a variety of topics, and while many are about hardships and even trauma, more are about the fun and pleasure in human experiences.

"I don't ever want drag story hour to become just too serious for itself," Marsh said.

However, not all could see the value in their endeavor, and their performances have always faced pushback.

PUSHBACK FROM OUTSIDE
The Bristol police told the *Independent* that prior to the event, they received calls from a person who wished to be present at the event and preach his beliefs. He did



EMOJI NIGHTMARE AND Katniss Everqueer gives storytelling masterclasses as they bring Drag Story Hour Vermont Chapter to local libraries. Their Rural Outreach Program through the Samara Fund allows them to travel to rural venues.

Photo Courtesy Emoji Nightmare

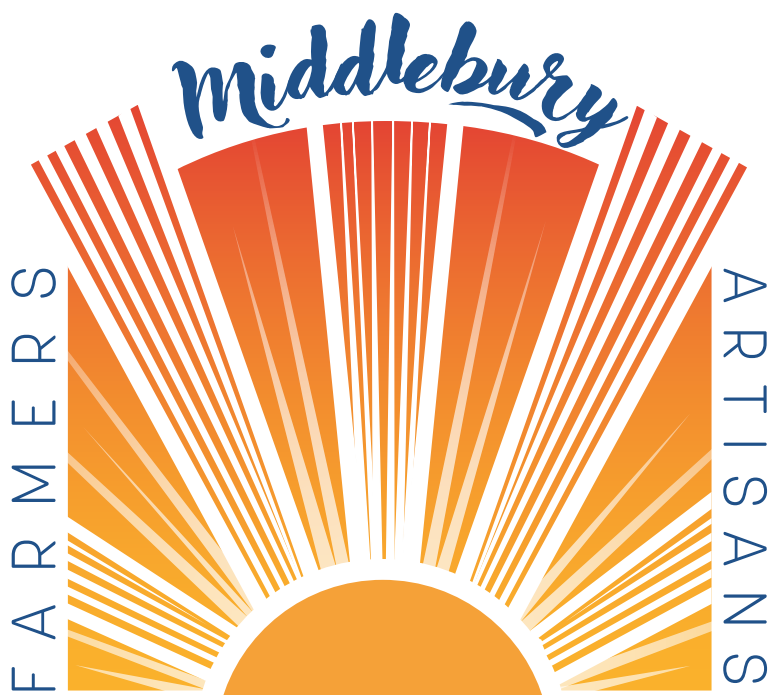
show up with his mic and speaker at the event's venue, apparently having driven up all the way from Massachusetts. He had allegedly put calls out trying to have the event canceled.

The librarian had arranged with the performers for a more secluded entrance into the building when the man showed up wanting to speak to them.

Marsh recounted it as a fine interaction. "He said 'Don't worry I come in peace.' So we thought 'Oh maybe this was just a journalist or something.' He seemed friendly so we engaged with him."

When the man expressed wishes to read scriptures and to baptize them, the two performers acknowledged his effort.

"I wanted to find a compromise. I don't know why I gave him the opportunity, but I did. Maybe the nice Vermonter in me just wanted to give him the chance to say what he needed to say if it (See *Queens*, Page 7A)



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GoFundMe page launched Lewis Creek Farm suffers from heavy floods

By CAROLINE JIAO

STARKSBORO — On Wednesday, July 18, Hank Bissell, owner of Lewis Creek Farm for over 40 years, posted a GoFundMe page to help raise money to alleviate crop damage from Hurricane Beryl.

According to Bissell, more than 7 acres of crops were destroyed, farm roads were washed out, and areas of cropland were scoured out as much as three feet deep.

While repairing the physical damage will be expensive, the real financial loss is the destroyed crops, according to Bissell.

"It says \$35,000 on the page. That's what I've put into seven acres already," he said. "It's not what I expect to sell the finished product. I expect to sell them for \$70,000 or \$100,000. It's what I've invested in the crops so far."

Situated in low-lying river bottomland, Lewis Creek Farm is accustomed to flooding about every five years.

"Last year around this period we had around eight to nine inches," Bissell said. "We didn't get actual



CARROTS FROM LEWIS Creek Farm lying in the field after mud was washed off of them. The farm owner Hank Bissell posted a GoFundMe page on Wednesday, July 18, asking for support to recover from the loss of crops destroyed by recent flooding.

Photo by Hank Bissell

flooding where the river comes up out of the banks, but it was very wet. Plants just don't like being that wet. We lost a lot of crops."

This year, despite putting most crops on the highest land, the flooding was beyond any previous measure. The farm has had 12 inches of rain so far in July, and 16 inches during the past 30 days.

"We've exceeded the entire summer's amount of rainfall," said Bissell. For reference, it's normal during the entire summer to have around 10-12 inches of rainfall.

"Normally in the summer, you got a quarter of an inch, oh you'd be singing the praises. But a quarter of an inch is nothing anymore."

Bissell thanks community members for their early support. During the first 24-hours after he'd put up the GoFundMe page, he'd received more than \$4,000.

"People I know, people I don't know. It just makes my heart swell seeing the help and goodwill. It's amazing," he said. To help, go to: gofundme.com/f/help-lewis-creek-farm-recover-from-flood-damage.

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Jul 25 - Jul 31

Recycle overload! Where do the thrown-aways go?

By CAROLINE JIAO

MIDDLEBURY — For some summer is a season of fashion. Is there a better time to make a statement with new and trendy outfits than in bright sun and warm weather?

However, what happens to the old clothes? Any second thoughts about where they'll end up before throwing them away or packing them up for donation? And when we donate them do we deserve a pat on the shoulder?

The 2023 Vermont Waste Composition Study conducted by the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation concluded that textiles grew as a portion of Vermont's aggregated municipal solid waste (MSW), from 4.2% in 2018 to 6.5% in 2023. At 24,413 tons, there were more textiles in the solid waste stream than electronics and furniture/bulky items combined.

Data provided by the Environmental Protection Agency show that the recycling rate for all textiles was 14.7 percent in 2018, while 11.3 million tons, making up to 66%, went to landfills.

In a state like Vermont, and more specifically a small town like Middlebury, where sustainability exists at large as one of the many prideful values, the scene of fabric reuse and recycling may be a little more complicated than imagined.

Middlebury College's recycling center always attracts attention when it opens in mid-summer for college-affiliated members of the community to dig for treasures. The center usually invites various nonprofits to pick through the goods before the designated day for public sale. The organizations they work with vary from year to year.

Kimberly Bickham, supervisor for waste management and custodial services, gave a list of those agencies to the *Independent* despite noting it

is hard to keep track of how many items precisely go to them. The list included Middlebury senior home The Commons, Migrant Justice, the college's winter clothing closet for international students, and a veterans' home called The Dodge House in Rutland.

"They typically take starters' stuff, like mini-fridges, pots and pans, microwaves, some take linens, some people are helping the homeless, so they're trying to get clothes," Bickham said.

The recycling center takes about three to four weeks to sort through their acquisitions since commencement day, which is usually the busiest day, after many students desert mountains of possessions, and the lack of staffing limits the center's hours.

"We had a pretty good help on commencement day. After that it's just my staff, which is six people, two part-time, four full-time working at the center," Bickham said. "While we're doing this, we're still running our day-to-day operations. We still collect compost, we still collect trash and recycling around campus and Bread Loaf, we still do everything we do on a daily basis."

Staffing shortage proved to be a shared issue among reuse and recycling endeavors. It was one of the main factors that Helping Overcome Poverty's Effect, or HOPE, stopped its textile recycling in 2022. Now, the organization runs Marion's Place, a resale store.

"We used to take in any and all textiles, a few years ago we realized that's not a good idea," Jeanne Montross, the executive director of HOPE, told the *Independent*. Around eight people now keep the store running.

"We accept things that are clean and are in reusable condition that we can resell. Some of it gets given away to people who are homeless

or otherwise that can't afford (the goods)."

Montross said they have stopped tracking the volume of items, but those that arrive can easily fill several standard Gaylord shipping boxes each week.

Small nonprofits like Junebug, a children's wear resale that used to rely on HOPE to dispose of their secondary clothing items, had faced a backlog during COVID when HOPE receded from offering recycling services. They now receive around 300 pounds of clothes donations daily.

Maria Graham, the director of Junebug, mentioned Addison County Solid Waste Management District (ACSWMD) being a great help during the pandemic. They now deliver all their non-resalable items to the External Learning Program (ELP) that runs in the MAUSD school district.

Amy Chesley, the director of ELP affirmed that only around 5-10% of items they receive go to ACSWMD.

Other resale stores like Buy Again Alley and Round Robin are also familiar with the reuse and recycling process.

Buy Again Alley employee Suzy Hunt told the *Independent* that they try everything they can to keep clothes out of landfill. She pointed out that secondary quality clothing can go to a free rack or be upcycled through the creative mind of each employee. Some learned to sew over trademarks and brand names, others tie-dye to repurpose various wash marks.

"We don't have a protocol or procedure to take things off the floor," she said. "On average, we dispose of less than a trash bag per month."

It's all well and good when clothes do get resold or reused within the community, but many items inevitably cannot meet the standard to stay on display. Most

of them get funneled to ACSWMD, and it's not even the end of it.

According to ACSWMD Program Manager Don Maglienti, the textile recycling program processed up to 45,560 pounds last year, and 18,680 pounds by late June this year.

"Typically, we're sending out 700 to 1,000 pounds a week. Somewhere in that range," he said.

Maglienti has suggested some possible markets or companies that would take secondary textiles to repurpose them into other products.

"Textiles that aren't usable for clothing anymore can be shredded and go into other markets, like Auto Fluff or carbon paddings," he said.

The program does not directly process those fabrics. It now works with Apparel Impact, a multi-state recycling business whose headquarters is in New Hampshire.

In fact, the college's recycling (See recycling, Page 7A)

Middlebury to host state firefighters' convention

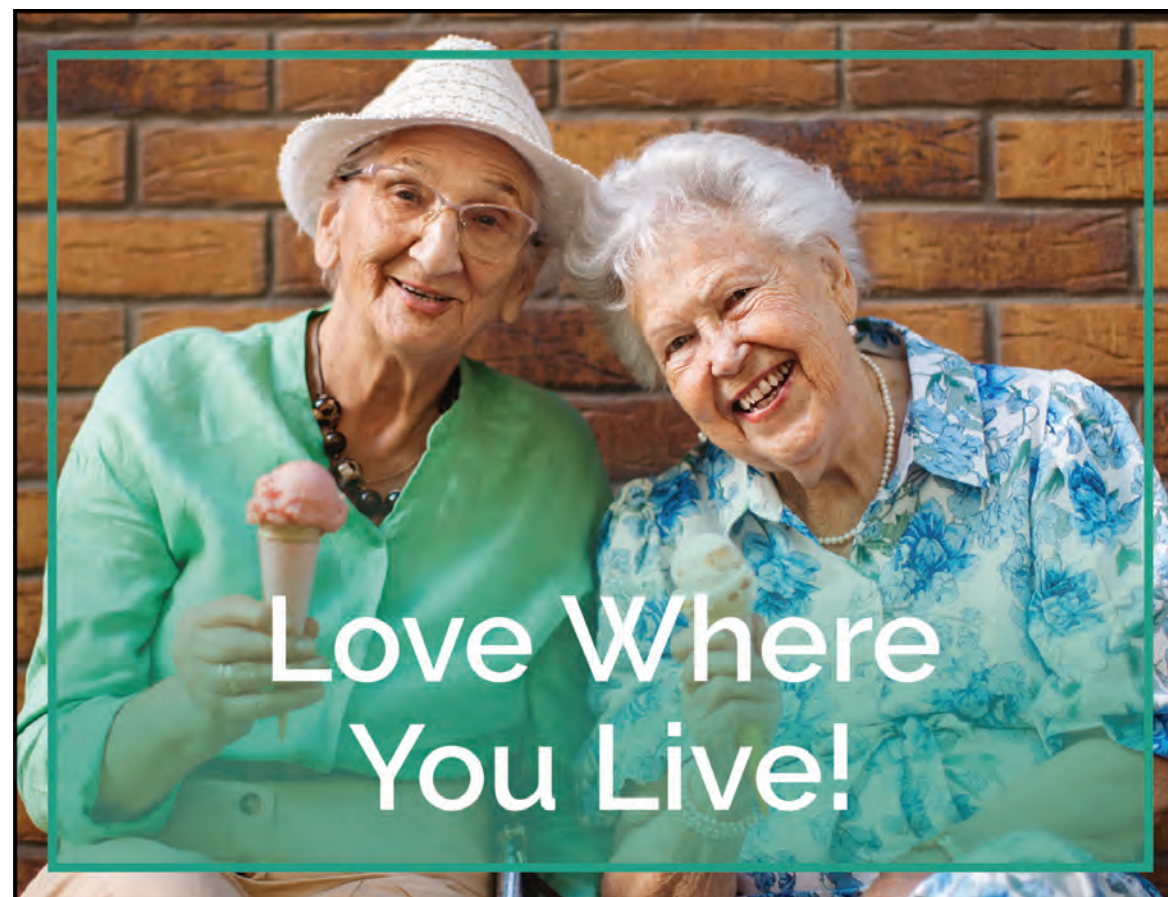
MIDDLEBURY — The Middlebury Fire Department will host the Vermont State Firefighters Association 134th annual convention, slated for this Friday, July 26 and Saturday, July 27, in the county's shire town. It will be an opportunity for firefighters statewide to gather, train together, socialize, elect officers and demonstrate their expertise.

The event will kick off at 6 p.m. on Friday with a memorial service at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, followed by an executive board meeting,

dinner and social gathering at the Middlebury American Legion.

On Saturday, the association will conduct its business meeting and elect officers, again at the Legion, beginning at 9 a.m. The much-anticipated muster games will begin at 12:30 p.m. in the G. Stone Motors Parking Lot (36 Boardman St.), with kids' games, live demonstrations and equipment vendors available on site.

Firefighters will conclude their gathering Saturday evening with a dinner at the Middlebury Legion.



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Editorials

In a flash Harris grabs the mantle, what now?

The tectonic plates of this presidential election are shifting so quickly it's hard to keep up. With President Biden announcing this Sunday he was stepping aside and throwing his support to Vice President Kamala Harris, there was a moment of anticipation that Democrats would see a scramble between top contenders for the party's presidential nomination. But of the half dozen likely contenders, no others stepped forward. Party unity in defeating ex-president Trump prevailed and Harris appears to have clinched the nomination well ahead of the convention.

For Democrats, a unified party behind a strong candidate is better than facing a potentially fractious fight. The downside of such a hasty coronation, however, is the missed opportunity to refine some of its talking points with free televised coverage in a debate-like format — an opportunity that would have drawn huge audiences of undecided voters.

In lieu of those debates, there might be another opportunity.

Harris and party leaders could slow the search for a vice-presidential candidate and use the next three weeks before the convention to flush out the Democratic platform via group interviews with the top VP candidates and Harris. The party could, for example, pick 5 top issues to discuss in five separate conversations, allowing each of the candidates to elaborate on how the Democratic platform differs from the Republican approach and why it better serves the average voter.

These conversations, which would still be moderated, would introduce voters to the candidates and help define the issues.

The top issues aren't hard to choose: the economy and why America is better off than most other countries, what that means to the average voter, and why we're on track to tame inflation; abortion and a woman's right to control her own body; climate change — the opportunities of a green economy versus the catastrophic results of denial; foreign policy and the false allure of isolationism; and how to manage immigration so it doesn't overwhelm our lives yet helps the nation grow and be stronger as it has always done throughout American history.

If it's too complex or cumbersome to include all the VP contenders, Harris could do the same on her own and draw millions of viewers with each topic. That's in addition, of course, to Harris's campaign duties and a ramped-up schedule to compare and contrast her youth, vigor, intelligence, and knowledge of the issues to Trump and the party he has made in his orange-glow image.

Harris has a lot of work ahead to ensure American voters get to know who she is, feel comfortable with her, and understand the contrast in leadership and optimism she offers the country.

It feels new and exciting because it is.

Angelo Lynn

Misinformation on Vt. legislation

In today's world of dueling information campaigns — where exaggeration, misinformation and outright lies are prolific — learning to distinguish between fact and fiction is crucial. And this isn't just about political parties. Lobbyists of big interests like the oil or pharmaceutical industries hire legions of employees to distract, dissuade and misinform at the most basic levels — from the flyers and postcards you get in your mailbox to your personal emails.

Vermont House Speaker Jill Krowinski recently called out a misinformation campaign led by the Koch brothers Super-Pac, Americans for Prosperity, to mislead Vermonters on the Affordable Heat Act (Act 18).

Founded in 2004 by Koch Industries, the Super-Pac has emerged, as Krowinski reports, "as a leading defender of the oil and gas industry and a well-funded opponent of climate and environmental initiatives nationwide." She explains the Super-Pac announced a "major five-part mail and digital campaign" to target Vermont voters during this election cycle. Americans for Prosperity postcards, for example, include false claims that the legislation "mandates heat pump installations in homes."

It does not.

Nor is it known whether the legislation will drive up heating costs. It could, and the legislation process underway will determine the benefits versus the downsides of the bill's directives and proceed accordingly.

The Speaker provided an update of the legislation, so Vermonters know the facts and won't be confused by the misinformation campaign that has often been echoed by the state GOP.

"The Affordable Heat Act ensures," Krowinski says, "that all Vermonters have access to low-cost, reliable heat and relief from the dramatic increases in heating fuel that we see year over year. The bill, which passed in 2023, sets in motion a public rule-drafting process, and requires several important fact-finding studies for consideration and possible action by the legislature in the upcoming biennium..."

"The goal of the Affordable Heat Act is to help insulate Vermonters from fossil-fuel price swings, and to make it easier and more affordable for them to transition — if they want to — to more sustainable renewable energy sources. There has been much uninformed speculation about how or whether this proposed policy initiative might impact the price of heating fuel," she continued, "and while there is little I can do to stop Super-Pac-funded misinformation from flowing into our state, I can provide the facts to Vermonters on where we stand in the process."

"Currently, draft rules for the Affordable Heat Act are being developed, informed by equity and technical advisory groups and a comprehensive study... When the legislature reconvenes in January, we will take up the draft rules for implementing a Clean Heat Standard and consider them as we would regular legislation. This means there will be public hearings, ongoing expert testimony and input from fuel dealers and our energy regulators. It is possible that additional work will need to be done by the legislature and administration prior to implementing this policy. It will not become law unless, and until, it is approved by successful votes in both the House and Senate and signed by the Governor..."

That doesn't mean the legislation won't impact fuel prices one way or the other; it likely will. But it does mean the legislation is a work in progress with many opportunities for public input. The upshot is simple: Be wary of information that comes from campaigns financed by the companies most likely to be affected; be aware of opportunities to contribute your views and don't be shy to do so; and understand the big-picture intent first, then work with area legislators to ensure the details don't sour the pudding.

Angelo Lynn



Pizza on the Pond

THERE'S LITTLE BETTER on a beautiful Vermont summer day than eating outside in a splendid setting while listening to live music. That's the scene every other week at Goshen's Blueberry Hill Inn when the crew there cooks pizza in their outdoor oven by their idyllic pond.

Independent photo/Angelo Lynn

An embarrassment of fruit riches

This is the time of year when I struggle with the sheer amount of fruit I want to pick and consume. Why is there so much ripeness at the same time? We start super early with rhubarb, and after the first miraculous rhubarb pie in May, it just keeps growing and I end up freezing bags of rhubarb stalks. There are only so many pies and jars of rhubarb sauce one can make.

By then, strawberries are ready. I always pick so many I am unable to eat them fast enough. Again, there are limits to how many handfuls of strawberries one can snack on and how much shortcake one can make. Luckily, once it's beyond the stage where any of us wants to eat them, I can make a balsamic strawberry sauce and freeze it.

Just as all the local berries are ripening, grocery stores start rolling out the cherries and peaches in season somewhere else. They just long to be bought and eaten fresh, spitting the cherry pits over the porch railing or letting peach juice dribble down to our elbows.

And there is that one week when cherries are in season locally, so we can go to the orchard and pick all those lovely types of cherries that are ripe only for a few days. If you're lucky, you might have a neighbor with so many sour cherries you can pilfer a bunch. Like all the best of seasonal fruit, they then must be enjoyed immediately or made into a sour cherry pie and eaten on the 4th of July.

Once your fridge is already full of all these fruits, the blueberries are ripe, quickly followed by the blackberries and raspberries quietly overtaking my garden. I often end the day scratched by thorns while

picking berries that need frequent harvesting. These fresh jewels don't last long, so once again there's a need to eat quickly! This year I might even have enough blackberries to make a cobbler, which will be topped off with vanilla ice cream that melts into the berry juice making a most delicious color.

It is hard to find enough time to eat all these short-lived seasonal fruits. I never buy rhubarb, and rarely buy peaches or cherries from the store unless they're in season. Store-bought blueberries are usually the best bet, but I am always disappointed with commercial strawberries and raspberries. Even though we can get them year-round, is it really worth it? They are so inferior to the ripe, freshly picked version they are almost a different fruit altogether.

I feel I must indulge and eat as much of this amazing fresh local fruit as I possibly can. I know I can freeze some of it but find myself loath to do so. While it will be good, it will never be as good as walking out barefoot into the garden, picking a handful of plump juicy raspberries so ripe they are almost falling off the canes, and popping the sun-warmed fruit directly into my mouth.

Do I enjoy these fruits so much because they are so good, or is it because they are available for such a short amount of time? If I am only going to make one sour cherry pie in the year, does that make it more special? Perhaps the two can't be separated, the scarcity and deliciousness inexorably linked.

It makes me wonder what else would be enjoyed more if it was less prevalent. Would we appreciate (See *Ways of Seeing*, Page 5A)

Ways of Seeing

By Claire Corkins



Mystery house didn't disappoint

Our family recently enjoyed an epic trip to California — a trip that lasted two weeks and spanned 6,500 miles as we traveled from Vermont to Montreal, flew to San Francisco, drove to Los Angeles, and returned to Vermont again by way of Montreal. We slept in five different locations and reconnected with numerous dear friends and family members.

The three days that we spent in the San Francisco Bay Area marked our first return to the region since 2016. The Bay Area is where my husband, Erick, grew up and lived until his college graduation; we'd lived there for half of our first decade of marriage and it's where our first three children were born. We barely scratched the surface of our family history during this visit, but we did take our children to the Winchester Mystery House.

Erick and I had visited the Winchester Mystery House once, before we had children. It was shortly after we'd moved to Berkeley, something to do on a free Saturday when we were still exploring the new landscape we now inhabited. Come to think of it, we probably even slept late and then read the newspaper over brunch; we may even have watched an entire movie the night before!

The details of that first visit were fuzzy in my mind, but I still remembered the bizarre story behind

the Winchester Mystery House. Here is the story as I relayed it to my children:

Sarah Winchester, who had married into the family that owned the Winchester Repeating Arms Company, moved to San Jose, Calif., in the 1880s after the deaths of her husband and infant daughter. She was consumed with guilt over the people who'd been killed by

Winchester rifles, and was told by a medium that she had to continually build a house for their ghosts; if construction ever stopped, she would have bad luck — or die (or perhaps both). So, she bought an old farmhouse and began a 38-year construction project that ballooned the house to 500 rooms, complete with bizarre features like doors to nowhere, curving staircases with tiny steps, trapdoors, and walled-off windows. The building was, of course, never finished.

Our children are mostly at ages and stages in which they are fascinated with the bizarre and vaguely spooky, so we thought they'd enjoy the Winchester Mystery House. We were correct. It was a hot day in San Jose, with temperatures pushing 90 degrees, but our children trooped gamely through the hour-long tour during which our guide showed us the room where Sarah Winchester supposedly held seances, noted the cobweb patterns and the number 13 in the decorative

(See *Clippings*, Page 5A)

Clippings

By Faith Gong



Letters to the Editor

Cemetery needs a new fence

What a wonderful article in last week's edition of the paper about the Lincoln cemeteries and the project undertaken by our library, our historical society, and the third and fourth graders at the Lincoln school! I have seen that exhibit at the historical society and recommend it. It is a wonderful example of a multigenerational project of historical significance. We need to preserve our history and learn from it.

I have recently met with the Lincoln Cemetery Association with the idea of spearheading a project to replace the fence around our largest cemetery, which is beautiful but deteriorating beyond repair. We have all agreed on the many reasons we need to replace the fence with something equally beautiful. It will be an expensive project, but there are so many interested folks that I am confident that we can raise the funds to have a talented local welder fabricate a new one and install it. Stay tuned for more information.

Alison Parker
Lincoln

Hardy receives vote of support

I have been an Addison County resident since 1997 and I was an employee of the Addison Central School District (ACSD) for 25 years. The purpose of this letter is to voice my support for Ruth Hardy as Senator for the Addison District and to explain why she has my vote. I believe Ruth is the right candidate for the job because she is thorough, accessible, and has genuine concern for the needs of her constituents.

I knew of Ruth, but really started to communicate with her in the fall of 2020. That school year is known to teachers as the "hybrid" year. It was the year after schools had shut down in March of 2020. Due to social distancing, there were limitations on the number of students that could be in the building at one time. Half of the students came to school on Monday/Tuesday and the other half came to school Thursday/Friday. When students were not in school, they were supposed to access the lessons online.

Wednesday was a fully remote/online day for all. Ruth wanted to see first-hand how schools were coping with these unusual circumstances, and she wanted to help. So naturally, she dove right in and became a substitute teacher. Not only was she a reliable and competent sub, but she also took time to gather information about what schools needed in order to guide her in proposing and voting on legislation. She did this through observation and by questioning both students and teachers. She would often sub as an aide in my classroom. Thorough? I should say so. What better way to help solve the problem than by becoming part of the solution? Not surprising to me, it's just the way Ruth operates.

In the winter of 2021, drastic cuts were proposed to the Vermont State Teachers Pension. I immediately called Ruth asking for her help and support. Once again, she got right into it. I gave Ruth what information I had regarding the problem and possible solutions and she researched the situation on her end. There were many texts and phone calls over the next year. The communication almost always took place in the evening and over the weekend. Ruth was always available. When the teachers and the legislature came to a tentative agreement in January of 2022, Ruth met with myself and a colleague on a Saturday morning to review the proposal. Over that year, Ruth never made me feel as though I was troubling her or as if she did not have time for me. This was despite the fact that her Mom passed away in March of 2021.

Finally, what I value and respect most about Ruth may sound simplistic and trivial, but I think in today's climate, it is tremendously important. She cares. After the 2021-22 school (See *Cherrier letter*, Page 5A)

ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT

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Letters to the Editor

Incumbent state senator makes an impression

I'd like to just make a personal endorsement of our state Sen. Ruth Hardy now that I have come to know her after her repeated appearances at Rochester's Democratic Committee. She was new to us, here in Rochester, after the state's recent reapportionment process. It was a pleasure to get to know her.

Her legislative priorities are clear from her campaign material, support for affordable childcare, reproductive justice, advocacy

for public schools, housing and other issues important to many Vermonters.

But I think what is most defining about Ruth is her willingness to listen, to take the trouble to get out and hear from the folks in her district and work to support them on issues they feel are important to their families and communities. She also responded quickly to an email I sent her with a question about the state's position

regarding Sun Common's status.

The bottom line to me is that Ruth is a genuinely decent person who cares deeply about what happens to the families in her district, including the recent constituents here on our side of the mountain. She is like the good neighbor all of us would like to have — friendly, attentive and willing to help. So, she has my vote.

**Rob Gardner,
Rochester, VT**

Elder has the right stuff to be a good senator

Caleb Elder is my pick for Vermont Senate and I hope you'll join me in voting for him to represent our district.

As a parent to two elementary-school aged boys, both the seventh generation to live in Starksboro, I trust Caleb to push for solutions that support a future that ensures they're able to keep living here to see the next generation.

Caleb's depth of experience in education and his forward-thinking ideas about community schools — co-locating human services in school buildings — are the kinds of innovation we need to support families and help

communities thrive.

Further, healthcare is a major driver of stress to our family's budget. In my day-to-day work at NOFA-VT, I also regularly hear from farmers and individuals around the state about how much of a challenge and stressor health care is for them, impacting their quality of life, business decisions, and their health. I appreciate Caleb's advocacy for universal primary care as a pathway to a universal health care system in Vermont that would serve all Vermonters.

From issues around stewarding our environmental resources

to growing the resilience of our communities in the face of extreme weather like we experienced again with this month's flooding, to expanding housing opportunities to address Vermont's housing crisis, I believe that Caleb has both a positive vision for the future of Vermont and the skills to work in the Legislature to make this vision a reality.

Please join me in voting in the August primary for Caleb Elder for Senate!

**Erin Buckwalter
Starksboro, VT**

Netanyahu makes pitch amid carnage in Gaza

On Wednesday, the day before this issue of the *Addison Independent* came out, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu was scheduled to address the joint houses of Congress.

He will again stress the decades-long friendship and alliances with the U.S. Netanyahu will defend Israel's war on Gaza and will chastise his friend, President Joe Biden, for questioning Israel's motives in the war against Palestinians. He will dismiss the ICC's charges of starvation as merely more anti-Semitic rhetoric against a nation who has known genocide. He will also remind Congress that continued U.S. support is crucial to U.S. interests in the world arena by providing the U.S. with an ally against China, Iran and all potential hostile Arab states.

Benjamin Netanyahu will be

here at the invitation of Mike Johnson, Republican Speaker of the House.

As Israel refuses to accept any peace plan that would give any autonomy to the Palestinian people, the outcomes of this war are indisputable: over 39,000 Palestinians of Gaza killed with 15,000 of them being children; 89,000 injured, 10,000 missing in the rubble that was once homes, schools, hospitals, community centers, UN refuge centers. And in the occupied West Bank: 600 people killed with 150 of them children, 5,500 injured.

As Israel denies any wrongdoing and as the U.S. and other nations of the world are finding it more difficult to defend Israel's genocidal actions, the savage war continues. Throughout this war Israel has condoned its bombing of civilian areas by

stating that it drops leaflets before an assault (land and air) warning people to evacuate their homes and to move to so-called "safe zones."

Once they move, usually by foot or by donkey, they are bombed in the safe zones. And this happens over and over again. Some people report having to move six different places in a 12-hour period. Yousef Aljama, a spokesperson for The American Service Committee in Gaza, calls this practice of giving evacuation orders repeatedly in a short period of time and then bombing targeted areas that the Israeli army instructed Palestinians to move to, as *psychological warfare tactics*. For those who decide not to move, their homes become their graves.

Displacement, evacuations, (See *Brown letter*, Page 6A)

Cherrier letter

(Continued from Page 4A)

year, I decided to leave ACSD and take a job at Rutland High School. One day in August of 2022, I was driving home from Rutland and Ruth called me. She wanted to know how I was doing and why I left ACSD. After we talked and I explained my decision, Ruth said, "I am still your Senator"

and encouraged me to contact her if I ever needed anything. So, when the teachers needed her to override a veto this past June, I did not hesitate to reach out and she supported us yet again.

In closing, if education is a priority for you, Ruth is the clear choice. She is a strong advocate for public education, possesses

deep understanding of the issues, and is endorsed by the Vermont teacher's union (VT NEA). If education is not your top priority, please consider her experience, dedication, and character when casting your vote.

**Paul Cherrier
Middlebury**

Ways of Seeing

(Continued from Page 4A)

things more if we didn't have constant access to them? Have we become blasé about all the amazing stuff in our life because everything is always available? After living and traveling abroad in Africa, my return was always marked by amazement at being able to drink cold water right from the tap, and how wonderful it tasted. Unfortunately, that sense of wonder fades over time, and now I

think nothing of that same glass of cold water.

Unfortunately, I don't have more time to ponder this wonderful dilemma, because there is fruit in my fridge that needs to be eaten and berries in the garden that need to be picked. And I should probably make a blueberry lemon cake before the enormous number of blueberries we picked need to get frozen.

Claire Corkins grew up and

lives in Bristol and studied Human Ecology at College of the Atlantic in Maine. After college she worked abroad teaching English as a second language. She currently works with her father in such various endeavors as painting houses, tiling bathrooms, building porches, and fixing old windows. She hikes, reads, plays ice hockey, travels, and wishes she could wear flip flops all year round.

Clippings

(Continued from Page 4A)

touches, and pointed out the gash in Sarah's bedroom door where rescuers had supposedly employed an axe to free her after she was trapped for hours due to the 1906 earthquake.

Afterwards, at lunch, one of my children said, "That was really interesting, but I looked up the Winchester Mystery House online before the tour, and I'm not sure that all of that was true."

So of course, I looked up the Winchester Mystery House online, and it turns out that not all of that was true. Not at all.

Here's what *is* true: Sarah Winchester suffered great loss. By the time she was 40, she'd grieved her infant daughter, her husband, her mother and her father-in-law. Sarah Winchester was also very rich, having received a large inheritance from her husband. In 1885, following the death of her eldest sister and beginning to develop the symptoms of rheumatoid arthritis, she took the advice of her doctor to try a warmer, drier climate. She purchased an eight-room farmhouse on a 45-acre ranch near San Jose and named it Llanada Villa. She went on to purchase several additional homes in the area, as well as a houseboat.

Here's what seems to be true: Sarah Winchester did begin renovations to expand Llanada Villa. She and her husband had become interested in design while building a home in Connecticut, so she designed and supervised the project herself. She seems to have been a perfectionist, tearing down or abandoning features that didn't please her. The curving stairways with small steps were adapted for her arthritis. There is no actual evidence that Sarah was in the house during the 1906 earthquake;

she was likely at one of her other residences. The earthquake did do substantial damage to the house, and some of the more bizarre features (like doors and staircases to nowhere) resulted because the earthquake destroyed an entire wing of the house. After the earthquake, Sarah Winchester had the rubble cleared away but did almost nothing else to the house until her death in 1922, preferring instead to live in her other, intact dwellings. At the time of her death, the San Jose house had 160 rooms, which seems excessive. But was it mysterious?

Here is what does *not* seem to be true: Sarah Winchester was never quoted expressing guilt over making her fortune from a successful gun company; at the time, guns were considered necessary for survival. Nor is there any record of Sarah Winchester ever visiting a medium or feeling compelled to build perpetually due to ghostly influences. The room that we were shown, supposedly used for seances, turns out to have been the gardener's bedroom. People who knew her — family and employees — denied that she was superstitious.

The question remains: Why all the building? Perhaps she enjoyed it. Perhaps it kept her busy. Perhaps she was a little obsessive-compulsive. My favorite theory was advanced by Bruce Spoon, who wrote his master's thesis on Winchester in 1951: After numerous interviews, he believed that Sarah Winchester continued building so long in order to keep workers employed. As all of her employees were named as beneficiaries in her will, she certainly seems to have been generous.

In the end, the biggest

mystery may be: Why was Sarah Winchester, a woman who suffered both deep sorrow and chronic physical pain, yet nonetheless attempted to live a life of creativity and generosity, reimagined as a guilt-ridden, superstitious, spooky, compulsive builder?

If your guess is, "for profit," I suspect you're right.

When she died in 1922, Winchester's San Jose house was a neglected heap of worthless disrepair. A group of investors bought it for a pittance and leased it to John and Mayme Brown, who opened it to the public nine months later as a tourist attraction. As the story goes, Harry Houdini visited the house in 1924 and suggested the name, "Winchester Mystery House." Further renovations and mystique were added in the 1970s and 1980s when Keith Kittle, formerly of Disneyland, acted as general manager. Many of the more bizarre features were additions made after Sarah Winchester's death.

It turns out that a real life of grief, pain, resilience and poor architectural planning doesn't sell as well as a creepy fabrication.

After our visit to the Winchester Mystery House, I thought — not for the first time — about how much the stories we tell matter. This is especially true of the stories we tell about other people. The truth is usually complicated, nuanced and unprofitable; it wins us fewer fascinated listeners — who may be willing to pay — than sensational stereotypes.

But the truth is so very important, and so deeply beautiful. So whether in private or in public, let's do our best to stick to the true stories.

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

Forecasting the 2024 Presidential Election

Tuesday, Aug. 6, 10-11:30 a.m.

The 2024 election has been turned upside down in recent weeks by an unprecedented series of events. Learn about the historical



context, who is likely to win, why, and what does it mean for the future of the two political parties, and for American politics more generally? **Matt Dickinson** teaches at Middlebury

College, where he specializes in the study of American politics, particularly Congress and the presidency. Previously he taught at Harvard University, where he also earned his Ph.D. in Government. He is the author of *Bitter Harvest: FDR, Presidential Power, and the Growth of the Presidential Branch*.

Marta Zaraska's Growing Young: How Friendship, Optimism and Kindness Can Help You Live to 100

Wednesdays, Aug. 7, 14, 21, 1:30-3 p.m.

Books, purchased separately, are available at the Vermont Book Shop at a discount.



An exploration of why kindness and connection are just as important as broccoli and bicep curls, this well-researched and engaging book asks us to consider how strengthening social connections, cultivating a positive attitude, and

being kind is as close as we may ever get to the fountain of youth. We'll take her message to heart as we discuss our own lives and finding meaning and purpose as we age. Instructor **Elise Blair** trained and worked in the Netherlands as an industrial social worker and had a private psychoanalysis practice for 30 years. She is a former teacher, board member and president of the Washington Center for Psychoanalysis.

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ADDISON
COUNTY

Obituaries

Alysia Dawn Duncanson, 49, of Middlebury

MIDDLEBURY — Alysia Dawn Duncanson, 49, of Loris, S.C. passed away peacefully on Wednesday, July 17, 2024. Born in Middlebury, Vt. on July 30, 1974, she was the daughter of Timothy Bushey and Deborah Blow Morgan.

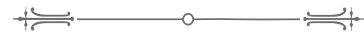
A celebration of life will be held at 11am on Saturday, July 20, 2024 at Lee Funeral Home and Crematory. Visitation will be held prior to the service from 10am to 11am. A celebration of life will be held at a later date in Middlebury, Vt.

Survivors include her husband of almost 31 years, Walter Duncanson; mother, Deborah Morgan; father, Timothy Bushey; grandmother, Kitty Blow; daughters, Sabryna Duncanson, Samantha Estrada (Nick); brother, Jamie Bushey; grandchildren, Amara Duncanson, Zayne Duncanson; Maximus Estrada,



ALYSIA DAWN DUNCANSON

Emilia Estrada; mother-in-law, Lynne Duncanson; sister-in-law, Whitney Barber (Doug); brother-in-law, Brandon Duncanson (Luann Francisco); sister-in-law, Kimberly Duncanson; along with several aunts and uncles. She was preceded in death by her son, T.J. Duncanson and father-in-law, Walter Duncanson.



Eileen Dolan, 65, of Brandon

BRANDON — Eileen May (Wheeler) Dolan was born in Barre on March 3, 1959, to Charles and Hilda (Davis) Wheeler, who predeceased her. She succumbed to her sixth battle with cancer on July 11, 2024, at McClure-Miller Respite House in Colchester.

Eileen spent most of her childhood living in Hardwick with her family. She attended Hardwick schools and graduated from Hazen Union School in the Class of 1977.

Eileen attended the nursing program at Castleton State College, where she met John Dolan. Eileen and John married at St. Norbert's church in Hardwick on March 31, 1979. They lived in the Brandon area for many years. They recently celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary.

Eileen worked as an aide in several facilities in the Rutland and Brandon area for 46 years, starting with 15 years at the former Brandon Training School, and then at area nursing homes. She retired in May 2024 due to increasing health issues.

Eileen will be remembered for her compassion and devotion to the people she cared for. She will also be remembered for dressing up as a decorated, illuminated Christmas Tree each year and going room-to-room caroling for residents.

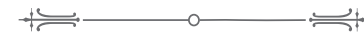
Eileen was the Queen of Rummage and reveled in yard sales and flea markets. She also was a prolific crafter and enjoyed



EILEEN DOLAN

crocheting and scrapbooking. She has donated scores of crafted items to various causes such as Operation Dolls.

Eileen is survived by her husband, John Dolan, of Brandon; her sister, Mary Wheeler and husband, Earl Braddee, of Hardwick; brother, Clarence Wheeler and wife Lorelei, of Greensboro; sister, Lee Ann Lee and husband, Richard, of North Wolcott. She is also survived by sister-in-law, Mary Dolan, of Reading; sister-in-law, Amy Greiner and husband, Mark, of Morehead City, N.C.; brother-in-law, David Dolan and wife, Snežana, of Boston, Mass.; brother-in-law, Joseph Dolan and wife, Shanta, of Queensbury, N.Y.; sister-in-law, Carrie Noyes and husband, Aaron, of Littleton,



Hercules Angelo Cota-Emilo, Bristol

BRISTOL — On July 17, 2024, Hercules Angelo Cota-Emilo, son of Chase Gibbs-Emilo and Avanleigh Cota, came into this world silently. He wore his father's long lashes and his mother's nose. His parents held him and baptized him; they are thankful their baby boy did not suffer and find peace in knowing he is with God.

Hercules was predeceased by his great grandmother Shirley Emilo,

and great grandfather Howard Gibbs.

Hercules' big sister, Loralie Anne, is a shining light during this difficult time. He is remembered and loved by his parents Chase and Avanleigh, his grandparents Jennifer Emilo Hoague, Jason Cota, and Denise Weaver; his uncles Zacheriah Cota and Ryan Hoague; and his great grandparents John Emilo, Deanna Dunster, Ralph and

Martha Cota, and David and Joan Weaver, as well as countless other family and friends who eagerly anticipated his arrival.

Calling hours will be held Saturday July 27, 2024, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Brown-McClay Funeral Home in Bristol. A private graveside service will be held July 29, 2024.

In lieu of cut flower arrangements the family would be honored to receive white perennials, to be used to establish a memorial garden for their beloved son.

"The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in Him and I helped."
Psalm 28:7

Pet of the week

Send us your pet!
news@addisonindependent.com

Michael John Gleason, 71, of Bristol

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

Michael invested his life freely and fully as a loving and supportive husband and father, who enjoyed sharing a hearty laugh with his

sons, providing many good stories — happy moments of his making. "Mr. G" was a teacher, coach, writer, actor, singer, author and forever fan of Muhammad Ali, the Dodgers and the Rolling Stones.

He taught elementary school for over thirty years, finding great joy particularly in reading "The Hobbit" aloud every year in his fourth-grade Bristol classroom, where he spent most of his career.

His love of sports was translated into the dozens of golden opportunities given to him to coach kids in soccer, basketball and baseball — Little League was near and dear to his heart. Michael enjoyed discovering his aptitude for acting in community theater productions, and for singing, in the Federated Church choir. In

his retirement, he completed the youth novel he had refined for years — a story about a new kid, a neighborhood and the power of friendship.

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

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

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

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

Letters to the Editor

Incumbents Bray, Hardy both deserve new terms

I am writing to ask the people of Addison County to vote for Senator Chris Bray and Senator Ruth Hardy in the Democratic Party primary on Aug. 13.

Senators Bray and Hardy are dedicated leaders who work hard to represent the best interests of all of us.

As highly respected leaders

in the Vermont Senate both of them have attained influence that enables them to achieve results, especially on issues of environment protection and education. I am proud to have them representing us and I am grateful for all that they do to serve the people of Addison County and Vermont.

It is my hope that Senators Bray and Hardy will continue to serve in the Vermont Senate for as long as they are willing and able. Let us all get out to vote for them in the primary on Aug. 13 and the general election on Nov. 5.

George Klohek
Middlebury

Former lawmaker endorses Olson for House seat

I'm asking you to join me in voting for Herb Olson for State Representative in The Democratic Primary. You can vote now or any day until Primary Election Day on August 13th.

Herb has been a public servant for most of his career. He has served as legislative council which is the group of lawyers that write bills for all legislators regardless of party. As such he has listened to all the viewpoints in

the legislature and helped figure out how the various proposals can help Vermonters. He believes that Universal Primary health care will not only improve access to primary doctors for all Vermonters it will also help reduce the out-of-control increase in health care costs.

Herb also believes in public education and is committed to improving the tax system that supports our schools. One of his

opponents, the chair of the Lincoln School Board worked hard to lead that community to leave the Mt. Abe school district and privatize the education of Lincoln children after 7th grade. Even today, as she claims to be a public school supporter, she could lead Lincoln to send their children to public schools and stop the voucher system currently in use in Lincoln.

Dave Sharpe
Bristol

Sen. Hardy a proven leader who listens, delivers

As a member of Gen-Z and a local educator deeply embedded in our community, I wholeheartedly endorse State Senator Ruth Hardy for re-election. Senator Hardy embodies the qualities we need in a leader: boundless energy, a gift for consensus building, and unyielding tenacity.

Having witnessed her dedication to our community firsthand, I am inspired by Senator Hardy's commitment to

education. As a mother of ACSD graduates and former Chair of the ACSD School Board, she understands the challenges facing our schools. She works tirelessly to ensure every child receives an honest, factual, and high-quality education.

Her involvement in the Isley Library 100 Team further exemplifies her proactive approach to enhancing community resources, ensuring that our libraries serve as

accessible and safe hubs for all. Sen. Hardy is a leader who listens, collaborates, and delivers results. Her ability to unite people to find common ground is invaluable in today's political climate. Whether securing funding for crucial community projects or advocating for positive legislation, Sen. Hardy's proven advocacy for our district instills confidence in her abilities.

Isabel Gogarty
Middlebury

Multi-species grazing helps sequester carbon

Most everyone by this time has heard about cattle emitting methane from their digestion of grass. Very few have heard mention of the same from deer, goats, sheep, woodchucks, chickens and rabbits, among others. Strictly grass-fed cattle are said to emit around 40% more than those that are in confined animal feeding operations (CAFOs).

I hear from very well educated and generally informed people that we need to limit the number

of cattle we keep in the interests of climate change. I would like to pose a question to all of them, which is why the grasslands of the world had sequestered in their soils the most carbon of any area other than the oceans. The depth of the very rich topsoil in a good deal of the Great Plains ran around 9 feet deep! Then along came our Middlebury hero, John Deere. The "plow that broke the Great Plains" resulted in the loss of as much as three feet of that precious soil during the Dust Bowl days.

The answer to the quandary lies in what is sometimes called "the cycle of old methane." Methane in the atmosphere fairly quickly breaks down into carbon dioxide. In excess, CO2 is said to create global warming. CO2 in the quantity produced by the animals feeding on the greenery stimulates approximately the same amount of vegetation they consume, hence creating the methane cycle.

The overabundance of lawns that are mowed by polluting

(See Gleason letter, Page 7A)

Brown letter

(Continued from Page 5A)
bombings, starvation, diseases from the sewerage, psychological warfare, dismembering huge numbers of children, burning and shredding of huge numbers of children, sniper shots to the heads of children by some of the world's

most skilled marksmen, the killing of whole generations of family members, the slow and painful deaths of civilians denied access to basic medical supplies. These are the stories of Palestinians living through this hell. And amidst this suffering and

carnage, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu rallies members of Congress for its continued military support to carry out its mission against "Hamas."

Linda Brown,
Bristol, VT.

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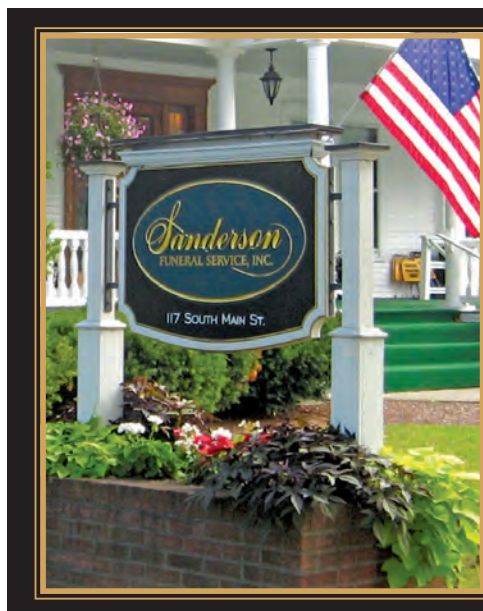
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Queens

(Continued from Page 2A)

was gonna make him feel better since he did approach us in a non-violent and non-hostile way. So as he was going on and on and on, the commentary he was making outside of the scripture wasn't really resonating with me. He was using terminology I don't use in my day-to-day, and I think they're, you know, old-fashioned, if you will," Marsh recalled.

It is not uncommon for the performers to face protests of their shows. However, this was the first time since they founded the chapter in 2017 that someone from out of state showed up in person.

"That was an unfortunate new highlight for us," Marsh said.

"The pushback we received was very small and it came from outside of our community," Male-Riordan said. "We were fortunate to have community members reach out to us and volunteer that day, including our board members, to be there and help make sure the event was run smoothly, and everyone was safe to have conversations with folks who might feel differently."

Marsh added that they purposely collaborate with community libraries and ask them to have the board of trustees and staff at the library OK the event.

"We really need to see that demonstrated support and buy-in from all aspects of the library so that if there is pushback, we

have the support embedded in the libraries themselves," Marsh said.

It is obviously for a good reason. "We have seen an increased amount of protesting and harmful actions that have been taken place (at these story hours)," Marsh said. "Bristol only had only one or two protesters, which wasn't terrible, but the next day we were in Craftsbury in the Northeast Kingdom and we encountered some really harmful behaviors from protesters."

In Bristol, the show carried on without further incident.

"We serve a diverse population, and this one program is representative of one," Male-Riordan said. "It is inclusive because everyone is invited, and I think the message of Drag Story Hour is that everyone is invited to be themselves."

"If you're a parent who brings kids to drag story hours, you're already a cool parent in my book, and you're probably gonna have some cool kids," Marsh joked. They recalled in many sessions inquisitive kids are fascinated by their performance and their wardrobe.

"One time we were reading in Waterbury and a child asked us if we were the fairies from their magic garden they had created in their home," Marsh recalled. "They thought we were the fairies come to life."

Gleason letter

(Continued from Page 6A)

machinery produce approximately the same amount of methane as if they were grazed. The fact is that vegetation produces methane whether it degrades in the guts of animals or through oxidation while lying on the ground or from leaf fall in the autumn, etc...

I'll note here that when my mother was absent from the family farm, we had super-efficient and environmentally benign mowers for the small lawn — Guerneys on a chain anchored to a crowbar. Her disgust at seeing cow patties on the lawn resulted in my pushing a very worn reel mower, no matter what the temperature. I encourage others to graze their lawns and sequester carbon.

The buffalo were perhaps one of the greatest gifts to the plains Indians. Having evolved there over the millennia they were well adapted to the conditions. To discourage any parasites the birds failed to pick off, they would lie on their backs and squirm around like horses do. Their great weight and the humps on their shoulders resulted in an abundance of water catchments with built-in sumps to provide water for them and their many friends.

Interestingly, when the great white invaders from Europe (I include the early settlers of both sides of my family in that category) arrived in what is now Phoenix, they found an oasis created by similar catchments dug by the natives. The buffalo provided very tasty and nutritious

meat and warm coverings for the plains Indians' bodies and their lodges. Buffalo rugs protected their feet from the cold ground. Small furbearers would have provided their own gifts.

Today, unfortunately, much of the world's grassland is under tillage. Tillage, itself, causes oxidation of the carbon in the soil that is exposed to the air. When fields are left open for the winter, like is common in the Champlain Valley, a great deal of soil nutrition is lost. Much of the nutrition in the liquid manure in the manure pits evaporates. More is lost when surface applied.

Conventional fertilizers, meant to make up for the losses, damage soil life and are of limited usefulness. Their manufacture results in environmental destruction. The lesser methane directly given off by confined animals is due to nutritional supplementation of grains, etc. grown on what was grassland. Cattle evolved to eat grass — not grains. The animals suffer and their food products fail to provide good health.

We're off on the wrong foot, but thankfully, I see a change of awareness regarding our destructive agriculture. Planting trees is a noble gesture. However, decades pass before trees become efficient at sequestering carbon. Well managed, multi-species grazing is the much quicker and more sensible remedy.

Joe Gleason
Bridport

Otter Creek Childcare Center expansion underway

By ALYANA SANTILLANA

MIDDLEBURY — As of June 2024, the Otter Creek Child Care Center's expansion project officially began construction at 150 Weybridge St in Middlebury. The OCCC officially relocated from their site at 150 Weybridge to 71 S Pleasant St on June 10 to make way for the construction.

"The new building is designed to have an operational capacity of 139 and four age groups," said Linda January, the Executive Director of Otter Creek Childcare Center. "We're currently at about 45 a day. After this is built, Otter Creek Childcare Center and College Street Childcare will combine."

The construction site is still in its pre-load stage of development, meaning workers are in the process of compressing the soil to ensure that the ground will be stable enough for the foundation. This phase will last until October, after which work on the foundation and the rest of the building will begin.

"The project was financed by a variety of different sources, many

federal and state grants, some private foundations, but Middlebury College has been the biggest partner in this project by far," said January.

Applications for funding have been in the works for years now. The first large sum of money towards the project came in 2022 from the Northern Borders Regional Commission (NBRC), which granted OCCC \$350,000 to fund the architectural design of the project. Afterwards, OCCC was earmarked for a grant through Senator Pat Leahy's office and became a recipient of Let's Grow Kids' \$3.1 million dollar grant. The project also received grants from the Vermont Community Revitalization Program and the NBRC Catalyst Grant, both of which were worth hundreds of thousands. The biggest donation has been the \$5 million grant from Middlebury College.

"All of this money is going towards construction, outfitting, supplies, furniture, and soft costs like insurance, project managers, and other contingencies," said January.

The OCCC is just one of many new developments aimed to address the rising demand for childcare in Vermont. Another source of support has been Act 76, a recent bill that allocates more state funding (through a small payroll tax) for childcare in Vermont. Those funds will help pay early childhood educators higher salaries, aiding in staffing and retention — a perennial problem at most childcare centers.

"We need more of an early childhood education workforce. Even if there is a physical space and money for these programs, if we don't have the personnel to staff them, our childcare is never going to be where it needs to be," said Sherry Carlson, the Chief of Programs Officer from Let's Grow Kids, a Vermont nonprofit organization that works to bring accessible childcare to Vermont families.

One way the Otter Creek expansion will work to alleviate local staffing shortages is by collaborating with Middlebury College to expose college students to early childhood education jobs.

OCCC hopes to provide students with teaching programs, volunteer opportunities, and insights into the nonprofit sector.

OCCC leaders are also optimistic about the impact the expanded center will have on the community. January estimates the expansion will create at least 25 new jobs at OCCC, and research has shown that families having access to childcare will create spillovers that positively impact the local economy.

"Families having access to the care they need is one of those economic developmental things that just makes sense. You can't lose on the family, child, community, local business, and state level. It is an investment that is a win-win-win however you look at it," said January.

The newly expanded Otter Creek Child Care Center is set to open its doors in the fall of 2025. New student spots and staff openings are planned to fill up gradually after opening.

Recycling

(Continued from Page 3A)

center works directly with Apparel Impact as well and usually disposes of around 10% of the program's textile remnant. Round Robin also gives around 10 to 30 kitchen bags per week of items unwanted to Apparel Impact.

"Our primary focus is reuse," said Joe Whitten, the co-founder of Apparel Impact. "85% of all textiles, shoes, and accessories in the country end up in the landfill, so our primary goal is to prevent them ending up there."

According to Whitten, 80% of what they receive gets reused, and the rest gets either downcycled or upcycled. Reusing the clothes can mean many things. For Apparel Impact, it means either their community outreaches that clothe about 4-5,000 people and families per year, or their sales to other clothing grader companies that would purchase any textiles at a supposedly low cost, which the co-founder was reluctant to disclose due to the company's status as a private business. Regardless, clothes that some people find unwearable get worn again, hopefully.

"Not everything we collect from thrift stores or consignment stores is in bad shape. They can be worn again, so up to 80% of them, believe it or not, can still be used for their intended purpose. The rest goes to upcycle or downcycle."

The idea picture of a hoodie miraculously turned into a brand-new chic bandanna as portrayed in a popular ad by H&M three years ago is not as realistic.

"A true circular form of recycling is at the very beginning stage of this industry," Whitten said. "There are companies now trying to take, let's say an old shirt, and put it through a process, either chemicals or machinery, and bring it back to its



THE MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE recycling center, one of the many endeavors of the town's stride toward sustainability, welcomes nonprofits and the public to choose and pick at its annual opening in the summer. Textiles left unwanted go to Apparel Impact, a New England business that tries to keep fabric out of landfills.

Independent photo/Caroline Jiao

original fabric to then be made into a new item. That specific process is in its infancy stage. You can't do it to scale. There's a European company called Renewcell that developed this process, but they just went bankrupt."

So, what is up or downcycling?

"An example would be Toyota downcycles textile for their car underlayment in the trunk," Whitten said. "Another example is Converse just came out with a new recycled denim sneaker. They use some of our denim." He also mentioned BirdieBlue, a company in Vermont that repurposes ski wear into various other products.

According to Apparel Impact's annual report that Whitten shared, they've diverted 963 tons, which is 1.9 million pounds of textile,

and around 20% of those textiles, or 385,000 pounds, get up or downcycled. Apparently, none goes to landfills.

After loops and loops of repurposing and reusing, however, it is unclear how fabrics channeled into new markets and become new products end up as trash. After all, it becomes another industry issue to worry about.

It's also important to note that in all the above stages of textile recycling (whatever the word means at this point), clothes and fabric still must meet a certain standard to be reused or repurposed.

"Regardless of what type of item it is, it can't be recycled if it's wet or moldy, or extremely smelly, or soiled," Maglienti said. "It basically has to be clean and dry."

Graham at Junebug joked about this idea of "aspirational recycling."

"We can get a bit too optimistic about recycling when we know there's that stain on the clothes or the peanut butter jar is not wiped clean, but still throw them in the recycling bin to be eventually picked out again as trash," she said.

ACSWM also wants people to pack their fabric in tied-close plastic bags to prevent cross-contamination when they all are placed in bins. One cannot give too much thought to the amount of plastic involved in the process.

Perhaps much remains to be said about our consumption habits while we exist in a world where "consumption" is literally one of the measurements of national GDP. "I'd say buy more durable, better-quality clothes, but I don't know if it's still possible," Graham lamented.

The matter at hand, well, is the sheer amount of matter. Matter gets produced for people to consume, and consumption in turn creates needs that might not have existed before or might not have been necessary.

"We just see it so much," Lynn Kiel, a worker at Junebug added. "It might come to a point where we have to charge people for bringing in clothes."

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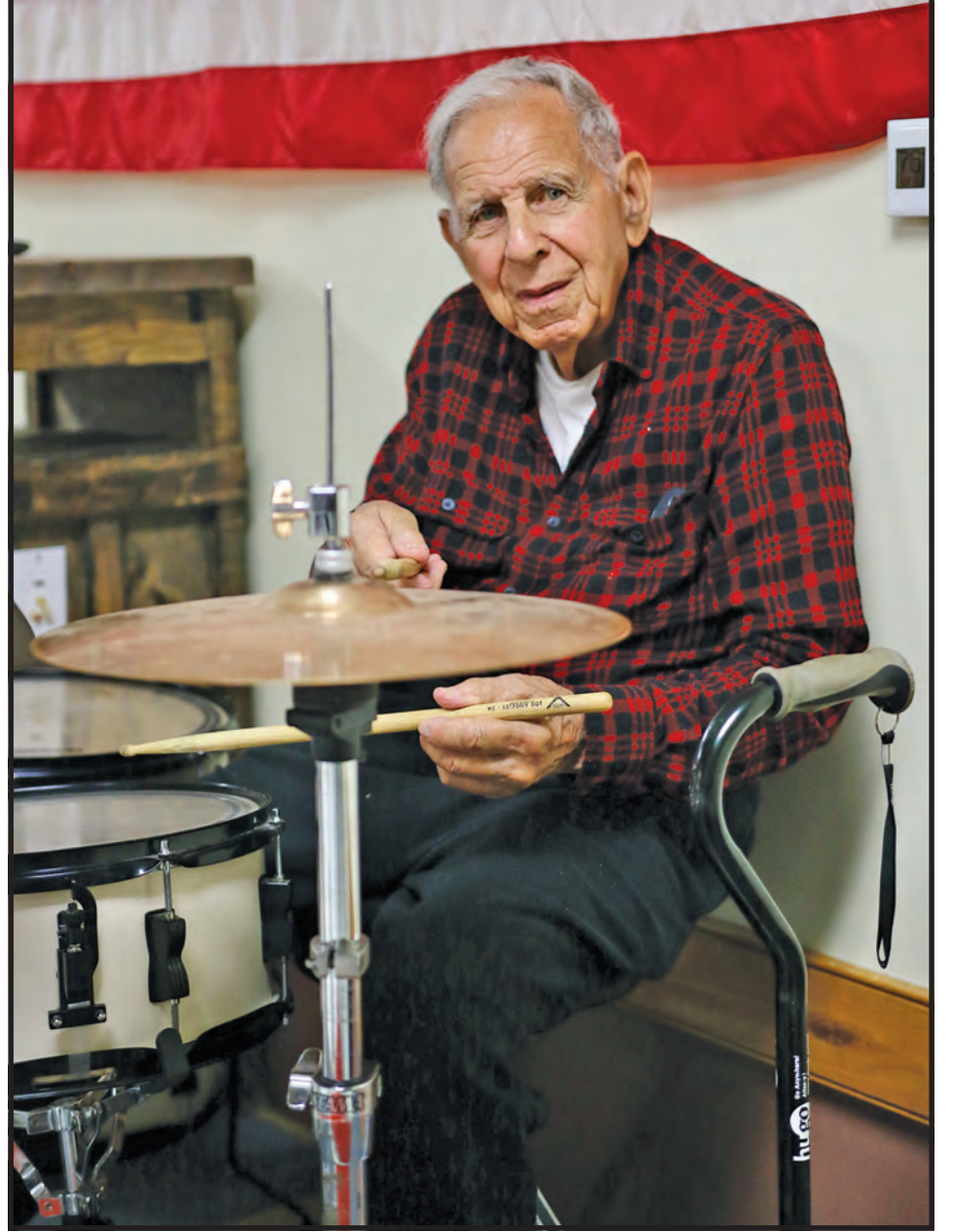
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Fiddle Dee Dee

The Veterans of Foreign Wars hall on Exchange St. in Middlebury echoed to the sounds of bluegrass, folk and swing this past Sunday at lunchtime as musicians from the Champlain Valley Fiddlers group encouraged an enthusiastic crowd to take to the dance floor. Pictured are Lynn Bourgeois of Addison; Eugene L. Charlebois of Addison; Terry Fiske of South Burlington; June and Dick Cook, of Rutland; Maurice Bourgeois and Eugene L. Charlebois, both of Addison; and Bob Lariviere. Several of the musicians bemoaned the shortage of younger fiddle players to continue the tradition of Vermont, Quebec and New England folk music.

Independent photos / Steve James



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U.S. SEN. PETER Welch, D-Vt., posted his endorsement of Vice President Kamala Harris on social media on Tuesday morning. File photo by Glenn Russell/VTDigger

Welch endorses Harris for president

By Graham Krewinghaus, VtDigger

U.S. Sen. Peter Welch, D-Vt., endorsed Vice President Kamala Harris to be the next president in a statement Tuesday morning. He joined many political figures in Vermont and across the country who lined up behind Harris Sunday afternoon and throughout Monday, all but clearing the path for her to be the Democratic nominee to take on former President Donald Trump in the November election.

Welch's announcement follows the one released Monday night by Vermont's delegation to the Democratic National Convention next month, who unanimously pledged their support for Harris. U.S. Rep. Becca Balint, D-Vt.

Vermont's sole U.S. representative, endorsed Harris in a statement shortly after President Joe Biden announced via social media Sunday afternoon that he would withdraw from the race and endorse his vice president. "There is no candidate better equipped to take on Donald Trump and protect our democracy, to advance the Biden agenda, and help strengthen our communities in Vermont—and across America," Welch wrote of Harris in his endorsement statement. "Kamala Harris has rightfully earned overwhelming support from the grassroots of our party, including the unanimous support of Vermont's pledged delegates to the Democratic National Convention

"It's really important for us as Democrats to take advantage of the extraordinary energy that's been unleashed by the President's decision to step aside, and show that we're confident about engaging everyday Democrats to participate in this."

— U.S. Sen. Peter Welch

and the majority of delegates nationwide," Welch continued.

"She has won the endorsements of her once-possible contenders and already raised over \$100 million. Kamala Harris said she wanted to earn and win this nomination. She has—and she has reinvigorated this campaign," he wrote.

Welch, who two weeks ago was the first Democratic U.S. senator to call on Biden to exit the race as questions about the president's age and mental fitness mounted, expressed interest on Sunday in the party having an open race, which he said could strengthen the winner's campaign.

"It's really important for us as Democrats to take advantage of the extraordinary energy that's been unleashed by the President's decision to step aside, and show that we're confident about engaging everyday Democrats to participate in this," he said in an appearance with CBS News.

U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-Vt. has not yet formally endorsed Harris, though he thanked Biden for his service on Sunday.

BC/BS seeks bigger rate hikes

MONTPELIER — BlueCross BlueShield of Vermont is seeking to raise health insurance premiums by an additional 4.3% next year, further increasing a request for already near-record-high rate hikes.

The proposed increase would increase premiums for individual BlueCross BlueShield health plans by an average of 21% and small group plans — plans for companies that employ up to 100 employees — by an average of 24% in 2025. (Because the insurer offers a variety of different plans, the actual increases would vary.)

If approved, the rates would amount to the "highest premium rate increase for our 2025 Qualified Health Plans since the inception of Vermont Health Connect," the state's health insurance marketplace, BlueCross BlueShield President and CEO Don George said in a letter to community members Monday.

"Unfortunately, the high demand for medical services, increasing prices at hospitals, exponential growth in drug prices, and new state laws are all forcing higher premiums to pay for the cost of caring for Vermonters," George said.

BlueCross BlueShield insures roughly a third of Vermonters. About 45,000 residents are insured on its small group and individual plans, which would be affected by the increases. The insurer also sells other plans for larger employers, which are not available on the state's health insurance marketplace.

The requested rate hikes must still be approved by the Green Mountain Care Board, which will issue a decision next month. Owen Foster, the chair of the board, declined to comment, saying that its rate review was still in process.

The board is holding a public hearing to discuss insurance rates at 4 p.m. Thursday.

The request for additional funding is necessary to replenish BlueCross BlueShield's cash reserves, administrators at the nonprofit insurer said.

Under Vermont law, BlueCross BlueShield is required to maintain a certain amount of money in reserve to cover potential risks — such as paying higher-than-expected claims for its members.

The actual amount of reserves

required is pegged to the amount of risk the insurer takes on. As of December, according to the state Department of Financial Regulation, BlueCross BlueShield was supposed to have at least \$154 million in reserve to cover potential risks. The insurer, however, had only about \$88 million as of December.

That shortfall triggered a "company action level event," a circumstance spelled out in state law that requires the insurer to come up with a plan to stabilize its reserves.

"As a result of the inadequacy, an increase to the contribution to reserves is necessary to increase the Company's surplus toward acceptable levels for the protection of policyholders," Kevin Gaffney, the commissioner of the Vermont Department of Financial Regulation, wrote in a July 12 letter to the Green Mountain Care Board.

BlueCross BlueShield administrators said that claims for health care this year have been significantly higher than expected. In March, for example, BlueCross BlueShield expected that medical claims would amount to \$590 per member per month, according to testimony from Ruth Greene, the

insurer's treasurer and chief financial officer.

In reality, member claims added up to \$653 per member per month, with similar figures in April and May.

It was unclear whether MVP, the other commercial insurance company that sells plans on Vermont's marketplace, would also seek to amend its rate request. MVP previously requested average increases of 11.7% for individual plans and 9.3% for small group plans.

"We cannot comment on our filings at this time," Michelle Golden, a spokesperson for MVP, said in an email.

The increased volume of claims led to "extraordinary cost pressures" for health care organizations, George, of BlueCross BlueShield, said in his letter.

"I share the frustration that all Vermonters' feel about rising costs, difficulty accessing services, and the challenges to staying well," he added. "I invite you to join me in an open dialog with our state regulators and policy makers about the cost pressures impacting the commercial health insurance marketplace and the choices that have led to this unprecedented situation."

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4-H horse show goes on despite the storms

ESSEX JUNCTION — Despite a last-minute venue change due to storm damage, the 2024 Vermont State 4-H Horse Show went on without a hitch, attracting 35 competitors.

The July 12-14 event, sponsored by University of Vermont Extension 4-H, was held at the Champlain Valley Exposition fairgrounds.

The official show judge was Heath Gunnison from Lexington, Kentucky, a former Vermont 4-H member who participated in this horse show as a youth. Another former 4-H'er, Jessie Bachmann-Lertola, Ira, judged the fitting and showmanship and trail classes.

Whitney Dunklee, Vernon, was named the 4-H Showmanship Champion after placing first overall in fitting and showmanship. The Reserve 4-H Showmanship Champion went to Sydney Gorton, Milton. The top two finishers from each division (Beginner, Advanced Beginner, Junior and Senior) competed for the championship.

Others in contention for the showmanship championship awards were Emma Babyak, Fairfax; Nora Bergevin, Shoreham; LeighAnn Judd, Morrisville; Tyley McClelland, Vernon; and Jenesy Zwart, Danville.

Horse show participants also competed in quiz bowl and judging, with the scores from these combined with the fitting and showmanship and 4-H project/suitability class to determine the overall 4-H Division champions. Quiz bowl and judging were open to 4-H'ers without horses, giving more 4-H horse members an opportunity to participate in the show.

Addison County 4-Hers who placed in the Quiz Bowl were: (ages 8-10) Nora Bergevin, Shoreham, second; (ages 11-13) Tessa Buskey, North Ferrisburgh, second; and Bella Shimel, Bridport, third, in the senior division.

WEDGE EARNS HONOR

Shyanne Wedge of Shoreham won the Senior (14-18) championship. For earning the senior championship, Shyanne also received the Paul Quinn Memorial Award, given in honor of a late equine photographer who was a strong supporter of the state 4-H horse program and show.

Local winners in the discipline divisions were:

ENGLISH DIVISION (based on combined scores in equitation, trail, pleasure and either road hack or hunter under saddle classes): Reserve Champion, Iris Bassett, New Haven, junior (8-13) division.

The Solids, Stripes and Spots 4-H Club of Vernon won the 4-H Club Award (club with the highest combined scores in the 4-H Division) with the Whispering Pines 4-H Club, Westford, taking second and the Silver Hooves 4-H Club, Shoreham, third.



SOME MEMBERS OF the MHS/MUHS Hall of Fame recently gathered for a meeting, and to socialize, says news liaison Bill Cunningham.

MHS/MUHS alums seek hall of famers

MIDDLEBURY — The Middlebury High School/ Middlebury Union High School Hall of Fame was first started in 1986 with the induction of 12 alumni. A total of 143 alumni and honorary inductees are members of the MHS/MUHS Hall of Fame.

The Hall of Fame recognizes alumni who demonstrated excellence in scholarship, in a technical or trades field, in an artistic field, or in athletics. The Middlebury alumnus must have graduated

25 years or more ago to be considered. Nominees must have demonstrated citizenship during School and following graduation. Hall of Famers are leaders in their respective communities who have continued to benefit the communities in which they live.

The Middlebury High School (MHS), Middlebury Union High School (MUHS) Alumni Association is requesting nominations for the Hall of Fame for induction at Homecoming on the weekend

of September 27, 28, and 29, 2024. If you know someone who you believe deserves consideration for the MHS/MUHS Hall of Fame, please review the following criteria and submit a letter of recommendation as indicated below.

1. Graduate from Middlebury High School.
2. Graduate from Middlebury Union High School at least 25 years prior to consideration.
3. Excellence in scholarship, in a

technical or trades field, in an artistic field, or in athletics.

4. Citizenship during School and following graduation.

Please forward your signed letter of recommendation along with your phone number by August 14, 2024: Mary Jane Quesnel, MHS/MUHS Alumni Association, PO Box 1034, Middlebury, Vermont 05753 or to mjqrq@hotmail.com

Rokeby Museum to host pie and ice cream social

FERRISBURGH — Having a great day is as easy as pie at Rokeby Museum's annual Pie & Ice Cream Social this Sunday, August 11, from 1 to 4 p.m.

The day includes yards and yards of homemade pies, ice cream donated by Ben & Jerry's, live music from Vermont Folk Life Sugar in the Pan Trad Band, raffle baskets, croquet, and badminton on the lawns. Let's Grow Kids will have a table with games for kids. The historic house and museum exhibitions will also be open to the public.

Admission to Pie Day music, games, and museum exhibitions

is free. Pie and ice cream are \$8 per serving, \$2 for ice cream, and \$1 for beverages. At the end of the event, if any pies are still available, they will be sold for \$20.

If you haven't had the opportunity to visit the newest Underground Railroad, this is an excellent opportunity to support the museum! Seeking Freedom: The Underground Railroad and the Legacy of an Abolitionist Family is a groundbreaking exhibition that explores the Robinson family's complexities and the Underground Railroad's history.

Brown Bag lunch talk set in Orwell

ORWELL — Beginning at noon on Saturday, July 27, the Mount Independence Coalition will host its third of four informal brown bag lunch discussions at the Mount Independence State Historic Site — this time on the topic of historic fiction about the Revolutionary War in the New England/New York area. Included with the regular site admission fee.

These discussions are designed to be informal. They are led by knowledgeable members of the Coalition and Mount Independence community. All are invited. Bring a lunch. You can pipe up or just listen. A variety of historic fiction books,

for adults and youth, from the 1800s onward will be on hand for people to view, as well as a list of some of the well-known books to read. Consider bringing a favorite novel about the Revolution to talk about. If the weather permits the discussion will be outside; bring a camp/lawn chair. Otherwise, it will be in the auditorium.

This series is conceived to help begin the commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the war and the establishment of the United States of America, coming up in 2025-2027.

The site and museum are open daily through Oct. 20, 2024. Regular hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is \$8 for adults,

Living with Wildlife: Bats in Your House?

Young bats that cannot yet fly may be present in a bat roost during the summer. Homeowners should follow the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department's recommendations on when and how to protect the living space and do a bat eviction.

Bats are everywhere! It may feel that way to some of Vermont's human residents. Summer is when some species of bats gather in colonies to raise their young in human-made structures such as houses, barns, office buildings, and bat houses, but fall is the safe time to get them out.

"Summer is the time of year when the greatest number of unwanted bat-human interactions are reported," according to Vermont Fish and Wildlife's Small Mammals Biologist Alyssa Bennett, who works on the conservation and recovery of Vermont's threatened and endangered bat species.

"Bats can end up in your living space for many reasons, including young bats that are weak, disoriented or lost while coming and going from the roost, bats moving within a structure to find warmer or cooler roosting space as temperatures fluctuate, and bats being displaced from their roosts due to building repairs and renovations."

Although this happens every year, it can come as quite a shock to those who wake up to a bat flying in their bedroom or suddenly uncover a dozen bats roosting behind a rotting trim board being removed on the outside of a home. But don't fear, because there are answers to



Photo submitted by Vermont Fish and Wildlife Dept.

your burning bat questions at www.vtfishandwildlife.com using the search term "bats."

Living with wildlife means considering the health and wellbeing of both the public and these fragile wildlife species. Although rarely detected in the general bat population, rabies is a deadly disease and should be taken very seriously. If you are concerned that you have been in direct contact with a bat, have found a bat in a bedroom while sleeping or in a room with an unattended child, a pet, a person with a cognitive disability, or an intoxicated person, please call the Rabies Hotline at 800-4RABIES (1-800-472-2437).

If the hotline staff or your health care providers determine there is no concern for rabies exposure, the bat can safely be released outside.

Instructions for safely capturing, containing and releasing a bat found inside can be found on Vermont Fish and Wildlife's website, including an instructional

video.

"Living with wildlife doesn't mean that we have to share our homes with bats in order to protect them," says Bennett. "Our main concerns are avoiding human contact by safeguarding the living space, evicting bats from structures safely and providing alternative habitat for displaced bats."

Fall and spring are the times to safely and effectively evict bats from structures where they are not wanted by following the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department's Best Management Practices. These practices and a list of professionals who perform safe evictions are available on Fish and Wildlife's website, by calling 802-353-4818, or by emailing Alyssa Bennett@vermont.gov.

Large colonies of bats living in structures can also be reported on the department's website to help find rare colonies of endangered little brown bats, which are eligible for free bat houses.

RE-ELECT SENATOR CHRIS BRAY

Endorsed by fellow Vermonter and global climate champion, Bill McKibben:

"Chris Bray has been an effective and insistent voice for smart environmental progress. He's not a showboat or a firebrand; he is a constant force, getting useful things accomplished in Montpelier."

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MNFF preview

(Continued from Page 1A) submitted films will compete in various categories for “VTeddy” awards.

In a switch from recent years, there will be no outdoor screenings at Swift House Inn. The Aug. 21 opening night film screening of “Super/Man: The Christopher Reeve Story” will take place at Dana Auditorium, followed by an After-Party at the 3 South St. home of Middlebury College President Laurie Patton.

“They’ve offered us facilities galore,” Komesar said in appreciation of the college’s ongoing support of MNFF. “It’s very gracious of them.”

MNFF10 organizers said they picked the new documentary “The Christopher Reeve Story” as the opening film because of its quality and the Reeve family’s connections to the Middlebury area. Reeve famously played the fictional superhero Superman in several films, then went on to other projects. He was tragically paralyzed from the neck down after being thrown from a horse during a 1995 equestrian competition in Culpeper, Virginia.

Reeve continued to work as an activist for environmental and human-rights causes. He died in October of 2004, about five months after co-delivering (with his wife Dana Morosini Reeve) the commencement address for the Middlebury College class of 2004 that May. His son Will is an alum and will be providing a video intro to the Aug. 21 screening.

Directed by Ian Bonhôte and Peter Eteddgui, “The Christopher Reeve Story” wasn’t an easy get for the festival, according to Komesar.

“I think we’ll be the fourth screening,” he said. “We’re grateful to be able to show in our small town what is a big-studio picture.”

There will be plenty of other films in the mix for viewers to enjoy during what MNFF10 organizers hope will be a sunny five days.

“It’s an eclectic bunch,” Craven said of this year’s entries, using the word “endurance” to describe a common theme among many of the documentary films.

It’s certainly an apt descriptor of the Reeve movie, as well as for “Mediha,” about a young Yazidi girl recently returned from captivity by the ISIS terrorist group. Directed by Hassan Oswald, the film charts her trauma while rescuers search for her missing family members.

Komesar confirmed that both Oswald and Mediha will attend MNFF10.

“It’s a sensitive film in all ways,” he said. “The audience will get this

sense of immediacy; right after the film is done screening, you’ll see Mediha.”

Other endurance-themed movies in this year’s MNFF crop will include:

- “The Quietest Year,” directed by Stowe’s Karen Akins, which explores the often-ignored crisis of noise pollution, showcasing — among others — former Brandon resident Michael Shank, whose dream of running a farm sanctuary for abused animals is derailed by recreational shooting in his neighborhood and a lack of local ordinances to contain it.

- “DRIVER,” directed by Nesa Azimi, which follows long-haul truck driver Desiree Wood and a dynamic community of women truckers.

- “A Photographic Memory,” a personal documentary film from Rachel Elizabeth Seed, through which she searches for the mother she never knew through their shared love of photography.

- “Porcelain War,” directed by Slava Leontyev, through which three Ukrainian artists defiantly find inspiration and beauty as they defend their culture and their country amid the nation’s war with Russia.

- “Join the Club,” directed by Kip Anderson and Chris O’Connell, which explores a confluence of the AIDS crisis, the fight for LGBTQ+ rights, and the realization of marijuana’s medicinal qualities — all through the untold saga of San Francisco’s Dennis Peron and the Cannabis Buyers’ Club.
- “Running for the Mountains,” directed by Julie Eisenberg and Babette Hogan, which digs into West Virginia’s ongoing history of coal production, while tracking grassroots candidates and ordinary citizens’ attempts to save their land, air, water, health, homes and communities.

While “endurance” is a powerful theme among several MNFF10 films, Komesar noted there’s a lot more in the mix at MNFF10.

“We have this lump of clay and don’t know how it’s going to be sculpted,” he said. “The theme is the filmmaker’s own creation; we don’t impose. We let things organic develop out of we have that’s of good enough quality to be admitted.”

The young filmmakers will enjoy well-earned limelight for their entries and will be able to mingle with heavy hitters of their industry. In addition to Oliver Stone, MNFF10’s list of honorees includes:

- **John Patrick Shanley**, an American playwright, screenwriter, and director. He won

the 1988 Academy Award for Best Original Screenplay for the film “Moonstruck.” His play, “Doubt: A Parable,” won the 2005 Pulitzer Prize for Drama and the 2005 Tony Award for Best Play; he wrote and directed the film adaptation and earned a nomination for the Academy Award for Best Adapted Screenplay.

- **Andy Knight Mitchell**, an Addison County resident and four-time Emmy Award winning director, cinematographer, producer, writer, storyteller and underwater cameraman. For more than 25 years, Mitchell has documented rock stars, great white sharks, natural disasters, Buddhist monks, music, reality, science, Sasquatch, dolphins, diamonds, dingoes, gorillas, celebrities, mosquitoes and countless other people, ideas and things. He has more than 100 credits for National Geographic, Disney+, Netflix, Nat Geo Wild, Discovery, Animal Planet, Smithsonian, POV, PBS and more. He has filmed on every continent and in every ocean.

- **Gary Dale Farmer**, a Canadian actor and musician. He is perhaps best known for his role as Nobody in the films “Dead Man” and “Ghost Dog: The Way of the Samurai,” and for his role in “Smoke Signals.” He is widely recognized as a pioneer in the development of First Nations media in Canada and is the founding director of an urban Indian radio network, Aboriginal Voices Radio Network.

- **Bess O’Brien**, an MUHS grad, is a documentary filmmaker and the producing director of Writers for Recovery, a series of workshops for people recovering from substance use disorder. She is the co-host of My Heart Still Beats, a project of Writers for Recovery and Vermont Public Radio. O’Brien is currently touring “Just Getting By” — a sweeping, and yet intimate look at the lives of Vermonters struggling with food and housing insecurity. Her previous work includes producing “The Listen Up Project” — an original musical based on the lives of Vermont teens who toured the state in 2021. O’Brien’s last film was “Coming Home,” a documentary film focused on five people returning to their Vermont communities from prison.

- **Sandrine Faucher Cassidy**, the Senior Director of Festivals, Distribution & Talent Development for the USC School of Cinematic Arts. She advises students and alumni on strategies for their student films and independent features in the festival circuit. She builds close relationships with filmmakers and advises them on how to reach their career goals.

- **Albert Kimson**, a three-time Emmy nominated animation/film director who has been directing and producing animation on various animated projects for TV and film for over 25 years. Starting his career on MTV’s Beavis and Butthead, he worked his way through the New York animation scene. After being the Supervising Animation Director on the sixth season of Adult Swim’s “The Venture Brothers,” he moved on to Cartoon Network’s Steven Universe and HBO Max’s “Adventure Time Distant Lands.” He currently is working at Disney TV animation and lives in Burbank, Ca.

And speaking of animation, MNFF will host an “Animation Day” on Tuesday, Aug. 20, at the Marquis Theatre. The theater will screen four Academy Award-winning or -nominated animated feature films throughout the day, including “Wallace & Gromit: The Curse of the Were-Rabbit,” “Rango,” “Spirited Away” and “Fantastic Mr. Fox.”

Around 50 submitting filmmakers have thus far agreed to come to MNFF10, a number Komesar expects will increase by the time the festival kicks off. Last year’s festival drew 83 filmmakers. The MNFF has a travel fund that’s reducing the financial burden on visiting movie makers, some of whom are traveling from Europe and the Middle East.

Needless to say, area lodgers are booked for the duration of the fest. Organizers are recruiting hosts to accommodate some of the filmmakers for MNFF10. If you’re interested, please email Hannah Loeffler at hl@midffilmfest.org.

For all things MNFF10 — including specifics on ticket prices, passes, screening times and film synopses — go to midffilmfest.org, which will be updated as we get closer to the festival.

Reporter John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.

Pollinator group meets to share info, strategies

CORNWALL — On July 14 a group of two-dozen or so adults from Vermont gathered at Birdsong Acres in Cornwall for a Northeast Organic Farming Association and Pollinator Pathway of Addison County-sponsored event. People came from home gardens, organic farms and a greenhouse business. They would hear from four presenters on ways to recognize and plant for pollinators, tackle invasives and transform meadows into a more diverse habitat for pollinators.

Katie Birkhauser of Northeast Organic Farming Association - VT (NOFA) in her welcome stated how good it felt to come together in light of the recent flooding. Emily May, Conservation Biologist with The Xerces Society, and Addison County resident, took us through a colorful and useful assessment guide, *Habitat Assessment Guide for Pollinators in Yards, Gardens, and Parks* published by the Society. She encouraged the group to identify what we have and to prioritize projects.

In small groups, we left the patio to meet our guides to Birdsong’s habitats for pollinators. Bethany Barry, co-founder of Pollinator Pathway of Addison County (PPAC) and our host at Birdsong, showed us the progression of her flower garden for pollinators with photos taken over two seasons. This illustrated the lasagna method of smothering the grasses to create a favorable spot in full sun for the seeds and transplants of flowering perennial natives. The Wild Bergamot, Mountain Mint, purple coneflowers were in full bloom.

From the edge of Birdsong’s meadow, Fran Putnam, co-founder of PPAC, suggested we start by learning the history of our meadow, hers a hay field, and then take inventory. She recommended mowing only one-third of a meadow each fall or, better yet,

brush-hogging it to keep down unwanted woody plants.

A path trail led into the woods behind the workshop where participants met up with Steve Blaisdell, owner, Balanced Ecological Systems, in an opening in the trees. Steve explained how he had taken out buckthorn root crowns with his favorite tool, a two-and-a-half-pound pickaxe. This brought sunlight to the forest floor where herbaceous woodland plants were waiting to thrive. He would remove sprouts from the stumps two or three times a season for several years. Steve suggested one start in an area the size of a small room. His parting words, “It’s doable!”

The fourth habitat was a clump of *Echinacea purpurea* near the patio. Emily May swooped down on the blossoms with her net to capture a bee. She expertly twirled the net to the ground and showed how the bee will fly to the top of the net. This allowed her to sneak a small plastic vial under the bottom edge of the net and place it over the buzzing bee. She then flipped the net over and again the bee flew up to the top of the vial allowing her to place the lid. This she did in a flash while explaining what we were seeing. Awe-inspiring and fascinating. We could detect bee features like the pairs of wings, eye shape and marking which are otherwise difficult to detect.

The group reconvened on the patio for a snack of local treats while Fran and Bethany shared the mission of the Pollinator Pathway of Addison County (PPAC). Fran also described the successful passage of Bill H. 706 to reduce the use of neonicotinoid, an insecticide, in Vermont. Citizens’ voices in support of this bill were an important part of the win for pollinators and the general health of the environment.

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JULY 26 Golf With Your Friends, 7:00 to 11 am (Neshobe Golf Course)
Classic Picnic, 11:30 am to 3:30 pm (Branbury State Beach)

JULY 27 5K Running/Walking of the Tigers, 10:00 to 11:30 am (Middlebury Rec. Center)
Tour de Addison County, 1:00 to 2:30 pm (Middlebury Rec. Center)
High School Tour, 3:00 to 4:30 pm (MUHS)
Alum/Coaches/Teachers Mingle, 5:00 to 7:00 pm (Memorial Sports Center)
All Classes Celebration, 7:00 to 10:00 pm (Memorial Sports Center)

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO PURCHASE TICKETS GO TO WWW.MIDDLEBURYTIGERS.COM



MIDDLEBURY OFFICIALS ARE scoping out potential ways to prevent flooding at the Seymour Street underpass. The underpass has flooded twice during the past year, which has neighbors concerned about emergency responders' ability to access the neighborhood during major rainstorms.

Photo courtesy Steve Dupoise

Seymour St.

(Continued from Page 1A)

town's largest emergency response vehicles, including the Middlebury Fire Department's ladder truck or even much smaller emergency vehicles.

Seymour Street resident and former Middlebury Selectman Kevin Parizo reiterated his concerns through a July 18 letter to the editor in the *Independent*.

"Had any resident or residents needed ambulances or fire trucks, they could not have received these emergency services because the height of the water level completely cut off their ability to get to them (from Marble Works to the very end of Seymour Street)," he wrote.

This was the second time in a year the Seymour Street underpass had flooded; the first time was during a massive rainstorm last August during which around 5 inches of rain fell in an hour.

Parizo and his fellow neighbors have lobbied town officials to address what they consider to be a ticking timebomb. On Tuesday, selectboard Chair Brian Carpenter and Director of Public Works Planning Director Emmalee Cherington gave updates on potential solutions.

Carpenter said he'd been in touch with VTrans and Vermont Rail officials about the potential for an emergency access — which he stressed would only be used in the direst circumstances — that could allow large emergency vehicles to get to Seymour Street across the train tracks via MacIntyre

Lane. Officials have identified a potential outlet behind Danforth Pewter's Seymour Street campus, but stressed talks have yet to occur with the company.

In the meantime, Cherington will ask an engineer to look at the town's drainage infrastructure at and near the Seymour Street underpass to see if anything can be done to help it process the increasing volume of water.

Cherington's preliminary inspection of the area doesn't bode well for an easy solution. A lot of the problem stems from limited water-retention capacity beneath the current underpass, as well as gravity.

Middlebury public works officials recently viewed, by camera, the entire storm line in question, from its outlet to the Elm Street intersection.

"We found nothing; just 36-inch concrete pipe, in perfect condition," Cherington told the board.

She explained there are two catch basins directly underneath the Seymour Street underpass that are only 5-feet deep.

"They have no storage (capacity) in them, whatsoever. And the unfortunate part is they can't really go deeper, because the water then needs to go uphill to Lucius Shaw Lane, into a structure that's 12 feet deep," she said. "So that pipe is relatively flat by the time you gain the grade with the elevation change. I don't know if we could build more capacity into the system, at least under the underpass."

Cherington said the catch basins and related infrastructure are being asked to do too much right now.

"The problem is there's an enormous amount of flow coming from Chipman Hill, High Street, Elm Street, North Pleasant and Seymour Street, with a railroad under-drain tied into it, and then Middle Seymour Street, and it all goes to those two (catch basins), before it outlets," she said.

The town will hire an engineer to look at the underpass drainage situation and pitch potential solutions. Cherington said she'll apply for state/federal grants to apply to any promising remedies.

In the meantime, members of the Dupoise family — owners of County Tire and the former Middlebury Train Depot at 33 and 30 Seymour St. — have been given permission to install a speedbump, or berm, on their property that could divert some of the stormwater that's been flooding their site and points downhill.

In other action on Tuesday, the Middlebury selectboard:

- Unanimously agreed to allocate Middlebury's 2024 share of National Opioid Settlement funds — amounting to \$21,987.82 — in equal shares to the Counseling Service of Addison County and the Turning Point Center of Addison County. So those two nonprofits will each have \$10,993.91 to apply to their programs assisting people with substance use disorder.
- Received an update on Stonecrop Meadows, a proposed 218-unit, mixed-income housing project slated for 35 acres off Middlebury's Seminary Street Extension. Summit Properties COO Zeke Davison provided the selectboard with an overview of the project and its phasing, as well as an account of the projects successful review by the Middlebury Development Review Board.

The *Independent* provided a detailed update on Stonecrop in its July 4 edition.

John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.

Bristol

(Continued from Page 1A)

of Briggs Hill Road. Following the storm, the town installed concrete blocks to stabilize the slope of the upper section, which has worked well, according to Town Administrator Valerie Capels's report for the July 22 meeting.

However, she reported the slides have altered the road's stormwater drainage pattern, and heavy rains earlier this month caused more erosion. Capels noted in her report that even prior to this month's storm, the slope was showing signs of increased wear.

The town contracted with engineering firm Dubois & King to conduct subsurface and engineering studies of the area and identify long-term, cost-effective solutions. On Monday, DuBois & King and subcontractor GEODesign offered results of their studies and recommendations for the road.

Those recommendations include installing a concrete block retaining wall and replacing existing culverts with versions that have a catch-basin placed at the inlet.

Bristol selectboard members on Monday discussed those and other potential repairs for Briggs Hill Road. According to cost estimates provided at the meeting, the project would cost around \$2.4 million and require property easements since much of the work would take place outside the road right of way. Officials said it's not yet clear how much of the project the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) would fund.

Selectboard members weighed whether to move forward with the project and discussed other potential solutions for the Briggs Hill situation, such as closing the road or developing another road nearby.

"I don't know how we would do

(the \$2.4 million project), given the amount of other projects that we have," selectboard member Ian Albinson said. "We're entering into a \$10 million project, potentially, for replacing all of our water lines. Where do we get another \$2.4 million?"

The selectboard will continue its discussion of Briggs Hill Road options at a future meeting.

The selectboard on Monday also heard updates from Public Works Foreman Eric Cota on other road projects. Cota told the board Pine Street grinding is expected to take place the first week of August, with Lincoln Road set to be ground around the same time. Paving on Pine Street should take place by the end of August, Cota said, and paving on Lincoln Road will take place after road repair is complete.

Cota also filled the board in on flooding damage following heavy rains earlier this month. He said the town fared fairly well, aside from Briggs Hill Road and some damage on Meehan and Upper Meehan roads, and repair work is underway.

Boyle

(Continued from Page 1A)

artist director.

"She's great." It was during the pandemic that Boyle moved from New York City to Belmont, Vermont. Since 2009 she's served as an independent film distribution and "social impact" consultant, advising documentary filmmakers on the use of film for civic engagement, education and cultural impact.

"She has facilitated more than 450 documentaries into release through her career, so far," Craven noted. "She started working as a documentary producer, but quickly came to the view that, 'We don't need me to be making more documentaries, what we need is to get the documentaries that are being made out to audiences.' If they're not being grabbed up by the conventional commercial distributors, they still deserve an audience, they deserve life, and she has really made that happen."

Boyle also writes grants and fundraises for indie documentaries and has become a go-to industry expert in helping film teams, nonprofits, brands and distributors connect commercial film releases to "pro-social causes and campaigns," according to her résumé.

The *Independent* reached out to Boyle for comment, and received

this reply:

"I'm honored to have the opportunity to step into this role," she said via email. "For new filmmakers, exhibiting early work, finding first audiences, and orienting to a fast-paced industry can be daunting. Supporting artists as they navigate the challenges — and joys — of this process has long been at the heart of my professional life. I'm delighted to bring this passion to a community as warm,

inviting, inclusive and filmmaker-forward as MNFF." Boyle began a relationship with MNFF last year as a juror for its documentary film category and led several post-screening filmmaker Q&As at the festival.

"I was struck by the spirit of learning, inclusion and camaraderie that infused MNFF screenings and panels," she stated in a May 21 letter to the festival board expressing interest in the job. "I can see why the festival has won the high regard of early-career filmmakers, who often find festivals intimidating and exclusive."

Other highlights from Boyle's résumé:

- Consulting producer (2019-present) for documentary film teams seeking support on story, character development, institutional and private fundraising and distribution.
- Director of filmmaker development (2021-2023) for DOC NYC, America's largest documentary film festival.
- Founder and executive director (2009-2019) of Film Sprout, a pioneering distribution and audience engagement firm whose mission was to broaden the viewership and impact of documentary film through campus and grassroots screening tours. The company collaborated with distributors such as PBS, CNN,

The Weinstein Company, NEON and Netflix.

Boyle was one of two finalists the MNFF board pinpointed after a national search, according to Craven. She'll make the rounds at MNFF10 on Aug. 21-25 and will officially start her new job Sept. 15.

More details about Boyle can be found at caitlinboyle.co.

She'll absorb the lion's share of the workload currently performed by MNFF founder and Producer Lloyd Komesar, who, at age 72, is stepping back from his able stewardship of a festival that has grown exponentially — and gained considerable prestige within the filmmaking industry — since it was designed in 2014 and debuted in 2015.

Komesar, a retired Disney executive, stressed he'll continue to assist MNFF as a board member and advisor.

"My feeling is that I have done what I can do. I've made contributions I hope will provide structure and sustenance going forward," he said. "But I honestly couldn't be more pleased that we have someone of Caitlin's immense talents. My expectation is she will forge some new directions for MNFF that will thrill us all in the years ahead. I am keen to see how we grow and develop as we head off into our next decade."

Komesar and Craven have, through the considerable connections and contacts, been able to attract luminaries in the filmmaking industry to the MNFF each year to receive kudos for their accomplishments and in some cases, mentor aspiring filmmakers. The duo anticipates Boyle will be similarly successful.

MNFF10's lineup of honorees (see related story, Page 1) includes four-time Academy Award winner Oliver Stone, whose directorial résumé includes such films as "Platoon" and "Born on the Fourth of July."

"This festival has evolved a great deal since Jay and I birthed it in 2014," Komesar said. "We are mutually proud of its significance on the festival circuit and our attachment to first- and second-time filmmakers from around the world. Our niche works, and we are proud to be in that niche."

Are you interested in serving as a Justice of the Peace in Middlebury?

If you are willing for your name to be on the ballot as a **Republican** candidate for Justice of the Peace, please attend the Republican nominating caucus at 7:00 pm Mon., July 29, 2024 in the Community Room of Middlebury Police station (or leave your name and phone # in a voicemail at 388-2967 before Noon on July 29).

The term of a justice-of-the-peace begins on Feb. 1 of the year following a general election and runs for 2 years.

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Jiffy Mart
Junction Store & Deli
Union Street Grocery
Walgreen's
- BRIDPORT:**
Broughton's Big Country Hardware
Pratt's Store
- BRISTOL:**
Bristol Country Store
Bristol Discount Beverage
Champlain Farms

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

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

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

Historic watch & clock exhibit will be held July 28

ADDISON — Tick tock, tick tock. It's time to learn about your historic clock or pocket watch. On Sunday, July 28, from noon to 4 p.m., members of the Green Mountain Timekeepers will be on the porch at the Chimney Point State Historic Site in Addison for this "Blast from the Past" to talk with visitors about their historic time pieces. Repair demonstrations will be ongoing all afternoon.

The Society invites people to bring their old clocks, pocket watches, wristwatches, or photographs of them, to show the experts on hand. It's always fascinating to see what turns up. Ask questions about the history

of your timepieces, when they might have been made, how they work, and how they can be repaired. In the exhibit see a few of the historic Barnes clocks made on site in the early 1800s. This program is included in the admission to the site (\$6 for adults, free for children under 15).

The Chimney Point State Historic Site is located at 8149 VT Route 17 in Addison, at the Vermont foot of the Lake Champlain Bridge. Call 802-759-2412 for information. The site is regularly open Wednesdays through Sundays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., through Monday, Oct. 14.



Lions roar!

THE MIDDLEBURY LION'S club held its annual barbecue and auction on July 17 to its usual great fanfare. Amid the crowd this year were Lion Tom Broughton as auctioneer, his son Matt, and Matt's son Jordon, along with Tom's great grandson, Lincoln (shown bottom center).

Photos and reporting submitted by Lorraine Morse.



The Addison County Sugarmakers Field Days Maple Contest

CALL FOR ENTRIES!



MAPLE SYRUP
1 pint, VT graded



MAPLE SUGAR
8 ounces



MAPLE CREAM
8 ounce container



MAPLE CANDY
4 pieces



MAPLE SPECIALTIES (everything else!)
At least 1/2 cup of syrup used, include recipe, disposable dish

All entries must have complete name and address or risk being disqualified!

DROP OFF FORM, LOCATIONS & TIMES:
Check www.addisoncountymaple.org/acffd-maple-contest

RIBBONS: Pick-up after 8pm on Saturday, Aug. 10.

ELDER for SENATE

ADDISON COUNTY SENATE



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*Peter Sterling, Executive Director
Renewable Energy Vermont*

PRIMARY ELECTION ON AUGUST 13TH

PAID FOR BY ELDER FOR SENATE, ELIZABETH READY - TREASURER
580 RUBY BRACE RD., STARKSBORO, VT 05487

Ramsay

(Continued from Page 1A)

for Pittsford, then it was on to Killington.

When then-Middlebury Town Manager Bill Finger announced his plan to retire in 2012, Tenny and his colleagues saw an opening for Ramsay to return.

"We weren't going to miss our chance and met with her privately to discuss the possibility of a return to Middlebury," Tenny said. "The meeting went well, I made a strong hiring recommendation to the selectboard, and the appointment was approved."

Ramsay's second tour began in 2011, as assistant manager, with the proviso that she ascend to the top spot upon Finger's departure in 2012.

Tenny has never regretted the Ramsay redux.

"As I have watched the work of the town over the past dozen years, I have been pleased with the smooth management of town government. Kathleen Ramsay has served Middlebury well," he said.

It's been a great match, Ramsay agreed, though it got off to a shaky start.

She recalled applying — twice — for Middlebury's assistant manager job before finally making the grade in 2000 with then-Town Manager Betty Wheeler. Ramsay at the time had been serving as Hinesburg's town administrator.

"In true Betty Wheeler fashion, she interviewed me and said, 'Well, since I don't have any other options, I guess I'm going to have to hire you,'" she chuckled, recalling her notoriously irascible predecessor.

Wheeler would soon give way to Finger, with whom Ramsay enjoyed a good working relationship.

"He was a great mentor and friend," she recalled. "We were a good team. He had great skills as a leader, and I had good skills in budgeting and the administrative/personnel work."

Ramsay has enjoyed her coworkers immensely, and she continues to work with a couple of folks from her first tour. They include Beth Dow, now her administrative assistant.

"It has been an honor and a pleasure to have worked beside Kathleen for the past 12 years, and while I am very happy for Kathleen and her wonderful new career opportunity, her leaving is a huge loss for the people of Middlebury, and I will miss her a great deal," Dow said.

Longtime former Middlebury Town Planner Fred Dunnington, who now serves on the selectboard, also praised Ramsay's tenure.

"Of the five town managers I have worked with, Kathleen is the best," he said. "Her dedication to our community and

accomplishments in major projects and financing will be significant in Middlebury town government history. In her profession in Vermont and to Middlebury's great benefit, Kathleen has substantially advanced the institution of town managership. Her initiatives for operating principles and transparency of the selectboard and its major infrastructure committee proceedings are a model for community engagement and effective governance."



"Kathleen was the quintessential 'quiet professional,' steering and guiding the town through its triumphs and challenges during her tenure."

— Former Police Chief Tom Hanley

Former town police Chief Tom Hanley retired last fall after 32 years leading the force. His tenure overlapped almost all of Ramsay's service to Middlebury.

"Her positive attitude, openness, and enduring advocacy for the town were her greatest attributes in guiding us through the many challenges we faced (during her tenure)" Hanley said, citing construction of a new police headquarters, new town offices and a major downtown rail tunnel project, among other things.

"Kathleen was the quintessential 'quiet professional,' steering and guiding the town through its triumphs and challenges during her tenure," he said. "As the police chief through all but the last few months of her time here, I always appreciated her candor, support, humor, confidence and guidance. As a longtime Middlebury resident, I offer her my thanks and appreciation for her service."

Along with the aforementioned projects, Ramsay helped shepherd the town through the COVID pandemic, and for several weeks was one of the few town officials staffing the municipal offices.

Some projects have come full circle during Ramsay's tenure. For example, one of her first duties in 2000 was organizing a grand opening celebration of Middlebury's then-new wastewater treatment plant. She leaves at a time when the plant needs major updates.

Middlebury has made it through plenty of big changes during the past decade. And while Ramsay was a constant, she declines to take credit for the results.

"All the things that happened were thanks to the leadership and energy of our elected officials, who chose these paths," Ramsay said. "Once those initiatives are relayed to me, I can chart out a path forward to successfully implement the projects."

That said, Ramsay does take

ownership of some programs that, while not rising to the level of a multi-million-dollar project, have nonetheless made municipal government more responsive to its constituents.

Among those programs:

- Weekly email blasts to around 1,700 recipients notifying them of various public meetings and events of interest.

"I brought (that idea) back from Killington," she said of the newsletter. "Through that, I feel like I have at least 1,700 friends. All of those people feel free to share their feedback with me."

- The sidewalk project linking Seymour and Weybridge Streets, which includes a walkway next to the Pulp Mill covered bridge. Planning for the projects began more than a decade ago, with delays caused by the pandemic.

- The temporary placement of Gravity — an artistic rendering of an elephant — outside the town office building. It was a collaboration with Bill Brooks, then-director of the Henry Sheldon Museum of Vermont History.

- Researching and facilitating the "owl" telecommunications technology that helps people attend Middlebury public meetings via MCTV.

Remote access to meetings has been a game changer for municipal government, Ramsay believes. In the "old" days, Ramsay's duties included driving hard copies of meeting materials to selectboard members' homes. Now they — and constituents — can electronically access those materials and participate virtually.

"It's a good thing, and another avenue for people to participate," she said.

Brian Carpenter is current chair of the Middlebury selectboard. He said a farewell gathering is being planned for Ramsay on Sept. 5 at Town Hall Theater, tentatively from 5-7 p.m.

"Kathleen has been wonderful to work with. She's competent, focused on service and the betterment of Middlebury and is a very hard worker. She understands our governance well, is a budgeting genius and her book of work speaks for itself," Carpenter said.

"When you look at all the projects we have accomplished in Middlebury over the time she was our manager and consider the minimal impact that has had on the tax rate, you appreciate her capacity all the more. Likewise, I would say she has done marvelous at attracting and empowering a strong staff as well as changed our organizational structure which will help sustain the good work she has done."

Reporter John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.



Anticipation!

A careful eye can see that this brightly colored hummingbird sticking is her tongue out, perhaps in anticipation of the sweet nectar it's soon to get. The photo was captured by area resident Dottie Nelson.

By the way

(Continued from Page 1A) there will be an open discussion for feedback with local residents and community leaders.

Addison County's unemployment rate rose slightly to 1.9% in June, a bump of two-tenths of a percentage point from May, according to new information from the Vermont Department of Labor (DOL). The county had a total workforce of 19,759 in June, of which 378 were looking for jobs, the DOL stated. The county's jobless rate of 1.9% is comparable to the 1.8% rate it registered in June of 2023. Meanwhile, the Vermont's June unemployment rate remained unchanged from May, at 2.1%. The June jobless rates for Vermont's 17 labor market areas ranged from 1.7% in White River Junction to 2.8% in Derby. The comparable United States rate in June was 4.1 percent, an increase of one-tenth of one percentage point from the revised May estimate.

Vermont Public will host a series of debates between candidates for statewide office, leading up to Vermont's primary election on Aug. 13. All debates will air live during Vermont Edition at noon on Vermont Public's main radio station and streaming at vermontpublic.org. The debates will broadcast on Vermont Public's main TV channel the same day at 7 p.m. and will be available on YouTube and the Vermont Edition podcast feed. The debate schedule is as follows, with dates and final rosters subject to change: Thursday, July 25: Democrats for governor, Esther Charlestin (of Middlebury) and Peter Duval; Tuesday, July 30: Republicans for lieutenant governor, Gregory Thayer and John Rodgers; Wednesday, July 31: Democrats for lieutenant

governor, David Zuckerman and Thomas Renner. Vermonters are encouraged to participate by emailing questions for the candidates in advance by writing or sending a voice memo to vermontedition@vermontpublic.org.

If you are a homeowner and have experienced flood damage to your home or infrastructure, it is important to call 211. You can visit the website at <https://vermont211.org/>. Please call 866-652-4636 or 802-652-4636. The lines may be busy, but it's crucial that you continue to dial in. All information collected is important in determining federal funding needs.

The Ripton Town Picnic is slated for this Saturday, July 27, from noon to 2 p.m. at the Ripton Fire and Rescue headquarters at 25 Dugway Rd. Fire and Rescue will provide hotdogs, hamburgers and lemonade. Bring a side dish to share. Parking will be available at Ripton Elementary School. This will be a great time to get out and see friends and neighbors.

You can contribute to a good cause simply by having fun: It's the BlueCross/BlueShield of Vermont "Summer Virtual Challenge." Here's what you do: Get outside this summer and splash, paddle and post. Beginning July 20, for every post in which BC/BS is tagged on Facebook or Instagram, they'll donate \$5 to Camp Exclamation Point, a residential summer camp in Thetford for underserved Vermont youth. Don't have social media? You can also participate by sending your photo to events@bcbsvt.com. And on Sept. 6, BC/BS will randomly pick one submission to receive a new kayak, paddle, and personal flotation device — a package valued at more than \$900. You can share as many photos as you like — the more photos you submit, the better your chances of winning. More info at tinyurl.com/2czwzay.

The United Way of Addison County (UWAC) recently awarded a community impact grant of \$10,000 to HomeShare Vermont, a nonprofit that screens and matches Vermonters of all ages and incomes to produce affordable shared living situations. "This is a three-year organizational support grant that can and should be used where it is needed most within the organization," said UWAC

Executive Director Helena Van Voorst. "We are excited to have HomeShare Vermont as a part of our family of funded partners." HomeShare Vermont Executive Director Connor Timmons said "Thanks to United Way of Addison County for this generous support and to all of our friends in the county who have contributed to United Way. This will be extremely helpful as we continue making housing connections in Addison County."

Average gasoline prices in Vermont have fallen 2 cents per gallon during the past week, averaging \$3.44 per gallon right now, according to GasBuddy's survey of 626 stations in Vermont. Prices in Vermont are 3.3 cents per gallon higher than a month ago and stand 16.5 cents per gallon lower than a year ago. According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Vermont was priced at \$3.09 per gallon earlier this week, while the most expensive was \$3.59 per gallon, a difference of 50 cents. The national average price of gasoline has fallen 1.9 cents per gallon during the past week, averaging \$3.47 per gallon right now. The national average is up 3.5 cents per gallon from a month ago and stands 9.9 cents per gallon lower than a year ago, according to GasBuddy data compiled from more than 11 million weekly price reports covering over 150,000 gas stations across the country.

Anheuser-Busch and its wholesaler partner Farrell Distributing Corp. recently donated more than 7,000 cans of emergency drinking water to three volunteer fire departments, including Salisbury's. The donation is part of a larger nationwide effort to encourage disaster preparedness in local communities by arming volunteer firefighters — who account for 65% of all U.S. firefighters — with critical resources that are often scarce due to limited budgets. Throughout the summer, Anheuser-Busch and its wholesaler network, in partnership with the National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC), will be delivering 1.5 million cans of emergency drinking water to more than 630 volunteer fire departments across 44 states. Last year, Anheuser-Busch delivered nearly 4 million cans to support recovery and relief efforts across the country, including more than 100,000 cans to Vermont last July for flood relief.

MAUSD

(Continued from Page 1A)

Those interested in filling the seat can contact MAUSD Board Chair Erin Jipner at erin.jipner@mausd.org, or New Haven rep Kathi Apgar at kathi.apgar@mausd.org.

The school board is also still looking to fill an open seat vacated in June by longtime Starksboro representative Steve Rooney. The seat did not draw interest during

the 30-day appointment window, so those interested in filling the seat will now have to go to the town office and collect signatures to be elected by the town during a special election or the next Town Meeting Day.

"Waiting that long isn't ideal for the board, but is certainly something that is a possibility," Jipner said.

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Spotlight on Vergennes

City panel to work on juvenile facility

To study what state should offer for hosting

By ANDY KIRKALDY

VERGENNES — The Vergennes City Council and Planning Commission are taking steps that could pave the way for what Vermont officials are calling the “Green Mountain Youth Campus,” a 14-bed locked facility for the short-term care of justice-involved youths. That multi-building campus has been proposed for a state-owned 8-acre site on Comfort Hill.

Planners are considering changes to the city plan and its zoning and subdivision regulations that would be necessary to allow state officials to obtain a permit for the project. A city-wide vote is planned for either November or March that will allow residents to either approve or disapprove of what the Department for Children and Families (DCF) says is a badly needed facility.

The vote would also allow residents to consider the benefits the city would be granted for hosting the facility.

Mayor Chris Bearor said at the council’s July 9 meeting councilors would not be making the call whether to back the state’s plans, but rather to make to make clear to citizens what the choices would entail.

“This is a community decision, not a council decision,” Bearor said.

Also to be clear, city officials said, a no vote by residents would not be binding on the state. But City Manager Ron Redmond noted in a similar situation in which state officials faced community opposition, they walked away from a town even after winning a court case that gave them permission to proceed.

The council started preparing for the future vote on July 9, when members approved creating a committee of up to a dozen officials and residents to come up with a proposal for what benefits the city should ask for from the state in return for supporting the proposed juvenile center, which would provide intervention for youths who are in crisis as well as in trouble with the law.

City officials say that both DCF and Department of Buildings and Grounds and General Services (BGS) leaders have made it clear they are willing to compensate Vergennes for hosting the Green Mountain Youth Campus.

They also point to, as a precedent, the contract state agencies signed with Springfield in 1999, when that town agreed to host a roughly 300-bed prison.

The state provided Springfield with \$5 million toward a series of projects, plus \$56,000 a year to pay for the burden of the prison on local services (a figure regularly adjusted for inflation). The state also agreed to lobby on the town’s behalf for a \$750,000 federal grant, pay for a quarter-mile sewer extension, overbuild the prison’s sewer system to allow for nearby development, and pay double sewer fees.

Redmond said Vergennes can expect benefits, citing the Springfield precedent as well as his conversations with DCF and BGS officials.

“The state has said to us, ‘What do you want?’” he said. “In the Springfield contract there were a lot of things the state gave to the community in return.”

Redmond noted one specific potential benefit that has cropped up in discussions: Most of the city’s northwest quadrant is state-owned, and it is currently zoned Low Density Residential.

“The state has been very ardent in saying that ‘We’ll convey land. You just have to ask us,’” Redmond said, adding that sewer and/or water lines and roads could also be on the table.

State officials have also said they could, for example, overbuild the water and sewer lines that would have to be extended to the facility site, thus possibly serving new housing in the area.

The committee the council created consists of Renny Perry, Bill Benton, Christopher Lapierre, Danelle Birong, Jen Russell, Linda Harmon, and Vergennes Police Sergeant Mark Barber, as well as Councilors Jill Murray-Killon and Mark Koenig, Comfort Hill Kennel co-owner Bill Paquette and Linda’s Apparel and Gifts owner Linda Cook have been invited but were not sure they could honor the commitment, Redmond said. He was working early this week

“This is a community decision, not a council decision.”

— Mayor Chris Bearor

on scheduling the group’s first meeting.

Their task will be to come up with what Vergennes should ask of the state for hosting the facility. Once a draft is completed, the committee would forward it to the council for consideration.

Based on the timing, the council could then place an article on the November 2024 or March 2025 ballot that would provide residents with an opportunity to vote that facility and the nature of potential compensation.

Bearor and Redmond noted the state’s timetable, one they called possibly optimistic, was to break ground in 18 months.

Some, including Councilor Cheryl Brinkman, joined them in being skeptical that plan and zoning changes, each of which will involve work by the city planning commission and a series of public hearings held by both planners and the council, could be completed that quickly. And then a permit would be required under the new regulations.

“It may be a lengthy process just for the permitting,” Brinkman said.

In the meantime, Deputy Mayor Dickie Austin said city residents have to be brought up to speed on how things will work.

“The public understanding of this process has to be solidified,” Austin said.

Councilor Cheryl Brinkman said residents should understand creation of the committee does not mean the council was putting a “seal of approval” on the juvenile facility. Rather, she said, its job would be to create “the bottom line” of what voters “say yes or no to.”

PLANNING & ZONING

Meanwhile, planning commission Chair Shannon Hagggett said state officials met with planners on July 1 and made an initial request to change the zoning on the state-owned land north of Macdonough Drive from Low Density Residential (LDR) to “Public.”

The Public district would allow

the Green Mountain Youth Campus, Hagggett said, but would limit the residential uses that could be a key city ask in a compensation package.

Therefore, Hagggett said planners will consider rewriting the plan and the zoning to also allow residential uses in the area, notably workforce housing.

“That’s not being asked for by the state, but it may be in our best interest to consider that,” Hagggett said.

He pointed out that kind of change has precedent.

“We’re also looking at potentially allowing some conditional-use residential in some other non-residential districts, like the Commercial district, and maybe even in our Industrial areas,” Hagggett said.

As far as sentiment on the planning commission, Hagggett said he didn’t want to speak definitively for the entire group, especially given that the council also appointed two new members on July 9.

But he had a sense that planners in general are “engaged in finding more opportunities for housing in the city.”

Hagggett added he felt the commission, like the council, doesn’t want to decide for the city the question of whether to site the juvenile center in Vergennes, which they would be doing if they refused to alter the city plan.

“What we plan to do at our meeting on Aug 5 is look at it a little more closely, and I plan to present some potential plan amendments to the full commission where we can then hammer that out and see where we end up with consensus,” he said. “We were going to be working on changing our plan anyway ... We’re the first step in the process, but we’re not the decision makers in that process.”

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ADDISON COUNTY **INDEPENDENT**

Extreme weather

(Continued from Page 1A)

Vermont Reptile and Amphibian Atlas, a nonprofit organization that collects and distributes herptile data to inform wildlife habitat stewardship. She said there are two local salamander species that lay their eggs directly in the streams on the bottom of rocks: the northern two-lined salamander and spring salamander.

"When we get these major floods that really knock out those headwater streams, this time of year, there's a good chance that type of flood is taking out the rocks that the eggs are laid on," Kelly said. "Those rocks are getting tumbled downstream, presumably the eggs are getting destroyed in the process of that."

Kelly noted that it's likely those flood waters are also washing around young salamanders — larvae that have hatched out of the eggs this year or in recent years.

"In some cases, they may be able to get up into a flood plain or an area where there's a smaller pool where they can hang out and avoid the worst of the flooding or get under a really big rock," she said.

Aside from the direct impacts flooding has on creatures' mortality, Kelly said floods can also affect wildlife habitats for a few years after the storm.

"A stream has a lot of leaves in it; those leaves support insects that then are eaten by the salamanders that live there," Kelly said. "So, when the flood happens and it takes out all the leaf litter and presumably the insects that live there, those salamanders are going to have a harder time living there for a while as well."

Sediment and run-off that flows into streams during major floods can also affect salamander habitats by filling up the spaces under rocks.

"When that happens, there's really no place for our salamanders to live. They spend their time under the rocks; they're hiding during the day from predators, using those spaces to lay their eggs," Kelly said. "If they're just buried in sediment or gravel or soil, that stream is really not that suitable anymore for many of our salamanders to live in."

Kelly noted heavy rains and floods can also impact other herptiles, particularly by carrying creatures downstream away from their habitat.

"For some of these creatures, they have a location sense. They know where their home is and they will try to return back to that home," she said.

For example, a turtle washed

downstream might try to return to its original spot after a storm.

"If it's walking up the stream, no big deal, but if it's really been washed downstream, there are times when its going to have to get across a road to get there and then that exposes that turtle to additional threats by being killed by a car on the road and that kind of thing," Kelly said.

LONGTERM UNCERTAINTY
Generally, salamander populations can recover from one or two bad years marked by floods or other extreme weather, Kelly said.

"But, if we have these types of floods or types of impacts year after year after year, eventually all those adults are going to die and you won't have any young to replace them, and then we're going to end up with a local population impact," she said.

Kelly noted that most larger salamanders live longer and thus, have more opportunities for attempted breeding before they die, but smaller salamanders do not live as long and are more likely to be affected by repeated flooding.

Those events are becoming more frequent across the Northeast, according to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The EPA states that climate change may cause river floods to become larger and more common than they previously were in some places, including the Northeast.

Eldridge said it's unclear how fish populations will be impacted by the repeated floods seen over the past year, which is something wildlife officials are keeping an eye on.

"Our hypothesis is the populations where their habitats are intact, those fish will be OK and they'll recover and we've seen some of that already," he said. "But we kind of have to wait and see."

He noted that many fish populations, such as trout, are adapted to dynamic systems of routine flooding, and wildlife officials expect those populations to hold on despite declines after flooding. However, it's unclear how other species that are not as



THE NORTHERN TWO-LINED salamander lays its eggs in streams on the bottom of rocks, like the one shown here. Flooding and heavy rains such as the July 10-11 storm that inundated parts of the state can destroy those eggs and affect other local wildlife.

Photo by Sue Morse



SPRING SALAMANDERS ARE among the local species directly impacted by heavy rains and flooding. Such storms affect young stream salamanders in particular by washing around eggs and larvae.

Photo by Rich Kern

adapted to those systems will be affected.

Eldridge added that fish populations must also contend with other extreme weather events spurred on by climate change, such as droughts and rising temperatures.

"The combination of flood years and drought years and rising temperatures, that's where the whole uncertainty comes in because the drought and rising temperatures are much more stressful," Eldridge said. "The floods are more episodic, one-time stress, but the droughts and rising temperatures are more long-term stress."

Kelly noted that the impacts of climate change are among several human activities threatening wildlife, including habitat loss and fragmentation.

"I consider climate change and the increased variability in our weather to be just one more of those things that these animals have to deal with," she said. "There's a lot we don't know about impacts to reptiles and amphibians and

wildlife in general, but I have a lot of concerns about how humans are impacting wildlife and, eventually, what that means for humans."

Wildlife officials say there are a few ways Vermonters can support local species in the aftermath of this month's flooding, such as when repairing culverts in streams and rivers.

"It's important for our wildlife to both move freely up and down river systems and to not be impacted as much by human development," Kelly said. "Making sure that culvert replacement is the correct size to allow both the water to pass freely and safely even in these big storms, which will both help wildlife and help humans in the future."

Kelly added that Vermonters can also try to keep other human impacts like houses, roads and driveways out of river corridor systems.

"Those sorts of things will allow our streams and rivers to recover from all of the years of impacts that we've had on them up to this point," Kelly said. "Just thinking

about our impacts and trying to minimize those in the future."

Residents that spot herptiles can also submit those reports to the Vermont Reptile and Amphibian Atlas to help further the organization's work in keeping track of herptile distribution and making conservation recommendations.

Eldridge noted that landowners can take other steps to support wildlife, such as giving rivers space to flood and meander when possible and leaving structures like log jams and boulders in the river when it's safe to do so and there's no risk to people or property. Residents can connect with the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation for further guidance on those efforts.

Eldridge said the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department has been taking some of those steps and working in other ways to help enhance flood resilience around the state, and officials are happy to talk with residents about that work and provide examples of what those efforts have looked like.

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SPORTS

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AC CATCHER CARTER Paquette eludes the tag on a close play at home to score the sixth-inning run that made it 2-2 against visiting Colchester in the local nine's Aug. 11 home game. AC went on to claim a critical victory, 3-2, in eight innings.

Independent photos/Steve James



AC HURLER TYLER Kimball delivers a pitch to a Colchester Cannon batter during the local nine's Aug. 11 home game. Kimball's strong outing helped AC outlast the Cannons, 3-2, in eight innings.

Independent photo/Steve James

AC nine making playoff push Five-game winning streak gives Legion team a shot

By ANDY KIRKALDY
MIDDLEBURY — The Addison County American Legion baseball team won five straight games in the past week to push itself back into what is a tight race for one of four Northern Division playoff berths.

The local nine improved to 11-8 with the surge, which snapped a four-game skid that had threatened the squad's hopes to play in the eight-team, double-elimination Vermont Legion tournament. That tournament, also including the top four Southern Division teams, begins this weekend, with games to be played at Castleton University and Mount St. Joseph Academy in Rutland.

As of the *Independent's* Wednesday deadline, AC had

two must-win games remaining, both at the team's home field at Middlebury Union High School.

On Wednesday the local nine was set to host Franklin, which has been eliminated from postseason contention, and on Thursday second-place St. Johnsbury will visit at 5:30 p.m.

The Northern Division standings heading into Wednesday — Tuesday's scores were not posted at the Vermont American Legion baseball website, but AC's was up to date — were: 1. South Burlington, 12-4; 2. St. Johnsbury, 12-6; 3. Essex, 11-7; 4. Montpelier, 10-7-1; 5. AC, 11-8; 6. Colchester, 7-11-1; 7. Franklin County, 5-11; 8. Champlain, 2-16.

On July 18, AC snapped its losing streak by rallying past visiting

Colchester, 3-2, in eight innings; Friday brought an 11-0 thumping of host Champlain Valley; Saturday saw a doubleheader sweep of visiting Essex, 7-4 and 17-11; and on Tuesday Champlain forfeited rather than travel to MUHS with only eight players.

Game details were as follows.

AC VS. ESSEX, 7-4

In Saturday's opener AC rallied from a 3-2 deficit with five runs on five hits in the top of the seventh to take a 7-3 lead on the way to their 7-4 victory over host Essex. The biggest blow in that inning was a two-run Eyon Tembreull double. Tembreull also earned the pitching win.

Carter Tosch's triple gave Essex a 3-1 lead in the fifth after a Ryan Brouillard grounder in the fourth plated a run for AC. Tembreull also earned the pitching win, allowing nine hits over the seven innings, (See *Baseball*, Page 2B)

— MATT DICKERSON —

Woodford: baby loons, raging wind and more

If we had noticed a weather alert with wind gust warnings of 70 mph — as had the folks in the RV two sites away from us who decided to vacate the campground for a few hours — we wouldn't have stayed in the tent. We would have been in our car, probably parked someplace not underneath any trees or beside any rivers.

When I checked the weather app on my phone, however, it showed wind speeds of only 15 mph with gusts peaking at 38 mph. And the winds were predicted to subside in an hour or so. So we lay awake in the tent listening to wind whipping

through the trees above us until the storm eventually passed over us and the loon family down in the lake started singing again.

Although Deborah and I had made a short visit to Woodford State Park two years ago, with a quick swim in Adams Reservoir to end a hot August day, this was our first time camping there overnight. As with most of our camping excursions to Vermont State Parks, it was a car camping trip—meaning we bring just about everything except our kitchen sink. If the two of us haven't managed to fill our Subaru Outback with gear, we consider our efforts a failure. The only real "roughing it" we do in car camping is that we still sleep in a tent on an inflatable mattress, and we have to walk a hundred yards to the restrooms.

Normally we are also cooking meals over a fire or camp stove. On this trip, however, with thunderstorms in the forecast, we decided to forego the camp fare and drive 15 minutes into Bennington to splurge on a (See *Dickerson*, Page 3B)



VERGENNES CHAMP REESE Matton swims in the 11-12 girls' breaststroke on Tuesday in the Middlebury town pool.

Independent photo/Steve James

Champs top Marlins on fun night

Teams enjoying summer season

By ANDY KIRKALDY
MIDDLEBURY — Scores are kept for summer swimming, and the record shows that on Tuesday the visiting Vergennes Champs defeated the Middlebury Marlins, 308-185.

The stats also showed that between the two teams, 125 swimmers competed and got healthy exercise on a warm summer night. They also encouraged their teammates, older swimmers served as role models for their younger teammates, while the family members on the sidelines cheered for the athletes and between races caught up with friends. It's fair to say people had fun.

Coaches for both teams said there are serious swimmers on each, athletes who dedicate themselves to the sport and swim

on clubs almost year-round. The summer coaches mentor many of those same swimmers during the colder months.

But in the summer, they also blend young newcomers to the sport with those who have already developed a passion for swimming, and they strike a balance to serve all their team members.

For example, Champs Head Coach Bill Clark said with a young squad this year he and Coach Addie Brooks tweaked the team's annual Sno-Cone challenge — the team traditionally has a season-end party with Sno-Cones as rewards if swimmers meet certain goals — to focus on intangibles rather than on collective time improvement.

"We're doing a couple things (See *Meet*, Page 3B)



VERGENNES CHAMP SCARLETT Giroux competes in the U-10 girls' butterfly race on Tuesday in the Middlebury town pool.

Independent photo/Steve James

Sports BRIEFS

Ralph Myhre hosts alumni

MIDDLEBURY — Ralph Myhre Golf Course hosted a Middlebury College Alumni Golf Weekend tournament between July 19 and 21.

The winning team in the Youngman Flight was Darric White and Stephen Seymour, with the tandem of Thomas Burns and Matthew Burns taking second and the duo of Noah Fine and Ted Fine finishing third.

The Kenyon Flight winner was the team of Kevin Donahue and Carol Porter Donahue, with the runners-up team being Fred Erdman and Dick Gordon. Taking third place were Sean Fallon and Douglas Fallon.

In regular Thursday Men's League play on July 18 the first-place foursome consisted of Robert Cameron, Tim Etchells, Stan Pratt and Richard Hodgson.

Taking second was the team of Mike Adams, Tom Maxwell, George Ramsayer and Uwe Luksch, and finishing third was the group of Steve Ogden, Robert Kirkpatrick, Jim Dunn and Larry Duffany.

Mike Adams shot the day's low net score, a 69, and the Closest-to-the-Pin Winners were Robert Cameron and Richard Hodgson.

In Friday Evening Mixer play on July 19, the quartet of Bryon and Julia Emilo and Brian and Cindy Dodds prevailed, with the foursome of Amy Nuceder, Steve Kellogg and Bill and Nicole Laberge finishing second. Taking third was the trio of Garvi Jesso-White, Father Skip Baltz and Dale White.

In regular Thursday Men's League play on July 18 the first-place foursome consisted of Robert Cameron, Tim Etchells, Stan Pratt and Richard Hodgson.



FAIR HAVEN'S JUSTIN Comes took the checkered flag in Saturday's main event at Devil's Bowl Speedway, a 38-lap feature run in honor of the late Vince Quenneville Sr., a prominent racer at the track from the late 1960s through the late 1980s.

Photo courtesy of Devil's Bowl Speedway

Provencher, Alger win at Bowl

WEST HAVEN — Bridport's Gage Provencher and Orwell's Jakobee Alger were the Addison County winners at Devil's Bowl Speedway on this past Saturday, which was Legends Night at the dirt racetrack. Fair Haven's Justin Comes won the evening's main event, the 38-lap Vince Quenneville Sr. Sportsman Modified feature.

Saturday's top feature paid \$2,000 to win and was held in memory of the late Quenneville Sr., known as The Flying Frenchman. Quenneville was a track champion at Devil's Bowl in 1968 and 1969 during the speedway's infancy.

Quenneville continued racing well into the 1980's, earning success in the modified ranks at Devil's Bowl and beyond. He lost his life in a highway accident in 1987, but his legacy lives on in history and on the track, as three members of his family continue to drive there: Vince Jr., Jason and Quinn Quenneville.

Comes started on the pole and led the first three laps before surrendering the lead to Shoreham's

Brent Warren on a restart. But a lap-11 caution saw Comes pass Warren and put Middlebury's Justin Stone, Brandon's Joey Scarborough and New Hampshire's Tanner Siemons into contention.

Bristol's Josh Masterson, who's been on a roll since late June, also came through the pack and took second from Warren on lap 19. Masterson stayed with Comes for the entire second half of the race, but Comes edged him by two-tenths of a second at the finish line. Siemons was third, and Warren enjoyed a season-best fourth-place run. Scarborough finished fifth, Stone was seventh, and Bridport's Troy Audet took 10th.

Justin Comes started on the pole and led the first three laps before surrendering the lead to Shoreham's Brent Warren on a restart.

In the 25-lap Limited Sportsman race, Castleton's Justin Lilly picking up his first win of 2024. Local drivers helped populate the top 10: New Haven's Alex Layn took second, Salisbury's Fred Little and Gary English ran 3-4, and Steve Miller of Vergennes was ninth.

Fair Haven's Matt Wade edged Whiting's Logan Denis for the win in the 25-lap Novice Sportsman Feature, with Salisbury's Aiden

Benoure finishing third. Leicester's Matt Cram and Brandon's Winston Forbes ran 8-9.

Bridport's Gage Provencher took the lead early in the 500cc Mini Sprint 15-lap race and coasted to a comfortable victory, tying with second-place finish Ray Hanson for the series lead as a result. Brandon's Quinn Quenneville was third, and Brandon resident Kevin Smith took sixth.

In the 15-lap Mini Stock A-Main feature, Orwell's Jakobee Alger took the checkered flag, with points leader Brian Blake of Cornwall right behind in second. It was Alger's third win of the season.

Fair Haven's Chase Allen won the six-lap Mini Stock B-Feature, and Londonderry's Chad Merrill claimed the Crown Vic feature, with Bristol's Eric Friend in second and Ferrisburgh's Norm Morrill in fifth.

The New York State Stock Car Association inducted three Devil's Bowl Speedway drivers and one car owner into its Hall of Fame on Saturday at the track. The inductees were Frank Hoard Sr., Don VanGuilder, Ed Keenan and Clayton Ryan.

Devil's Bowl Speedway will host more action this coming Saturday.

Baseball

(Continued from Page 1B)

fanning three and walking none. Carter Paquette (two hits, two runs) and Xavier DeBlois also drove in runs for AC. Alex Sperry scored twice and stole two bases. **AC VS. ESSEX, 17-10**

In the nightcap at Essex on Saturday, DeBlois, Tucker Wright and Riley Coffey combined for six hits, six runs and five RBIs as AC outslugged their hosts. DeBlois, Coffey and Cole Warren each drove in two runs; Sperry and DeBlois each scored three runs; and Warren, Wright, Kimball and Brouillard each scored twice.

AC led by 14-3 entering the bottom of the fifth. Essex scored seven runs over its next three at-bats, but AC salted the win away with three runs in the top of the seventh. Brody Barnard started on the mound and allowed eight earned runs over the first five innings, but earned the pitching win. Paquette hurled the final 1.1 innings and picked up a save. **AC VS. CHAMPLAIN, 11-0**

On Friday, July 19, AC blanked host Champlain, 11-0, as Morter tossed a four-hit shutout, walking two and fanning seven. Tembreull sparked the offense with three RBI singles, Paquette poked



AC FIRST BASEMAN Xavier DeBlois and second baseman Cole Warren — and the Colchester runner and first-base coach — all look to the umpire for the call on a close play during the AC Legion baseball team's Aug. 11 home victory over Colchester. The runner was correctly ruled out despite his hopeful safe sign.

Independent photo/Steve James

two singles and walked twice, Brouillard drove in three runs, Wright and DeBlois plated runs with bases-loaded walks, Morter drilled an RBI double, and Aiden Fuller singled home a run.

AC WINS IN EIGHT

The local nine's July 18 victory over Colchester, 3-2 in eight innings, saw more suspense. Tembreull drove in Paquette with the first AC run, but Colchester took a 2-1 lead into the eighth. Paquette reached base and made it to second, scoring from there on a

Brouillard single with a head-first dive to the plate that allowed him to sneak his hand under a tag that was a microsecond too late.

AC won it in the eighth when Sperry started on second as per the extra-inning rules, soon reached third, and then trotted home with the decisive run on a Tembreull sac fly.

The heroics made a winner out of Kimball, who tossed an eight-inning three-hitter, walking one and whiffing one.



TUCKER WRIGHT SLIDES safely under the tag of the Colchester third basemen during the AC Legion baseball team's critical Aug. 11 home victory.

Independent photo/Steve James

Visiting Sharks nip Middlebury Marlins

By ANDY KIRKALDY

MIDDLEBURY — The visiting St. Albans Sharks edged the Middlebury Marlins, 263-234, on July 18 in Champlain Valley Swim League action.

The Sharks won 13 of 20 relays, earning a 42-point advantage that proved decisive. St. Albans had 88 swimmers at the meet to 53 for the Marlins.

A number of Marlins won multiple individual races, topped by Connor McNamara's four victories.

Winning three events apiece were Cassie Bellmann, Felix Poduschnick, Henry Cadoret and Jurgen Pirrung.

Claiming two wins apiece were Sadie Chance and Cooper Butler. The Marlins were scheduled to

wrap up their regular season on Tuesday by hosting Vergennes in a meet postponed from July 16.

The CVSL championship meet will be held this coming Friday and Saturday in Winooski, and the state championship meet will be held the following weekend at White River Junction's Upper Valley Aquatic Center.

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Champs

(Continued from Page 1B)

differently this year. The Sno-Cone challenge is about sportsmanship. So if they're showing a lot of sportsmanship during meets, shaking hands with people, cheering for people, we're going to do a Sno-Cone party tomorrow night," Clark said.

The older, more serious swimmers also got a bonus: "Our teen swimmers got to go and watch the Olympic trials in Indianapolis early in June. So we had a great trip there," Clark said. "We're going to the Great Escape on Sunday. We're keeping the fun going. I think team spirit is at an all-time high this year."

The Champs' results have been good, if not up to the state championship level of a couple years back given its youth. Swimmers are dropping times, and the Champs have won meets as often as not. And the support system remains strong.

"As always, we've got a great group of parents and guardians helping us out," Clark said. "That keeps the energy up and helps us keep doing what we're doing."

What's his overall take on summer swimming?

"For the kids that swim year-round, it's a bit of a break psychologically. It takes some of the pressure off," Clark said. "But those kids are also still really paying attention to their times. They have big goals at the state meet."

Other team members might see it differently, said Clark.

"For the kids that are just summer swimmers, they're just looking to build some skills and have a competitive swimming experience," he said. "It's a lot of fun, and it's good for them physically, just the exercise that they're getting. And also just the camaraderie, being on a team where you've got 5-year-olds and 19-year-olds, boys and girls, and just the community we build around it is a big deal. So I think it's healthy for them physically and socially."

Marlins Head Coach Coulter Merrill tells a similar story about what is also a young team. He's an easy-going Virginia native and college swimmer who is also a former summer and club swimmer and Marlins assistant. Merrill said he was happy to take over the Marlins this season, in which the team has become more competitive. Former Marlin standout Aidan Chance returns to assist.

"It's a great time, being outside and watching kids going against best times. What could be better than that in the summer?" he said.

He and the other coaches have been pleased to watch a number of swimmers blossom this summer.

"We're super happy with them. It's been fun for the coaching staff. We have a group, you saw the 13-14 girls, for example, that really bought in. They've been training over the winter with me for two years. They've come to an agreement they want to be pushed to that next level," Merrill said.

Like Clark, Merrill said summer teams are a blend of novice and experienced swimmers and have more to offer than technical training. He said he aims for inclusivity.

"My big thing in summer swim is I want to get everybody to swim



VERGENNES CHAMP RHETT Cooke flies through the water in the U-8 boys' butterfly race on Tuesday in the Middlebury town pool.

Independent photo/Steve James

as many races as possible," he said. "Summer swim is all about just individual swims, having fun, trying to get those blue ribbons. That's what it's about at the end of the day. That and the snack bar, of course."

Also like the Champs, Merrill sees good team spirit in the Marlins.

"It's been fun to see them come together. I got the older kids, our 13-14-year-olds, to take on more of a leadership role," he said.

TUESDAY MEET

The top three finishers for each team in individual races on Tuesday were:

BUTTERFLY

• U-8 girls: 1. Savannah Wallace, V, 18.53; 2. Rose Phinney, M.

• U-8 boys: 1. Riker Cooley, V, 20.01; 2. Rhett Cooke, V; 3. Jonas Hill, M.

• U-10 girls: 1. Cassandra Bellmann, M, 17.64; 2. Scarlett Giroux, V; 3. Mabelle Fidalgo, V.

• U-10 boys: 1. Felix Poduschnick, M, 15.58; 2. Wyatt Hill, M; 3. Brantley Cooke, V.

• U-12 girls: 1. Jordan Hutchins, V, 33.62; 2. Cecilia Neffinger, V; 3. Bianca Spafford, M.

• U-12 boys: 1. Connor Husk, V, 21.09; 2. Henry Cadoret, 34.32.

• U-14 girls: 1. Ella Bearor, V, 29.14; 2. Sadie Chance, M.

• U-14 boys: 1. Jorgen Pirrung, M, 32.14; 2. Constant Bellman, M.

• U-18 girls: 1. Acacia Clark, V, 29.45; 2. Adrienne Smits, V; 3. Quinn Mackey, M.

• U-18 boys: 1. Will Clark, V, 26.01; 2. Noah Smits, V; 3. Camden Whitlock, M.

BACKSTROKE

• U-8 girls: 1. Elizabeth Goldblatt Clark, M, 24.47; 2. S. Wallace, V; 3. Margaret Smits, V.

• U-8 boys: 1. R. Cooley, V, 21.26; 2. Cooper Butler, M; 3. Evan Angier, V.

• U-10 girls: 1. Tie: Vela Remaniak, M, and M. Fidalgo, V, 21.59; 3. Ca. Bellmann, M.

• U-10 boys: 1. B. Cooke, V, 19.4; 2. Porter Mackey, M; 3. W. Hill, M.

• U-12 girls: 1. Juliette Angier, V, 42.96; 2. Camry Miner, M; 3. Reese Matton, V.

• U-12 boys: 1. C. Husk, V, 35.45; 2. George Martin, M; 3. Enli Parrillo, V.

• U-14 girls: 1. Abigail Hamilton, M, 33.46; 2. Ellie Brooks, V; 3. Annika Smits, V.

• U-14 boys: 1. Rowan Neffinger, V, 35.34; 2. J. Pirrung, M; 3. Adrien Ralph, V.

• U-18 girls: 1. A. Clark, 34.34; 2. Madelyn Giroux, V. 3. Navah



VERGENNES CHAMP EVAN Angier competes in the U-8 breaststroke race on Tuesday in the Middlebury town pool.

Independent photo/Steve James



MIDDLEBURY MARLIN SWIMMER Daphne Prentice competes in the 11-12 girls' backstroke race on Tuesday in her team's home pool.

Independent photo/Steve James

Glikman, M.

• U-18 boys: 1. W. Clark, V, 27.94; 2. C. Whitlock, M.

BREASTSTROKE

• U-8 girls: 1. R. Phinney, M, 24.53; 2. M. Smits, V.

• U-8 boys: 1. R. Cooley, V, 24.38; 2. R. Cooke, V.

• U-10 girls: 1. S. Giroux, V, 20.06; 2. Ca. Bellmann, M; 3. Lydia Bearor, V.

• U-10 boys: 1. F. Poduschnick, M, 19.88; 2. Martin Gee, V; 3. P. Mackey, M.

• U-12 girls: 1. J. Hutchins, V, 41.28; 2. Bianca Spafford, M; 3. Gretchen Hill, V.

• U-12 boys: 1. H. Cadoret, M, 42.32; 2. G. Martin, M; 3. Skyler James, V.

• U-14 girls: 1. S. Chance, M, 35.10; 2. Sophia James, 37.52; 3. Selma Citarella, M.

• U-14 boys: 1. R. Neffinger, V, 40.66; 2. Co. Bellmann, M.

• U-18 girls: 1. Sophia Johnson, V, 43.31; 2. Q. Mackey, M; 3. Louisa Orten, M.

• U-18 boys: 1. N. Smits, V, 30.71;

2. Alex Henley, V; 3. C. Whitlock, M.

FREESTYLE

• U-8 girls: 1. S. Wallace, V, 14.07; 2. R. Phinney, M; 3. M. Smits, V.

• U-8 boys: 1. R. Cooke, V; 2. C. Butler, M; 3. Bennett Blacklock, V.

• U-10 girls: 1. S. Giroux, 16.03; 2. L. Bearor, V; 3. V. Remaniak, V.

• U-10 boys: 1. F. Poduschnick, V, 14.07; 2. B. Cooke, V; 3. R. Cooley, V.

• U-12 girls: 1. J. Hutchins, V; 31.00; 2. R. Matton, V; 3. C. Miner, M.

• U-12 boys: 1. C. Husk, V, 28.46; 2. H. Cadoret, M; 3. E. Parrillo, V.

• U-14 girls: 1. E. Bearor, V, 26.69; 2. S. Chance, M; 3. A. Hamilton, M.

• U-14 boys: 1. J. Pirrung, M, 27.37; 2. R. Neffinger, V; 3. A. Ralph, V.

• U-18 girls: 1. A. Smits, V, 27.38; 2. A. Clark, V; 3. L. Orten, M.

• U-18 boys: 1. W. Clark, V, 22.46; 2. Cohen Howell, V; 3. C. Whitlock, M.

Vergennes Champs dunk Burlington Country Club

By **ANDY KIRKALDY**

VERGENNES — The Vergennes Champs easily splashed past a smaller group of visiting Burlington Country Club swimmers on Thursday, July 18, 354-95, in a Champlain Valley Swim League meet.

Champs officials noted BCC arrived with only 23 swimmers — about a third as many as the 77 who showed up to represent the Vergennes squad. As a result, the Champs won 15 out of 17 contested relays, racking up a 105-14 edge in relay races alone.

Eight Champs won multiple races, led by Brantley Cook's four wins.

Riker Cooley, Connor Husk, Savannah Wallace and Rowan Neffinger each touched the wall first in three events apiece.

Jordan Hutchins, Ella Bearor and Will Clark picked up two wins each.

The Champs were scheduled to wrap up their regular season on Tuesday by visiting the Middlebury Marlins in a meet postponed from July 16.

The CVSL championship meet will be held this coming Friday and Saturday in Winooski, and the state championship meet will be held the following weekend at White River Junction's Upper Valley Aquatic Center.

Dickerson

(Continued from Page 1B)

restaurant dinner on a dry table under a hard roof. Before we left, we secured the tent as well as we could, tying it down to a heavy picnic table on one side, a log on a second side, and a 40-pound rock on a third side. Then after a refreshing swim in the reservoir at the park beach, we headed into town to dine at the Madison Brewing Company Restaurant.

We were most of the way through a delicious meal when the sky outside grew suddenly dark. Soon, the torrential rains began. We ate the rest of our meal slowly, ordered dessert and savored that even more slowly, and gave the storm time to pass before I took off my boots and waded back to the car through a calf-deep torrent rushing down Bennington's Main Street.

Driving back to Woodford State Park up the winding State Highway 9 (also known there as the Molly Stark Trail), we found ourselves catching back up to the storm as it moved slowly eastward. Though it was no longer raining at our tent when we got out of the car, we could still hear thunder in the distance and the rush of wind gusts coming across the lake and through the trees above us.

The next day we would discover significant wind damage along the roads half an hour south of the park, but the park itself was largely unscathed. And it's a beautiful state park as well as having the highest elevation campground of any state park in Vermont—which is part of what brought us back after our visit two years earlier. Though only a quarter of an hour from Bennington, and with the campground portion of the park not especially large, it felt more remote and quieter than many state parks. It may be that the weather forecast turned many potential campers away, or that it was a weeknight, but all five campsites closest to ours were vacant.

In the morning, we hiked the roughly 2.5-mile quiet wooded trail which runs around the perimeter of the lake with a brief jaunt up a small knoll in the George Aiken Wilderness area

of the Green Mountain National Forest. After the considerable rain, I expected the trail to be one long continuous mud puddle. It turned out to be well drained, with good bridges or boardwalks across the few little streams or wet areas. Only one short stretch a few strides long required us to navigate a little mud. We saw several red efts lounging in the trail, numerous patches of unique Blue Bead Lilies, and two delicate little Ghost Pipe plants that I would have missed if Deborah hadn't pointed them out.

Near the end of the loop when we returned to the beach area, we saw the family of four loons we had heard the previous night. We sat at a picnic table and watched one of the adults catch a little forage fish and feed it to one of the loonlets, which it did by holding the fish underwater and making the baby duck its head down to get it. It later caught a much larger fish, and when we walked away it was swimming back to the family to show off that catch. Although we didn't go paddling on this visit, the park rents kayaks, canoes, paddleboats, and standup paddleboards. The main part of the reservoir, where the beach is situated, is big enough to support loons and deep enough for year-round trout, but small enough to take it all in a glance. Yet a long shallow cove on the southwest side where three small streams flow in nearly doubles the length of the waterbody making it appealing for a quiet morning or evening paddle.

Our only complaint was that most of the campsites were packed in fine gravel like a driveway. Though it makes a great surface for an RV, and seems to drain well even in hard rain, it proved impossible to put tent stakes through the gravel—which on a windy night added to the drama of tenting. Still, we hope and plan to return before long, in part because the reservoir is stocked annually with trout, and fishes well especially in cooler weather. I will also never complain about being woken up at night in a tent by the calls of loons.

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Making splashes

At Tuesday's swim meet at the Middlebury town pool between the Vergennes Champls and Middlebury Marlins, above, Champls Beowulf and Elke Yarbrough swim side by side in the boys' backstroke race. Below, Marlin swimmer Cecily O'Leary competes in the 11-12 girls' butterfly race.

Independent photos/Steve James



Police cite homeless man for misbehavior

Also are looking into missing vehicle

Middlebury Police Log

MIDDLEBURY — Middlebury police cited Joey R. Ewen, 47, who is houseless, for disorderly conduct following an incident in the Bakery Lane area on July 15.

In addition to conducting daily foot patrols in the downtown area to monitor members of the local houseless community, Middlebury police were informed on July 19 that a truck had been stolen from McGee Chevrolet on Route 7 south.

Police said the stolen vehicle is a maroon 2021 Dodge Ram Big Horn. Anyone with information on this is asked to call Middlebury police Officer Darrin Hinternereder at 802-388-3191.

Police also received a report on July 20 about a man who had allegedly been knocking on people's doors in the Cottage Lane area wearing only a shirt.

In other incidents last week, police:

- Received complaints on July 15 about gunshots heard near the gorge in East Middlebury.

- Warned a person on July 15 for violating the town's open container ordinance on Bakery Lane.

- Responded on July 15 to two shoplifting complaints at Hannaford's Supermarket.

- Responded to the reported July 15 theft of drinks and toilet paper from a College Street business.

- Investigated a trespassing complaint in the Case Street area on July 15.

- Assisted a local family on July 16 with a child who had allegedly been considering self-harm.

- Assisted Middlebury firefighters at the scene of an oil leak on Court Street on July 16.

- Cited Mark Smith, 64, of Fayston, on July 17 for driving with a criminally suspended license in the North Pleasant Street area.

- Responded to a credit card fraud complaint in the Lower Plains Road area on July 17.

- Helped resolve a dog-related dispute between two Lower Plains Road neighbors on July 17.

- Assisted a Court Street storekeeper with a man found sleeping in front of the business during the early morning on July 17.

- Assisted Middlebury Regional EMS on the July 18 transport of a houseless man who had been complaining about foot pain.

- Checked on the wellbeing of children who had reportedly been playing near Route 125 west on July 18.

- Responded to a domestic disturbance in the Bakery Lane area on July 19.

- Responded on July 20 to a reported verbal dispute between two people on Mill Street.

- Received a complaint about a barking dog in the Monroe Street area on July 20.

- Were informed that someone had taken a package that had been delivered to a Court Street address on July 20.

- Spoke with the owners of a Maple Street business on July 20 regarding ongoing complaints about graffiti.

- Received a complaint on July 20 from a person who alleged having been assaulted by two houseless men in the Bakery Lane area.

- Cited Daniel J. Sabourin, 47, of Middlebury, for driving with a criminally suspended license, following a stop on Seminary Street Extension on July 21.

- Warned several people who were violating the town's open container ordinance on Bakery Lane on July 21.

- Responded to a report of an injured cat on Main Street on July 21.

- Investigated a shoplifting complaint at the Jolley gas station on Court Street on July 21.

- Cited Mari J. Hill, 54, of Vergennes, for driving under the influence, following a traffic stop on Route 7 south on July 22.

Sunday Vermont Sun triathlons draw 300 competitors

SALISBURY — About 300 athletes entered two triathlons held at Branbury State Park on Lake Dunmore this past Sunday. The Vermont Sun triathlon consisted of a 600-yard swim, 14-mile bike, and 3.1-mile run. The Branbury classic began with a 1.5-mile paddle, followed by the same bike and run.

Lance Parker from Moretown, Vermont won the triathlon in 1:01:57. Bristol's Todd Smith claimed second in 1:03:12. Madeline Miller from Greenfield Center, N.Y. was the women's champion in 1:14:33, and Shannon Sweeney of Wayne, Pa. was second in 1:15:11.

Middlebury's Kyle Friis used the sixth best swim and run, and seventh best bike to place fifth overall, winning the men's 35 to

39 age group. Bristol's Nick Pierce was first to finish the swim in 8:20. Thirty seconds behind him was 14-year-old Jorgen Pirrung of Ripton. Parker was another 15 seconds behind in seventh.

Parker vaulted into the lead within just a few miles of the 14-mile hilly bike course averaging nearly 26 miles an hour. His 33:12 bike split was the day's fastest. Smith was 9th out of the water, then had the fourth best bike (35:27) to move into third at the start of the run. Smith cut Parker's 2:30 lead in half with the day's best run (17:05) to claim second overall in 1:03:12. Burlington's Tom Drenzo was third in 1:04:30.

Among the women, Sweeney trailed Miller by 1:30 as they came out of the water. Sweeney

took the lead halfway through the bike leg with the fastest women's bike time outriding Miller by 2:45. Miller had the best women's run of the day (20:26) and caught Sweeney just past the turnaround.

Pierce (45) finished 10th overall, winning his 45-49 age group by 12 minutes, in 1:12:17. Sixteen-year-old Mathew MacIntosh, of Ripton, finished 15th overall winning his 15-19 age group (1:15:25). Middlebury's David Monro won the 40-49 age group in 1:18:00. Only 18 men were faster than Pirrung, who easily won the 10-14 group in 1:19:27.

Ripton's Beth MacIntosh placed third in the women's 15-19 group (1:22:20), while Stephanie Bandoski of Brandon was second in 1:23:24. Cornwall's Liz Cohan

took third in women's 35-39 (1:25:48) and Middlebury Obie Porteous was fourth in women's 30-35.

Owen Mayhew placed third in men's 35-39 (1:28:00), while Meg Howard of Weybridge was fourth in women's 35-39 (1:28:08) and Middlebury's Christy Lynn was fifth in women's 35-39 (1:28:09). Chelsea Fellows-Stanley of Cornwall was third in women's 40-45.

Jeff Schumann of Salisbury led a trio of USA Triathlon all Americans in the 65 to 69 men's age group with a time of 1:11:17. Burlington's Mark Boulder was second in 1:12:22, and Middlebury's Steve Hare was third in 1:18:51. The three were the 9th, 11th and 16th men overall. Cody Barba of Portland,

Maine, was the men's winner in the Branbury classic in 1:25:20. Deb Kendrick of Colchester was the women's champion in 1:42:37.

The past six Vermont Sun Triathlon dates over the last year and a half have been held in bad to brutal weather conditions. On Sunday that streak ended. It was cool and overcast as the participants organized their swim, bike, and run gear in the transition area. There was a 50% chance of rain predicted, but the rain never came by the awards presentation the sun broke out for a picture-perfect summer day.

"This was a record field for our July races. Usually August is the biggest as people have all summer to prepare. We already have 215 entries. More and more we are seeing participation from people

who don't think of themselves as racers but as recreational athletes who can do a sprint triathlon," said race director Steve Hare.

"The course is awesome as well the weather and the venue. What struck me after 30+ years racing was a genuine local flavor and feel of the entire event and the atmosphere. Everyone was very friendly and helpful and it actually felt like all competitors and spectators were one big team. I would love to come back next year. It's a drive from Virginia, but well worth it," said Dave Conover, a former USA Triathlon official.

The season's final Vermont Sun Triathlons will be held on Aug. 18. For details go to vermontsun.com.



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Bristol man cited for violating conditions

BRISTOL — Bristol police on June 25 cited Ryan Prim, 25, of Bristol, for driving with a criminally suspended license, violating his conditions of release and driving without an ignition interlock device following a traffic stop on West Street.

Between June 23 and July 13 Bristol police completed five foot patrols and one car patrol, conducted 28 traffic stops, and checked security at Mount Abraham Union High School 21 times, at Bristol Elementary School 21 times and at local businesses 15 times.

Police also processed 21 fingerprint requests, helped two people gain access to their locked vehicles, verified one vehicle identification number and conducted one welfare check.

In other recent activity, Bristol police:

- On June 23 received a report of a theft from a Lawson Lane residence. An investigation is ongoing.
- On June 24 received a complaint about an animal on North Street. An investigation is ongoing.
- On June 26 conducted a safety presentation at a Monkton daycare facility.
- On June 26 monitored traffic during an event on West Street.
- On June 28 deployed traffic cones on Main Street to alert drivers of a contractor working in the area.
- On June 28 responded to Prince Lane for a dog left in a vehicle, but the vehicle was gone when police arrived.
- On June 28 received a local complaint about an online scam. An investigation is ongoing.
- On June 29 provided traffic control during the Vermont Gran Fondo cycling event.
- On June 29 helped with traffic control on Route 116 S while a tree was in the roadway.
- On June 30 checked on a dog in a car on School Street. Police found the windows open and determined the dog wasn't in distress.
- On June 30 responded to Mountain Street for a report of rocks

being thrown at a house. Police said they didn't find any evidence to confirm the report.

- On July 1 investigated a stalking complaint in the Main Street area.
- On July 2 helped someone in need of transportation on North Street.

• On July 2 received a report of a hit-and-run accident on Stoney Hill Road.

Bristol

Police Log

• On July 3 looked into a motor vehicle complaint on Prince Lane. An investigation is ongoing.

• On July 3 investigated a complaint of someone acting suspiciously at the Bristol Town Green. Police located the individual but didn't identify any illegal behavior.

• On July 3 assisted with the fireworks display at the Bristol Recreation Fields on Airport Drive.

• On July 4 provided traffic control and completed foot patrols during the Bristol July 4 parade and events.

• On July 4 received a report of minor damage to a parked vehicle on Airport Drive.

• On July 4 responded to a loud argument on West Street. Police determined no action reported or observed rose to the level of an offense.

• On July 5 following a traffic stop on West Street, citing Dylan Lussier, 23, of Bristol for driving with a criminally suspended license.

• On July 6 monitored traffic during an event on North Street.

• On July 8 responded to a motor vehicle complaint on Airport Drive and warned the drivers involved.

• On July 8 checked out a report of a parked car that was leaking fuel on West Street. Police located the owner, and the fuel was cleaned up.

• On July 10 responded to Prince Lane for a report of an individual consuming alcohol in a parked vehicle. Police didn't see or receive any information that rose to the level of an offense.

• On July 13 received a report of a dog found on West Pleasant Street. The dog had been returned to its owner when police arrived.



Beauty attracts beauty

THIS LOVELY HUMMINGBIRD moth, according to photographer Susan Humphrey, is known as a Snowberry clearwing and she says they love beebalm. One of their host plants is a beautiful, and easy-to-grow, native shrub called a northern bush honeysuckle, or Diervilla Lonicera (not to be confused with the invasive honeysuckle from Asia).

Photo courtesy/Susan Humphrey

Vergennes Police Log

VERGENNES — The Vergennes Police Department was one of the many agencies who just before 3 p.m. on July 15 was called to assist at the devastating truck fire at the Ferrisburgh intersection of Route 7 and Greenbush Road. Officer directed traffic that detoured around the blaze until Vermont State Police could take over.

Vergennes Area Rescue Squad personnel also transported the driver of the truck to Porter Hospital for treatment, and Vergennes Fire Department personnel and equipment were on the front lines fighting the fire, notably using the agency's ladder truck.

In other incidents between July 15 and 21, Vergennes police

conducted eight patrols, five by cruiser and three on foot, and one property watch; processed three pre-employment fingerprint requests; dealt with two 911 hangup calls; and also:

On July 15:

- Responded to a minor two-car accident on Main Street.

- Helped VSP by dealing with a one-vehicle rollover accident without injuries in Pantton.

- Cited Jeremiah Delorme, 28, of Vergennes for violating conditions of his release.

On July 17:

- Went to the Champlain Farms convenience store on Main Street to check out a report of people acting strangely in a parked car; it was

gone when they arrived.

- Took a report of suspicious activity caught on camera at the Velco substation off North Main Street, but were told nothing was apparently stolen or damaged.

- Executed a search warrant on behalf of Winooski police.

- Received on online report of a minor two-car accident on Main Street.

- Took a report from a delivery person of a dog bite in Ferrisburgh and forwarded the information to VSP.

On July 18:

- Took an online report of damage to a vehicle that occurred at an unknown location.

- Responded to a possible family

fight on Walker Avenue and calmed people they found yelling.

On July 19 issued a no-trespass order to an individual making people feel uncomfortable at the city pool.

On July 20 helped VSP by responding to a car accident in New Haven.

On July 21:

- Calmed a man on Walker Avenue who was reported to be yelling.

- Calmed a verbal domestic dispute at a First Street residence.

- Checked out a report that two vehicles had driven into Falls Park after hours. Police did not find them, but did see tire tracks.



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MIDDLEBURY

Silas Conlon graduates from Tufts

MEDFORD, MA —During Tufts University 2024 graduation ceremony awarding more than 2,800 degrees, Silas Conlon of Cornwall graduated Summa Cum Laude with a degree in History (BA) from Tufts University.

Tufts University, located on campuses in Boston, Medford/Somerville and Grafton, Massachusetts, and in Talloires, France, is one of the premier research universities in the United States. Tufts enjoys a global reputation for academic excellence and for the preparation of students as leaders in a wide range of professions.

ADDISON COUNTY School Briefs

Conlon is the son of Peter and Mary Conlon of Cornwall.

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Reader Comments

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Quotes are taken from reader comments submitted with subscription renewals.



ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT

community calendar

THURSDAY

July 25 Playtime Party at the Platt in Shoreham. Thursday, July 25, 9:30-10:30 a.m., Platt Memorial Library, 279 Main St. Join for a low-key playtime at the Platt before regular open hours. Come for books, toys, and fun. Ages 0-3 and their adults.

Seeking Freedom Gallery Talk - "Researching the Robinson Family's Story" in Ferrisburgh. Thursday, July 25, 12:30-1 p.m., Rokeby Museum, 4334 Route 7. Join Rokeby Museum Executive Director Lindsay Varner for a talk on the Robinson family and the stories told in Seeking Freedom. Varner will discuss the research done for the exhibition and share a few stories that didn't make it into the exhibition. Members free/\$5 non-Members or free with museum admission.

Trail Tale at Mount Independence in Orwell. Thursday, July 25, 4 p.m., Mt. Independence State Historic Site, 472 Mt Independence Rd. Visit the Mount while reading a book with Orwell Free Library.



FRIDAY

July 26 40th Annual Native American Elders and Youth Gathering in Lincoln. Friday, July 26, Sunray Peace Village, 2202 Downingsville Rd. Learn the ancestral wisdom of Indigenous elders and youth alike as well as other cross-cultural offerings. Events include daily teachings, workshops, circle of women's and girl's moon-time teachings from an Abenaki perspective, art and music activities for children. Camping and food available for purchase. Abundant volunteer opportunities. This is a drug and alcohol-free event. All are welcome. Come in-person or on Zoom. More info and registration at sunray.org/eldersgathering.

American Red Cross blood donation in Middlebury. Friday, July 26, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., MREMS, 55 Collins Driver. Blood and platelet donors are critically needed right now to support lifesaving transfusions this summer. Donors of all blood types are in demand, especially those with type O blood and donors giving platelets. Be a force for good. Book a time at RedCrossBlood.org, calling 1-800-RED CROSS or by using the Red Cross Blood Donor App.

Green Mountain Club hike in Keene, N.Y. Friday, July 26, Knob Lock Mtn. Knob Lock Mt. sits across the valley from Hurricane Mt. and is an excellent introduction to hiking on unmarked trails. This is a moderate hike of about 3 miles round trip and 1,500 feet of elevation gain. For more information contact Barry Francis at barryfrancis@gmavt.net. More at gmbreadloaf.org.



Magnificent Morgans!

COME AND SEE demonstrations of the Morgan's versatility as a performance horse during Morgan Horse Farm Vermont Day on Saturday, Aug. 3, from 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Petting opportunities at lunch, educational activities in the main barn in the afternoon. Bring lawn chairs and picnic on the spacious grounds of the Morgan Horse Farm (74 Battell Dr., Weybridge), while enjoying the beautiful Morgan horses at this national historic site. Free. Rain or shine.

Photo courtesy of UVM Morgan Horse Farm

Ice cream social in Shoreham. Sunday, July 28, noon-3 p.m., Shoreham Congregational Church, 28 School Rd. Come get your take-out ice cream and celebrate the Shoreham Community in conjunction with the Car Show on the Town Green. Enjoy a dish of vanilla and/or chocolate ice cream for only \$4, or make it a sundae for only \$7. Toppings include chocolate, caramel, maple, strawberries, and homemade whipped cream, adorned with nuts and sprinkles.

lots of fiction and non-fiction books to choose from. Rain location, Community Room, Ilsey Public Library.

Miniature golf in Starksboro. Saturday, Aug. 3, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Starksboro Public Library, Route 116. Nine-Hole mini golf will be set up in the parking lot at the Starksboro Library. Join in to welcome The Portable Mini Golf Company. All ages welcome.

MONDAY

July 29 Morning Music with G'raph in Bristol. Monday, July 29, 10:30-11:30 a.m., Lawrence Memorial Library, 40 North St. Join G'Graph for a morning of music and fun at the library. No registration required.

Family Escape Room in Shoreham. Monday, July 29, 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. Non-readers should bring an adult with them for this escape room challenge. For all ages.

City Band in Vergennes. Monday, July 29, 7-8 p.m., City Green. Relax on the green and listen to some great free summer music.

MONDAY

Aug 4 Summer salad cook-off in Orwell. Sunday, Aug. 4, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Farmer's Haven, 318 Route 22A. Who doesn't love a good summer salad. Three categories to enter or taste — pasta salad, potato salad and veggie salad. Free to enter salads, make all three types or just one. Make around 10 pounds. Winners get cash prizes. Competition runs during the farmers market. \$5 to taste. More info contact makayla.davis96@gmail.com or 802-349-3038.

TUESDAY

July 30 American Red Cross blood donation in Middlebury. Tuesday, July 30, 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Vermont Hard Cider, 1321 Exchange St. Blood and platelet donors are critically needed right now to support lifesaving transfusions this summer. Donors of all blood types are in demand, especially those with type O blood and donors giving platelets. Be a force for good. Book a time at RedCrossBlood.org, calling 1-800-RED CROSS or by using the Red Cross Blood Donor App.

Read to Doss in Orwell. Tuesday, July 30, 4 p.m., Orwell Free Library, 473 Main St. Read to Doss the therapy dog. Great for early and reluctant readers — or those that are looking for a furry friend to pet.

Act 167 Healthcare community meeting in Middlebury. Tuesday, July 30, 6-7:30 p.m., Community Room, Ilsey Library, 75 Main St. You are invited to see the results of a monthslong study on the critical state of hospital affordability in Vermont, and to discuss options for how we need to move forward as a state.

TUESDAY

Aug 6 Addison County Fair and Field Days in New Haven. Tuesday, Aug. 6, Field Days Rd. The county's annual fair kicks off its 2024 run. Fun and entertainment for all.

WEDNESDAY

July 31 Spooky Story Adventure in Shoreham. Wednesday, July 31, 2 p.m., Platt Memorial Library, 279 Main St. Spooky stories, spooky craft! Get your ghost on. For all ages.

Town Band on the Green in Bristol. Wednesday, July 31, 7-8:30 p.m. Bring a lawn chair or blanket, sit back and enjoy this 150-year tradition.

TUESDAY

Aug 7 Addison County Fair and Field Days in New Haven. Wednesday, Aug. 7, Field Days Rd.

THURSDAY

Aug 1 Stuffed animal adventure and sleepover in Orwell. Thursday, Aug. 1, 4 p.m., Orwell Free Library, 473 Main St. Bring in your stuffy for a party and stuffy night sleepover. Pick up your stuffy on Friday and hear all about the silliness.

WEDNESDAY

Aug 7 Addison County Fair and Field Days in New Haven. Wednesday, Aug. 7, Field Days Rd.

SATURDAY

Aug 3 Town-wide yard sale in Brandon. Saturday, Aug. 3, begins at 9 a.m., locations around town. With dozens of yard sales registered on the official listing and scores more set up around town, Brandon will be a busy place. Pick up a listing sheet and follow the sales. Enjoy the views and find the bargains that others are missing. Rain or shine.

Morgan Horse Farm Vermont Day in Weybridge. Saturday, Aug. 3, 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m., 74 Battell Dr. See demonstrations of the Morgan's versatility as a performance horse. Petting opportunities at lunch, educational activities in the main barn in the afternoon. Bring lawn chairs and picnic on the spacious grounds while enjoying the beautiful Morgan horses at this national historic site. Free. Rain or shine.

Used book sale in Middlebury. Saturday, Aug. 3, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., town offices plaza. Friends of Ilsey Public Library are well-stocked and have

Hop farm tour in Starksboro. Wednesday, Aug. 7, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Champlain Valley Hops, 5459 Route 116. As part of Open Farm Week, come see, smell and learn all about hops. Enjoy a guided tour of the largest hop farm in New England. Hops grow vertically up strings to the top of a massive 18-foot trellis. Walking through the yard is like entering a different world, surrounded by walls of living plants. An overview of the farm's history, the hop industry, the fundamentals and challenges of hop growing, CVH's unique Vermont growing practices, variety selection, followed by a visit to the processing barn.

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

The History of the Keewaydin Environmental Education Center in Salisbury. Wednesday, Aug. 7, 7 p.m., Salisbury Congregational Church, 853 Maple St. Join Tim Tadlock, director of the Keewaydin Environmental Education Center (KEEC), to learn more about the history of Keewaydin, KEEC and the unique experience that has been a part of some of Vermont's schools for over 50 years.

Shoreham Historical Society August meeting. In Shoreham. Wednesday, Aug. 7, 6:30 p.m., Stone Schoolhouse on Rte 22A. There will be a short business meeting followed by Phil Wagner demonstrating and discussing metal detection. Refreshments will be served. For more info call 802-897-2275.

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Around TOWN

Annual Foodaroo festival set Aug. 11 in Middlebury

MIDDLEBURY — The ninth annual Foodaroo festival returns to Middlebury on Sunday, Aug. 11, from 4-8 p.m., in the Historic Marble Works District overlooking the falls.

Presented by Middlebury Underground, Foodaroo is a family-friendly festival that celebrates Vermont's culinary artisans and beverage makers, with an emphasis on Addison and Chittenden County vendors and farms. From food trucks to brick-and-mortar operations, this event is dedicated to showcasing creative, farm-fresh cuisine.

Attendees taste their way through the festival while enjoying acclaimed live and curated music, street performers, kids' activities, baking competitions and much more. The entry fee is \$5 for adults. Kids 12 and under are free. Food and beverages from vendors will be available to purchase. A portion of proceeds will be donated to The Giving Fridge, a community organization dedicated to offering free and subsidized meals purchased from local restaurants and made with ingredients from local farms and producers.

TASTE VERMONT

Foodaroo 9 will feature all-time festival favorites, as well as newcomers, providing a delicious taste of the farm-to-table lifestyle that is a hallmark of our state. Food and beverage vendors include: American Flatbread; Church Street Cheesesteaks; La Chapina (Guatemalan); Dougy Fresh (gyros); Omakase (Japanese/sushi); Crazy Cotton Candy Lady; Emily's Home Cooking with The Giving Fridge; Mexico in Vermont; Rollin' Rooster; Steven's Farmstead; Crooked Ladle;

Attendees taste their way through the festival while enjoying acclaimed live and curated music, street performers, kids' activities, baking competitions and much more.

Lulu Ice Cream; Three Squares; Mahjara Spice (Indian); The Melted Cheesiere; Thingz From Yaad (Jamaican); So-Full Sisters; Taste of Abyssinia (Ethiopian); Shiretown's BBQ; Taco Truck All Stars; Sisters of Anarchy Ice Cream; WhistlePig Whiskey; Shacksbury; Zero Gravity; Appalachian Gap; Lincoln Peak; Aqua ViTea Kombucha; Stone Leaf Tea House; Golden Rule Mead and more. Beer, wine, hard cider, and summer cocktails will be offered at two American Flatbread bars, plus sampling from other alcoholic vendors.

A FEAST FOR ALL SENSES

Foodaroo is about food and performance that exhilarates and engages all ages. This year's festival will welcome two celebrated street performers: Boston's Jason Escape, a Houdini-style escape artist; and Los Angeles's Colin Campbell, a street performer and comedian who has been featured on Comedy Central. Hip-Hop DJ sensation Serena Kim (who DJ'd a Yankees' World Series victory party) will kick off the festival with a Motown set and conclude the evening with Disco. Foodaroo also features spectacular live music from Mark Daly as he reunites his popular band Madaila for an exhilarating set. All emceed by WVTK's Ted Richards.

TWO KING ARTHUR FLOUR BAKING CONTESTS — FOR KIDS & ADULTS

Foodaroo will also host a King Arthur Flour baking contest — joining the ranks of about 180 fairs and festivals nationwide that offer these competitions. For more information on this year's pie competitions, please visit: midunderground.org/kingarthur.

WIC to host picnic at Branbury

WATERBURY — For 50 years, the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children — better known as WIC — has been a cornerstone in promoting the health and well-being of millions of young children, parents and families throughout the United States. To celebrate this milestone, Vermont WIC and Vermont Parks Forever are hosting a series of events and

activities at several state parks.

In Addison County, WIC Families are invited to attend the anniversary celebration at Branbury State Park on Wednesday, July 31, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Enjoy the state park, connect with other families, talk with WIC staff, learn more about food package updates, and participate in nutrition education activities.



CHRIS SABICK OF the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum accepts a check for \$2,549.67 from 100+ Women Who Care. Photo courtesy of 100+ Women Who Care



MARIA BEDELL AND Eli Rickner accept a \$11,898.45 donation from 100+ Women Who Care on behalf of the Bristol Rescue Squad. Photo courtesy of 100+ Women Who Care

100 Women Who Care award checks

MIDDLEBURY — 100+ Women Who Care Addison County held their third-quarter meeting of 2024 on Tuesday, July 16, at the Town Hall Theater in Middlebury. Thank you so much to all the women that showed up, in spite of the storm warnings, to distribute \$17,000.00 to local nonprofits and to enjoy another fun evening.

The charitable giving circle gathers quarterly to choose three nonprofits to receive its collective donations. Every quarter, each member contributes one hundred dollars, with the full sum accumulated going toward the local organizations.

The three finalists for receiving a donation this quarter were the Bristol Rescue Squad (for mannequin devices used to teach life-saving skills in critical situations), New Haven Community Library (to the general fund assisting with the hundreds of great tasks the library achieves, including meals for children), and Lake Champlain Maritime Museum (to provide scholarships for confidence-building, summer programs where kids learn to craft their own boats then travel



NEW HAVEN COMMUNITY Library's Laura Goodfellow, Ruth Bernstein and Kristi Skor hold their check from 100+ Women Who Care for \$2,549.67. Photo courtesy of 100+ Women Who Care

Lake Champlain). Bristol Rescue Squad was the top vote recipient. The agency received 70% of the available funds. The runners-up both received 15% of the available funds.

100+ Women Who Care Addison County has given over \$150,000

to Addison County charities in just a year-and-a-half. It is always so informative, interesting and eye-opening to learn about each nonprofit. Organizers say they have been having such a good time meeting up with one another this year, so the more the merrier.

They would love to welcome new members who share their commitment to supporting each other and the community. Find them at www.100wacvt.org to learn more. The next meeting will be in October 2024.

Lincoln

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

NEWS

LINCOLN - Join the Lincoln Conservation Commission for the first annual Pollinator Party featuring Julia Parker-Dickerson on Saturday, July 27 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the town office garden. Learn about Lincoln's first community native plant garden and how to be good neighbors to pollinators through fun, hands-on pollinator boosting activities for all ages.

The party kicks off at 10:00 a.m. with refreshments and pollinator garden rambles. At 10:15 a.m. Master Gardener, teacher and pollinator activist Julia Parker-Dickerson will share her extensive

knowledge of pollinators and how to effectively create habitat for them. Some chairs will be provided, but feel free to bring a blanket or chair of your own.

At 10:45 a.m. participants will make pollinator seed balls for your home garden. Kids of all ages can also make paper butterflies and chalk drawings of our pollinator friends on the parking lot in front of the garden. You're welcome to bring your own chalk.

There will also be a plant sale where you can buy native pollinator plants, with proceeds going toward future Lincoln Conservation Commission educational events

and activities.

Recently, Lincoln lost a dear patron and friend of the Lincoln Library, Judy Witters. Judy was a storyteller and loved helping kids tell a story. She developed a special pouch that acts as a roadmap and helps with the process of creating an interesting narrative. Participants will be making Judy's storytelling pouches at the next Pop-In People session on Wednesday, July 31 at the library from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The Lincoln Community School is looking for guest teachers (substitutes) for the upcoming school year. Whether it's filling

in for a teacher or even serving lunch for a couple of hours, they would appreciate your help. Please reach out to the school at info@lincolnsd.org or call 802-453-2119 if you have any questions or would like to sign up.

SAVE THE DATE: Burnham Presents kicks off the next season of music with an album release concert featuring Pine Tree Flyers on Saturday, Sept. 7 at 7:30 p.m. at Burnham Hall.

Until next time...There Is Always Light. If Only We Are Brave Enough To See It. If Only We Are Brave Enough To Be It.

The 2024 Addy Indy Garden Game

Is off to a thrilling start!

This week, we saw some incredible entries that have set the bar high for the rest of the summer.

Carol Krawczyk brought in a stunning display of leafy greens, including an impressive Swiss chard measuring 11" wide and 17" long, as well as a green cabbage with a whopping 28" circumference. Carol's garden is thriving this year, and she's already busy freezing, canning, and sharing her bountiful harvest!

Not to be outdone, another Garden Game veteran, **Gary Miller**, wowed us with a slender yet lengthy carrot that stretched to 20" long and had a 1.5" circumference. And Gary assures us that the best is yet to come—he's just "thinning" his crop! Stay tuned for more giant veggie excitement as the contest heats up!

If the amount of rain and heat we've had lately is any indicator, Addison County gardens should be bursting at the seams this season.

Be sure to stop on in and show us what you've got!

Play the Garden Game!

Do you have veggies to share in our pages? We welcome entries from any of the listed categories. Bring your entry into our office between 9am and 4pm Monday-Friday and we'll measure it and snap a photo. Each week we'll publish new entries and update our frontrunners for each category in the contest. At the end of the season, each category winner* will be eligible to receive a gift certificate from our Garden Game sponsor, Middlebury Agway.

*Please note: Each individual is eligible to win one gift certificate, even if they win multiple categories.

CATEGORIES & FRONT-RUNNERS:

- Asparagus (length x circumference)
- Beet (circumference)
- Broccoli (diameter)
- Cabbage (circumference) - Carol Krawczyk, 28"
- Cantaloupe (circumference)
- Carrot (length x circumference) - Gary Miller, 20" x 1.5"
- Cauliflower (diameter)
- Corn (length x circumference)
- Cucumber (length x circumference)
- Edible Leafy Greens (length x width - leaf only) - Carol Krawczyk, 11" x 17"
- Eggplant (circumference x circumference)
- Fennel (length x circumference)
- Green Bean (length)
- Kohlrabi (circumference)
- Leek (length x circumference)
- Melon (circumference)
- Onion (circumference)
- Parsnip (circumference)
- Pepper (circumference x circumference)
- Potato (length x circumference)
- Pumpkin (circumference x circumference)
- Radish (circumference)
- Rhubarb (length)
- Rutabaga (circumference)
- Summer Squash (length x circumference)
- Sunflower (diameter)
- Tomato (circumference)
- Turnip (circumference)
- Winter Squash (length x circumference)
- Zucchini (length x circumference)

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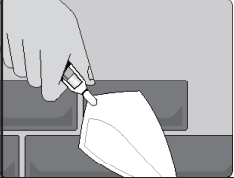
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ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS in person meetings are available. For a list of local virtual meetings visit <http://bit.ly/district9aa>. For more information visit <https://aaavt.org/> or call the 24 hour hotline at 802-802-AAVT (2288).

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Opportunities

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Help Wanted



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FOUND a pair of prescription Ray-Ban sunglasses around Dunkin Donuts in Middlebury. Call 802-353-6821.

Garage Sales

TAG SALE. multiple sellers, antique and vintage items for collectors, DIY, decorating and upcycling. 9-3 Saturday, Jul 27, Murray Rd, Whiting. No early birds please.

Help Wanted

AMERICAN FLATBREAD MIDDLEBURY Hearth is seeking a part time Bartender to work both independently and alongside our talented Head Bartender. We are looking for a mature, energetic individual who enjoys the excitement of a busy restaurant, loves wholesome food & creative beverages, a warm fire and interesting conversation. Must be available nights and weekends, have a positive attitude, and enthusiasm for learning new things. Prior bartending experience is preferred. We are an inclusive environment and encourage applicants from all legally working age groups, races, and gender identities. Stop in for an application or send resume to joe@americanflatbread.com.

Help Wanted

PART-TIME SHARED LIVING PROVIDER sought, 2 weeks on with 2 weeks off. Physically active, college educated, healthy eaters with an intellectual interest in Autism needed to share their home with a man in his late 30's. He enjoys climbing mountains and other physical fun, poetry and music. Ideal match is an Addison County resident with great communication skills who can provide consistent structure and routine. Tax free compensation of \$21,730 per year, a generous respite package and shared room and board of \$407 per month. Call Sharon Mallory at Community Associates 388-4021 to express an interest or ask questions.

Help Wanted

SHARED LIVING PROVIDER sought for a 70-year-old gentleman with a mild intellectual disability, who likes to lead a simple life. He needs a first-floor bedroom, as he uses a walker to get around outside the home. Ideal location of the home is Brandon area. He is safe to be home alone for up to 4 hours at a time. He enjoys being home playing video games or watching his favorite shows, and eating out once a week. No children at home is preferred. Tax-free provider payment, respite budget and Room & Board. Contact Jennifer Murdoch at Community Associates/CSAC. (802) 388-4021

For Rent

LIGHT INDUSTRIAL/RETAIL. 1,250 sq.ft. Exchange Street, Middlebury. 802-388-4831.

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

SALISBURY: Fully furnished one bedroom basement apartment. Electricity and heat included. No pets. \$1250 a month. Call 802-238-6497. Available September 1st.

SUDBURY: Share a home with avid reader in her 60s who enjoys human services work, volunteering and classical music. \$650/month plus sharing companionship. Must be cat-friendly! Private bath. 802-863-5625 or HomeShareVermont.org for application. Interview, references, background checks required. EHO.

Vacation Rentals

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

For Rent

5,000 SQUARE FEET available. Exchange Street, Middlebury, VT. 802-349-8544.

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

VERGENNES WILLOW APARTMENTS is currently taking waitlist applications for 1 and 2 bedroom apartments. No smoking/no pets. Income limits apply- Rent rate based on income. Equal Housing Opportunity 802-247-0165 TTY: 800-253-0191. www. SummitPMG.com.

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 as amended which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, national origin, sexual orientation, or persons receiving public assistance or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertisement for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination, call HUD Toll-free at 1-800-424-8590. For the Washington, DC area please call HUD at 426-3500.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertisement for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination, call HUD Toll-free at 1-800-424-8590. For the Washington, DC area please call HUD at 426-3500.

Wood Heat

DRY OR GREEN firewood for sale. Delivery available. 802-349-4212.

FIREWOOD for sale. 802-247-9782.

Animals

CHOCOLATE AND BLACK Lab puppies, born May 27, 2024. Fully vaccinated and ready for new homes. Call for information. 802-349-4246.

Att. Farmers

WHITNEY'S CUSTOM FARM WORK Pond agitating, liquid manure hauling, drag line aerating. Call for price. 462-2755, John Whitney.

Our Classified Ads Work! Call 388-4944 to place one!

ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT

Help Wanted



General Manager, Snow Bowl

Are you ready to lead and inspire at one of Vermont's most authentic ski destinations?

Middlebury College is seeking a dynamic **General Manager** for the **Snow Bowl**, a full-time, salaried position with competitive pay and comprehensive benefits.

This role is crucial in ensuring exceptional guest experiences, overseeing efficient business operations, and maintaining the highest safety standards.

As General Manager, you'll leverage your strong leadership skills, business acumen, and passion for the ski industry to manage all departments, from ski operations to guest services and marketing.

Join us and become part of a vibrant, supportive community that values diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Middlebury College offers an enriching work environment and numerous employee perks. This is your chance to make a significant impact while enjoying a high quality of life in a beautiful setting.

Apply now and take the next step in your career at Middlebury College!

To apply, visit: <https://apptrkr.com/5438235>



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.



Keep the news coming! Subscribe to the Addy Indy online, in print, or on the go!

Public Notices

can be found on Pages 11B and 12B.

ADDISON NORTHWEST SCHOOL DISTRICT NOTICE RECORDS DESTRUCTION

ATTN: Vergennes Union High School graduates of 2018 who received Special Education services.

The Vermont Department of Education's State Board of Education Manual of Rights and Practices, Section 2365, 2.13(a) Destruction of Information, State:

"For purposes of an audit, when a participating agency has counted a child to justify receipt of IDEA funds, the district shall retain copies of the child's IEP and Special Education eligibility evaluations, for a minimum of five years from the end of the school year in which the document was in effect"

If you were a graduate of Vergennes Union High School, received Special Education services, and graduated in 2018, you are entitled to a copy of your records. These students have reached the age of maturity; therefore, only the student may request their record.

The Addison Northwest School District will be destroying these records on Wednesday, August 7, 2024. If you wish a copy of your records please contact Rachel Cornellier at rcornellier@anwsd.org or 802-877-3332.

We must receive your request prior to August 7, 2024.



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 donna.bailey@addisoncountypcc.org](mailto:Donna.Bailey@addisoncountypcc.org)



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

Warehouse Worker

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

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

Cashier - Customer Service

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

Wage commensurate with experience.

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

Please no phone calls.

Middlebury Agway 338 Exchange St. - Middlebury, VT.



Town Manager Middlebury, Vermont

The Town of Middlebury is seeking an experienced leader to serve as its next Town Manager. As the Town's Chief Administrative Officer, this position is responsible for working with the Selectboard to develop consensus on a clear vision for the Town and implement policies to achieve that vision. The Manager supervises department heads and works with them to establish short and long-range goals. The ideal candidate must be a strategic thinker skilled at developing and balancing budgets and seeking innovative financing options and revenue sources to maximize the Town's success.

Submit a letter of interest including a statement identifying major achievements and résumé to: Middlebury Selectboard, c/o Crystal Grant, Executive Assistant to the Town Manager, cgrant@townofmiddlebury.org, Town Offices, 77 Main Street, Middlebury, Vermont 05753.

Resumes will be reviewed as they are received with the initial position closing on July 31, 2024. For more information, visit www.townofmiddlebury.org.

The Town of Middlebury is an Equal Opportunity Employer



Homeward Bound is Hiring!

Animal Care Specialist (Full & Part-time openings)

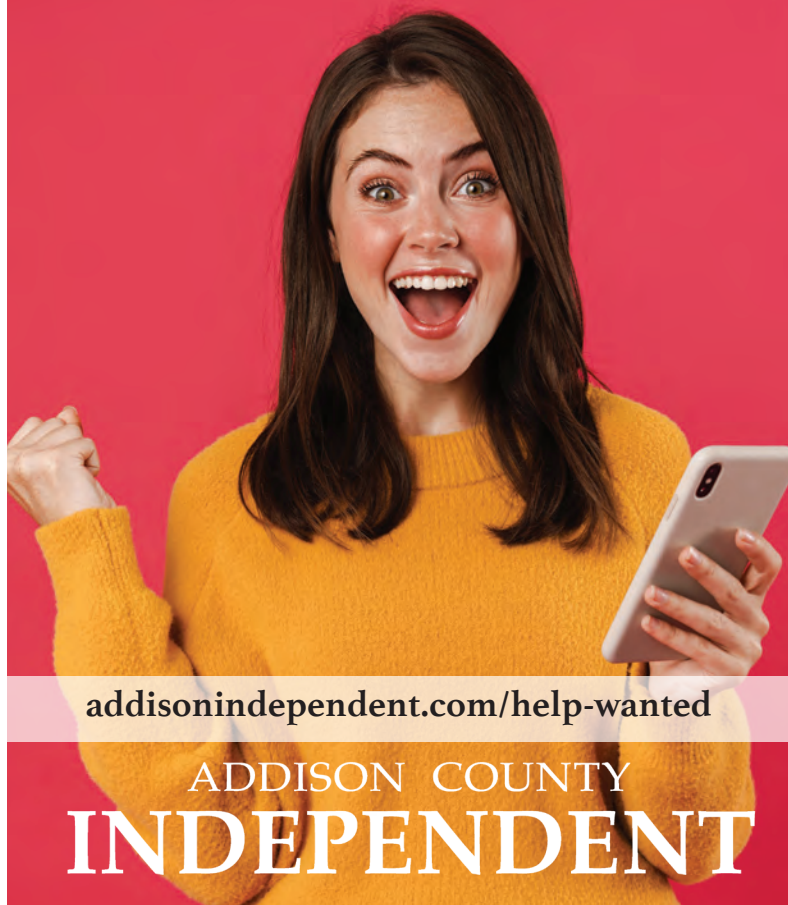
Job entails keeping a clean, safe, and comfortable environment for shelter animals. Duties include routine care, cleaning, feeding, and providing personal attention to animals.

Veterinary Technician (16 hours/week)

Successful applicant will be comfortable handling animals, assisting with pre/peri/post-operative animal care, and willing to learn and adhere to the principles of shelter medicine.

Email an application and/or resume with a cover letter to: director@homewardboundanimals.org or visit www.homewardboundanimals.org to learn more

In print or online, find your dream job with help from the Addy Indy.



addisonindependent.com/help-wanted

ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT

**STATE OF VERMONT
SUPERIOR COURT
PROBATE DIVISION
ADDISON UNIT
DOCKET NO.: 23-PR-00670
IN RE ESTATE OF:
MARGARET HARTLEY
MACFADDEN**

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
To the Creditors of: Margaret Hartley MacFadden, late of Cornwall, Vermont.
I have been appointed to administer this estate. All creditors having claims against the decedent or the estate must present their claims in writing within four (4) months of the first publication of this notice. The claim must be presented to me at the address listed below with a copy sent to the Court. The claim may be barred forever if it is not presented within the four (4) month period.
Dated: 07/22/24

Rose Torrey
1559 Birch Hill Rd.
Brandon, VT 05733
802-247-1425
rosetorrey@gmail.com

Publication: Addison Independent
Publication Date: 7/25/24
Address of Probate Court:
7 Mahady Court
Middlebury, VT 05753

**STATE OF VERMONT
SUPERIOR COURT
PROBATE DIVISION
ADDISON UNIT
DOCKET NO.: 24-PR-04144
IN RE ESTATE OF:
ROLAND T. SIMMONS, JR.**

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
To the Creditors of: Roland T. Simmons, Jr., late of Orwell, Vermont.
I have been appointed to administer this estate. All creditors having claims against the decedent or the estate must present their claims in writing within four (4) months of the first publication of this notice. The claim must be presented to me at the address listed below with a copy sent to the Court. The claim may be barred forever if it is not presented within the four (4) month period.
07/10/24

Susanne Emery
385 Main St.
Orwell, VT 05760
802-948-2645
nomannics@aol.com

Publication: Addison Independent
Publication Date: 7/25/24
Address of Probate Court:
7 Mahady Court
Middlebury, VT 05753

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS
BRISTOL SELECTBOARD
PROPOSED CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN
August 12 and August 26, 2024**

The Bristol Selectboard will hold a hybrid public hearing on Monday, August 12, 2024, on the preliminary Bristol Capital Improvement Plan for FY2025-FY2030. Another hybrid public hearing will be held Monday, August 26, 2024 to consider adoption of the CIP pursuant to 24 V.S.A. §4430 and 24 V.S.A. 4443. The meetings will begin at 6:30pm and the hearings would be on the agenda around 7:00pm.

The Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) includes the budget for the current FY2025 year and a program for the subsequent five years (FY2026-FY2030) that identifies the Town of Bristol's priority capital expenditure needs, a recommended financing schedule, and possible sources of funds. The CIP pertains to the entire geographic area of the Town of Bristol and contains the following sections:

- I. Purpose
- II. Project Scheduling and Choice of Financing
- III. Bristol Town Plan Highlights
- IV. Recent Capital Improvements and Investments
- V. Project Descriptions
- VI. Impact on Municipal Tax Rates

The proposed Bristol Capital Improvement Plan will be available on Bristol's Web site at www.bristolvt.org and can be viewed or obtained at the Bristol Town Office Monday–Thursday, 8:00am–4:30pm.

To join the Zoom meeting:
Meeting ID: 879 1281 0018
Passcode: 619003

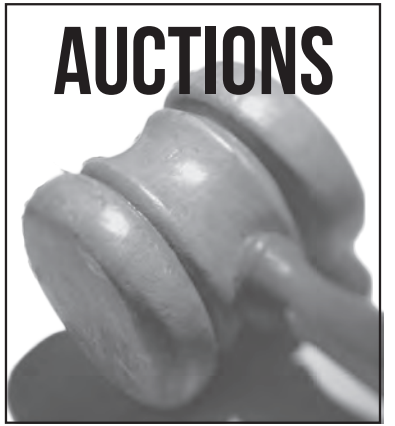
Join meeting by phone:
1 (646) 558-8656

For more information, please contact Town Administrator Valerie Capels at towndadmin@bristolvt.org or call (802) 453-2410.

Public Notices Index

Public Notices for the following can be found in this **ADDISON INDEPENDENT** on **Pages 11B and 12B.**

- Addison (1)
- Addison Northwest School District (1)
- Bristol (1)
- Ferrisburgh (1)
- Lincoln (1)
- Middlebury (1)
- Panton (1)
- State of Vermont (2)



**MARKET REPORT
ADDISON COUNTY
COMMISSION SALES**
RT. 125 • EAST MIDDLEBURY, VT
Sales for 7/18/24 & 7/22/24

| COST | | | |
|---------------|------|-------|-----------|
| BEEF | LBS. | LB | \$ |
| Deer Valley | 1415 | 1.535 | \$2172.03 |
| Woodnotch | 1175 | 1.49 | \$1750.75 |
| Nop Bros. | 1905 | 1.45 | \$2762.25 |
| Clifford Farm | 1800 | 1.40 | \$2520.00 |
| Defreest | 1550 | 1.40 | \$2710.00 |
| Goodrich | 1630 | 1.35 | \$2200.50 |
| Correia | 1410 | 1.31 | \$1847.10 |

| COST | | | |
|---------------|------|-------|----------|
| CALVES | LBS. | LB | \$ |
| Goodrich Farm | 78 | 10.80 | \$842.40 |
| Westminster | 87 | 10.50 | \$913.50 |
| Savello Farm | 85 | 10.00 | \$850.00 |
| B. Danyon | 83 | 10.00 | \$830.00 |
| Vanderway | 93 | 9.40 | \$874.20 |

Total Beef - 124 Total Calves - 275
We value our faithful customers.
Sales at 3 pm - Mon. & Thurs.
call 1-802-388-2661

**TOWN OF PANTON
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

The Development Review Board will convene the following public hearing at the Town Hall, 3176 Jersey St., Panton, VT 05491 and by Zoom and at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 22, 2024.

To consider an application from Eric and Angie Preston 1799 Panton Rd. Panton, VT 05491 (24-601) for a review of their application for a waiver from the side yard setback requirements to add a 5' x28' lean-to to their garage.

This application is available for inspection at the Town Clerk's Office. Interested parties who wish to appeal or be heard at the hearing may do so by attending in person or by a Zoom session and may also be represented by an agent or an attorney. (Information for the Zoom session login can be found on the Town of Panton Web page or by contacting the Assistant Town Clerk at 475 2333 Option 2.) Communications relating to the application may be filed in writing with the Board either before or during the hearing.

N.B.: Participation in the hearing is necessary to establish status as an 'interested person' and the right to appeal a decision rendered in that hearing, according to the provisions of 24 V.S.A. 117 §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.

**TOWN OF MIDDLEBURY SELECTBOARD
PUBLIC HEARING
ON THE ADOPTION OF AMENDMENTS TO THE
ORDINANCE FOR THE REGULATION OF PARKING**

The Middlebury Selectboard will hold a Public Hearing at 7:10PM on Tuesday, August 13, 2024 in the Large Conference Room of the Town Offices, 77 Main Street, Middlebury, and via Zoom videoconferencing (instructions below) to take public testimony on the proposed amendments to the Ordinance for the Regulation of Parking.

Copies of the full text of the proposed ordinance amendments may be obtained at the Town Offices, 77 Main Street or at the Ilsley Library, 75 Main Street, during regular business hours, and on the Town's website, <https://www.townofmiddlebury.org/>.

If you need special accommodations to attend this meeting, please contact the Town Manager's Office at 802-388-8100 or kramsay@townofmiddlebury.org as early as possible.

To view and participate in the Public Hearing
Zoom URL: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85065036691>
By phone: +1 646 558 8656
Webinar ID: 850 6503 6691

International numbers available: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kphQzqoTC>

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

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

PROPOSED STATE RULES

By law, public notice of proposed rules must be given by publication in newspapers of record. The purpose of these notices is to give the public a chance to respond to the proposals. The public notices for administrative rules are now also available online at <https://secure.vermont.gov/SOS/rules/>. The law requires an agency to hold a public hearing on a proposed rule, if requested to do so in writing by 25 persons or an association having at least 25 members.

To make special arrangements for individuals with disabilities or special needs please call or write the contact person listed below as soon as possible.

To obtain further information concerning any scheduled hearing(s), obtain copies of proposed rule(s) or submit comments regarding proposed rule(s), please call or write the contact person listed below. You may also submit comments in writing to the Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules, State House, Montpelier, Vermont 05602 (802-828-2231)

Technical Service Provider Certification Rule.
Vermont Proposed Rule: 24P027

AGENCY: Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets
CONCISE SUMMARY: Technical Service Providers (TSPs) provide nutrient management and water quality permit consulting to Vermont farmers for water quality regulations. This rule is intended to ensure farmers receive professional technical services from TSPs that meet a minimum standard of quality assurance related to agricultural water quality nutrient management planning and permitting/certification regulations. The proposed rule will ensure TSPs are held accountable for understanding the rules, regulations, and requirements related to nutrient management planning and permitting/certification services they provide. The rule will also enable enforcement on TSPs if the services they provide are out of compliance with water quality regulations. Currently, farms and the state lack recourse outside of enforcement on farms for work products provided by TSP's that are non-compliant.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT: Laura DiPietro, Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets, 116 State St. Montpelier, VT 05620 Tel: 802-595-1990 E-mail: laura.dipietro@vermont.gov URL: <https://agriculture.vermont.gov/TSPRule>.

FOR COPIES: Nate Sands, Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets, 116 State St. Montpelier, VT 05620 Tel: 802-224-6850 E-Mail: nathaniel.sands@vermont.gov.

Best Management Practices Rule.
Vermont Proposed Rule: 24P028

AGENCY: Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets
CONCISE SUMMARY: The Best Management Practice Program provides technical assistance and financial assistance to Vermont farmers to support construction of on-farm improvements designed to abate water quality risks from agricultural pollution. This rulemaking corrects findings from a 2018 audit that found the rule misaligned with current statute and practice. Updates reflect current terminology, statutes, process and procedures for project prioritization, operation and maintenance requirements, as well as the petition process that have evolved since the last filing in 1996.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT: Laura DiPietro, Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets, 116 State St. Montpelier, VT 05620 Tel: 802-595-1990 Fax: 802-828-2361 E-mail: laura.dipietro@vermont.gov URL: <https://agriculture.vermont.gov/BMPRule>.

FOR COPIES: Nina Gage, Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets, 116 State St. Montpelier, VT 05620 Tel: 802-622-4098 Fax: 802-828-2361 E-mail: Nina.Gage@Vermont.gov.

Vermont Saves Program Rule.
Vermont Proposed Rule: 24P029

AGENCY: Office of the Treasurer
CONCISE SUMMARY: The Vermont Saves Program Rule proposes to implement 3 V.S.A. Chapter 18, consistent with the legislative intent to establish a State auto-IRA program for "the purpose of increasing financial security for Vermonters by providing access to an IRA for Vermont employees of companies that do not currently offer a retirement savings program." The rule is intended to ensure the Program is designed to meet the Legislature's requirements that the Program facilitate portability of participant benefits through withdrawals, rollovers, and direct transfers and minimize costs by achieving economies of scale and other efficiencies. Among other things, the rule addresses program eligibility requirements and mandates, employer registration and exemption certification, the participant opt out process, portability (including rollovers and distributions), fund withdrawals, contributions, default contribution rates and investments options, payroll deductions, and the auto-escalation process. The rule also ensures the Program is compliant with all applicable State and federal laws and regulations.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT: Becky Wasserman, Office of the State Treasurer, 109 State Street, Suite 4, Montpelier VT 05609 Tel: 802-498-3466 E-Mail: becky.wasserman@vermont.gov URL: <https://www.vermonttreasurer.gov/vt-saves>.

FOR COPIES: Justin St. James, Office of the State Treasurer, 109 State Street, Suite 4, Montpelier VT 05609 Tel: 802-828-7190 E-Mail: justin.stjames@vermont.gov.

**PUBLIC NOTICE
TOWN OF ADDISON**

The Addison Planning Commission meeting will be held on **Monday, August 19, 2024 at the Addison Community Center at 6:30 PM and Public Hearing at 7:00PM** at the Center. Note date and time changes:

1. Open the meeting (at 6:30 PM).
2. Roll call given.
3. Open the Public Hearing at 7:00PM for presentation of changes with the last (5) Zoning & Subdivision Regulations revisions made. We will have a question & answer discussion.

*The Select Board will have its own Public Hearing at 7:30PM on the Zoning & Subdivision Regulations after our hearing.

4. Approve meeting minutes for July 16, 2024 & continue the business meeting.
5. Public Comment time allowed (beginning & end if deemed necessary).
6. Discussion on public hearing results—decision to pass the Revised Zoning Regulations to the Selectboard for their input or approval. Continue to work on updating & reviewing the Zoning & Subdivision Regulations & public hearing outcome. Appoint a Co-Chair for our board at the August meeting.
7. If time, we may decide to work on the comments from the public hearing or Town Survey.
8. Adjourn

If needed allow public comment time at the end.
*Deliberative Session if needed after the meeting.
Jeff Kauffman Jr., Chair
Starr Phillips, Secretary
Addison Planning Commission

**ACT 250 NOTICE
MINOR APPLICATION #9A0252-1
10 V.S.A. §§ 6001 - 6111**

The Beehive, LLC (Attn: Josiah Jackson), has filed application #9A0252-1 for a project generally described as a 5-lot subdivision of previously approved Lots 2 and 3 as follows: (1) Lot 1 – ±0.66 acres with construction of a single-family residence; (2) Lot 2 – ±0.50 acres with an existing mixed-use commercial/residential building; (3) Lot 3 – ±0.32 acres with an existing duplex to be renovated into a single-family residence; (4) Lot 4 – ±0.32 acres for future construction of a single-family residence with shared driveway; and (5) Lot 5 – ±0.29 acres for future construction of a single-family residence with shared driveway. The project is located at 204 & 220 West River Road in Lincoln, Vermont. The application may be viewed on the Natural Resources Board's Act 250 Database (<https://anrweb.vt.gov/ANR/Act250/default.aspx>) by entering project number "9A0252-1."

No hearing will be held, and a permit will be issued unless, on or before Wednesday, August 14, 2024, at 4:30PM, a party notifies the District 9 Commission in writing of an issue requiring a hearing, or the Commission sets the matter for a hearing on its own motion. Any person as defined in 10 V.S.A. § 6085(c)(1) may request a hearing. Any hearing request must be in writing, must state the criteria or sub-criteria at issue, why a hearing is required, and what additional evidence will be presented at the hearing. Any hearing request by an adjoining property owner or other person eligible for party status under 10 V.S.A. § 6085(c)(1)(E) must include a petition for party status under the Act 250 Rules. To request party status and a hearing, fill out the Party Status Petition Form on the Board's website: <https://nr.vt.gov/documents/party-status-petition-form>, and email it to the District 9 Office at: NRB.Act250Barre@vermont.gov. Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law may not be prepared unless the Commission holds a public hearing.

For more information contact the District 9 Coordinator listed below.
Josh Donabedian
802-261-1945
Joshua.Donabedian@vermont.gov
Mail: 10 Baldwin Street, Montpelier VT 05633-3201
Physical: 111 West Street, Essex Junction, VT 05452

**PROPOSALS TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION
OF THE STATE OF VERMONT**

The Vermont General Assembly is proposing voters amend the Constitution of the State of Vermont as follows:

Proposal 3: This proposal would amend the Constitution of the State of Vermont to provide that the citizens of the State have a right to collectively bargain.

Article 2* of Chapter I of the Vermont Constitution is added to read:

Article 2*. [Right to collectively bargain]

That employees have a right to organize or join a labor organization for the purpose of collectively bargaining with their employer through an exclusive representative of their choosing for the purpose of negotiating wages, hours, and working conditions and to protect their economic welfare and safety in the workplace. Therefore, no law shall be adopted that interferes with, negates, or diminishes the right of employees to collectively bargain with respect to wages, hours, and other terms and conditions of employment and workplace safety, or that prohibits the application or execution of an agreement between an employer and a labor organization representing the employer's employees that requires membership in the labor organization as a condition of employment.

Proposal 4: This proposal would amend the Constitution of the State of Vermont to specify that the government must not deny equal treatment and respect under the law on account of a person's race, ethnicity, sex, religion, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or national origin.

Article 2* of Chapter I of the Vermont Constitution is added to read:

Article 2*. [Equality of rights]
That the people are guaranteed equal protection under the law. The State shall not deny equal treatment under the law on account of a person's race, ethnicity, sex, religion, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or national origin. Nothing in this Article shall be interpreted or applied to prevent the adoption or implementation of measures intended to provide equality of treatment and opportunity for members of groups that have historically been subject to discrimination.

**STATE OF VERMONT
SUPERIOR COURT CIVIL DIVISION
ADDISON UNIT DOCKET NO: 23-CV-01298**

GS MORTGAGE-BACKED SECURITIES TRUST 2021-RPL1

PLAINTIFF
VS.
ANDREW H. MONTROLL, ESQ., ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ESTATE OF MADELINE R. ABAJIAN AND OCCUPANTS RESIDING AT 289 TOWN LINE RD, N FERRISBURGH, VT 05473
DEFENDANT(S)

NOTICE OF SALE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Madeline Abajian, to Citifinancial, Inc., dated June 19, 2007, and recorded in Book 123, at Page 290, of the Town of Ferrisburgh Land Records, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder by Assignment of Mortgage recorded in Book 177, Page 103, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction at August 14, 2024 at 1:00 PM at 289 Town Line Rd, N. Ferrisburgh, VT 05473 all and singular the premises described in said mortgage,

To Wit:

Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed to Charles Wright and Madeline Abajian by Warranty Deed of Charles Wright dated May 22, 1989, and recorded May 23, 1989, in Book 71, at Page 3 of the Town of Ferrisburgh Land Records and further described therein.

The description of the property contained in the mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.

The public sale may be adjourned one or more times for a total time not exceeding 30 days, without further court order, and without publication or service of a new notice of sale, by announcement of the new sale date to those present at each adjournment or by posting notice of the adjournment in a conspicuous place at the location of the sale.

Terms of Sale: \$10,000.00 to be paid in cash or by certified check by the purchaser at the time of sale, with the balance due at closing. The sale is subject to all liens, encumbrances, unpaid taxes, tax titles, municipal liens, if any, which take precedence over the said mortgage above described.

The Mortgagee is entitled to redeem the premises at any time prior to the sale by paying the full amount due under the mortgage, including the costs and expenses of the sale.

Other terms to be announced at sale.

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ARTS + LEISURE

The Addison Independent July 25, 2024

Kristen Grant, an Addison native, stands on the porch of her soon-to-open gallery, K. Grant Fine Arts, at 37 Green St. in Vergennes. Her first curated show, "Soft Openings," debuts on Aug. 3.

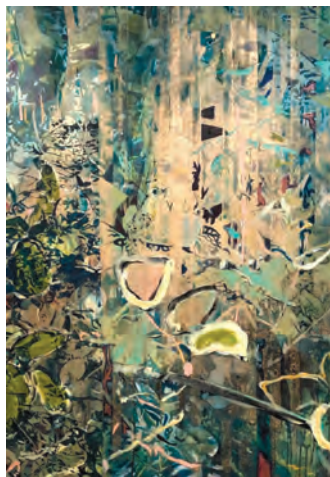
PHOTO / JON TESTA



ARISTA ALANIS



PAMELA FRASER



CAMERON DAVIS



WYLIE GARCIA

VERGENNES WELCOMES NEW GALLERY WITH 'SOFT OPENING'

Kristen Grant's love affair with the arts began early, when she was a child in her Addison home, and it deepened during her years at Vergennes Union High School.

BY ANDY KIRKALDY "I did grow up drawing all the time. I won a few contests," said Grant, now 32 and about to open K. Grant Fine Arts, a gallery at 37 Green St in Vergennes. "I was always the artsy kid. I was the art club president in high school."

If Grant, who lives in Vergennes, had any doubts about her future while at VUHS, an

art club trip to New York City that included stops at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Museum of Modern Art, "and a bunch of galleries in Chelsea" probably erased them.

"That was my first trip to New York. My mind was blown," Grant recalled fondly during an interview leading up to the Aug. 3 opening of her first curated show, called "Soft Openings." In Grant's words, Soft Openings "celebrates the lush, transient beauty of Vermont summers through the diverse perspectives of five Vermont-based woman artists.

"Each artist uniquely interprets natural forms — flowers, leaves, sky — exploring themes of

femininity, transformation, and the intricate dance between abstraction and reality. The exhibition title reflects the concept of summer as a brief, vibrant portal into another world, and redefines femininity as a bold, potent force rather than softness."

The exhibition will be on view Aug. 3 through Sept. 28. The opening reception on Aug. 3 goes from 6-9 p.m. Regular hours in August will be Fridays and Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Grant plans to expand the hours in September to Wednesdays through Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

SEE GALLERY ON PAGE 4

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12TH ANNUAL MUSIC FESTIVAL & STREET FAIR

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17 AUGUST
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Looking for live music?

Summer music is in full swing. Check out a few of these venues for local evening shows through August.

SUNSET SESSION CONCERT SERIES AT BASIN HARBOR VERGENNES

Head down to the north dock on Wednesday nights through Labor Day for live music from 7-9 p.m. Burgee Bar and Flagship Food Truck will be open.

Upcoming concerts:

8/7 – SixFoxWhisky
8/14 – Better Angels
8/21 – Sanctuary
8/28 – Bodacious Supremes

For more info visit Basinharbor.com/news-events or call (802) 475-2311

OTTER CREEK MUSIC FESTIVAL AT SALISBURY MEETINGHOUSE SALISBURY

Singer-songwriter Patrick Fitzsimmons makes his OCMF debut with a solo show at the historic Salisbury Meetinghouse on Friday, Aug. 2 at 7:30 p.m.

Soprano Helen Lyons and pianist Elaine Greenfield present a program featuring music by women composers from the early 19th century to today at the Salisbury Meetinghouse for the OCMF on Saturday, Aug. 3, at 7:30 p.m. The program also features a world-premiere setting of a Margaret Atwood poem by local composer and Vermont Public Classical Host, James Stewart.

General admission \$15; student tickets available for \$5 at the door. Children under 10 admitted free with adult. Donations welcome. For more info visit ottercreekmusicfestival.com.

PIZZA BY THE POND AT BLUEBERRY HILL GOSHEN

Hot Pickin Party will keep the season going at Blueberry Hill's Pizza by the Pond summer music series. They'll play on Friday, July 26, from 6-8 p.m. Reservations and more info at blueberryhillinn.com/pizza.

Summertime fun is 'easy as pie'

Having a great day is as easy as pie at Rokeby Museum's annual Pie & Ice Cream Social. Come hungry, and plan to enjoy music and games on Sunday, Aug. 11, from 1-4 p.m.

This special day includes yards of homemade pies, ice cream donated by Ben & Jerry's, live music from Vermont Folk Life Sugar in the Pan Trad Band, raffle baskets, croquet, and badminton on the lawns. Let's Grow Kids will have table with games for kids. The historic house and museum exhibitions will also be open to the public.

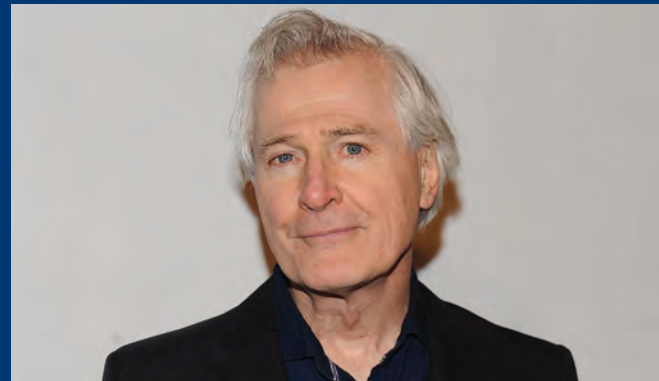
Admission to Pie Day music, games, and museum exhibitions is free. Pie and ice cream are \$8 per serving, \$2 for ice cream, and \$1 for beverages. At the end of the event, if any pies are still available, they will be sold for \$20. Raffle tickets are 1 ticket for \$5 and 5 tickets for \$20.

This is an excellent opportunity to support the museum and see "Seeking Freedom: The Underground Railroad and the Legacy of an Abolitionist Family" — a groundbreaking exhibition that explores the Robinson family's complexities and the Underground Railroad's history.

10TH ANNIVERSARY MNFF

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SAT 8/24: *AFTER THE DELUGE*

SAT 8/24:
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SCREENINGS
WITH Q&As

THU 8/22:
RESERVATION DOGS EPISODES

SUN 8/25:
DEAD MAN



OSCAR-NOMINATED COSTUME DESIGNER
PAUL TAZEWELL

SCREENING
WITH Q&As

FRI 8/23: *WEST SIDE STORY*

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GALLERY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

PATH TO GREEN ST.

Grant took a proverbial long and winding road before returning to her home

turf, learning more and more about art and commerce at every step.

After VUHS she attended Purchase College in New York, majoring in Arts Management, and then obtained a Master of Fine Arts degree online from Western Colorado University.

Next came several years in New Orleans beginning in 2014. She first worked at the Ogden Museum of the Arts, rising from more menial tasks to working in fundraising and development for the nonprofit.

"I really enjoyed the writing and the communicating with members and donors, trying my hand at grant writing ... the events, the party-planning," Grant said.

She also took an internship at the nearby Martine Chaisson Gallery and eventually transitioned to that workplace. In 2018, after two years there, she became its manager, and soon afterward its director. She still retains ties with that gallery and does some remote work for the business.

"I came to really love it. It's a small gallery, with a single owner and director," she said.

The gallery ceased walk-in business when the pandemic struck, but she said people continued to buy art, but she chose to work remotely from New York in 2021.

"People with money were decorating their houses even more so at that time," she recalled. "So they would come to us online."

"THERE ARE SO MANY GREAT ARTISTS HERE, AND I'VE MET SO MANY RECENTLY."

— Kristen Grant

Grant stayed in New York for about a year before returning to New Orleans for one more year at the gallery when it reopened. Then she moved back home, in part to return to her roots, in part because so many of her friends in New Orleans had moved on during the COVID years, and in part because as much as she liked the gallery she said it offered no "upward mobility."

By then she had also met Burlington-based artist and Louisiana native Clark Derbes, whom the Chaisson gallery represented. Grant called it "sort of a cute love story."

"We ended up getting to know each other, and I don't want to say I moved for him, but definitely a big part of the reason I came to Vermont was because of that relationship," Grant said.

Meanwhile, she said all that background prepared her for K. Grant Fine Arts.

"That's how I got into the commerce of it all. I learned a lot about the art market, collectors, collection management. It was a lot of good experience," she said.

Derbes has also helped Grant plug into the Vermont art scene.

"He is such a great connector. He knows everybody in the art world in Vermont... it's been really great to meet everybody," she said.

FALLING INTO PLACE

But Grant did not at first think she could open her own gallery. She

was planning to be an art consultant, which she described as "basically being a gallerist without a gallery," an art dealer without walls. But the gallery dream remained in the back of her mind.

"It was more like a fantasy. I didn't think it would fall into my lap the way it has. I kind of flirted with the idea for a while, but I never thought I would be able to afford a space," she said.

Grant started K. Grant Fine Art as an LLC with the goal of being an art consultant in mind, but then learned Ross Sheehan, the owner of 37 Green St., was looking for a tenant. In fact, Derbes sent her Sheehan's Instagram listing in the spring, and, according to Grant, told her, "You have to ask him about this."

"He was right," Grant said. "I reached out, and it seemed like such a good opportunity. They were hoping a gallerist would apply because it's set up to be a gallery ... It was kind of like a perfect match."

She had already been scouting studios



Kristen Grant stands behind the counter of her then-empty gallery, K. Grant Fine Arts, at 37 Green Street in Vergennes. On Aug. 3 the gallery will debut her first curated show, featuring works created by five woman artists from around Vermont.

PHOTO / JON TESTA

and meeting artists through Derbes and making what she called a "master list" of potential artists to represent. Now, the task shifted to artists whose work she could hang on her walls.

"I just sat down and wrote down every artist I know who was Vermont-based. It felt important if not to exclusively show Vermont-based artists, to at least highlight them," Grant said. "There are so many great artists here, and I've met so many recently."

For her first exhibition she said wanted a cohesive theme, focusing on summer as well as the state. She said she chose all-female artists not to make a larger political statement, but just "to give it an extra punch" and highlight that it is a woman-owned gallery

"I wanted it to be all women. I wanted it to be all Vermont-based artists. I wanted it to be really vibrant, powerful and evocative," Grant said.

Summer and floral themes were not a difficult choice.

"I knew it would be opening at the beginning of August, right where summer ends, right at the hottest time of the year. And because each of these artists... all have these really unique ways of exploring (nature), and I thought it would be interesting to tie that all together. Because it is about the seasons, change and transformations. So it makes sense to me," she said.

Currently, Grant has a year lease, but she aims for a lengthy stay on Green Street, where she plans "to exhibit a variety of original contemporary art, including painting, drawing,

SEE K. GRANT ON PAGE 15



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ART ON EXHIBIT

ART ON MAIN

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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.

JACKSON GALLERY

68 S Pleasant St, Middlebury

For more info visit townhalltheater.org/jackson-gallery or call 802-382-9222.

"It's All Relatives: Local Artists with Family Ties" featuring work by Mary and Fred Lower, Judy Albright, Cristine Kossow, Jennifer Steele Cole, and Elinor Steele Friml. On view July 8-Aug. 31.

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, show off your true colors and let others see who you are and what makes you tick. You are given the spotlight right now to shine and get noticed even more.

TAURUS: April 21/May 21. The full equation may not be revealed this week until you start to unravel some of the pieces, Taurus. You will need to remain patient as the process plays out.

GEMINI: May 22/June 21. Gemini, you are discovering more people you can trust and who have your best interests at heart. Continue to surround yourself with these winning individuals.

CANCER: June 22/July 22. Right now you have to take a leap of faith if you really want to grow, Cancer. Take a trip somewhere you've never visited, learn a new language, or make an effort to meet new people.

LEO: July 23/Aug. 23. Leo, although you might want to keep your aspirations to yourself, it is helpful if you run your ideas past a few trusted people to see if their enthusiasm mirrors your own.

VIRGO: Aug. 24/Sept. 22. Virgo, you can certainly proceed according to logic, but you might be better off trusting your gut for the time being. It rarely steers you wrong with the bigger things in life.

LIBRA: Sept. 23/Oct. 23. Libra, people from all corners will come together to help you out, just when you need it most. Now you will get to realize those people who truly support you.

SCORPIO: Oct. 24/Nov. 22. Scorpio, you may have been sitting on certain information for a while and are not sure when you will reveal it. You'll know the right time when it comes around.

SAGITTARIUS: Nov. 23/Dec. 21. Sagittarius, even if your love life has been a little lackluster, you can rest assured that things will be flowing anew very soon. It's time to rekindle those feelings of love and affection.

CAPRICORN: Dec. 22/Jan. 20. Now isn't a good time to think you can fake your emotions, Capricorn. Others will see right through you and read your mind quite easily. It's better to be honest and open.

AQUARIUS: Jan. 21/Feb. 18. Someone you haven't spoken to in a while might be on your mind, Aquarius. This might be the right time to bridge the gap and open lines of communication.

PISCES: Feb. 19/March 20. Pisces, it can be difficult to delegate to others and not handle everything yourself. But you have to trust in others and support them if you want them to learn and grow.

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FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

JULY 26 — George Bernard Shaw, playwright (d)
JULY 27 — Maya Rudolph, comedian (52)
JULY 28 — Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, First Lady (d)

JULY 29 — Ken Burns, Historian, filmmaker (71)
JULY 30 — Buddy Guy, blues musician (88)
JULY 31 — J. K. Rowling, author (59)
AUG. 1 — Jerry Garcia, guitarist (d)

CALENDAR

JULY 25-AUG. 2
2024



THURSDAY, JULY 25

SEEKING FREEDOM GALLERY TALK – “RESEARCHING THE ROBINSON FAMILY’S STORY” IN FERRISBURGH.

Thursday, July 25, 12:30-1 p.m., Rokeby Museum, 4334 Route 7. Join Rokeby Museum Executive Director Lindsay Varner for a talk on the Robinson family and the stories told in Seeking Freedom. Varner will discuss the research done for the exhibition and share a few stories that didn't make it into the exhibition. Members free/\$5 non-Members or free with museum admission.

FRIDAY, JULY 26

40TH ANNUAL NATIVE AMERICAN ELDERS AND YOUTH GATHERING IN LINCOLN.

Friday, July 26, Sunray Peace Village, 2202 Downingsville Rd. Learn the ancestral wisdom of Indigenous elders and youth alike as well as other cross-cultural offerings. Events include daily teachings, workshops, circle of women's and girl's moon-time teachings from an Abenaki perspective, art and music activities for children. Camping and food available for purchase. Abundant volunteer opportunities. This is a drug and alcohol-free event. All are welcome. Come in-person or on zoom. More info and registration at sunray.org/eldersgathering.

BRETT HUGHES IN NEW HAVEN.

Friday, July 26, 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 So Full Sisters.

HOT PICKIN PARTY AND PIZZA BY THE POND IN GOSHEN.

Friday, July 26, 5 p.m., Blueberry Hill Outdoor Center, Goshen Rd. Pizza and live music by performing traditional bluegrass, originals and familiar yet eclectic classic covers by the pond and amongst the blueberries. (Early blueberry picking may be available!) Come earlier to hike or dip in the spring-fed pond. The pizza starts flowing at 5, music from 6-8. \$43 per person (age 12 and older) includes an all-you-can-eat pizza buffet, lemonade/iced tea, live music fees & all taxes and credit card fees. Add on options of salad and ice cream available too. Kids 7-11-\$23; kids 6 and under free! Reservations open the Sunday before event at blueberryhillinn.com/pizza.

POINT COUNTERPOINT FACULTY CONCERT IN SALISBURY.

Friday, July 26, 7:30 p.m., Salisbury Congregational Church, 853 Maple St. Admission is free, and goodwill donations are gratefully accepted.

“THERE ONCE WAS ... Stories That Made Us” in Rochester.

Friday, July 26, 7:30 p.m., Spice Studio, 482 S. Main St. A handful of actors, a handful of days, all from scratch, always magical. Bald Mountain Theater presents its annual production featuring a troupe of professional actors, a small treasure of stories, folktales or myths and a scant four days rehearsing to bring them all to life using improvised costumes, dance

and music. Come see what stories inspired these actors. Tickets \$15, available at baldmountaintickets.ludus.com/200459149 or at the door.

SATURDAY, JULY 27

40TH ANNUAL NATIVE AMERICAN ELDERS AND YOUTH GATHERING IN LINCOLN.

Saturday, July 27, Sunray Peace Village, 2202 Downingsville Rd. See July 26 listing.

2024 ANNUAL PRO-AM HORSESHOE AND CORN HOLE TOURNAMENT IN BRISTOL.

Saturday, July 27, 9 a.m., 110 Airport Dr. A family fun day at the Bristol Recreational Field. Food and drinks available. More info contact Mike Brown (horseshoes) 802-453-2219 or Tracey Pecor (corn hole) 802-453-7527.

FAMILY-FRIENDLY WALK IN STARKSBORO.

Saturday, July 27, 10 a.m., Cota Field. Starksboro Library invites anyone interested to walk the Creekside Trail with Brandon Benedict, Addison County's Forester. Identify trees and plants, set up a geocache, and reading a storywalk along the way.

TOM VAN SANT IN BRANDON.

Saturday, July 27, 11 a.m-1 p.m., Kennedy Park

BROWN BAG LUNCH HISTORY TALK IN ORWELL.

Saturday, July 27, 12-1 p.m., Mount Independence State Historic Site, Me. Independence Rd. Discussions about the Revolutionary War and Mount Independence. Different topics each

month, call 802-948-2000 for details. Bring your picnic lunch and perhaps a lawn chair to Mount Independence on these Saturdays, hear from knowledgeable Coalition members and invited experts, and join in on the discussion. Outside if the weather permits. Cost included with admission: Adults \$12/children 6-14 \$4/children under 6 free/ family pass \$30.

L. C. JAZZ BAND IN BRANDON.

Saturday, July 27, 7 p.m., Brandon Town Hall, 1 Conant Sq. This 17-piece Big Swing Band returns for a night of great music, singing and dancing for a fund raiser for the L.C. Jazz Scholarship program, and the FOTH Restoration fund. More info at brandontownhall.com.

CASTLE OF OUR SKINS IN CHARLOTTE.

Saturday, July 27, 7 p.m., Clemmons Family Farm, 2213-2122 Greenbush Rd. Otter Creek Music Festival welcomes Boston-based Castle of our Skins for “At Home,” a program paying homage to the Clemmons Family Farm's birth during the civil rights era, the people and land that have shaped it, and the family's determination to preserve its legacy well into the future. More info and tickets at ottercreekmusicfestival.com. **SOLD OUT!**

“THERE ONCE WAS ... Stories That Made Us” in Rochester.

Saturday, July 27, 7:30 p.m., Spice Studio, 482 S. Main St. See July 26 listing.

PIZZA BY THE POND WITH HOT

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 26 Through the Night: Govt. & Public Affairs 7:30 a.m. Congregational Church Service 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 | 10 p.m. Dr. John Campbell Monday, July 29 Through the Night: Govt. & Public Affairs 5:30 a.m. Eckankar 6 a.m. Press Conf., Public Affairs 9 a.m. Energy Week 10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 5 p.m. Dr. John Campbell 8 p.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs Tuesday, July 30 Through the Night: Public Affairs 7 a.m. The Vermont Journalism Conference (2:24) 9:30 a.m. Eckankar 10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 4 p.m. Congregational Services 7 p.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 11 p.m. Energy Week Wednesday, July 31 Through the Night: Public Affairs 5 a.m. Dr. John Campbell 6:30 a.m. Energy Week 7:30 a.m. Memorial Baptist Service 9:30 a.m. Catholic Mass 10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 7 p.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs Thursday, August 1 Through the Night: 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 26 4 a.m. The Horse Traders 6:49 a.m. Festival on the Green (FOG) 2024 - Tjovi Ginen 8 a.m. Cindy Pierce- Wrangling the Drift - Alzheimers 9:08 a.m. Vermont Humanities Lecture 11 a.m. All Brains Belong Brain 12:01 p.m. FOG 2024 - Bon Debarras 1:45 p.m. Cindy Pierce- 4 p.m. All Things LGBTQ 5 p.m. ME2 Burlington Orchestra Spring Concert 6:07 p.m. Make Music Day Vermont - Krishna Guthrie & Dobet Gnahore 8:30 p.m. Good Plants 9:30 p.m. Make Music Day Vermont - Path of Totality & The Village Idiots 11:30 p.m. FOG 2024 - Le Winston Band Saturday, July 27 5 a.m. Tjovi Ginen 6:12 a.m. Herb Lockwood Prize 6:54 a.m. Fairfax 7:05 a.m. Tai Chi | 7:30 a.m. All Things LGBTQ 8:30 a.m. New England Cooks 9 a.m. Make Music Day Vermont 11 a.m. Crows and their Kin 3 p.m. All Brains Belong Brain 4:01 p.m. Getter at Worthen Library 5:15 p.m. Bizarre Language of Birds 6 p.m. Antarctica Penguins 8:18 p.m. Herb Lockwood Prize 9 p.m. Tjovi Ginen 10:11 p.m. FOG 2024 - Matt LaRocca & Friends 11:22 a.m. Discussion with Patrick Leahy Sunday, July 28 5 a.m. All Brains Belong Brain 6:01 a.m. Antarctica Penguins 7:10 a.m. Make Music Day 12 p.m. First Tuesdays - Fran McIntosh 2:45 p.m. Getter at Worthen Library 4 p.m. Good Plants 5 p.m. Herb Lockwood Prize 5:42 p.m. Good Plants 6:40 p.m. FOG 2024 - Myra Flynn Band 8 p.m. All Brains Belong Brain Club 9:01 p.m. Bizarre Language of Birds 9:43 p.m. Antarctica Penguins 11 p.m. Discussion on Batman with Retired Sen. Leahy Monday, July 29 5 a.m. All Things LGBTQ Interviews 5:46 a.m. Chair Yoga | 7 a.m. Tai Chi 7:28 a.m. Myra Flynn Band 12 p.m. Le Winston Band 5 p.m. Twisted Pine 6:51 p.m. Antarctica Penguins 8 p.m. The Horse Traders Tuesday, July 30 5 a.m. Twisted Pine 7:30 a.m. Make Music Day 12 p.m. Myra Flynn Band 5 p.m. All Things LGBTQ 6 p.m. From the Archives 10 p.m. Poets and Authors 11 p.m. FOG 2024 Wednesday, July 31 5 a.m. From the Archives 7 a.m. Tai Chi 7:30 a.m. Make Music Day 5 p.m. FOG 2024 8:30 p.m. Poets and Authors 11 p.m. FOG 2024 Thursday, August 1 5 a.m. Make Music Day 7 a.m. The World Fusion Show 7:30 a.m. Tai Chi 8 a.m. Chair Yoga 9 a.m. New England Cooks 10 a.m. From the Archives 2 p.m. All Things LGBTQ 5:30 p.m. FOG 2024 11 p.m. Twisted Pine | |

PICKIN' PARTY IN GOSHEN. Saturday, July 27, 5-8 p.m., Blueberry Hill Outdoor Center, Goshen Rd. Pizza and live music by Hot Pickin' Party — a bluegrass band comprised of guitarist Doug Perkins, bassist Mike Santosusso, and dobro player Adam Frehm. Come earlier to hike or dip in the spring-fed pond or pick blueberries. Come earlier to hike or dip in the spring-fed pond. The pizza starts flowing at 5, music from 6-8. \$43 per person (age 12 and older) includes an all-you-can-eat pizza buffet, lemonade/iced tea, live music fees & all taxes and credit card fees. Add on options of salad and ice cream available too. Kids 7-11 \$23; kids 6 and under free! Reservations open the Sunday before event at blueberryhillinn.com/pizza.

SUNDAY, JULY 28

40TH ANNUAL NATIVE AMERICAN ELDERS AND YOUTH GATHERING IN LINCOLN. Sunday, July 28, Sunray Peace Village, 2202 Downingsville Rd. See July 26 listing.

BLAST FROM THE PAST: HISTORIC CLOCK AND WATCHES AFTERNOON IN ADDISON.

Sunday, July 28, noon-4 p.m., Chimney Point State Historic Site, 31 Route 17. Green Mountain Timekeepers Society members are in residence on the Chimney Point porch to keep time and talk with you about the history of your clocks and watches and how they can be repaired. Bring your old clocks and watches or photographs and learn more about your timepieces. Clock repair demonstrations throughout the afternoon.

"THERE ONCE WAS ... Stories That Made Us" in Rochester. Sunday, July 28,

2 p.m., Spice Studio, 482 S. Main St. See July 26 listing.

MICHAEL ARNOWITT IN MIDDLEBURY.

Sunday, July 28, 3 p.m., Middlebury Community Music Center, 6 Main St. Pianist Michael Arnowitt makes his OCMF debut in the perfectly intimate Middlebury Community Music Center performing works by Chopin, Ravel and Bartok. More info and tickets at ottercreekmusicfestival.com.

MONDAY, JULY 29

CITY BAND IN VERGENNES. Monday, July 29, 7-8 p.m., City Green. Relax on the green and listen to some great free summer music.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 31

JIM SHAW AND BLUEGRASS EXTRAVAGANZA IN BRISTOL.

Wednesday, July 31, 5-9 p.m., The Tillerman, 1868 N. 116 Rd. Hear live music in The Tillerman's barn. Music is free. Shaw 5-6:30 p.m., followed by Bluegrass Extravaganza 7-9 p.m.

JENNI JOHNSON IN BRANDON.

Wednesday, July 31, 6 p.m., behind the Brandon Inn. Jazzy swinging funk for Brandon's Music On The Riverbend free summer concert series.

JOSH AND CLINT IN FERRISBURGH.

Wednesday, July 31, 7-9 p.m., Basin Harbor, 4800 Basin Harbor Rd. Join Basin Harbor for their free summer concert series. Open to the public.

TOWN BAND ON THE GREEN IN BRISTOL. Wednesday, July 31, 7-8:30 p.m. Bring a lawn chair or blanket, sit

back and enjoy this 150-year tradition.

VERMONT'S LONG TRAIL TALK IN SALISBURY.

Wednesday, July 31, 7 p.m., Salisbury Congregational Church, 853 Maple St. Join Green Mountain Club Executive Director Mike DeBonis as he shares images and stories of hiking and managing America's oldest long distance hiking trail. Having grown up hiking and exploring the hills and forests near Lake Dunmore, Mike will also share his love for this corner of Vermont and what makes it so special.

THURSDAY, AUG. 1

MARC & BILLY AND PIZZA BY THE POND IN GOSHEN.

Thursday, Aug. 1, 5 p.m., Blueberry Hill Outdoor Center, Goshen Rd. Marc Shapiro and Billy Corbett (formerly Etna Old Time) are a new-old-time duo rooted in the hills of Vermont and New Hampshire. Marc and Billy forage from a collection of newer tunes and traditional tunes and stew them in a broth of bluegrass and folk. Come earlier to hike or dip in the spring-fed pond. The pizza starts flowing at 5, music from 6-8. \$43 per person (age 12 and older) includes an all-you-can-eat pizza buffet, lemonade/iced tea, live music fees & all taxes and credit card fees. Add on options of salad and ice cream available too. Kids 7-11 \$23; kids 6 and under free! Reservations open the Sunday before event at blueberryhillinn.com/pizza.

FRIDAY, AUG. 2

GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB HIKE IN HUNTINGTON CENTER.

Friday, Aug. 2, Huntington Community Forest. Exploratory hike in a newly acquired 245-acre town forest with about 5 miles

of existing trails and a few hundred feet elevation gain. Fields, forest, wetlands, riverside, dirt roads and peeks of Camel's Hump. Be prepared for bugs/ticks of summer, wicking clothes (no cotton please), poles are handy, food and water and your personal gear for a safe hike. Please leave pets at home. Limit of 6. Contact Cecilia Elwert at ceciliaelwert@yahoo.com for more information.

KEVIN KAREKAS IN NEW HAVEN.

Friday, Aug. 2, 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 Crooked Ladle.

BRISSON BOSS & PELLETIER AND PIZZA BY THE POND IN GOSHEN.

Friday, Aug. 2, 5 p.m., Blueberry Hill Outdoor Center, Goshen Rd. A trio of veteran Vermont performers, Brisson Boss & Pelletier delivers original songs and acoustic covers with skilled playing and stirring vocal harmonies. Come earlier to hike or dip in the spring-fed pond. The pizza starts flowing at 5, music from 6-8. \$43 per person (age 12 and older) includes an all-you-can-eat pizza buffet, lemonade/iced tea, live music fees & all taxes and credit card fees. Add on options of salad and ice cream available too. Kids 7-11 \$23; kids 6 and under free! Reservations open the Sunday before event at blueberryhillinn.com/pizza.

MICHELE FAY BAND IN SALISBURY.

Friday, Aug. 2, 7:30 p.m., Salisbury Congregational Church, 853 Maple St. Michele Fay and her band return to Salisbury to present traditional and original folk favorites as part of the Otter Creek Music Festival. More info and tickets at ottercreekmusicfestival.com.

Point CounterPoint

Friday, July 26
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853 Maple St. Salisbury

Friday, August 9 Salisbury Meeting House
Thursday, August 22 Salisbury Meeting House
Friday, August 30 CVUUS, 2 Duane Court, Middlebury

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SUWANNEE

OCHLOCKONEE



EPISODE 6 RUMINATIONS ON THE RUN

TRAVEL

Ochlockonee River in Sopchoppy, Fla.

A summer travel-log series featuring 24 stops in 15 weeks. (Dec. 2023 – April 2024)

PHOTOS/ JUDITH HARRIS

The “wild” Suwannee River was a lucky surprise for us to discover and has continued to unfold its more obscure delights the longer we spend camped along her banks. We have stayed with her twice before in the last five years, each time for a week — the first time at the Suwannee River State Park in Live Oak, Fla., (mile 130 as measured from her outflow in the Gulf over her 246-mile serpentine length) and again at Suwannee Rendezvous in Mayo, Fla., at mile 93.

BY **JUDITH & STEVE HARRIS**

That far upstream, she is cut into her limestone bed deeply enough to be largely invisible from the surrounding farmland. She has navigable depth (average 7 feet), steady velocity (3-5 mph), no dams and was once traversed by paddleboats like the Suwannee Belle steamer as far upstream as Live Oak, where the last remnant of the Suwannee Belle remain on outdoor display.

By the time she reaches the Gulf at the fishing village of Suwannee Town, she is wide, dark

in color and enormous. Her delta is nearly 20 miles wide and protected by a huge National Wildlife Sanctuary of 53,000 acres. We went boating on her today on a pontoon boat we rented at the Yellowjacket RV Resort covering a total of 10 miles upstream and back. According to water level readings, she was producing 173% of her average discharge, and at that rate, was only about 2 feet higher than usual.

The Lower Suwannee Basin (we are camped at mile 22, 14 feet above sea level) doesn't have “banks” as you might recognize them, as much as zones of swamp and wetlands that extend away from the edge of the channel. Even the channel moves around periodically. The first bridge across this broad sweep of soggy real estate is at mile 35.

What it boasts is a huge diversity of plants, animals and fish in a mild climate with very few human inhabitants — especially in January. Two weeks of camping at the edge of the water have revealed things we have never seen: a pair of red-shouldered hawks mating on the wing, a barred owl joining us in a nearby tree for our evening campfire, flocks of white

ibis flying in tight formation and eating in boisterous groups on muddy ground, great white egrets (classified as endangered), a ring-tailed armadillo, and an otter out for a swim. Gulf sturgeon (threatened) have fed at our feet on a dock near the channel, making it clear they are active high-jumpers and fearless. They can reach 8 feet in length and can weigh up to 200 pounds. River cooter turtles seem to take advantage of every shaft of winter sun to bask on floating trees. They share this water with 44 species of freshwater game fish, manatees and alligators, also elusive. The wide variety of resident snakes and insects remained winter dormant during our stay — a consideration for January travel. Tracks of 'coons, wild boar, deer and bobcat add a sense of throbbing life applied liberally, wherever there is adequate mud to record them.

The primary product of the Nature Coast for us is silence. Deep, profound quiet with no background traffic rumble, no overhead jet going somewhere without your consent...the absence of sound so complete that a birdsong comes uncontested as important news. This too is Florida — wild, remote and profoundly peaceful. Being here feels like a rare and

epicurean privilege. "Endangered" is a word my generation has become all-too-familiar-with as an adjective for the natural world. Seeing so much imperiled life in one place is stunning.

Nothing can prepare your mind for a float on the Suwannee current as miles of undeveloped hammocks, wetlands and swamp sweep away from you toward the impenetrable and the trees you can see are suddenly festooned with hundred-fold flocks of black vultures or white ibis, just waiting quietly for a breeze. They are nature's sanitation workers and tea party guests on a break with nothing to say.

From the Prehistoric to the Preserved:
Ochlockonee River State Park, Sopchoppy, Fla.

Aldo Leopold keeps coming to the surface of my consciousness as I grow older. I first encountered his work in architecture school at the University of Oregon, when studying the National Forest lands in that state. Last summer, I built a simple bench of his design (plans available on the internet) for my sister's birthday. It offers an opportunity to sit quietly in the wild and allow its creatures to go about their business without the usual motion, noise and disruption that accompanies most humans in the landscape, like Pigpen's cloud of dust. Then, while reading "Where the Crawdads Sing" last week (Delia Owens), I stumbled across her reference to the first sentence from Leopold's introduction to "A Sand County Almanac," which was copyrighted within a few months of my birth:

"There are some who can live without wild things, and some who cannot."

The next stop on our pilgrimage for natural wonders of times past is Sopchoppy, Fla., — one of the few stretches of "pine flat forests" being carefully maintained as public lands. In 700 acres of the much larger 89,000 acres of the surrounding St. Mark's National Wildlife Refuge resides the Ochlockonee River State Park — a somewhat obscure juncture of two rivers — the Ochlockonee (pronounced "O'clock-knee" — or yellow river) and the Dead, which is flat but hardly dead).

With 30 RV campsites and a youth tent camping area, this State Park caters to a slender profile of visitors, willing to forego some comforts and amenities in return for an authentic and immersive Florida Heritage Forest experience. With periodic proscription burns, the long-leaf pines here can fend off invasive hardwood brush and trees and maintain the original grasses that once comprised the dominant pattern at this western reach of Florida's "Big Bend." Campers are encouraged to keep it quiet and dark at night to permit and encourage star gazing. Only biking and walking are permitted on its extensive network of trails. No golf carts, no corn hole, no pickleball, no swimming pool, no retail store, no arcade... and no septic hook-ups — only water and electricity are provided to each site.

The only pavement here is found on the access roads. The extensive trails are paved with long needle mulch and packed sand as quiet footing to guide your way. The varied mammal population includes herds of somewhat diminutive coastal deer (including a rare piebald doe) who don't seem to mind closer than usual inspection. There are wild turkey here, and white squirrels — intermingled with unusual songbirds

and sea birds. The salt water of the Gulf is only two miles away with the interim layer of tidal marshes to add complexity to the wildlife.

The river fronts in the park are improved with docks, swimming areas with the omnipresent alligator warning signs (they have first rights), and access stairways to the riverbank beaches to minimize bank erosion and maximize access to the water. All the park's facilities are designed to accommodate the handicapped, including mechanical contrivance for wheelchair-bound people to launch themselves in a kayak or canoe, unassisted.

The experience of a walk in these surviving pine flatwoods is unique. Most of Florida's coastal woodlands is more like "Tate's Hell" just to the west — endless straight roadways kept open by cruising hunters in pickups. These forests of slash pines planted in rows are undergirded with a thick undergrowth of saw palmetto, preventing views of anything but the first 10 feet of vegetation. The resulting slim canyons of trees create a narrow stripe of daylight, usually shaded this time of year.

Long Leaf Pine Forests are different. The crowns of the trees are less dense and permit more sunlight to reach the ground. The prevailing sensation is of light and distance. It feels like standing in a huge botanical cathedral with graceful wiregrass gentian up to about waist height and distant walls created by vertical brown lines of trunks supporting a see-through roof of green dollops. Imagine the great plains, lush grassland with carefully spaced trees. After dark, the Florida moonlight and celestial patterns are more present here.

The campground is two and a half miles from the nearest road and out of sight of any human habitation, so the sense of time travel is quite convincing. It is hard not to yearn for days when there were fewer of us and more of everything else. It adds to the real sense that we are amongst the last of the human tribe to experience a taste of our pre-colonial heritage.

— sbh



A rare "piebald" doe in a herd of browsing coastal deer.

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. Average damage per system (abbr.)
- 5. Lustful woodland gods (Greek mythology)
- 11. Colombian Town
- 12. Sour
- 16. A way to stuff
- 17. Former AL MVP Vaughn
- 18. Carried or transported
- 19. Cannot even fathom
- 24. Hammer is one
- 25. A way to separate
- 26. Not moving
- 27. Women's service organization (abbr.)
- 28. German river
- 29. Quantitative fact
- 30. A person's head
- 31. Process that

produces ammonia

- 33. French modernist painter
- 34. Too much noise
- 38. Agree to a demand
- 39. One a line at right angles to a ship's length
- 40. Employees
- 43. Ribosomal ribonucleic acid
- 44. Component of hemoglobin
- 45. Quick and skillful in movement
- 49. Passing trend
- 50. Part of the eye
- 51. One who acclaims
- 53. Deadly amount (abbr.)
- 54. Taste property
- 56. Genus of mosquitoes
- 58. Blood type

- 59. A group of countries in special alliance
- 60. Institute legal proceedings against
- 63. Shade of a color
- 64. Spoke
- 65. Work units

DOWN

- 1. Charge with a crime
- 2. Mended with yarn
- 3. North Atlantic flatfish
- 4. Boil at low temperature
- 5. Lapps of northern Scandinavia
- 6. Poisonous plant
- 7. Atomic #22
- 8. 36 inches
- 9. Monetary unit of Russia
- 10. Type of gin
- 13. An alternative

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| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | | | | | | |
| 11 | | | | | | 12 | | | | | | 13 | 14 | 15 | | |
| 16 | | | | | | 17 | | | | 18 | | | | | | |
| 19 | | | | | 20 | 21 | | | 22 | 23 | | | 24 | | | |
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| 34 | 35 | 36 | 37 | | | | | | | 38 | | | | | | |
| 39 | | | | | | | | 40 | 41 | 42 | | | | | | |
| 43 | | | | | | | | 44 | | | | | 45 | 46 | 47 | 48 |
| 49 | | | | | | 50 | | | | | | 51 | 52 | | | |
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| 3 | | | | | | 9 | | |
| | 8 | | 4 | 6 | | 1 | | |
| | | 3 | 8 | 1 | | 7 | 9 | |
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| | | | | 7 | | 6 | 8 | |
| 2 | | | | 3 | | | | 6 |
| | | | | | 5 | 2 | | |
| | 5 | 7 | | | 1 | | | |

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

- 14. Alone
- 15. A way to ooze
- 20. Publicity
- 21. American firm
- 22. Jewish calendar month
- 23. Popular sandwich
- 27. Comedian Cook
- 29. The NFL's big game (abbr.)
- 30. Political action committee
- 31. Make a low, steady sound
- 32. Legendary sportscaster Michael
- 33. One thousand cubic feet (abbr.)
- 34. Designed to keep ears warm
- 35. One who scrapes
- 36. Tear into two or more pieces
- 37. Supervises flying
- 38. Flying arm of the U.S. military (abbr.)
- 40. District in Peru
- 41. One died leaving a will
- 42. Morning
- 44. The world of the dead
- 45. Widen
- 46. Drink containing medicine
- 47. Celebrating
- 48. Secret encounters
- 50. A type of tag
- 51. Halfback
- 52. Modern tech
- 54. Monetary unit
- 55. Resigned to one's sleeping chamber
- 57. Execute or perform
- 61. "The Golden State"
- 62. "The Beehive State" (abbr.)

This week's puzzle solutions can be found on Page 13.



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New regulations for dogs crossing into the US

Starting on Aug. 1, 2024, dogs entering or returning to the United States must meet new specific requirements set forth by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). This includes both day and extended trips to Canada (as well as all other countries). If these requirements are not met, your dog's re-entry to the U.S. will be delayed or denied. Here is a brief summary of the key points:

- **Age Requirement:** Your dog must be at least 6 months old upon entry or re-entry to the US.
- **Microchip Requirement:** Your dog must have a microchip implanted before its current rabies vaccination. If the rabies shot was administered before the microchip was implanted, it will not be considered valid and a booster will be required.
- **Rabies Vaccination:** Any rabies vaccination must be administered at least 28 days before entry to the US and must not have expired while you were out of the

- country.
- **Documentation:** You will need either a rabies certificate completed by a USDA-accredited veterinarian or a USDA-endorsed health certificate. Not all veterinarians are USDA-accredited, so check with your vet or search for accredited veterinarians here: <https://vsapps.aphis.usda.gov/vsps/public/VetSearch.do?method=display>
- **Health Status:** Your dog must appear healthy. If there are concerns, isolation, veterinary examination, and additional testing (at your expense) may be required to ensure your dog does not have a contagious disease.
- **CDC Dog Import Form:** You must have a CDC Dog Import Form receipt. This form should be filled out online ideally 2-10 days before entering or re-entering the US. It can also be filled out while in line at the border if you have internet access. The form requires a clear photograph of your dog showing its face and body. For dogs less than one year old at the time of arrival, the

photograph should be taken within 10 days before arrival. There is no charge for submitting this form.

For further information, including a list of frequently asked questions and a "DogBot" to guide you through the requirements based on your travel plans, visit [cdc.gov/importation/bringing-an-animal-into-the-us](https://www.cdc.gov/importation/bringing-an-animal-into-the-us)

— By Dr. M. Kathleen Shaw, DMV, VVMA

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Dogs by appointment.



Hailey & Smokey

Meet Hailey and Smokey, an affectionate bonded pair. Hailey, 6.5 years old, loves burrowing under blankets and ice cream. Smokey, 10.5 years old, is a healthy, sweet gentleman who enjoys all types of food and catnip. Both get along with other cats and children but have no experience with dogs.



Spirit & Renny

Spirit and Renny, 5-year-old Siberian Husky/Akita and Labrador Retriever mix littermates, share a strong bond and need to be adopted together without other dogs. They enjoy playful, sometimes intense, fun and would benefit from a big yard. They have lived with young children but are better suited for homes with older kids due to their size. Dog-savvy cats are okay. They'd love a family that provides snuggles, snacks, and long hikes, and would offer endless cuddles in return.



Stevie & Nix

Stevie and Nix, a bonded pair of 5.5-year-old siblings, need to be adopted together. Stevie is a black and white tuxedo female, and Nix is a brown and white tabby male. Surrendered as kittens in 2019 and recently returned due to allergies, they are friendly, playful, and quiet. They have been indoor/outdoor cats but could be indoor-only. They are great with children and other cats but are afraid of dogs.



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Meticulously maintained and improved, this super-spacious cape is located just outside the Little City of Vergennes. 3,700 sq feet of finished space includes three bedrooms (first floor primary) and four baths plus multiple rooms for a den, hobby room, playroom, or dedicated office to work from home. A pellet stove, heat pump, and heated garage enhance comfortable living. Two decks lend themselves nicely for that quiet cup of morning coffee as well as easy entertaining. The finished lower-level with a small kitchen is perfect for a game room and parties. The abundance of space continues into the great outdoors where 10 acres offer private trails of your own. Enjoy a short hike to watch birds and wildlife, go on a four-wheeling expedition, or scout deer. This idyllic location is just 15 minutes to Middlebury and 35 minutes to Burlington. Best yet, not one but four great bonuses come with this home: the pool table and hot tub along with the lower-level furniture, not to mention a truck and plow to keep the driveway clear in winter!

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This week's property is managed by Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices. More info at vtregroup.com.



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REAL ESTATE OPPORTUNITIES ABOUND IN ADDISON COUNTY



644 Panton Road, Panton
This 6 acre building lot has 600± feet of frontage on Otter Creek that is just waiting for you to put your dock in. Jump in your boat and you can be on Lake Champlain in less than a half hour. Or enjoy fishing, kayaking or canoeing right from your backyard, accessed from an existing mowed path. This level lot will be easy to develop and is perfect for animals or gardens. The building area is encompassed on 3 sides by trees so you can be nestled back from the road for privacy and set safely above the Creek. When you want to venture out, you are minutes from the vibrant little city of Vergennes with their award winning restaurants and shops. In the summer you can enjoy band concerts in the park, the farmers market, the local swimming pool and the famous Memorial Day parade that goes right down Main Street. In the winter you can attend events at the Opera House or cozy up at the historic Bixby Library. The state and local permits are in hand for the 3 bdrm home of your dreams.

\$349,000 **MLS #5001910**



2225 Route 7 South, Middlebury
Looking for great exposure for your business and a great home on the same property? This is the location for you! This property is located on Route 7 South in Middlebury offering public water and sewer, a well lit space attached to a workshop with overhead door as well as a 2 car attached garage to the 4BR, 3BA home. AG rural district which has housed a successful retail business for many years. There is potential for an apartment to help pay your mortgage. It is now your turn to make your dream and profits come true.

\$595,000 **MLS #5001576**



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WEYBRIDGE NEW LISTING!
1289 JAMES ROAD
 MLS #45005459 | \$599,000
 2 BD | 2 BA | 1200 SF | 43.90 AC

Half meadows, half woods with a house perfectly situated to take in the with Green Mountain and Middlebury College views. Currently used as a mini farm, this property has so much possibility.



MIDDLEBURY NEW LISTING!
41 SCHOOL HOUSE HILL ROAD
 MLS #5005881 | \$330,000
 3 BD | 2 BA | 2086 SF | 1.85 ACRES

Fantastic yard for gardening, playing, or animals. A large barn will make a wonderful workshop or studio. Some hardwood floors, a woodburning fireplace, and a walkout basement are just a few highlights.



WEYBRIDGE
2672 WEYBRIDGE ROAD
 MLS #4992913 | \$799,000
 4 BD | 4 BA | 2848 SF | 1.80 ACRES

So much to offer! Gorgeous detailing, woodburning fireplace, screened porch, guest suite, patio, stone walls, mature landscaping, fruit trees, a detached garage/workshop and a historic barn...and the list goes on!



CORNWALL NEW LISTING!
N. BINGHAM STREET
 MLS #5005260 | \$325,000
 19.46 ACRES

Nestle your dream home in an apple orchard! Septic permit will allow for a four-bedroom single-family home. Enjoy the trails throughout the property. Possibilities for subdivision or development.



LEICESTER NEW LISTING!
1344 LAKE DUNMORE ROAD
 MLS #5005557 | \$350,000
 8.81 ACRES

Over 650 feet of lake frontage, and 8.8 acres on Fern Lake! This parcel enjoys plenty of privacy, with room to position your home perched over the lake for a breathtaking view! Permit in place for a 4-bdrm home.

Will you be caught in 'The Mousetrap'?

AUDITIONS TO BE HELD IN WAITSFIELD

The Valley Players announce auditions for Agatha Christie's "The Mousetrap" on Sunday, July 28, at 4 p.m., and Tuesday, July 30, at 6:30 p.m., at the Valley Players Theater, 4254 Main Street (Rt. 100), Waitsfield. Part murder mystery and part psychological thriller, the play offers roles for eight actors: three roles are female presenting and five roles are male presenting. Actors of any gender may audition for any role, however the roles will be played according to the gender specified in the script.

After a local woman is murdered, the guests and staff at a countryside inn just outside of London find themselves stranded during a snowstorm. It soon becomes clear that the killer is among them, and the seven strangers grow increasingly suspicious of one another. A police detective, arriving on skis, interrogates the suspects; when a second murder takes place, tensions and fears escalate. Brimming with intrigue, sophisticated humor and surprising twists, Agatha Christie's iconic murder mystery is the world's most successful and longest-running play.

Auditions will consist of reading scenes from the play in an open forum. There is no need to memorize anything but a familiarity with the script and the characters is recommended. The script can be read at local libraries. Descriptions of the characters and the portions of the script that will be used at auditions are available at valleyplayers.com/the-mousetrap. Call backs, if needed, will be held on Thursday, Aug. 1, at 6:30 p.m., and the rehearsal schedule will be Sundays, 3-5:30 p.m., and Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6:30-9 p.m., starting Aug. 3. Not all actors will need to attend every rehearsal until September. Show dates are Fridays-Sundays, Oct. 4-20. For more information or to ask questions contact director Ruth Ann Pattee at ruthann@valleyplayers.com.



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K. GRANT

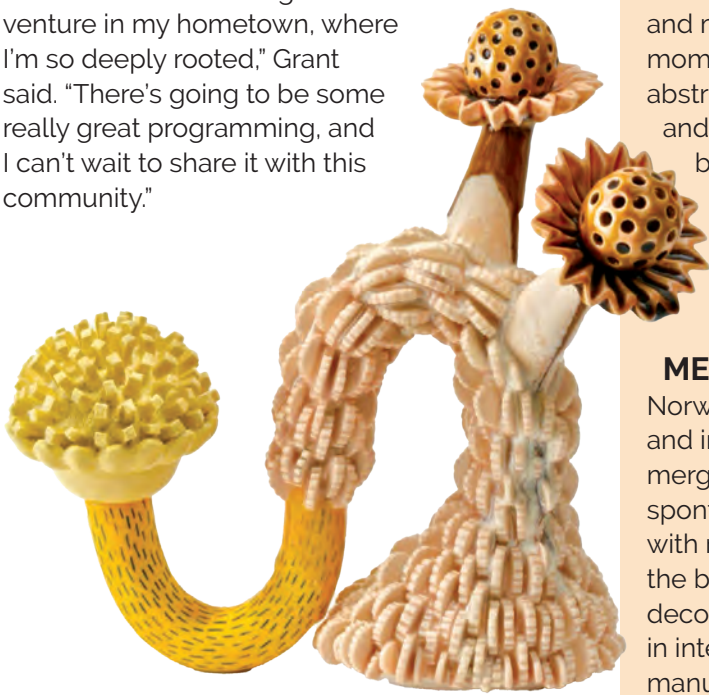
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

photography, and sculpture.”

“If it goes well, and I expect it to go well, I would be happy to have it be very long term,” she said.

Grant added she is happy to be back in Vergennes, where her mother’s family grew up in what is now the Strong House Inn.

“As a seventh-generation Vermonter, I’m so thrilled to be starting this new venture in my hometown, where I’m so deeply rooted,” Grant said. “There’s going to be some really great programming, and I can’t wait to share it with this community.”



MEGAN BOGONOVICH

SOFT OPENINGS

“Soft Openings” is an evocative, all-woman showcase featuring the works of Vermont-based artists Arista Alanis, Megan Bogonovich, Cameron Davis, Pamela Fraser, and Wylie Garcia. The common themes are summer, nature and flowers.

The exhibition will be on view Aug. 3 through Sept. 28, with an opening reception on Saturday, Aug. 3, from 6–9 p.m. Regular hours in August will be Fridays and Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., and in September Wednesdays through Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The artists featured in Soft Openings are:

ARISTA ALANIS: Alanis’ paintings, drawings, and monoprints, inspired by significant moments in nature, blend landscape and abstraction to evoke a sense of aliveness and emotional intensity. Her work oscillates between figurative landscape and abstraction... A third-generation Mexican American, Alanis grew up in the suburbs of Houston, Texas, and her art is deeply rooted in personal experiences of nature.

MEGAN BOGONOVICH: Working in Norwich, Bogonovich creates highly detailed and intricate glazed ceramic forms that merge the natural with the whimsical, creating spontaneous and decorative compositions with multiple components that celebrate the boldness of nature. Her commitment to decorative placement of ceramic objects in interiors merges the natural and the manufactured, resulting in unique, overgrown,

and unpredictable creations.

CAMERON DAVIS: Davis’s paintings are a journey of sense-making, exploring presence in nature and questions about its essence. Living and working in Charlotte, she uses plant patterns as a reference to life and as a basis for improvisational responses. Her work seeks to situate us within life, emphasizing our shared subjectivity with living organisms and the potential for innovative co-existence with Earth.

PAMELA FRASER: Fraser works in a variety of materials and formats, primarily painting. She has exhibited her work internationally for over 20 years and received awards such as the Louis Comfort Tiffany and the Pollock-Krasner. Fraser is an Associate Professor at UVM and the author of books on color theory. Known for her minimalist yet striking style, Fraser’s work in “Soft Openings” includes both ceramic pieces and paintings, exploring the spontaneity of philosophy and the logic of color systems. Fraser’s works use simplicity to explore the deeper meanings of natural elements.

WYLIE GARCIA: Garcia is a project-based artist who creates layered and emotive paintings, focusing on imaginary floral landscapes, intimate portals, and romanticism in landscape-inspired scenic art. Her use of floral imagery explores the untamed pleasures of uncertainty. A queer, Mexican-Swedish-American artist, Garcia has received numerous grants and fellowships, including the Pollock-Krasner Foundation Grant. Her work is held in the permanent collections of the Fleming Museum, the University of Vermont Medical Center, and Georgetown University.

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.

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.

SPARROW ART SUPPLY

44 Main St., Middlebury

For more info visit sparrowartsupply.com

“Sun’s Out” captures all the joys of summer, spanning all mediums. Over 40 local artists have dived into their love for the sun-soaked season, drawing inspiration from the warmth of golden rays, the colors of blossoming flowers, the smells of barbecues and creemees, the buzz of wildlife and more! On view through Aug. 16.

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ALL-NEW MATERIAL!

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50TH ANNIVERSARY TOUR
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GINGER BILLY'S
BACKWOODS
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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4 | 7:30 PM

Menopause
The Musical **2**

Cruising Through 'The Change'

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8 | 7:00 PM

CRAIG FERGUSON
PANTS ON FIRE

SATURDAY, OCT 26 | 8:00 PM

soul asylum

THE SLOWLY BUT SHIRLEY TOUR

The Juliana Hatfield Three

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1 | 7:30 PM

CELTIC THUNDER
ODYSSEY

TUESDAY, NOV 5 | 7:00 PM

SUMMER AT THE VERMONT STATE FAIR
DIAMONDS AND MORE GRANDSTAND

TYLER HUBBARD
LIVE

SATURDAY, AUGUST 17 | 8:15 PM

NURSE BLAKE
SHOCK ADVISED TOUR

THURSDAY, NOV 21 | 7:00 PM

MICKY DOLENZ
OF THE MONKEES
Songs & Stories

WEDNESDAY, DEC 4 | 7:00 PM

Comedian
BOB MARLEY

SATURDAY, JAN 18 | 8:00 PM

WANG CHUNG
A FLOCK OF SEAGULLS
NAKED EYES
ANIMATION

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iLUMINATE
THE TOUR

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