



Park paddling

A donated table tennis set is becoming a public attraction in Middlebury. See Arts + Leisure.



In the swim

More than 100 swimmers and their families enjoyed a Tuesday meet in Vergennes. See Page 1B.



A sip & more

It's a wine bar and a furniture-making business, and it's all at 10 Green St. in Vergennes. Page 3A.

ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT

Vol. 79 No. 29

Middlebury, Vermont ♦ Thursday, July 17, 2025 ♦ 42 Pages

\$2.00

Porter budget adheres to state limits

More OR, hospital activity expected

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — Porter Medical Center (PMC) is asking the state to green light a fiscal year 2026 budget reflecting roughly \$132 million in total

expenses, a 3.5% increase on net patient revenues; a 3% increase in commercial rate growth; and a 2.6% increase in operating expense growth.

Porter's FY26 expense/revenue

request falls within parameters prescribed by the Green Mountain Care Board, which regulates Vermont's health care system.

"At Porter, we are heading towards the new fiscal year beginning Oct. 1 with a sense of cautious optimism," Porter

President and COO Bob Ortmyer said through an email to the *Independent*. "Over the past year, we have taken meaningful steps to reduce administrative costs, including lowering overall salary expenses by decreasing our reliance (See Porter, Page 9A)

Freakishly high winds pummel county, damage MUHS roof

By IAN CURRY

& JOHN FLOWERS

ADDISON COUNTY — For the third July in a row, severe thunderstorms brought heavy

rain, hail and flash flooding to parts of Vermont, particularly Addison County. Mark it on your calendar — July 10 (See High winds, Page 8A)



Funds for county schools delayed

Feds withholding \$26M for Vermont

By BEE ECKELS, MARIN HOWELL & JOHN FLOWERS

ADDISON COUNTY — Local schools are wary of how the Trump Administration's decision to withhold anticipated federal funding from Vermont school districts could affect the services those learning communities provide. Some school leaders are uncertain whether districts will ultimately receive those funds.

The Vermont Agency of Education was alerted on June 30 that \$26 million of congressionally (See Funding delays, Page 11A)

Pilcher added to Addison-4 candidate list

By JOHN FLOWERS

BRISTOL — Addison County Democrats have added a third name to the list of candidates Gov. Phil Scott will consider to serve out the balance of a two-year term recently vacated by incumbent Addison-4 Rep. Mari Cordes, D-Bristol.

The county Democrats' Addison-4 District Representative Committee on Friday picked Stephen Pilcher of Monkton from a list of five candidates that were seeking to join Lincoln's Jeanne Albert and Bristol's Dave Sharpe as Cordes's interim replacement.

The panel of 12 had already picked Sharpe, a former state representative, and Albert on June 28 from a list that also included (See Pilcher, Page 12A)



Turn it up!

DOWNTOWN MIDDLEBURY HAS been awash all week in great music performed in a variety of styles during the 46th annual Festival on the Green. The volunteer-run festival has seen decent crowds for noon-time shows and one or two musical performances each night this week. Clockwise from above, Vermonter Caitlin Canty displays her powerful voice and sharp songwriting on Monday night; Gaelle Hispard and Marc Beaudin lead the kids in a French singalong during Monday's brown bag lunch; cellist Cleo Flemming, guitarist Hannah Hausman and bass player Logan Beck play harmonious ballads and boisterous rock as the trio Honey & Soul on Tuesday; and trombonist Bear Irwin contributes some brass to the Middlebury Community Music Center faculty performance during lunch on Tuesday. See more photos on Pages 4A and 10A; then come out to shows on Thursday and Friday and finally a Saturday street dance. Independent photos/Steve James



By the way

The Middlebury Downtown Improvement District Commission is seeking ideas to help enhance and energize the (See By the way, Page 12A)

County revising plan for energy transition

Seeking community input for update

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — Addison County Regional Planning Commission (ACRPC) officials are busy revising the region's blueprint for transitioning the region from fossil fuels to renewable energy.

The county's energy plan was last updated six years ago, and a lot has transpired since then in terms of climate change impacts and

related state directives, technology and federal policy associated with renewable energy.

The Legislature back in 2011 endorsed a goal for Vermont to derive 90% of its energy through renewable sources by the year 2050. But the General Assembly went a step further last year through bill H.289, which set (See Energy plan, Page 7A)

Bristol spotlights area businesses

By MARIN HOWELL

BRISTOL — Bristol has welcomed several new faces to its downtown area in recent months, with a few longtime businesses changing hands and others setting up shop on and around Main Street. Residents will have a chance

to welcome those new business owners and also meet the people behind other local businesses this upcoming Saturday at a "Bristol Open House" event organized by BristolCORE.

During the event, residents are (See Bristol, Page 12A)

Local youth build community and theater skills at new Bristol camp

By MARIN HOWELL

BRISTOL — When Alison DaBica and Andi Gordon started the Bristol Children's Theater Company back in 2022, the pair was hoping to offer more theater opportunities for local youth.

The company has staged several productions since then and this summer expanded its offerings with a new, week-long summer camp that culminated in a performance at Holley Hall this past Friday.

Through its programs, the company aims to help kids build community, self-esteem and other skills in a safe and supportive environment.

"We have kiddos who have arrived, and they have never participated in theater before, and what we hope for (See Youth, Page 16A)



ABIGAIL PERFORMS AN adaptation of "I Am Malala" at the Bristol Children's Theater Company production of "Monologues and More" this past Friday at Holley Hall. Photo courtesy of Alison DaBica

Index

- Obituaries..... 6A
- Classifieds..... 8B-9B
- Service Directory..... 6B-7B
- Entertainment..... Arts + Leisure
- Community Calendar..... 4B
- Arts Calendar..... Arts + Leisure
- Sports..... 1B-3B





CRUNCHY CALIFORNIA ROLLS handcrafted by chef Aung Oo, are a central dish at the new local takeout place Hero Sushi, which is open off MacIntyre Lane in Middlebury. The shop also sells some Asian grocery items.

Independent photo/Paige Hescoock

Did someone say sushi? New Asian food place opens in Middlebury

By PAIGE HESCOOCK
MIDDLEBURY — Look out Middlebury, a sushi shop has finally come to town! Hero Sushi & Asian Grocery, located off 21 MacIntyre Lane, is a new take-out sushi store that opened its doors last June.

For two and a half years, the owners, Aung and Yamin Oo, sold their sushi at Hannaford supermarket in Middlebury until they wished to expand their business and have their own location.

The couple runs Hero Sushi along with their niece, Su Tar, who steps in when they need an extra hand.

"It is our first time opening our own business. Before, when we worked at Hannaford's, they were a little more in control of our process, and we didn't want to work under them anymore. That's when we decided to make our brand," Tar told the *Independent*.

Aung Oo is the sushi chef who delicately creates each roll by hand. He has been making sushi for 10 years now. A portion of that time was spent making sushi at a restaurant in Saratoga, N.Y.

"Of course, we faced challenges in launching our business," Tar said. "We were met with a lot of difficulties in getting a permit to sell our food. It is certainly a big switch from working under a supermarket chain to now having to do everything ourselves."

But there is one thing they do not struggle with: making sushi — their specialty. With Aung's extensive experience in sushi-making, he has never had trouble with it.

"My uncle is very sure that his sushi is delicious, and that's why people keep on coming back. He believes in his sushi, so that's why he had the confidence in opening his shop," Tar said.

The owners acquire their fish from JFC (Jollibee Foods Corporation) International, one of the big Asian food distributors.

While sushi is the main product Hero sells, it is not the only one. The Oos and Tar also sell a variety of Japanese, Korean, Chinese, Vietnamese, and Thai snacks and drinks, ranging from packets of Samyang Spicy Buldak Ramen to bottles of Binggrae coffee flavored milk

drinks. "There are a lot of vendors we work with from out of state who ship the products out to us," Tar said.

But Tar stands by the motto of her aunt and uncle's business when it comes to the star of the show: "Always Made Fresh."

"For sushi, it's always best to come to the shop and have it taken away because we make it very fresh here. With delivery, it wouldn't have the same taste," Tar said.

Looking into the future, she believes that her aunt and uncle want to expand the business, but they currently have limited resources.

"We are primarily focused on checking in with the customers first, seeing how many we receive daily, and then we'll go from there," Tar said.

While the business has only had its soft opening so far, Tar anticipates that they will have their hard launch towards the end of the month, after they establish their website. Sushi prices range from \$6.99 to \$14.99. Hero Sushi is open daily from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., except on Sundays.

Competitive dance studio goes national

By PAIGE HESCOOCK
MIDDLEBURY — Jayden Rushton and her dance team made their debut at a recital at Middlebury Union High School in 2023. Now, they have stepped off a bigger stage, after they competed at the National Take Centerstage Dance Challenge in Plymouth, Mass., July 10-13.

Rushton, who lives in Middlebury, opened the town's first studio devoted to teaching competition dance skills in the Middlebury Fitness Building on Wilson Road in 2023. That was a year after she graduated from MUHS. She is the chief choreographer and director of Better Together Dance Company, which operates through Middlebury Fitness.

"I was always a competitive dancer when I was little, but as I got older I learned that there weren't any competitive dance studios in town, so I decided to open the first one," Rushton told the *Independent*.

She finds running the studio to be a lot of work at times, with all the moving parts — managing the sets, props, and costumes, and, of course, training the dancers. At the end of the day, she said it is all worth it.

"Every little detail that goes into the performance makes it special for that little girl," Rushton said.

Her dance studio is distinct not only because it is competition-based, but also due to the age range. Currently, she teaches five dancers — two 9-year-olds, Pearl Linn and Olivia Donnelly; one 11-year-old, Elise Mical; and two 13-year-olds, Grace Mical and Daphne Prentice.

This allows for girls of different ages to bond, especially since they not only dance in groups but also do duets and solos.

"The girls are so close, they're like this big family. They are also so helpful and supportive of one another. Whether it's helping each other with makeup or cheering others on in the audience, they are all best friends," Rushton said.

Over the years, Rushton has learned that dance is only partly about athleticism. She finds that acting is also a large part of dancing.

"I teach them how to act, not just to dance, because I think that dancing is so much more than technique. I add theater into it, so we do musical theater pieces, which I think is a big part of the whole thing," Rushton said. "When they step out onto the stage, I'm so proud of them because what we do is different."

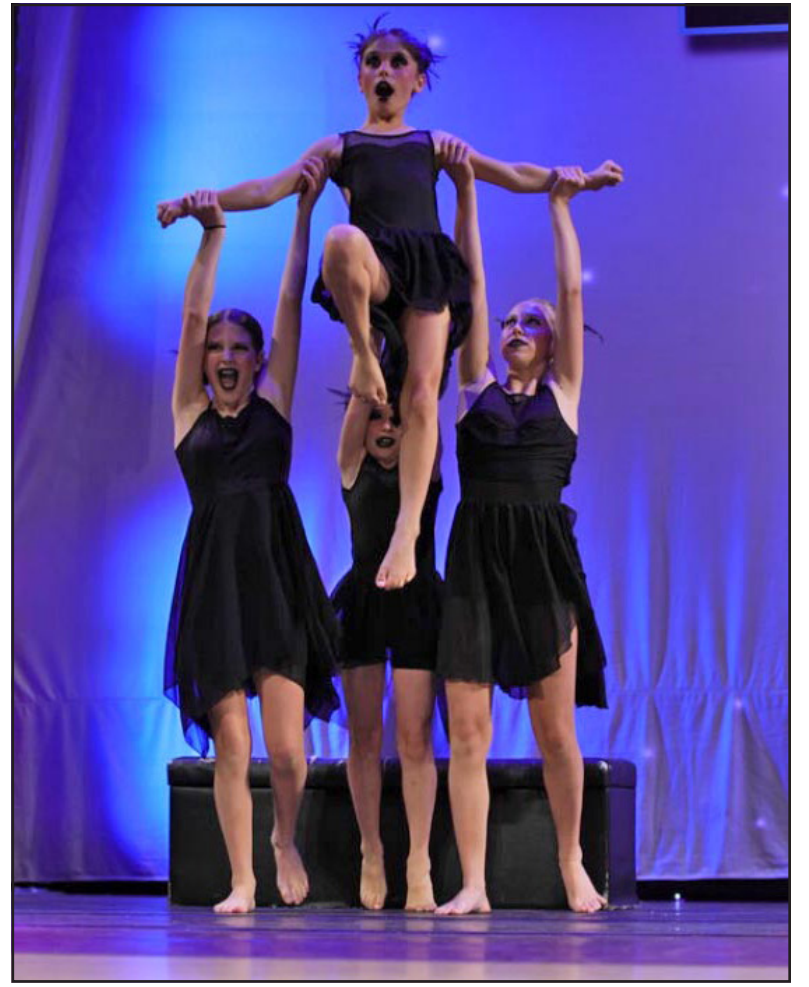
Her inspiration comes from Broadway performances and the theater world, especially the Town Hall Theater.

"I have a lot of role models who come from there, who I want to continue to learn and grow from. I want to immerse myself in areas where there are other choreographers and theatrical people who can help teach me to be a better choreographer," Rushton said.

When planning her choreography, she always bases it on a storyline.

"I'll start with basic technical moves and then add acting and a storyline to truly show the judges what we want to convey," Rushton said. "When you get out there and see a story on the competition

(See Dance, Page 3A)



PEARL LINN IS held up into the air by her Better Together Dance Company teammates during their group performance at the Take Centerstage Dance Challenge in Plymouth, Mass., this past weekend. Olivia Donnelly, Grace Mical, Elise Mical and Daphne Prentice are other members of the team.

Photo courtesy of Jayden Rushton

Middlebury commissions townwide reappraisal of properties

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — Middlebury has hired a company to conduct a reappraisal of townwide properties, a state-mandated exercise to ensure property values are up-to-date and reflect current market conditions.

The reappraisal process is likely to take around two years and result in substantial residential property

value increases in the shire town. Middlebury's last reappraisal took effect in 2019. That was the year before the COVID pandemic, a period during which folks in urban areas competed for available homes in Vermont, often engaging in bidding wars that saw some domiciles sell for tens of thousands of dollars more than the asking price.

"Completing a reappraisal in 2019 put us in a tough spot; it was unfortunate to have that big expense (of a reappraisal) and not have it last longer," Middlebury Town Assessor Alison Joseph

acknowledged.

Act 68 of 2023 requires Vermont towns to reappraise every six years, starting in January 2025, though the law allows the director of Property Valuation & Review to OK a longer period. Act 68 also repealed the statute that required reappraisal orders to be based on a community's common level of appraisal (CLA).

CLAs — as determined by town-by-town analyses of their real estate sales by the Vermont Department of Taxes — compare towns' property tax assessments to fair market value. Ratios created with that study are then used to adjust school tax rates upwards or downwards to equalize tax collection among all Vermont municipalities for the purpose of education property taxes.

Middlebury's CLA in 2024 was 71.01%, well short of the 100% target.

Jill Remick, the state's director of Property Valuation & Review, reminded the town this past winter of its need to reappraise.

"The purpose of this document is to inform you that under (Act 68),

the town of Middlebury will be one of the first towns identified as out of compliance and will soon receive an official order to reappraise based on the six-year cycle," she wrote the town on Feb. 3.

Middlebury officials took Remick's letter very seriously. The town quickly sent a request for proposals to the 14 appraisal firms approved by the Department of Property Valuation & Review, for a reappraisal of properties that would begin in 2027 and take effect in 2029.

The 2029 completion date would represent a 10-year gap between Middlebury's last reappraisal. But Joseph said as long as the town "has a contractor in place this year, we will have met the (state) requirement."

The selectboard on July 8 picked the New England Municipal Resource Center (NEMRC) to do the job, for \$345,000. The other bid, for \$385,000, came from Tyler Technologies.

Joseph noted Middlebury has \$213,606 saved up for the reappraisal, and she's recommending the community

sweeten the pot during the next few years to meet the \$345,000 price.

Why will it take two years to complete Middlebury's reappraisal?

Joseph explained that NEMRC is a busy company, one of relatively few right-sized firms willing to take on reappraisal work in rural areas.

Also, there are about 3,000 taxable properties in Middlebury. The reappraisal will require, among other things:

- A market study to analyze recent sales data and establish preliminary valuation tables and schedules.

- Data collection, including on-site inspections (both exterior and interior), and gathering information about property characteristics such as size, condition and materials.

- Analysis of market data and property-specific information to determine a fair market value for each property.

Property owners will be notified of their new assessed value, along with information on how to appeal the assessment if they disagree. They'll be able attend hearings

to ask questions and discuss their assessments with the appraisal company.

Following these hearings, NEMRC will send out final assessment notices, including information on how to appeal to the town's board of listers.

Joseph stressed that a higher property valuation doesn't always mean a higher property tax bill. Some property owners might see their taxes increase, while others might see them decrease, depending on how their property's value has changed relative to the overall market.

Reappraisals don't increase the total tax revenue collected by the town; they redistribute the tax burden, officials noted.

"When they start collecting data in 2027, it will be interesting to see if property values are still increasing, or if it's leveled off. But in towns that have completed reappraisals this year, the increases have been pretty big," according to Joseph. "In some cases, (valuations) are doubling."

Reporter John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.

CHEERS TO LAKE LIFE!

HARE AND THE DOG
Legendary WINE · BEER · SPIRITS

VERGENNES, VT
MIDDLEBURY, VT
WWW.HARE.DOG

What's happening at Chipman Inn this summer?

CHIPMANINN.COM

MIDDLEBURY NATURAL FOODS CO-OP

\$3.00 OFF ANY CO-OP MADE ITEM

(excludes alcohol)
(minimum purchase \$3.00)
(Expires Wednesday, 7/23/25)

9 Washington St | 802.388.7276
middlebury.coop

CO-OP WEEKLY SALE 7/16-7/22

LOCAL	ORGANIC	fresh deals
<p>4.49 lb Reg. \$5.49 lb</p>	<p>3.99 Reg. 4.99</p>	<p>3.99 Reg. \$5.99</p>

Scan the QR code or see the Fresh Deals flyer in the store!

CO-OP MEMBER DEALS

Members Take an Extra 20% Off

Boston Post Dairy, LLC
"of Vermont"

July 16 - July 22



10 GREEN STREET co-owners Nathan D'Aversa, left, and Camila Carrillo stand behind the bar in their multi-faceted Vergennes business, which includes his woodworking shop as well as the wine bar behind their Green Street building's brick façade. Among the wines, beer, ciders and non-alcoholic beverages Carrillo pours are wines she makes herself.

Independent photo/Andy Kirkaldy

10 Green Street blends wine, woodworking

By **ANDY KIRKALDY**

VERGENNES — Even individually, it would be fair to call the two ventures blended together behind 10 Green St.'s brick façade distinctive.

On the surface, couple Camila Carrillo, 33, and Nathan D'Aversa, 36, have for the past seven months just run a wine bar in the Vergennes storefront, doing business as simply 10 Green St.

But put their two specialties together, and you have a unique business partnership. She's also a winemaker, and he's a furniture maker. The couple also rent the

whole building, most of which is occupied by D'Aversa's woodworking shop.

D'Aversa makes high-end tables, chairs, couches and more, including art. And the chairs and tables 10 Green Street wine bar patrons use? D'Aversa made them.

Carrillo pours wine and serves snacks, Vermont beer and cider, and non-alcoholic beverages.

She also makes her own Vermont-grown wine under the La Montañuela label, and serves it by the glass at the wine bar, along with wine produced by her mentors, Vermont winemakers

Deirdre Heekin and Caleb Barber of Barnard's La Garagista winery. And Carrillo serves other wines from around the world that she enjoys and believes 10 Green Street's patrons also will.

And she is happy to chat with her customers about the wines, to describe their qualities and the wine-making process, and to make recommendations.

"I just want people to taste wine. That's why I'm happy to have anything (any bottle) open. Because the beauty of wine is to explore and taste and expand your palate. I think that's been going

really well here," Carrillo said. "I want people to ask questions."

D'Aversa helps run the bar when it is open and sees those interactions. He said Carrillo loves to talk about wine.

"From my perspective, from the No. 2 position, when we're open people come to have Camila tell them about wine, to teach them," D'Aversa said.

They've expanded their snack menu and say people can "actually order a bunch of stuff and have a meal," Carrillo said, but there is more than one way to dine at their business.

"We also allow people to bring in takeout. We don't want to hinder people from coming in here because we don't have dinner. We have people come in and they bring Rucker's pizza, or whatever. We just want people to come in," she said.

PATHS TO VERGENNES

The couple married about two years ago and started dating four years ago. D'Aversa saw some of her cider and wine products online and inquired. They met and sparked.

"I reached out to see if she had any bottles," D'Aversa said, adding, "And she was cute."

Carrillo said, "We had a lot of mutual friends, and we mentioned that it was a surprise that we never crossed paths."

Neither is a native Vermonter. Carrillo was born in Boston to a Colombian mother. They moved to Colombia when she was a baby and lived there for five years. She said she "bounced between Boston, Colombia and Venezuela" before settling in Vermont when she was 11.

Carrillo began worked in wine (See Wine, Page 6A)



CAMILA CARRILLO, LEFT, and Nathan D'Aversa pose behind tables and benches D'Aversa built in what they call the community corner of their 10 Green Street wine bar in Vergennes, which also includes D'Aversa's woodworking shop to the rear. The couple hope people can feel comfortable coming in and relaxing in what is the now the only bar in town. They also offer beer, cider, non-alcoholic beverages and snacks.

Independent photo/Andy Kirkaldy

Dance

(Continued from Page 2A)
stage, it can impact a lot of people in the audience.

"It's amazing how you can make people feel with just a dance."

Rushton's girls also have a lot of freedom when it comes to their costumes and dance routines.

"They have freedom in their creations, especially their solos. I want them to feel passionate in their solos, so it's not about what I want them to wear but more about what they want to wear and feel comfortable in," Rushton said.

Linn explained she likes the freedom she finds at Rushton's studio.

"Here we're allowed to choose a lot of things for ourselves, like our song, and we don't have to have others choose for us," she said.

After two years of teaching these young girls, Rushton's biggest joy is witnessing the tremendous self-assurance they gain through dancing.

"One of my favorite parts of all of this is watching the girls gain confidence in themselves. To be able to get up there at such a young age and dance in front of a bunch of strangers. And then when they're done, knowing they had the confidence to do it."

Ahead of the big competition, confidence ran high among the young dancers. When asked what she was most looking forward to at Nationals, Donnelly did not hesitate.

"I'm excited about winning the trophy," she said.

And Donnelly's confidence proved justified as the Better



"One of my favorite parts of all of this is watching the girls gain confidence in themselves."

—Jayden Rushton

Together Dance Company went on to win the National Take Centerstage Dance Challenge. The team earned first place for their group dance, along with Prentice and Mical's hip-hop duet, which also won the overall director's choice of the weekend.

Better Together's victory at Nationals marks not just a win for the team but a milestone for Middlebury's growing competitive dance scene.

Middlebury MARKETS

POWERED BY THE BETTER MIDDLEBURY PARTNERSHIP

Hindi: मिडिलबरी में आपका स्वागत है (Middlebury mein aapka swagat hai)	English: Welcome to Middlebury!
Portuguese: Bem-vindos a Middlebury	Italian: Benvenuti a Middlebury
Chinese (Simplified): 欢迎来到米德尔伯里 (Huānyíng lái dào Mǐ dé'ěr bó lǐ)	Korean: 미들베리에 오신 것을 환영합니다 (Mideulberie o-sin geos-eul hwanyeonghamnida)
Spanish: Bienvenidos a Middlebury	French: Bienvenue à Middlebury

Please join us for a downtown craft and artisan market
SATURDAY, JULY 19, 10am-2pm
 College Park (across from Shiretown Marketplace)

WITH SUPPORT FROM
ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT
Serving Addison County, VT, Since 1966

92.1 WVTK
Addison County's Radio Station

LEARN MORE AT EXPERIENCEMIDDLEBURY.COM/MIDD-MARKETS

Addison County's Hometown Dealer



36 Boardman St.,
Middlebury VT 05753
802-388-6718
gstonemotors.com

2149 Rt 7 South,
Middlebury VT 05753
802-388-9961
stonecdjr.com



Editorials

Area schools scramble as \$26 million in aid halted

As the impact of Trump's big, bad bill becomes more widely understood, Vermonters will begin to see first-hand the difference between policy for the public good versus policy for the benefit of certain individuals.

In today's *Addison Independent*, our reporters talked to administrators of county school districts to understand how they are trying to cope with the sudden withholding of \$26 million of congressionally approved funding. The Trump administration decided to withhold the funding on June 30 for money that was already put in school budgets throughout the state and nation for fiscal year spending that began the next day. That the confiscation of funds already approved by Congress happened at the very last moment was deliberate insult added to injury — as if to make the point that the Trump administration can cause harm if it chooses to.

In this case, the funding was part of a broader freeze of more than \$6 billion nationwide used to support after-school, teacher training, English language and a multitude of other educational programs.

Local school officials aren't impressed.

"Some of the stuff they're taking right now is stuff we'd already been told we were going to get," said Mark Koenig, chair of the Addison Northwest School District (ANWSD) Board. "It's in our budget, and now it's been clawed back. So, we have a hole in our budget."

ANWSD Superintendent Sheila Soule defined part of the impact. "What we're losing is the money that we characterize as quality... The quality components of the education, the enhancements, the enrichment."

Gabe Hamilton, director of learning for the ANWSD, pointed out the last-minute shenanigans of the announcement: "The timing of this was particularly challenging because the deadline for submitting our consolidated federal grant application was June 30, and the announcement came on June 30. Most people had already submitted the grant, so now we have to go back and redo the grant with far less."

Is there any justification for the last-minute hold on funding? None that the administration has identified.

One might suspect the administration opposes any funding to help migrant workers learn English. Or it could be the administration opposes any federal spending on after-school programs, imagining at least one parent should drop out of the work force during their children's school years to be with them between 2:30 and 5 each afternoon. Or perhaps Republicans simply don't believe teachers need professional training. In any case, it's just another example of how this administration, and the Republican majority in Congress, has diminished education in America because their core concern is an educated public would not support policies that go against the public good.

It's a political strategy that unfortunately has been more successful than one would hope: According to the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, 30% of Americans read at a level expected of a 10-year-old, 54% of American adults read below the equivalent of a sixth-grade level, with nearly one in five (20%) reading below a third-grade level. On a global scale, Americans rank in the top 20-40 countries for literacy, math and science — an alarmingly low ranking considering we increasingly live in a knowledge-based global economy.

How Trump's "big, beautiful bill" undermines public education is a good example of how the bill, which impacts almost every level of public services and public health, negatively impacts the public good to the benefit of selected individuals. You won't get that story on Truth Social, from Fox News or any pro-Trump propaganda outlet, but local readers should be able to figure it out for themselves.

The impacts are real, and they'll be affecting all of us in ways that diminish the services Americans need, while shifting costs that local and state taxpayers will be asked to pay.

Angelo Lynn

Adding oil to the fire

Any Vermonter who has been following the dire straits of the state's health care system immediately understands the threat posed by the cuts to Medicaid. Under Trump's big, bad bill an estimated \$1 trillion will be cut from the program that helps subsidize health care to the poorest Americans. About 17 million Americans will lose the health care they currently have, including 45,000 Vermonters.

"At a time when our current health care system is broken, dysfunctional and cruel — 85 million Americans today are underinsured or uninsured — this bill will make a horrible situation even worse," said Sen. Bernie Sanders at a congressional hearing on July 9. "Make no mistake about it," Sanders continued, "this bill is a death sentence for working-class and low-income Americans."

Sanders further noted that more than 300 rural hospitals across the country are now at risk of closing (because of the cuts to Medicaid) and the bill significantly harms nursing homes across the country.

The cuts have the full attention of hospital officials at Middlebury-based Porter Medical Center, which recently submitted its budget for fiscal year 2026 that shows a tough financial year ahead.

Reporter John Flowers covers these budget presentations each year so local readers can understand the financial underpinnings of one of the most critical services in the county: Without a viable hospital, the county's (and Middlebury's) ability to attract businesses, services and industry to support a thriving community is greatly diminished.

Many of the provisions of Trump's bill will drive populations to larger urban centers and prompt the decline of rural America — not exactly what the MAGA faithful had been promised. But it also enacts a devastating immigration policy, cuts foreign aid to promote democracy, compromises the nation's independent judiciary, and so much more that it figuratively and literally adds oil to the fire in his effort to torch the very bipartisan principles that have made America great.

The job of every American is to understand the impacts of this legislation, to reject the lies Trump tells so effortlessly, and question the claims made by a Republican party intent on inflicting harm on Americans most in need. Certainly there is room for improvement in government programs, but no one benefits when legitimate aid is denied, essential programs are slashed, the poor get poorer, the rich richer and our environment is threatened by fires, floods and heedless exploitation. That's not the America most Americans want. It's up to all of us to counter Trump's effort to make it so.

Angelo Lynn

ADDISON COUNTY
INDEPENDENT
Periodicals Postage Paid at Middlebury, Vt. 05753

Postmaster, send address change to Addison Independent,
58 Maple Street, Middlebury, Vt. • 802-388-4944 • Fax: 802-388-3100 • Web: www.addisonindependent.com
E-Mail: news@addisonindependent.com • E-Mail Advertising: ads@addisonindependent.com
Editor/Publisher: Angelo S. Lynn

Published every Thursday by the Addison Press, Inc. Member Vermont Press Association; New England Press Association; National Newspaper Association.
SUBSCRIPTION RATES: All print subscriptions include online access. 1 Month \$10.00, 1 Year \$120.00. Discounted rate for Senior Citizens and students call for details. 802-388-4944.
Online Only — 1 Week \$3.00, 1 Month \$8.00, 1 Year \$75.00
The Independent assumes no financial responsibility for typographical errors in advertisements but will reprint that part of an advertisement in which the typographical error occurred. Advertiser will please notify the management immediately of any errors that may occur.

The Addison Independent USPS 005-380



Bass-ics

SOME OF THE very talented musicians who teach at the Middlebury Community Music Center, including bassist Ron White (shown here), perform New Orleans jazz and swing music in a Brown Bag Lunch concert on the Middlebury green Tuesday during the Festival on the Green.
Independent photo/Steve James

Beauty soothes during hard times

It matters not whether you are a Republican, Democrat, Independent or something else entirely. No doubt, this summer, you are facing some challenges. Maybe the Fourth of July protests against someone you voted for have gotten under your skin. Maybe you are worried that the hard-working milkers on your farm will be picked up and deported. Maybe you were excited about the financial gain promised by a certain tariff, but you aren't yet reaping the rewards. Maybe your nephew on Medicaid is distraught about losing his benefits.

Or maybe you aren't really paying attention to national or local happenings because you have bigger fish to fry: a dear friend with cancer, a sibling out of a job, an aging Mom or Dad who suddenly needs home health care. Then you read the news about the devastating floods in Texas and your heart breaks.

If you are around my age and grew up watching Saturday Night Live as a kid, you might find yourself daily uttering the sentiments of Gilda Radner's infamous character Roseanne Roseannadana: "You know, there's always something!" Right now, the "somethings" seem particularly high octane and high volume. Correspondingly, I know that my resources for dealing with them are feeling a tad thin. Is anybody with me on this?

Well, now that I have dragged you into a sphere of angst (if you haven't already arrived there on your own), let me tell you something else. Right now, I am experiencing the most delicious and enchanting of summers. Don't get me wrong: the summer of 2025

is proving to be replete with challenges, both personal and political — and yet somehow, simultaneously, I could not be happier living amidst "these green hills," as the Vermont state anthem goes. How is that? Why is that? How is it that we can live in two realities at once: the angst and the beauty?

For various reasons, I've been spending this summer close to home and in a state of relative stillness. Walk slowly or sit quietly in the midst of a Vermont summer and Beauty will rise to greet you. Beauty will companion you. Beauty will soothe your troubled soul. In my own little corner of Addison County (a mix of wetland, woodland and grassy backyard) encounters with beauty are a daily — sometimes hourly — adventure.

The birds alone dazzle me with their variety of chirps, songs, territorial calls and parenting behaviors. For instance, for weeks we've been watching a lovely pair of doves work together to bring two new babies into the world. We've learned that male and female doves equally share in the parenting duties (guys, are you listening?). We have even been lucky enough to observe the Change of Shift as Mama dove leaves the nest to perch on a nearby fence and Papa dove swoops in to alight on the same narrow rail. For a few short moments, the parents appear to be enjoying some "grown up time" before Papa flits off to sit on the nest. If only we could listen in on the conversation!

As I wander around my backyard — feeding the sheep, stirring the compost, replanting herbs, checking

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

Ways of Seeing

By Rebecca Kneale Gould



As I wander around my backyard — feeding the sheep, stirring the compost, replanting herbs, checking

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

Hardy offers Legislative highlights

Welcome to my annual summary of highlights from the legislative session. The 2025 Legislative Session came to a close in mid-June after a grueling extended session dedicated to passing K-12 education transformation legislation.

In the version of this piece on the Addy Indy's website I provide links to highlights of the session. I have not covered all of the 78 bills and five town charters we passed this session, nor have I detailed most of the provisions of many complex bills, such as the FY26 State Budget. You can read a summary of highlights from the FY26 State Budget and there's a summary of legislative highlights from *Vermont Public*. You can find links to all of the bills passed by both the House and Senate on the legislative website, along with detailed information for each bill.

I spelled out some of my highlights in detail on my rutherfordvermont.com website. Read this commentary at addisonindependent.com to link to the specifics on:

- Agriculture & Environment
- Education & Youth
- Health Care
- Housing & Homelessness
- Taxation

Unfortunately, some of the work we did this session is at risk due to the destructive federal

budget bill championed by Trump and passed this month by the Republican Congress. The bill includes brutal cuts to the Medicaid health insurance program and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). These programs serve thousands of Vermonters, many of them children and senior citizens, keeping them healthy and fed through an incredibly effective state-federal partnership. An estimated 45,000 Vermonters will lose their health insurance as a result of Trump's bill that will also blast holes in Vermont's state budget while providing tax cuts to wealthy individuals and large corporations.

The Medicaid cuts are expected to be especially harmful to rural hospitals, slamming the hospitals that serve Vermonters and under-cutting our efforts to reduce health care costs. Go online to tinyurl.com/InTheGOPbill to read an outline of what's in the Trump-Republican

bill, which describes the cuts to critical programs, including Medicaid, food assistance, green energy and higher education, and tax breaks largely for wealthy Americans. It will mean that even more Vermonters will suffer from homelessness, food insecurity and a lack of health care. Our small state is very dependent on federal funding so there will be even more work needed to address Vermont's many

(See *Hardy*, Page 5A)

Letters to the Editor

Careful how we define schools

I would like to address Steve Heffernan's comment that he supports independent schools. Lest we forget, the term "independent" is replacing the term "Private and Parochial" school. These are schools that accept and reject students based on the school's standards, these standards can be based on income or political or religious philosophy.

Public schools must accept everyone, like the makeup of our country; a melting pot of different ethnic, religious, economic, social, intellectual, (the list goes on) individuals. "Independent" schools can say to their students, unless you do better, we are shipping you out to the public school. Public schools cannot say to a student, unless you shape up, we are sending you to that "independent" school.

I think it is fine for people to want to have schools that they think will serve their children better, but not with public funding. Public funding of private and parochial schools isn't a way to better serve our children, it is a way to let people who don't want their children in public schools, for their own personal reason, to reduce their cost of their child's private education by having the public taxpayers pick up part or all the parents' tab.

Peter Ryersbach
Bristol

Some folks have a blind spot

Bats are said to be blind, which is technically incorrect. They supplement vision with echolocation. Newts can see in the dark. If they lose an eye, they grow one back.

Humans interpret what they see, which is not always, in reality, what's there. The obvious can be distorted by denial or convenience. When a male human says he enjoys "beautiful women, especially the younger ones," and his neighbor is Epstein, a man he admires, we ignore the implications. A life sentence might have been appropriate. Humans don't see clearly.

Alec Lyall
Middlebury

Apartment plan getting bad rap

Three letters from my neighbors have appeared in your pages expressing opposition to the approval of a 32-unit apartment building at the corner of Middle Road North and Court Street/US Route 7 in Middlebury. This letter is to present a different view.

The project received a tentative go-ahead, at the sketch stage, from the town's Development Review Board and will be the subject of a hearing in front of the DRB soon. Mr. Phillip Rosenzweig, the developer, and his local architects (Vermont Integrated Architecture) came to a June 25 community meeting held at the Residence at Otter Creek, to show off their plans and answer questions, and on July 2 did the same for the town's Design Review Committee. The development team have been open about their plans and their reasoning for them and have made modifications based on the input received at these venues. You can see their presentation to the Design Review Committee on-line, at https://tinyurl.com/5n83uuds, and see concerns raised by neighbors.

There are several points I would like to bring out in this letter.

• Some of my neighbors' concerns have sounded like classic NIMBYism* — "yes we need housing, but it should be somewhere else." I think the developers have made a good faith effort to find the best currently available location. And the need for reasonably priced housing is very strong in our community. (* "Not in my back yard")

• I don't see the building as too massive or out of character for our town. As our town grows it will have some city-like features. The

(See *Hopkins letter*, Page 5A)

Letters to the Editor

Sen. Heffernan still needs to explain Mandawi vote

I find it interesting to see Senator Steven Heffernan finally writing to his constituents about the end of the legislative session (*Addison Independent*, July 10, 2025). I am sure I am not alone in noticing the almost complete absence of news and information from him during the legislative session about what issues he was excited about and working on. His broad end-of-the-year summary still doesn't tell us much about what he did.

One thing Senator Heffernan did not tell us about in his article was his no vote on a Senate Resolution condemning the "manner and circumstances" of Moshen Mandawi's arrest in Burlington by immigration police in April. A lot has happened since April, but many may remember that Mandawi had been a resident of the United States for 10

years. He had a green card and was legally here working and on a path toward obtaining his U.S. citizenship. He arrived at a scheduled appointment at the Immigration Office in Colchester expecting to finally take the oath and swear allegiance to the United States. He did, and then ICE police came into the room and arrested him. The bipartisan Resolution in the Vermont Senate condemned the "manner and circumstances" of how the arrest was carried out.

Senate Resolution 13 had widespread support in the Vermont Senate — all 17 Democrats and eight Republicans voted in favor of the Resolution. Senator Heffernan was one of only five Republicans who voted against it. A few months ago, I sent him an email inquiring as to why he broke from the

majority of his own party on this Resolution. When I did not get a reply, I published my letter on Vergennes Front Porch Forum and again asked him, this time publicly, to explain his vote. To date, I am aware of no public explanation from Senator Heffernan for his no vote on Senate Resolution 13.

Senator Heffernan's constituents are entitled to know how and why he votes the way he does on important issues. After my post in Front Porch Forum, others joined in the request for an explanation. So, Senator, I ask again, on behalf of your constituents, why did you vote against Senate Resolution 13 condemning the manner and circumstances of the arrest and detention of Moshen Mandawi?

James Dunn
Vergennes

It's time, again, for us to color outside the lines

When I was in elementary school, I very much wanted to have the approval of, and be seen as special by the adults around me. One path to that end was that on the coloring pages we received, I would trace over the outlines of the picture with thick, heavy lines. It was then easier to color the right way and stay within the lines.

As an ordained Christian minister, I was preparing, for the umpteenth time to preach an Easter sermon when the impact of Jesus' resurrection finally dawned: God boldly and intentionally colored outside the lines. and made a mess of the world as we see it, by turning it upside down. God did not please or gain the approval of most of humanity. God created a new life without the

thick, heavy lines we humans had drawn. Because "What matters is a new creation." (Galatians 6:15)

With chaos and divisiveness increasingly swirling around our nation, and in the initial devastating sense of powerlessness with the passage of the "Big Beautiful Bill," I know it is time, again, to color outside the lines.

Yes, I will continue to write letters and postcards to our members of Congress. Yes, I will continue to make phone calls and join in the organized peaceful protests. And I will continue to say *no* to the artificial yet all too real lines that created hatred, discrimination, racism, violence, hunger, homelessness, and the great divide between rich and poor. I will also dare to color

outside these lines.

I will redouble my commitment, not with my words alone but by how I act. I will act: to love my friend and my "enemy;" to open my hands wider to share my wealth and my food with those who struggle to pay bills and feed their families. I will dare to go beyond the safety of the lines I have drawn and risk the messiness, in my own world, in order to be part of a new world of justice and mercy and liberty for all.

"Let's not get tired of doing good, because in time we'll have a harvest if we don't give up. So then, let's work for the good of all whenever we have the opportunity..." (Galatians 6:9-10)

Patti Welch
Bristol

Hopkins letter

(Continued from Page 4A) building is similar in size to three other apartment buildings in the same area.

- With the requested setback variance, the building will be the same distance from Route 7 as the nearby pediatric dentistry office.

- Twice on each school day, traffic on Middle Road North is quite congested for 20 minutes or so because of parents driving children to and from the Middle School. I am told that parents fear that the school buses and walking or biking to school are unsafe. (Nonetheless many children do take the bus, walk, or cycle to school.) If the buses really are unsafe or unfairly have that reputation — it seems like ACSD should take action to make them safe and/or reassure parents. I am optimistic that the rebuilt crossing at the entry to the Middle School will increase pedestrian and cycling safety. We should be addressing these issues as a community regardless.

- Go to any of the three existing apartment buildings nearby and watch for 15 minutes to see how much traffic they generate on nearby streets. You will quickly get very bored.

- The two empty lots are zoned commercial. If an apartment house is not built there, before too long some other commercial enterprise will be built — a fast-food restaurant, a bank, a store, an office building, a hotel, etc. The real alternative is not for the lot to remain vacant. Each possible use will have its own profile, including traffic impact.

- The town has a zoning map and zoning regulations, all adopted

by a publicly warned community process. If the building meets those requirements, and meets the approval of the Design Review Committee, I don't know how much flexibility the Development Review Board has to deny its approval.

- The mix of apartment sizes and the amount of parking are, in the judgement of the developer, going to make the building profitable. If he is wrong, the building won't always be full. That possibility is not a reason for the town to disapprove the project.

- As a climate hawk, I am delighted to see plans for an increase in residential density near

the center of town, where those who live in the apartments can walk, cycle or take the TVT bus for many trips that otherwise might require a car. I am also pleased that the building will be all electric and so, will not require any fossil fuels for heat.

- I am pleased at the idea that there will be a pleasant restaurant in walking distance from my house.

Please do pay attention to when the Development Review Board hearing is. Come express your concerns but also express your approval if you like the project and what it will do for the community.

Richard Hopkins
Middlebury

Baking for a worthy cause

"Not this again," I muttered, standing in the hot August kitchen, covered in flour, wishing for November. "I'm not going to bake another pie..."

And yet, I will. Because every August, something special happens just off Route 7, right outside of Ferrisburgh. You might've driven past a small, nondescript sign for Rokeby Museum and wondered out loud, "What is that place?"

With no definitive answer. But behind that modest sign is one of the most important, well-documented Underground Railroad sites in the country. Still, this isn't an article about museums or history (though the history of this museum is remarkable). It's about something simpler. Something sweeter. It's about pie.

More specifically, it's about the Ice Cream & Pie Social, an annual tradition that I look forward to

as much as Addison County Fair and Field Days. There's music in the air, kids running around with sticky fingers, raffle prizes, laughter and more pie than seems reasonable. And every single slice is homemade; baked by neighbors, friends, family and folks like me who swore they wouldn't bake again this year... and yet find themselves cracking eggs and rolling dough anyway.

Why? Because this day matters.

In a world that feels heavy; where headlines scream and social media shouts, it's easy to feel like we're all on different teams. But here's what I know: everyone wants to feel safe. Everyone wants their family to be healthy. Everyone wants joy. Connection. A sense of belonging.

That's what the Pie Social gives us. It's not just a fundraiser for the museum (though it helps preserve a vital piece of American history). It's a reminder that community is still alive. That good things still

happen when we gather, share, and celebrate.

So come.* Bring a pie if you want (we'll cheer you on!). Or just bring yourself. Sit under the tent, enjoy some music, eat something delicious and feel — if only for an afternoon — like the world is a little bit lighter.

This year, I'll be baking again. Not because I have to, but because I want to be part of something that feels like home.

Garrett Anderson is a writer, playwright, creative director and dog lover who has been meticulously restoring an 19th century Vermont farmhouse that most people think is haunted. His work blends heart and humor with a deep belief in the quiet wisdom of everyday life. He is the author of "Love, George: A Handbook for Life" and the play "The Last Slice," both inspired by the messy, beautiful moments that make us human.

**Rokeby's Pie and Ice Cream Social will take place Aug. 3 from 1-4 p.m.*

Community Forum

This week's writer is Garrett Anderson of Cornwall.

Ways of Seeing

(Continued from Page 4A) on nests — the opening lines of Ralph Waldo Emerson's "Divinity School Address" seem to follow me around: "In this refulgent summer, it has become a luxury to draw the breath of life. The grass grows, the buds burst ... The air is full of the breath of pine, the balm of Gilead and the new hay."

Young Emerson wrote these words at a difficult time in his life and in the life of our country. Seven years earlier he had lost his new wife to tuberculosis, a condition she was already afflicted with — like so many others — when they were married. Grieving deeply and having resigned from his ministerial position in Boston, Emerson was struggling to find his way anew, taking early, stumbling steps toward becoming the "Emerson" of American history and literature whom we now know. Beyond the personal realm, the economic depression known as the Panic of 1837 had left a legacy of poverty and unemployment throughout Massachusetts and in the nation as a whole. Emerson worried about his future and the future. He was distraught over slavery and the government-sponsored "Indian Removals" that were coming to define U.S. policy. Earlier in the same year that he offered his "Divinity School Address" (1838), Emerson

was urged by a group of Concord reformers to pen an impassioned letter to President Martin Van Buren, denouncing the forced removal of Cherokee Indians from their homelands in Georgia.

"Sir, does the government think that the people of the United States are become savage and mad," he wrote "(and that) the sentiments of love and a good nature (are) wiped clean out?" If you go forward with this illegal and inhumane eviction, Emerson threatened the President, "the name of this nation ... will stink to the world."

Emerson was a man of his time and the phrasing of his letter contained tropes about indigenous peoples that some would find patronizing and even racist today. Compared to the women in his town, Emerson was also painfully slow to get up on the abolitionist horse, although once there, he grabbed the reins and wielded his considerable influence. He agonized about government policies that inflicted harm on fellow humans, especially those with the fewest resources to combat these harms. Privately, he agonized also about how to engage with social reform while remaining a thinker and writer. 1838 was full of struggle. But come July, Emerson rose before a skeptical audience to praise the fecundity of summer heat and bear witness to "the cool night that bathes the

world as a river and prepares (ones) eyes again for the crimson dawn." He spoke of Beauty and of Nature's redemptive powers.

How is it that we can live in two realities at once: the angst and the beauty, the sorrows and the joys? One response I have is that there really is no other way to live. Life itself is riddled with paradox; we might as well embrace it. Easier said than done, of course, and we all must negotiate this truth differently. Some of us (count me among you) are more comfortable with books and quiet conversation than with placards and protests, but we haul ourselves out there anyway, showing up where needed. Others of us need to stay focused on more immediate circles, organizing a casserole brigade for a friend or helping that nephew with his Medicaid paperwork. But amidst the struggles, we can all still pause to take a hint from Emerson, even when his Transcendental optimism may seem dated or naïve. We can look with horror at the latest headlines and then make the choice to step outside, to breath in the air and to embrace, fully, July's refulgence.

Rebecca Kneale Gould is a writer and Associate Professor of Environmental Studies at Middlebury College, focusing on comparative religion and the environmental humanities.

LETTERS?

Email it to:
news@addisonindependent.com



Elderly Services

Recommends Bristol Electronics



“When we embarked on a major renovation to our building, including the installation of 193 solar panels and the addition of a large pavilion at our center, we chose Bristol Electronics. We couldn't be more delighted with the careful, timely work they did and how they partnered with us at every step of the way. They listened to what we needed, promptly got us information, and gave us updates on progress and challenges. Their work was excellent and their customer service was exceptional as well. Even more, their kindness to our staff and participants made them fit right in. We have now cut our electric bill in half through our solar panels, and have a gorgeous new space for our activities, thanks to Bristol Electronics.”

Kristin Bolton
Executive Director, Elderly Services
Middlebury, VT




FREE SITE EVALUATIONS
802-453-2500 | BristolElectronicsVT.com

Elderly Services Inc.

ESI College


Novel or Film, Which is Better?
Wednesdays, August 6 and 13, 9:30-11:30
at Elderly Services 112 Exchange Street, Middlebury, VT

Readers and moviegoers alike often debate whether the book is better than the film from which it comes or vice versa. Transforming one art form into another can be a tricky business as the integrity of both is at stake. Through critical, historical, and social lenses, we will first consider Truman Capote's novella *Breakfast at Tiffany's* and then examine the film by the same name.



With a degree in Psychology from Bates College, **Ron Monroe** spent most of his 44-year career teaching American and English literature and film at the Kingswood Oxford School in Connecticut. Recently retired, he lives in Middlebury.

Register Now!
<https://elderlyservices.org/esi-college-summer-2025/>
or call 802.388-3983



Elderly Services
Supporting Elders and Families since 1981
112 Exchange St., Middlebury, Vermont
802-388-3983
www.elderlyservices.org

Hardy

(Continued from Page 4A) challenges. I will continue to fight for the health and safety of all Vermonters.

On this anniversary of the 2023 and 2024 summer floods, it was scary to have a severe thunderstorm with flash floods hit many parts of the state, including here in the Addison District. I hope you are staying safe and dry — reach out if you need assistance. Thanks for reading and take care.

Email Sen. Hardy at rhardy@leg.state.vt.us.

ADDISON COUNTY

Obituaries

Louise Mary Patterson, 73, longtime Addison County resident

LITTLE RIVER, S.C. — Louise Mary Patterson passed away June 26, 2025, in Loris, S.C., after years of declining health.

She was born May 9, 1952, in Middlebury, Vt., the first of three children to Ralph Hayes Sr. and Margaret Devoid. She married the love of her life, Robert Patterson on Oct. 15, 1977, at St. Mary's Church in Middlebury. She attended high school in Middlebury and college

in Bennington. She worked at Porter Medical Center for over 40 years and at Champlain Valley Equipment briefly before moving to Little River, S.C. She enjoyed traveling all over the United States and internationally until her health declined.

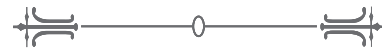
Survivors include her husband, Bob; sister-in-law Judy Hayes and special niece and nephew Allison and Brian; brother-in-law Willard (Donna) Patterson; sisters-in-law,

Patricia Shorkey and Wanda (Ken) McGraw; many nieces, nephews, great-grand-nieces and nephews and cousins.

She was predeceased by her parents and brothers Ralph Jr. and Richard.

Her funeral was held Monday, July 14, 2025, at St. Mary's Church in Middlebury with burial in the West Cemetery in Salisbury.

Online condolences at www.sandersonfuneralservice.com.



Sheila Grimes, 59, of Addison

ADDISON — Sheila Marie Grimes completed her journey home on July 11, 2025, at the age of 59. In her final moments, she was surrounded by the strength and love that defined her life.

Born the youngest daughter of Raymond "Pete" Bigelow and Shirley (Mitchell) Bigelow, Sheila faced the loss of her father at a young age. When her mother married John Collette, he became a cherished and steady presence in her life, along with four stepsiblings, who became family.

In 1988, Sheila married the love of her life, Brett Grimes. Together, they built a life rich with love, laughter, dancing, cooking, vacationing, quiet evenings, and lively celebrations with friends and family. With Brett's unwavering support, Sheila was able to stay at home to raise their daughter full time. She had a remarkable gift for making everyday moments special for Brett and Kara — finding joy in the simple acts of daily life, leaving heartfelt notes, preparing lunches, and tending to their home with devotion.

In 2016, Sheila became a grandmother, bringing a renewed sense of purpose and joy. Her grandson, Michael, was the light of her life — the reason she fought so hard for so long. Being his Nani was the title she treasured



SHEILA GRIMES

most, and her bond with him was nothing short of extraordinary.

In 2017, after persistently advocating for herself, Sheila was diagnosed with stage IV ovarian cancer — a reality she met with quiet strength and fierce resistance.

In her final days, Sheila was surrounded by a few deeply trusted loved ones, including longtime family friend Beth Jackman. We remain deeply grateful for Beth's comfort, strength, and wisdom during this time — qualities that mirrored the calm and grace Sheila herself carried throughout her life.

Sheila's unwavering grace, strength, and care were a steady presence to all who knew her.

Sheila is survived by her husband, Brett Grimes; her daughter, Kara Marszalkowski; her son-in-law, Adam; and her grandson, Michael. She is also survived by her sisters, Linda Kittredge (Mike), Kally Langlais, and Lori Moulton (Lee); her stepsiblings, Bridget Kipp (John), Michael Collette, Dennis Collette, and Darren Collette; her mother-in-law, Thelma Grimes; her siblings-in-law, Donald Grimes Jr. (Kay), Robin Epperson (Chip), and Vaughn Grimes; and many wonderful nieces, nephews, and cousins.

She was predeceased by her father, Raymond Bigelow; her mother, Shirley (Mitchell) Collette; her beloved father figure, John Collette; her niece, Jennifer Moulton; and her father-in-law, Donald Grimes Sr.

Honoring Sheila's wishes, there will be no formal celebration. In lieu of flowers, donations are encouraged to be sent to Addison County Home Health and Hospice, Inc. at PO Box 754, Middlebury, VT 05753, or online at www.achhh.org.

In Sheila's memory, may we reach out to those we care for, with purpose — to listen attentively and provide support that comes from selfless care rather than personal fulfillment.

Irene R. Steady, 75, of Ferrisburgh

FERRISBURGH — Irene R. Steady, lovingly known as Mama Gee and Sister, of Ferrisburgh, Vt., passed away peacefully on March 23, 2025, at the age of 75. She was surrounded by loved ones at the hospital in Mobile, Ala.

Born on Dec. 13, 1949, in North Ferrisburgh, Vt., Irene was the beloved daughter of Randall and Pauline (Muzzy) Steady.

Irene's unwavering faith in God and deep connection to her church were the foundation of her life. Her spiritual devotion guided her actions and inspired all who knew her.

She had a profound love for the outdoors, gardening, socializing, and traveling. Irene embraced life with open arms — always seizing the moment and living each day with joy, gratitude, and a contagious enthusiasm.

Devoted to her community, Irene was actively involved in local charities and passionate about caring for the elderly and disabled. She found deep purpose in serving others — caring lovingly for her



IRENE R. STEADY

parents, supporting her brother Rodney and Stella, and extending her kindness to anyone less fortunate.

Among her greatest joys was becoming a grandmother and great-grandmother — roles she cherished with all her heart.

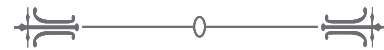
Irene is survived by her sister, Sharon Pryor (Roger); brothers,

Rodney Steady and Cory Steady (Michele); and sister-in-law, Robin Steady. She is also survived by her former husband, Charles Gebo (Sheila); her daughters, Angela Patnode (David) and Rebekah Gebo (Jackie); and her son, Charles Gebo (Jennifer).

Irene also leaves behind her beloved grandchildren Brady Poquette (Nathalie), Brianna Bachand (Travis), Hunter and Riley Sangiovanni, Nathan Patnode, and Shelby Carleton; great-grandchildren Chandler (Daneil, Iris, Owden) and Casey Poquette (Ben), and Declan Carleton, along with many loving nieces and nephews.

She was predeceased by her parents, Randall and Pauline Steady; her brother, Randy Steady; and her grandson, Casey Poquette.

A celebration of Irene's life will be held on Saturday, Aug. 9, at 11 a.m., at Cross Life Church in Ferrisburgh, Vt. A gathering will follow the service to honor and remember her beautiful life.



Joseph E. Jackson Sr., 91, of New Haven

NEW HAVEN — Joseph E. Jackson Sr., 91, of New Haven, passed into eternity on July 12, 2025, with his children by his side.

Joseph was born on July 3, 1934, in Upper Darby, Pa. He married the love of his life, Ella (Wood) Jackson, in 1953 and together they raised two wonderful children, JoAnn Brewer and Joseph E. Jackson III.

Joseph served in the U.S. Air Force as an aircraft reciprocating engine mechanic and was a Korean War Veteran. His passing has left a void in the hearts of his family, friends, and many more whose lives were touched by him.

His journey on this earth was one marked by love, generosity, and unwavering faith in God. Joseph was a devout Catholic his whole life and a dedicated member of St. Mary's Catholic Church.

He is survived by his children, JoAnn Brewer (Larry) and Joseph Jackson III (Milly), seven grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren, and numerous nieces and nephews.

A memorial service in his honor will be held at 10 a.m., Saturday, July 19, at St. Mary's in Middlebury.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Addison Home Health and Hospice.



JOSEPH E. JACKSON SR.

births

- To Megan Thompson and Edward Ennenga of Bristol, July 4, a girl, **Eleanor Maye Ennenga**, 7.2 lbs., sister to Sylas, granddaughter of Deb and Bear Thompson and Edward A. Ennenga, and niece to Kristie and Jay Goulding.

ADDISON COUNTY

School Briefs

Three local students were among those selected for the dean's list at Roger Williams University in Bristol, R.I.: **Anna Lee** of Brandon, **Lewis Suchoone** of Shoreham and **Talia Cronholm** of Weybridge. Full-time students who complete 12 or more credits per semester and earn a GPA of 3.4 or higher are placed on the list.

With a GPA of at least 3.4, **Ethan Gebo** of Ferrisburgh has been named to the dean's list at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. Gebo is a Computer Engineering major.

FUNERAL MEMORIAL SERVICE CREMATION PRE-PLANNING SERVICES

BROWN-McCLAY FUNERAL HOMES

BRISTOL 802-453-2301 VERGENNES 802-877-3321

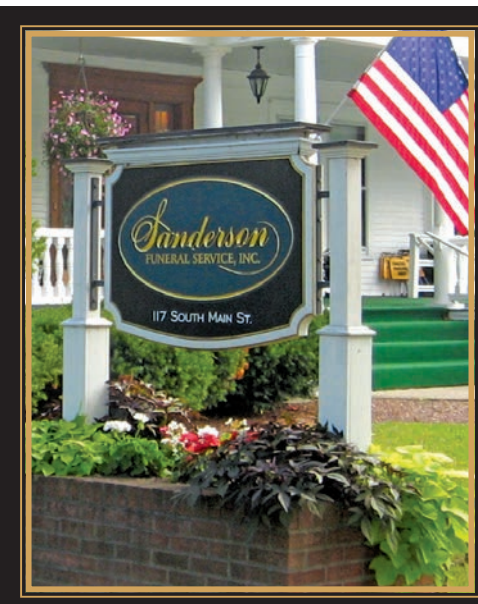
brownmcclayfuneralhomes.com

Popular Pioneer Auctions

We Specialize In Selling Estate and Personal Property

(802)353-8825

ThePopularPioneer.com



Cremation with a Service

A Celebration of Life, for those left behind, helps those family members and friends with closure. Even though your loved one says "I just want to be cremated — no funeral," they forget the Celebration of Life service is not for them, but for the ones left behind. A service is a healthy way to say good-bye.

Sanderson-Ducharme Funeral Home
117 South Main St. Middlebury, VT
802-388-2311
sandersonfuneralservice.com

Wine

(Continued from Page 3A)

bars and shops and tasting rooms in her teens. But her move into winemaking truly began with internships in Healdsburg, Calif. The internships at the Porter Creek and Flowers wineries started her on the winemaking journey.

"That internship opened the biggest, widest door for me," Carrillo said.

That journey eventually led to an association with La Garagista through 2019. She began harvesting her own grapes in Hinesburg in 2020.

"La Garagista is the winery that put Vermont on the map," she said. "I was their assistant winemaker for many years. I basically did everything in the cellar and the vineyard, and I learned a lot."

In 2018 she started to make her own products and "as time went on I began to appreciate and understand I could make wine. And I loved it and wanted to do my own thing."

She began growing her own grapes in Hinesburg, and in 2021 she founded La Montañuela. Also, with financial help from her parents, Carrillo bought an 8.78-acre parcel of land on Route 17 in New Haven in 2022 and she and D'Aversa planted 400 vines and fruit trees there.

D'Aversa grew up in rural New Jersey and moved to Burlington, in part because his brother graduated from UVM. Pickup soccer helped him fit in. "I immediately made a lot of good friends through soccer and never looked back," he said.

He lived in Chittenden County and built his woodworking business in Richmond. They lived in Monkton until more recently finding a place within walking distance of 10 Green Street.

The move to Green Street in fact was triggered in part by floods that struck D'Aversa's Richmond shop twice in 2023. The first was severe, and the second just confirmed his belief the site was not viable.

"I obviously needed to move," he said.

While casting about for a new location, D'Aversa circled through Vergennes and was "pleasantly surprised" by the atmosphere — and the building for rent.

It was too big for just his shop, and D'Aversa said he initially gave up on leasing it.

But a seed was planted.

"We were like, OK, maybe we can work together," Carrillo said. "And maybe we can afford the rent if we do something together."

They went back to Vergennes and signed a deal.

Thus, they said the building

essentially defined their joint venture, although Carrillo still makes her wine in Hinesburg because there wasn't quite enough space for the shop, the wine bar and her winery.

"The idea kind of formed because of the space and the building itself, and the pleasant surprise of Vergennes growing again," D'Aversa said. "The ideas just kept flowing."

They say both Green Street ventures are doing well, and D'Aversa and Carrillo still have their eyes on their 8.78 acres in New Haven.

"The goal from the beginning has always been to plant vines and have a winery and a home there," Carrillo said.

D'Aversa said that could happen in five years, or sooner with outside financing.

"We're looking to take La Montañuela to the next step," he said. "I have my dream shop. We share this wine bar. Our next move is to get a winery on the land, to level up. We want to be makers, first and foremost."

10 Green Street will feature a DJ on Friday, July 18. Learn more about each of these businesses at 10greenstvt.com, Daversafurniture.com, and lamontanuela.com.

Obituary Guidelines

The Independent will publish paid obituaries and free notices of passing. Paid obituaries cost 25 cents per word and will be published, as submitted, on the date of the family's choosing. For those who do not wish to purchase an obituary, the Independent offers a free notice of passing up to 100 words, subject to editing by our news department. Photos (optional) with either paid obituaries or free notices cost \$10 per photo. Obituaries may be emailed to obits@addisonindependent.com.

Submissions must be received by 11 a.m. on Wednesday for publication in the Thursday paper. Email obits@addisonindependent.com or call 802-388-4944 for more information.

Chimney Point to host historic timepiece day

ADDISON—It's time to learn about your historic clock or pocket watch. On Sunday, July 20, 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. This program is included in the admission to the site— \$6 for adults, free for children under 15.



Why wait? Call us today

You don't have to live with pain or limited mobility!

A 10-minute complimentary phone consultation with one of our physical therapists could be all it takes to get you started on a course of improvement. Our licensed professionals offer timely evaluations and immediate support!

Services include but are not limited to:

- Muscle strengthening following injury or surgery.
- Assistance with pain.
- Gait and balance training.
- Motor re-education for patients with neurological deficits.
- Vestibular rehabilitation therapy for patients living with vertigo or dizziness.
- Support for patients with Parkinson's disease.



New Haven | 254 Ethan Allen Highway
(802) 388-7259

AddisonCountyTherapies.org

Vergennes | 75 Meigs Road
(802) 877- 6991

Energy Plan

(Continued from Page 1A)

Vermont utilities on a path to deliver 100% renewable electricity by 2035. Lawmakers overrode Gov. Phil Scott's veto to make H.289 become law.

In addition to advising the county's 23 municipalities on energy matters, the draft plan includes many stats that document energy use in our area, and how it could be altered to meet the state's goal of pivoting from fossil fuels.

Jolyon Larson is ACRPC's energy planner. The county's energy plan update will ultimately include public input and buy-in from ACRPC's Energy Committee, before the commission puts it to bed in December. Many of the stats in the plan come from Efficiency Vermont, the Vermont Public Service Department and Green Mountain Power.

"I want to see the plan actionable, usable by community members seeking to use it as guidance for the types of energy transitions we'd like to see in the region, and for it to be satisfactory from a regulatory perspective," Larson said.

ACRPC developed the county's first energy plan in 1980. The plan noted that the county imported an estimated \$16 million more in energy than it produced in 1977. The policies in that plan expressed concern about the future location of large-scale electric generation and transmission facilities in the region and recommended the concentration of new residential development near existing employment centers to discourage sprawl and reduce gasoline consumption. The commission updated its energy plan in 1994, 2005, 2011 and 2018.

The draft plan emphasizes three themes: Pursuing a "just energy transition," improving the county's climate change resilience, and enhancing the region's energy security.

Advocating a just energy transition means making sure people of all economic levels can convert to renewables, according to the draft plan.

Efficiency Vermont conducted an "energy burden" study in 2023, defining burden as "the proportion of household income spent on energy costs, for our communities."

INFORMATIVE STATS
That study revealed energy burden rates in Addison County ranging from 6.7% of household income in Monkton to 12.8% in Leicester.

Addison County residents live with an energy burden equal to about 10% of the median income on average, reflecting around \$7,300 in household annual energy expenses, according to the study.

Of Addison County household average energy costs, nearly half (45%) is spent on transportation, followed by heating (33%) and electricity expenses (22%). Nationally, an energy burden greater than 6% is considered high and is correlated with a "greater risk

for respiratory diseases, increased stress and economic hardship, and difficulty in moving out of poverty," according to data mined by Larson.

The plan states, "as we transition to a distributed renewable energy future, Vermont must recognize its responsibility to contribute equitably to energy generation.

"This means embracing local, renewable energy systems that not only reduce reliance on out-of-state power but also ensure that the benefits and challenges of energy generation are shared more fairly. By taking on this responsibility, Vermont can lead by example, demonstrating how states can contribute to a more just and sustainable energy system."

But resources are likely to be in shorter supply.

The county plan update coincides with seismic changes in the federal government's energy policies. President Donald Trump, with a compliant Republican majority in Congress, is prioritizing fossil fuels and deregulation, while rolling back renewable energy policies.

It should be noted that the administration has also made sweeping cuts to FEMA, a move that's come under intense scrutiny after recent flooding in Texas killed at least 120

people.

The U.S. Climate Vulnerability Index ranks Vermont as the 7th most vulnerable state to climate change influenced by extreme weather events. And Addison County specifically ranks in the 87th percentile nationally in vulnerability to extreme weather events, according to the plan.

"Temperatures in Vermont have risen about 3 degrees F since the beginning of the 20th century and will continue to increase," the energy plan reads.

All of this means individual states — and counties — will face dwindling federal support during the next three years in their efforts to battle climate change and recover from its effects.

"It's not only the ideological signaling from the federal government, it's also the tangible grant rewards that support crucial programs," Larson said. "It's the production tax credit, for example, being phased out for solar (projects). Research has revealed that renewable energy development in this country often declines in years in which the production tax credit goes down."

Fortunately, according to Larson, society is nearing a tipping point "the economics of renewables is becoming more favorable as the technology has progressed," he continued. "Consequently, falloffs in the production tax credit might be less impactful than they were."

RECOMMENDATIONS

It should be emphasized that the county's energy plan is advisory. Communities and stakeholders can choose to take the recommendations on how to reduce energy costs and associated environmental impacts.

ACRPC officials are hoping the plan is persuasive. Among the plan's draft recommendations:

- Educate consumers regarding efficiency and energy conservation.
- Expand targeted ACRPC energy services for municipalities.
- Demonstrate leadership by promoting energy efficiency in the region's municipal buildings.
- Encourage and promote local and sustainably harvested wood and efficient wood heating.
- Encourage and support residents' efforts to weatherize their homes.
- Encourage development to optimize design features and energy systems that conserve energy and use renewable sources.
- Support energy conservation efforts and the efficient use of energy by installing efficient electric equipment.
- Promote energy efficiency in all buildings, including retrofits and new construction.
- Continue to support public transportation and carpooling.

While the task looks daunting, Addison County has already made tremendous strides in reaching the state's "90% by 2050" goal for renewables, according to Larson. The county is now generating 188,507 MW hours of electricity through renewable sources, which is just 7,000 MW hours short of fulfilling its part of the state's 2050 renewable energy goal, according to the draft report.

WHAT ABOUT WIND?

Where is there more room for more progress? Larson was emphatic: Wind power.

"I know that can be a sticking point among some people," he said, noting objections to the aesthetic of turbines. "But I think wind energy is going to play a vital role in the future of the region and the state. We'd want to site it in smart ways ... These viewscapes are obviously very important, and we don't want to engage in development that undermines our natural or agricultural systems."

At the same time, Larson touted the recent success of agrivoltaics — the coexistence of farming and solar energy infrastructure on the same parcel.

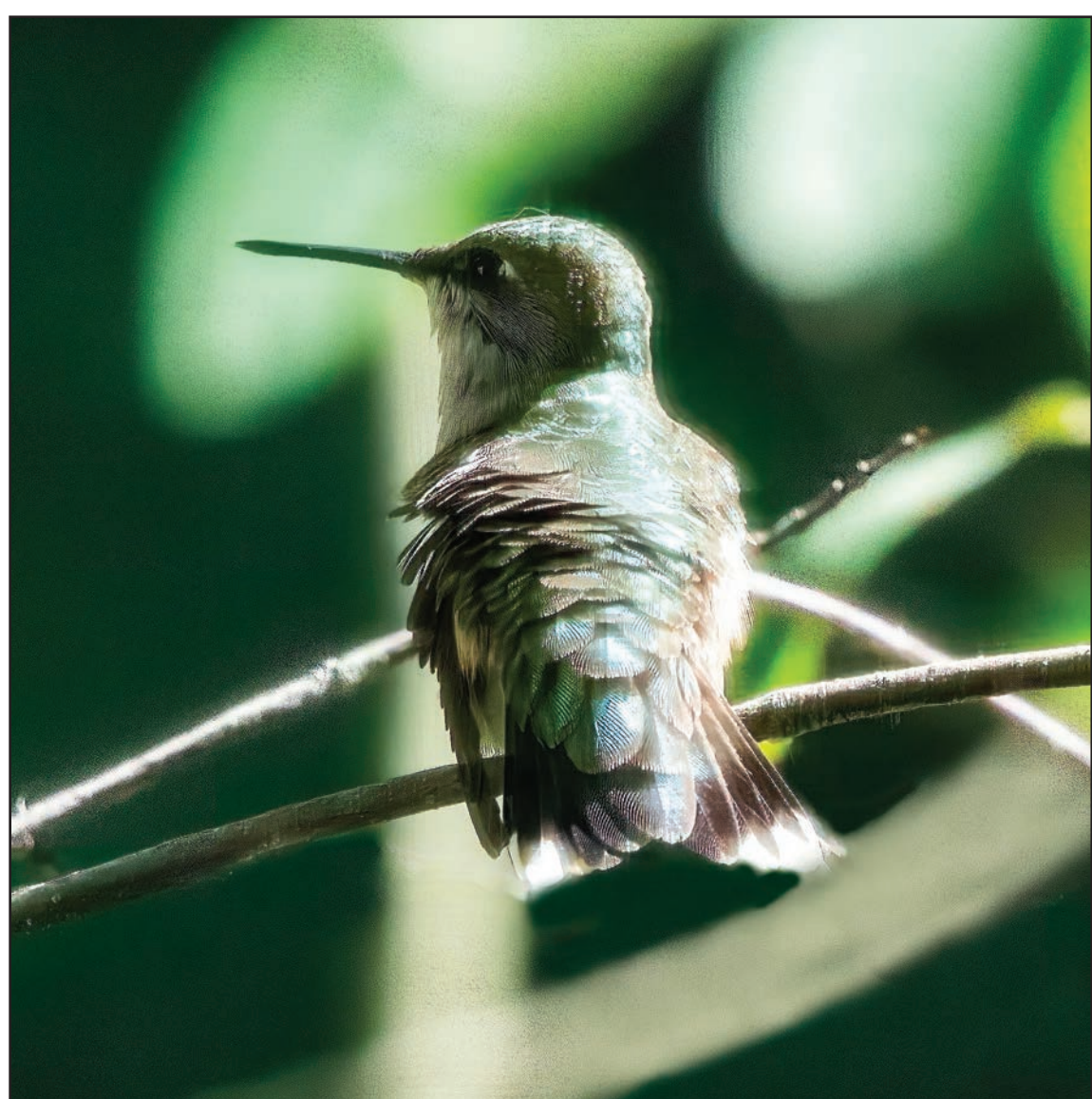
"It's a form of rural economic development," Larson said.

Anyone wishing to contribute comments to influence the county's energy plan should email them to Larson at jlaron@acrpc.org. Check out acrpc.org for more information.

John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.



JOLYON LARSON



Elusive and emerald

A FEMALE HUMMINGBIRD rests in a tree after visiting a feeder in Middlebury recently. It was a rare treat to see one sit still.

Photo by Dottie Nelson

Hunter education courses offered statewide

MONTPELIER — Vermont's volunteer hunter education instructors are now holding a limited number of courses throughout the state. The course is designed for those who would like to go hunting this fall but have never taken a hunter education course. A person must pass the basic hunter education course before they can purchase their first hunting license.

Taught by volunteer instructors, courses available in basic hunter education, bowhunter education, trapper education, and combination hunter-bowhunter education are listed on Fish and Wildlife's

website, vtfishandwildlife.com.

If you don't see a class in your area listed yet, continue watching the website or call the Hunter Education Program office for more information at 802-828-1193. The last classes of the year are generally held in early October.

In-person courses are free of charge and available for anyone to take. The course material and written exams are generally at a 12-year-old reading and maturity level. Students in every class type are required to take an in-person written exam and display responsibility and maturity. Parents are encouraged to talk

to the instructor before the class if there are any concerns about whether their child will pass the class.

Students may take a free online-only certification course if they are 18 years old and a resident of Vermont.

The courses will be listed as they become available on Vermont Fish and Wildlife's website. On the Home page, click on Hunt and then Hunter Education and Find a Certified Course.

A Vermont hunter education card entitles you to hunt in all 50 states, as well as some international locations.

You've got questions, Jen's got the answers!

Business you can trust, and quality you can count on!

Come experience the difference

JEN DOANE
802-388-2500 | M- F 7:30-5, Sat. 8-1
1396 Rte 7 South | Middlebury, VT
distinctivepaintandinteriors.com
Located next to 7 South Sandwich Company

Contact Your U.S. Senators

 Sen. Bernie Sanders 1-800-339-9834 SRC-2 United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510 www.sanders.senate.gov	 Sen. Peter Welch 1-800-642-3193 124 Russell Senate Office Bldg. Washington, D.C. 20510 https://www.welch.senate.gov/ email-peter/	 U.S. Congressman Rep. Becca Balint 1-888-293-9874 1510 Longworth House Office Bldg Washington, DC 20515 BalintPress@mail.house.gov
---	--	---

When we read the obituaries of our community members or those with ties to the region, we often read of the joy brought to their lives by their beloved pets. We are grateful to the families who choose Homeward Bound as the beneficiary of gifts made in memory of their loved ones.

Thank you

Homeward Bound
Addison County's Humane Society

Painting by Erin Daigle

Celebrating 95 years | 1930-2025

CLEGG'S MEMORIALS

Family owned and operated
Addison County's ONLY full service monument company

EXPERIENCE | QUALITY | VALUE
If you want a monument - get it from a monument dealer!

WE DO OUR OWN
Drafting • Lettering • Sandblast
Cleaning • Foundations
Setting • Restoration

57 Main St., New Haven | 802-453-3433
cleggsnewhaven@yahoo.com

High winds

(Continued from Page 1A)

appears to have a target on it. This past Thursday's deluge led to road closures, downed trees and powerlines, and severe damage to homes and buildings across the county. Power outages were reported for about an hour that evening around dinnertime. Middlebury also reported a widespread power outage for about an hour on Friday morning.

Very high winds and hail at the Middlebury College baseball field caused the suspension of an American Legion baseball game. Water came down so hard that it filled up a portion of the Hannaford supermarket parking lot for a little while.

According to the National Weather Service, 4.32 inches of rain had fallen by 6:30 p.m. in New Haven, leading to the closure of Field Days Road from Route 17 to Twitchell Hill Road. Multiple trees were also downed on Route 125 while a leak of hydraulic fluid near Middlebury College saw access to the state highway temporarily restricted.

The Middlebury Fire Department was out all night in a what Fire Chief David Shaw described as a "marathon effort" to respond to calls and ensure the safety of Addison County residents.

"We responded to 10 emergencies in 10 hours while having a swift water rescue team on standby for the state of Vermont," Shaw said. "But we were able to handle every emergency that came in."

Along with attending to tangled powerlines and trees fallen on houses, Shaw said the fire department responded to two simultaneous lightning strikes on two different houses. The chief said the resulting fires caused severe damages to one house and minor damages to the other.

Vergennes and Salisbury fire departments were also helping out with calls around Middlebury, including when high winds ripped off part of the roof at Middlebury

Key rough weather resources

- For state road closure information, visit newengland511.org or follow @511VT on X.
- You can sign up for alerts from the state at vtalert.gov.
- Find power outage information at vtoutages.org.
- Visit disasterrecovery.vermont.gov for a list of state resources and guidance about flooding, including returning home after a flood, cleaning up, and dealing with mold.

Union High School. Firefighters were able to put the roof back into place early Friday morning.

MUHS ROOF DAMAGE

A relatively brief but immensely powerful rainstorm unleashed its fury on the MUHS campus around 6 p.m. on Thursday. It peeled back a 4,000-square-foot section the MUHS roof above the school auditorium while tossing around trees, flattening the visitors' dugout on the baseball field, ripping the cupola off the football field concession stand and blowing a 2,000-pound baseball diamond backstop all the way past the adjacent Patricia Hannaford Career Center.

Addison Central School District officials and insurance agents on Friday were on site taking stock in the storm damage.

Emily Blistein, ACSD's director of communications and engagement, described Thursday's cataclysm in a Friday morning email to district board members.

"A brief burst of storm blew wind from the north, which caused a section on the north side of the MUHS roof to peel back. This resulted in some water damage to the MUHS boys' locker room. There was some water in the hallways of the G-wing, which includes the kitchen and auditorium. At present, the kitchen, auditorium, and band



TREES FELL ONTO this Danyow Road home in Middlebury during the July 10 storm; no one was injured. There were other homes in the area that also saw damage.

Photo by Susan James

room themselves appeared to be undamaged. The roof over the gym also appears intact."

Members of the Middlebury and Vergennes fire departments arrived after the storm to tack the roof back down and install a tarp to mitigate any immediate damage, according to Blistein.

"We are grateful to additional community responders, including Vermont Roofing Company, Silver Maple Construction, Jim Danyow of Champlain Construction, and our own ACSD custodians," she said.

Also putting in long hours have been ACSD Facilities Director Bruce MacIntire, MUHS Principal Caitlin Steele and MUHS Athletic Director Sean Farrell.

On Friday, MacIntire said the roof damage was the most significant casualty of Thursday's storm. Based on officials' initial survey of the damage, the roof fix could either involve:

- Installing a membrane over the damaged portion, which could cost in the "10s of thousands" of dollars, according to MacIntire.
- A re-roofing of the damaged portion, if the roof's underpinnings are too damaged/waterlogged to

be salvaged. A re-roofing job would likely be a seven-figures repair job, MacIntire said.

While Thursday's storm brought bad tidings, there were some silver linings, MacIntire acknowledged.

First, no one was hurt; that portion of the MUHS building was unoccupied at the time of the storm. And the fact that it occurred during summer break bodes well for repairs to be finished before students return.

Second, the roof damage didn't occur over the MUHS gym, which could have been put out of commission by flood damage.

Third, water damage was confined to building areas with little or no furniture, and no computer equipment. MacIntire said there are plenty of saturated and collapsed ceiling tiles, but fortunately no critical infrastructure underneath.

And some more good news: It looks like the vast majority of repairs will be covered through

the ACSD's insurance. The district also carries a contingency fund, and the state of Vermont offers 30% reimbursement on emergency repairs up to \$300,000, according to MacIntire.

"Taxpayers won't feel any immediate pinch," he said, though the insurance settlement will likely result in higher insurance rates down the line.

As the storm moved in, the Vergennes Fire Department staged resources between 4:30 and 9:30 p.m., according to a Facebook post. VFD staffed a 10-member swiftwater rescue team at the station, ready to respond to emergencies both locally and across the state as needed.

In answering a mutual aid request from Middlebury, VFD provided its tower truck to assist at four separate incidents within the town — not just at MUHS. And the department at the same time maintained coverage within the

city of Vergennes with personnel on standby.

"VFD is proud to maintain a roster of 40 active members, as well as additional specialized personnel on our technical rescue team," the Facebook post said. "This depth of staffing provides us the flexibility and capability to support our community, mutual aid partners, and the state — simultaneously."

"In today's world, a fully staffed volunteer fire department is a rare thing. We don't take that lightly. We're proud of it—and we're proud to serve."

The Middlebury fire chief said he's grateful for the help of neighboring fire departments, and that these mutual aid agreements are what keep Vermonters safe and communities strong.

"Again, we were pushed to the limit this July, and again, we were able to answer each call we had," Shaw said.

"We take great pride in that."



VERGENNES FIREFIGHTERS USING the department's tower truck responded to Middlebury Union High School this past Thursday evening to help secure a portion of the roof that was blown off by high winds.

Photo courtesy of Vergennes Fire Department



VERGENNES GRAND SENIOR LIVING

NOW OPEN



Vergennes Grand Senior Living is now welcoming residents!

Enjoy a vibrant lifestyle in downtown Vergennes, with enriching activities, stunning Adirondack views from our Grand Dining Room, and a warm, welcoming community.



Scan to Learn More About Your New Home!

34 North Street, Vergennes, VT
(802) 877-3562 | www.VergennesGrand.com

Life is GRAND Here

Independent Living | Assisted Living | Memory Care 

Wild ALASKAN SALMON

MIDDLEBURY FALL STOCK UP



Stock up on essential nutrients like heart-healthy protein, B vitamins, selenium, potassium, and omega-3s & 6s with a case of clean, natural and delicious wild Alaskan sockeye! Caught this year in the pristine waters of Bristol Bay by our small fleet of devoted fishermen - From our Nets, to Your Table!



PREORDER BY SEPTEMBER 7th

ORDER NOW

WWW.PRIDEOFBRISTOLBAY.COM



SALMON PICKUP SUN, OCT 5TH THE MAD TACO, 3 MILL ST, MIDDLEBURY 8AM-11AM

WILD CAUGHT / FISHERMAN DIRECT / PREMIUM QUALITY SOCKEYE

HOT WEATHER & HOT DEALS



2023 CHEVROLET SILVERADO
Crew Cab, 4X4, 5.3 V8, Loaded, Only 29k miles
\$36,995



2020 TOYOTA SIENNA
XLE, AWD, Leather, Loaded, 64k miles
\$34,995



2019 FORD RANGER
Crew, XL, 4X4, 4cyl turbo, 102k miles
\$21,995



2018 TOYOTA RAV4
XLE, AWD, Loaded, 116k miles
\$18,995



2010 TOYOTA TACOMA
Crew, TRD, 4X4, V6, longbox, 196k miles
\$12,995



WIMETT TRADING COMPANY

USED CARS AND TRUCKS
802 465 4688

AFFORDABLE, SAFE & RELIABLE USED CARS AND TRUCKS

We also buy cars, locate specialty orders & consider consignments
Call Dave for an appointment

Wimett Trading Company
at the Big White Barn in Leicester
Michael Jackman, 53 Years Experience
David Wimett, 40 Years Experience
Mark Grant, 12 Years Experience

802-465-4688

2668 Route 7 • Leicester, VT 05733 • wimetttradingco@gmail.com



Porter officers are wary of impending Medicaid cuts

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — Porter Medical Center officials right now are mainly concerned with getting state approval for a fiscal year 2026 budget (see related story) for Addison County's health care hub, but they're also keeping an eye toward the institution's long-term financial future.

And they're seeing the potential for significant pitfalls down the road.

In addition to anxiety about the general solvency of a Vermont health care system saddled with

rising costs, a major insurance carrier on the brink of insolvency and an aging state population, Porter officials must also contend with the prospect of shrinking reimbursement through the federal Medicaid program.

During FY'24, Porter Medical Center — which includes Porter Hospital, Helen Porter Rehabilitation & Nursing and a dozen affiliated doctors practices — received \$19.5 million in Medicaid revenue, according to Porter CFO Scott Comeau. He said that's around the same

Medicaid revenue stream Porter is poised to collect this fiscal year, which ends Sept. 30.

But going forward, hospitals will confront Medicaid reductions outlined in President Trump's "One Big Beautiful Bill Act," a blueprint for GOP-backed spending priorities during the next decade.

The new federal reconciliation law trims around \$1 trillion from Medicaid, a federal health care subsidy for the poorest Americans. The new law will accomplish this through a combination of

funding reductions, greater working mandates for recipients, and changes in the way states are able to bankroll their Medicaid programs through provider taxes and state-directed payments, according to the American Hospital Association.

The bottom line, according to U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-Vt., is that the "Big Beautiful Bill" will "throw nearly 17 million Americans off the health care they have now."

He predicted around 45,000 additional Vermonters will lose

health care coverage, raising the state's uninsured rate from the current 3.3% to 6%.

"At a time when our current health care system is broken, dysfunctional and cruel — 85

million today are uninsured or underinsured — this bill will make a horrible situation even worse," Sanders told his colleagues on July 9.

(See Cuts, Page 11A)

Porter

(Continued from Page 1A)

on temporary staffing, particularly travelers (per diem, temporary employees). These efforts are part of our broader commitment to financial sustainability."

PMC's FY26 budget request can be found in its entirety at tinyurl.com/3eddwp4j. Among other things, it reflects an FY26 operating margin of 6.89%, up from the current 4.68%. Operating margin represents the percentage of revenue remaining after deducting operating expenses directly related to patient care and other core hospital activities.

Officials said the higher operating margin forecast is based on expectations of a higher average daily census; surgical/operating room cases and ancillary services such as anesthesia and recovery are expected to outperform both the FY25 budget and projections; and a reduction in the traveler FTEs expected to result in a \$2.9M salary expense savings. Addison County's hospital has made strides in recent years to recruit and retain local talent and thus avoid having to temporarily fill vacancies with more costly traveling health care professionals.

PMC includes the county's hospital, Helen Porter Rehabilitation & Nursing and around a dozen affiliated provider practices.

Another step PMC officials have

taken to cut labor costs: Sharing several leadership posts with Elizabethtown (N.Y.) Community Hospital. The two hospitals currently share a president, chief medical officer, chief financial officer, pharmacy director, lab director, case management/ utilization management supervisor, and human resources director.

Both Porter and Elizabethtown are part of the UVM Healthcare Network.

The proposed Porter FY26 budget envisioned enhance revenues based on, among other things, a:

- 4% bump in Emergency Department visits, to a total of 14,000.
- 14% increase in OR cases, to a total of 2,697.
- 17% increase in MRIs, for a total of 2,067
- 15% bump in CT scans, for a total of 9,604.
- 11% surge in billed lab tests, for a total of 25,587.

Average daily census:

- 20% increase in average daily census (to 14) for acute inpatient care budgeted for FY25, and a 13% bump in birthing center census (from 1.6 to 1.8).

Why are Porter officials banking on doing more business next year?

The census forecast is based on "better collaboration and efficiency across UVM Health Network," while the anticipated surge in

surgical/OR cases is "driven by improved OR utilization, including a 14.2% increase in surgeries in General Surgery, OBGYN and Orthopedics, helping to better meet the needs of the community," reads PMC's FY29 budget narrative.

"This budget strengthens our ability to modernize care delivery, invest in critical infrastructure and recruit and retain top talent — all essential to meeting the evolving needs of our community," reads the narrative. "By working in collaboration within UVM Health Network to improve operational efficiency and implement strategic cost-containment efforts — such as administrative streamlining and thoughtful staffing changes — we are not only meeting regulatory requirements but also freeing up resources to reinvest in what matters most: advancing care and improving the health of our patients and community."

Porter's FY26 expense total is around \$3 million more than was budgeted for this year.

"(The increase) reflects the increased costs in medical and surgical supplies and pharmaceuticals, driven by higher patient volumes as well as an increase in the provider tax. In addition, depreciation is expected to increase due to new capital assets," reads the budget narrative.

While PMC is one of the most solvent hospitals in the state, not

all the FY26 projections are good.

Among other things, they call for:

- Net income loss from operations of \$9.7 million, or 6.9%. That's up from 4.6% last year. Like many nursing homes, Helen Porter continues to face financial headwinds related to low federal Medicare reimbursement rates.
- "Bad debt" budgeted at just over 2% of Gross Patient Service Revenue, which is slightly higher than FY25 projections.

"We believe this slight increase is reasonable based on past trends, ongoing use of high-deductible health plans and current economic uncertainty," the budget narrative reads.

Officials also pointed to health care pitfalls in the recently enacted federal budget reconciliation act. The law sets the stage for funding cuts and new eligibility requirements related to the Medicaid program.

"Even small changes to this program could result in a substantial impact on our budget," reads the PMC budget narrative. "We are closely monitoring state and federal policy developments and engaging in advocacy efforts to mitigate this risk."

Future budget busters could come in the form of tariffs, inflation, and a need to fill unanticipated nursing vacancies with travelers, according

(See Budget, Page 11A)

MIDDLEBURY LION'S CLUB

69th Annual

AUCTION and B-B-Q

At the Middlebury VFW
Wednesday, July 23rd
B-B-Q AT 4 pm - 5:30 pm

ONLY \$16⁰⁰

½ Chicken

Homemade Potato Salad

Homemade Baked Beans

Roll & Butter - Cookie

TAKE OUT AVAILABLE



AUCTION STARTS AT 6 PM SHARP

For more information call
 Roger Desabrais Jr. at 802-236-9978
 or Matt at 802-989-1494

Several items generously donated by local businesses will be up for auction!

LIMITED TIME

Heat Pump Rebates

Heat and cool your space, all with one system.

Efficiency Vermont

efficiencyvermont.com
 (888) 921-5990

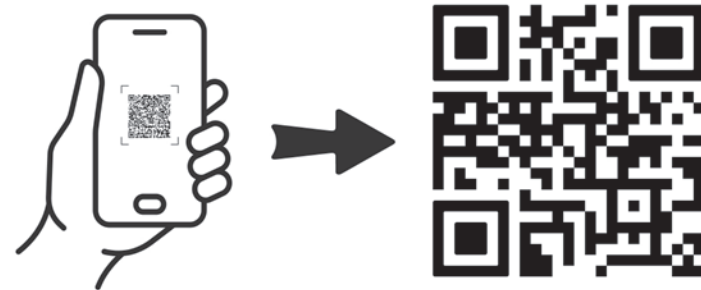
\$500-\$2,200 off

ducted and ductless heat pumps

- Alternative to traditional AC that will heat your home all winter long
- Qualifies for 0% interest financing
- Can be used in combination with your existing heating system
- Control your ductless heat pump and central heating system by installing an integrated control, and get an additional \$600 back

Funding is made possible by your electric utility and Efficiency Vermont. Federal tax credits are also available.

Use your phone's camera to scan the QR code below.



*Subject to availability and eligibility.



Encore!

THERE'S BEEN SO much joy and so many smiles during this week's Festival on the Green in Middlebury. During the festival we've seen, clockwise from above, Honey & Soul's Cleo Flemming and Hannah Hausman hitting all the right notes; Ray Vega tooting his horn and sharing his singing voice during Monday's performance of his namesake Afro-Caribbean Jazz Ensemble; 3-year-olds Theodora Vasiliou and Dashiell Koerber finding a comfy lap to enjoy Monday's brown bag lunch show by Mathis, Gaëlle & Marc; Marc Beaudin tells the kids that animals make different noises in English and French; 3-year-old Ethan Yount, 3, shouts his approval; Johanna Denu and her friends from the Otter Creek College St. Children Center show off crowns they made for the show; singer-songwriter Caitlin Canty enjoys some well-earned applause; Middlebury Community Music Center faculty member Glendon Ingalls blows on his trumpet; singer Kevin Harvey fronts the Durham County Poets in the week's opening act; and Gaelle Hispard brings a French flavor to the Festival on the Green on Monday.

Photos by Steve James and Middlebury Community Television



MORE VIDEOS

Cuts

(Continued from Page 9A)

Sanders is the ranking member of the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions.

“Make no mistake about it: This bill is a death sentence for working-class and low-income Americans,” he said.

Sanders pointed to recent research showing that more than 300 rural hospitals are now at risk of closing down altogether or substantially reducing their services.

He also referenced an American Health Care Association survey indicating the “Beautiful Bill” will take a disastrous toll on the already fragile nursing home industry.

Helen Porter, which offers 98 nursing home beds to some of the county’s most frail and elderly residents, was responsible for \$8.5 million of Porter Medical Center’s \$19.5 million in Medicaid revenue in FY24, according to Comeau.

“To the extent patients drop from the Medicaid program to likely no coverage, it will be a revenue reduction for all hospitals proportionally based on their percentage of the total Medicaid enrollment they see,” he said. “We haven’t had a chance to extrapolate what the dollar impact might be for Porter’s share of the potential 45,000 patients (that could disappear from Vermont’s Medicaid rolls).”

Comeau is also concerned about the status of another federal health care program that begins with an “M.”

“The act is generating discussion as a potential Medicare payment disrupter as well,” he said. “If the deficit increase materializes as expected, it would trigger a sequestration of federal money and therefore put Medicare payments at risk. Way too early to tell what that might mean financially, and I can only hope that Porter, being a Critical Access Hospital, would be spared somehow.”

When will health care providers and consumers begin seeing impacts from the “Beautiful Bill”? In December of 2026 — after the mid-term elections.

John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.

Funding delays

(Continued from Page 1A)

approved funding would not be made available to the state’s public schools on July 1. Vermont school districts had included that funding in their budgets for the 2025-2026 school year, according to the Agency of Education.

The agency was told that the U.S. Department of Education had not made decisions “concerning submissions and awards for this upcoming academic year,” and thus, the federal department would not issue grant award notifications obligating funds until that review has been completed. The feds haven’t said when the review would be completed nor offered assurances that the money would ever come.

“Some of the stuff they’re taking right now is stuff we’d already been told we were going to get,” said Mark Koenig, chair of the Addison Northwest School District (ANWSD) Board. “It’s in our budget, and now it’s been clawed back. So, we have a hole in our budget.”

The withholding of federal grants from Vermont schools is part of a broader freeze of more than \$6 billion worth of Congressionally-approved funding that’s used to support after-school, student support, teacher training, English language and a multitude of other educational programs. With the future of Vermont’s education system already up in the air due to the recent passing of education reform bill H.454, the decision to withhold those funds has added to the unease of some local educators and district officials.

For a small district like ANWSD, which has grappled with budget issues in the past, funds are already hard to come by. An approved spending plan of \$27,653,000 may sound like a lot, but every dollar is stretched thin.

“Seventy-five to 80% of that budget is people. It’s the cost of paying our employees their salaries and their benefits,” Koenig said. “And then we have a chunk of money that goes to transportation to get the kids to the school and to events. We have the maintenance of our buildings. We have the servicing of our debt. We have bonds and loans out to pay for past projects...so, we really only have

a million, a million and a half, that we get to play with.”

PROGRAMS, INSTRUCTION

With the majority of the district’s budget being allotted to maintaining the teaching staff and other personnel, ANWSD heavily relies on federal grants to provide students with the support services they need to be successful, both in and outside of the classroom. ANWSD receives grant money through the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act Part B and a number of consolidated federal grants, including Title IA, IIA, IVA and IVB, also known as the 21st Century Community Learning Grant (21C).

Those funds support after-school and summer programs, student achievement, effective instruction and a variety of other services. Combined, these funds add up to about \$1 million of government support for the Vergennes-area school district.

ANWSD has been told that the Title IA and IDEA B grants, totaling to \$334,843, will not be affected and that the district can proceed with using those funds. These two grants are dispersed to support and improve the academic achievement of low-income children and students in special education programs, respectively.

While some vital learning programs won’t be affected, much of what educators identify as equally essential to the continuous improvement of educational programming is going to change drastically. At this time, funds that are going to be affected for ANWSD include \$85,000 in Title IIA funding and \$47,000 in Title IVA funding, for a total of \$132,000. Both grants are used for teacher professional development, such as hiring experts in certain areas, paying teachers time beyond their regular contract, mentoring new teachers (a statutory obligation) and facilitating teacher leadership positions.

The 21C grant will also be affected. This is a competitive grant that supports after-school and summer programming, such as the ANWSD’s Fusion program, summer childcare options, rowing, skiing and outdoor engagement options, as well as other activities like the Junior Iron Chef

competition. Currently, ANWSD will only be receiving 43%, \$71,380, of the 21C grant.

“What we’re losing is the money that we...characterize as quality,” said ANWSD Superintendent Sheila Soule. “The quality components of the education, the enhancements, the enrichment.”

The withholding of federal funding comes at a time when school officials across Vermont are also trying to navigate potentially drastic changes to how the state governs and funds its schools, following the passage of H.454. The landmark education reform bill sets up a process for transforming the state’s education system.

“We’re going to need to do what we already do for less money than we’ve currently been operating with and, on top of that, we’re losing federal funding,” Soule said. “I don’t know how we’re going to get the job done for \$15,000 per pupil plus change. My sense is (Vermont lawmakers are) going to have to revisit (H.454) in the context of the loss of these federal funds.”

Gabe Hamilton, director of learning for the ANWSD, added, “The timing of this was particularly challenging because the deadline for submitting our consolidated federal grant application was June 30, and the announcement came on June 30. Most people had already submitted the grant, so now we have to go back and redo the grant with far less.”

BRISTOL, MIDDLEBURY-AREA SCHOOLS

In the Middlebury-area Addison Central School District, Superintendent Wendy Baker said the ACSD’s financial exposure equates to around \$135,000 in Title IIA funds, and about \$87,000 in Title IV funding, for a total of \$222,000.

“While ultimately we may see these funds allocated in FY26, their future rules and conditions remain unknown,” she told the *Independent*. “Any ACSD salaries and expenses allocated to these

grants will need to be absorbed by the general fund until such a time as they become available.”

The situation is a bit different for the nearby Lincoln School District, which educates preK-12 students in the mountain town. Superintendent Amy Cole said the school district “gets so very little federal funds that we just don’t plan on it.”

Patrick Reen, superintendent of the Bristol-area Mount Abraham Unified School District, said this past Friday that there’s been a lot of discussion around the issue without much clarity.

He noted the funding in question that could affect MAUSD includes Medicaid; Title IIA funds that support effective instruction; Title IVA funds that help promote safe and healthy schools; and Title IVB funds, also known as 21st Century Learning funding that supports afterschool and summer programs.

Reen said funds being delayed could create a cash flow problem. “Right now we borrow money each year to have cash available to us to pay the bills,” he said. “When funds flow as they are supposed to we use very little of this borrowed money, which means most of it sits in an account that draws interest.”

He said the interest the district draws on that money is greater than the interest it pays, “so this actually creates revenue for us.”

“If federal funds are delayed we would be more likely to need to use borrowed money to cover expenses, which would reduce the revenue we get from the money that sits in the bank. Other than that it is business as usual,” Reen said.

He noted a different scenario would play out if the school district doesn’t receive all of the funds it’s expecting.

“Some of the things we were planning on using the funds for would not happen,” Reen said. “For other things we have committed funds to, such as staffing contracts, we would work to make our approved budget cover the positions funded by the federal dollars. If we are not able to absorb the cost

of these positions into our budget I would ask the MAUSD board to use a portion of the funds available to them in the Education Reserve Fund to cover the unmet need.”

“With reduced funds we would likely need to either build the cost of the programs covered by these funds into our annual budget or reduce the programs and services provided by these funds,” he continued. “These funds help cover expenses related to professional development (IIA and IVA), our Expanded Learning Program (21st Century) and intervention (Medicaid). We do not rely on Medicaid to fund personnel as it has not been a reliable revenue stream for us. We typically use Medicaid funds more as one time use rather than annual obligations.”

Back in the ANWSD Koenig offered a glimmer of hope, pointing to the district’s voter-approved education stabilization fund, which provides emergency financial support for the district. The fund represents 4% of the district budget.

“We put (money) into this savings account, and we don’t touch it until the end of the year,” Koenig explained. “If we get to the end of the year and we’re in a deficit, then we can take that money out to fill the hole. And then if we have the money in the next budget to be able to fill it back up, we will.”

While ANWSD has a small margin of wiggle room thanks to the creation of the education stabilization fund, it will not be able to run on this amount alone. Like many other districts in the country, especially those in rural areas, ANWSD heavily relies on funds from the federal government in order to provide students with a high-quality, enriching and well-rounded educational experience.

If these funds are not eventually restored, Vermont’s education system could be looking at a whole new reality.

“My sense is it’s not coming back,” Soule said. “If the Trump administration figures out a way to get their hands on that money, it’s not coming back.”

Budget

(Continued from Page 9A)

to Porter officials.

“We will continue to monitor these risks closely and adjust our mitigation strategies as more information becomes available,” the PMC narrative reads. “At this time, no definitive timelines for funding changes have been announced, but we are preparing for potential impacts in the next

fiscal year.”

Ortmyer promised he and his staff would work hard to address bad financial surprises.

“As part of UVM Health Network, we recognize that there is still important work ahead,” he said. “While we may be required to make difficult decisions to further control costs, our top priority remains to preserve and strengthen

access to essential health care services in our local communities. We are committed to maintaining high-quality, patient-centered care as close to home as possible, and we will continue to leverage the expertise and resources of our network partners to support this mission.”

John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.

HOPE IN MOTION 5K OR 1K WALK/RUN & WELLNESS FAIR

Presented by the Turning Point Center of Addison County

Sunday, September 28, 2025

9 AM – 2 PM • 55 Collins Drive, Middlebury, VT

Get Moving for a Great Cause! Join us for a day of community, connection, and wellness as we raise awareness and support for recovery, mental health, and holistic well-being in Addison County. Whether you’re a seasoned runner, a casual walker, or bringing the whole family, there’s something for everyone!

REGISTER TODAY!

- 5K Entry: \$25 (includes T-shirt*)
 - 1K Entry: \$5 (includes T-shirt*)
 - Online Run Registration: scan the code or go to runsignup.com/Race/VT/Middlebury/TPCAChopeinmotion
 - Same-day registration begins at 8:00 AM
- *T-shirts guaranteed for 5K participants who register by Sept 15, 2025

Register Here!



Turning Point Center of Addison County



Contact us: (802) 388-4249 info@tpvt.org tpvt.org

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. 2.

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

Time's a tickin' to learn about watches

ADDISON — It's time to learn about your historic clock or pocket watch. On Sunday, July 20, 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. This program is included in the admission to the site — \$6 for adults, free for children under 15.

Pilcher

(Continued from Page 1A)

Karen Lueders of Lincoln, Robert Demic of Bristol, and Dave Lucey of Monkton.

But the Vermont Democratic Party subsequently asked Addison-4 Democrats to come up with a third choice for Scott to consider. The two-seat Addison-4 district includes the towns of Bristol, Lincoln, Monkton and Starksboro.

Lincoln Democratic Town Chair Paul Forlenza said the District Representative Committee put out a call for additional Addison-4 hopefuls, which yielded a list of five: Demic, Lueders and Lucey resubmitted their names, while Pilcher and Bristol's Bob Bernstein also stepped forward.

It should be noted that Pilcher resigned from his role as Monkton Democratic Town chair prior to throwing his name into the mix.

Forlenza said committee members cast ballots and Pilcher



STEPHEN PILCHER

garnered the most tallies.

Pilcher, a computer engineer, served on Monkton's selectboard from 2011 until this past March. He chaired the board for almost 12

years. Pilcher has also represented his community as an alternate member on both the Addison County Regional Planning and Addison County Solid Waste Management District boards.

Pilcher ran unsuccessfully for an Addison-4 House seat in 2016.

Scott has no statutory deadline for making his pick. Whomever he selects can choose to run for reelection in November of 2026 when all Vermont House and Senate seats are up for grabs.

Rep. Herb Olson, D-Starksboro, is the other Addison-4 House delegate.

Cordes, who represented Addison-4 for seven years, stepped down in late June to take a nursing job in Nova Scotia.

The *Independent* will provide more coverage of the person Scott ultimately picks to fill out Cordes's term.

John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.

Grants fund educators of young learners

MIDDLEBURY — Addison County Parent Child Center and Mary Johnson Children's Center are among the organizations statewide to receive Vermont Early Childhood Fund Opportunity Grants from Building Bright Futures.

The grants are awarded to organizations that focus on early childhood education and support and that pursue important and innovative projects. The grants of between \$10,000 to \$80,000 have the goal of supporting easy-to-achieve solutions with direct results. Projects funded range from creating more early childhood education slots to literacy programs to a doula residency program.

ADDISON COUNTY School Briefs

SUNY Delhi has named Thomas Politano of Brandon to the dean's list for the spring 2025 semester. Politano is pursuing a bachelor's degree in Golf Course Management.

Karic Riche of Middlebury earned dean's list honors at University of Tampa as a senior in the spring 2025 semester. Riche is majoring in Public Health. Students must maintain a GPA of 3.75 or higher to be eligible for the dean's list.

Bristol

(Continued from Page 1A)

encouraged to stop into downtown shops for snacks, live music and opportunities to connect with entrepreneurs.

"Several businesses have recently changed ownership or are brand new to Bristol, and we wanted to create a simple, community-centered way for people to meet the new faces behind those familiar places," BristolCORE Executive Director Courtney Radford said of the event. "At the same time, it's a chance to celebrate all of Bristol's small business owners, who are also our neighbors, community builders, and an essential part of what makes this town so creative, welcoming, and strong."

Radford noted that supporting small businesses is a key objective for BristolCORE, a nonprofit committed to maintaining the economic vitality of Bristol's downtown.

The Bristol Open House event is scheduled for Saturday, July 19, from 1-3 p.m. Several local businesses are taking part in the initiative, including Holy Halvah, Bobcat Café and Brewery, Bristol Suites and Vermont Marketplace.

Bristol Suites and Bobcat Café both welcomed new owners this past February. Christopher and Jon Ruggiero have taken the reins of the Bobcat, which will host a meet-and-greet with its owners during Saturday's event.

Just down the street, Justin Sandherr purchased the Dunshee Block and its resident businesses

— Bristol Suites and the Vermont Marketplace — from longtime owners Carol and Tom Wells earlier this year. Community members can stop by the businesses on Saturday for chocolates, music and tours of recently updated suites at the inn.

Over on North Street, Holy Halvah opened its doors to the public in June. The business got its start in Lincoln and is run by Rebecca Freedner and Shaun Dedrickson. During the open house event, Holy Halvah will serve up halvah samples and creemees.

Attendees will also get a sneak peek into Main Street Stationer, the new shop that will open next month in the former Kimball Office Services storefront. Radford will run the store and plans to be on hand during the event to talk with residents about plans for the shop.

Community members can stop into other shops around town for a variety of offerings on Saturday, including:

- Tarot card readings at Hermit Thrush Fiber Co.
- Live music from local musicians Rick Ceballos and David Gusakov outside of Recycled Reading of Vermont.
- Free, small watercolors by Barbara Lane and studio tours at the Plank Road Art Stand.
- Hibiscus tea and ice cream sandwiches at Bristol Botanicals, as well as a fundraiser concert for the Bristol Skatepark project later in the evening.

Residents will also have a chance to get to know Bristol businesses

and their staff through a trivia challenge. Attendees can pick up a trivia sheet at any participating business, complete the challenge and turn it in for a chance to win Bristol Bucks. Those sheets will be available for pick up beginning on Friday, July 18, and must be dropped off at a participating business by Sunday, July 20.

"We're really looking forward to seeing people have genuine conversations with the folks behind the counter, asking questions, hearing their stories, and maybe learning something new about a business they've walked by a hundred times," Radford said. "There's something powerful about putting a face to a name, and we're excited for the community to connect in a way that's fun, relaxed, and joyful. And of course, the trivia challenge and Bristol Bucks prizes are going to be a fun bonus!"

Radford said the hope is to offer more events like Saturday's open house in the future.

"We are regularly hosting informal, low-barrier community events that connect residents, neighbors, and visitors in meaningful ways," she said. "Whether it's another open house, a themed stroll, or a new twist on our local promotions, we're always looking for ways to make downtown more engaging, accessible, and personal."

More information about the open house event can be found at <https://tinyurl.com/bristolopenhouse>.

By the way

(Continued from Page 1A)

shire town's downtown. The improvement district exists to support a broad range of public/private improvements — both big and small — that benefit downtown property owners, the business community, residents and visitors alike. Funding typically supports projects on town property that enhances the shared downtown experience. In the past, the district has supported installation of benches, the installation and maintenance of plantings, improved lighting, pedestrian safety enhancements, and other small-scale amenities that add value to the community.

Contributions from the DIDC generally range from \$2,000 to \$10,000 per project and are often paired with additional funding such as grants or matching funds. While the scope is intentionally modest, the collective impact of these improvements helps foster a more vibrant, inviting downtown. Want to influence future investments in Middlebury's downtown? Take a just a minute or two to answer a three-question survey at surveymonkey.com/r/S5QQ927.

Do you live in the Addison County towns of Leicester, Goshen and Whiting and have a little extra time every month to make a positive impact for students in your community? You can — by serving on the Otter Valley Unified Union School Board. As a board

member, your decisions have the potential to positively affect the lives of students and their families, the livelihoods of those in the district employs, and the economic well-being of the district. The OVUUSD is now seeking to fill four board vacancies, including a Whiting representative and two at-large delegates who can be residents of any of the OVUUSD-member communities of Brandon, Leicester, Goshen, Pittsford, Sudbury and Whiting. Appointed school board members would serve until the next election in March 2026, at which time they could choose to run and be elected to complete the remainder of the term. Letters of interest should be addressed to the "OVUU Board" and emailed to Melinda Piper at mpiper@nesu.org. Questions? Contact Piper at mpiper@nesu.org, or 802-247-5757, ext. 2722.

The film lineup and slate of guests for the 11th annual Middlebury New Filmmakers Festival is set. The festival, to take place in the shire town Aug. 20-24, will offer audiences more than 100 films across seven screens, including 55 Vermont premieres, six world premieres, 12 special panels and talks that are free and open to the public, and daily parties for visiting filmmakers and passholders. The roster of special guests will include U.S. Rep. Becca Balint, D-Vt.; actors Peter Sarsgaard and Gary Farmer; director Allan

Nicholls; *New York Times* Chief Washington Correspondent David E. Sanger; *New York Times* film critic Alissa Wilkinson; Vermont Poet Laureate Bianca Stone; *VTDigger* Editor-in-Chief Geeta Anand; comedian Tina Friml; and film industry guests from Netflix, WGBH, DCTV, Chicken & Egg Films and more. Filmmakers from cities around the world — including London, Tel Aviv, Jakarta, Guadalajara, Bratislava, Milan and Brussels — will attend, as well as visiting artists from across New England and the U.S. Around two-thirds of the festival's screenings will be accompanied by a live, on-stage Q&A from a visiting filmmaker. More information can be found at mfff2025.eventive.org/films.

If you've been using the Mount Abraham Union High School property in Bristol this summer for recreation or walks, please be advised that construction is underway on the parking lots, sidewalks and other paved areas on campus. Principal Shannon Warden notes there may be days when parking near the building, athletic fields, or in the lots is not an option. Please plan accordingly and communicate with your group members that off-campus parking may be necessary. Overflow parking will be available at the adjacent town recreation area, in the dirt lot by the ice rink.

THE SCOOP OF THE SUMMER

\$50 OFF

1-year Print + Digital subscription
Valid July 1-31, 2025

Use Code: **SCOOP50** at checkout online.

Want to pay by check?
Write **SCOOP50** in the memo line.

ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT
Serving Addison County, Vt. Since 1946

Need help? Contact Sean.
802-388-4944, ext. 104
subscriptions@addisonindependent.com

"The Taste of Vermont"

at Addison County Fair & Field Days Dining Hall
Tuesday, July 29th
Sittings at 5:15, 6:00 and 6:45
Adults: \$15
Children 10 & under: \$8

Tickets available now at:
Middlebury Inn in Middlebury, Pratt's Store in Bridport, the Field Days office or at fielddays@gmavt.net.
Beginning July 27th, tickets will only be available at the Field Days office.
Call 545-2557

Tickets Sell Out!

Served by participating vendors & the MUHS Football

Green Mountain Passport Day

Opening Day Parade 6:00PM

Sanctuary Band 7:00PM

Bracelet Rides – ALL DAY for \$25
Rides and Midway by Dreamland Amusements

New Haven native Homer Hulbert to be honored

NEW HAVEN — The New Haven Congregational Church invites the public to a special commemorative service at the historic Union Church of New Haven Mills, at the intersection of River Road and East Street, on Sunday, July 20, at 10 a.m. honoring Homer Hulbert (1863–1949). A New Haven native, Hulbert became a missionary, linguist, writer, and national hero in Korea for his peaceful advocacy of Korean independence during the Japanese occupation.

Titled “From New Haven to Korea: Small-Town Faith and Global Courage,” the service will feature music from both Vermont and Korea, including traditional Vermont folk tunes and Korean folk songs Hulbert helped preserve. Rev. Abigail Diehl-Noble, lead pastor of the New Haven Congregational Church, will be joined by Mr. Dong Jin Kim, Chairman of the Homer Hulbert Memorial Society in Korea, who will offer prayers in Korean and lead a litany of remembrance.

Homer Hulbert’s father, Calvin B. Hulbert, served as pastor of New Haven Congregational Church from 1859 to 1869 and later became president of Middlebury College. He helped establish Beeman Academy, where Homer was educated before dedicating his life to education, peace, and justice on the global stage.

The Union Church of New Haven Mills, built in 1851, is a fitting setting for the service. This well-preserved Greek Revival church, listed on the National Historic Register, is one of the oldest buildings in the former mill

village. Hulbert likely worshiped here, as the two New Haven churches held joint monthly services during his father’s pastorate. Open to the public only twice a year for summer services, this event offers a rare chance to experience the church’s unique interior.

“In times like ours, when the world feels uncertain and it’s hard to know how to act,” said Pastor Diehl-Noble, “stories like Homer Hulbert’s remind us that courage begins at home. Our ancestors faced tremendous challenges and still found the strength to stand up for the oppressed — even in a land far from their own. Homer’s life is a testimony to the enduring power of faith and small-town conviction.”

“For me, this program is years in the making,” said Dong Jin Kim. “It is a privilege to celebrate Homer Hulbert’s legacy in the very church where his journey of faith began.” While in Vermont, Mr. Kim will also give a public lecture on Friday, July 19 at Middlebury College’s Korean Language School, invited by Professor Sahie Kang, Director of the School of Korean.

The July 20 event is free and open to all. Light refreshments will follow the service. The historic church has steps at the entrance, so please be aware that accessibility may be limited for those with mobility needs. Parking will be available on the side of the road near the church. For more information, email pastornewhavenchurchvt@gmail.com or visit www.newhavencongregationalchurch.org.

“It is a privilege to celebrate Homer Hulbert’s legacy in the very church where his journey of faith began.”

— Dong Jin Kim

Addison woman cited after a family fight

ADDISON COUNTY — Vermont State Police said they dealt with two individuals who harmed people in separate incidents early this week.

On July 13 at a little after 7 p.m. troopers were notified of a family disturbance in the Tri Town Road area of Addison. Officers determined that Allison J. Richards, 45, of Addison had caused pain and/or bodily injury to someone in the household. They took Richards to the New Haven barracks and cited her for first-degree aggravated domestic assault.

Separately, on Monday, July 14, just after 6 p.m. state police got a call about a family fight off Route 74 in Cornwall. Troopers said the investigated and determined that Arron Giard, 24, of Brandon had been involved in the fight, and when they tried to take him into custody, he resisted arrest and assaulted a law enforcement officer.

Police eventually did take Giard into custody and transported him to the New Haven barracks, where they cited him for aggravated disorderly conduct, assault on a police officer, resisting arrest and violation of court ordered conditions of release. He was jailed at the Marble Valley Regional Correctional Facility with bail set at \$200.

He wasn’t the only man jailed for potentially violent behavior recently.

On July 10 at around 11:30 p.m. state police received a report that Michael Fuller, 31, of Hinesburg had contacted a person in Addison County whom he was legally not supposed to contact. A trooper investigated and determined that Fuller had contacted the person on the preceding two days and made threatening statements. Police found Fuller at his home on July 13, cited him for two counts of violation of an abuse prevention order and jailed him at the Marble Valley Regional Correctional Facility with bail set at \$1,500.

Meanwhile, at mid-day on July 13, state police looked into two separate

complaints involving gunfire.

In the first, troopers from the New Haven barracks were dispatched a little after noon on Sunday to a report that a stray bullet had damaged a window on Stoney Lane in New Haven. The shooting incident had occurred at approximately 10:30 a.m. but was not reported until later after a neighbor inspected the window and discovered a spent round of ammunition in the frame of the window.

No injuries were reported and investigation is on-going.

Anyone with information on this incident is encouraged to contact Trooper Nicole Twamley at 802-388-4919 and reference case 25B5003112. Anonymous tips may also be submitted by texting VTIPS to 274637 or online at vsp.vermont.gov/tipsubmit.

An hour later, troopers, along with a game warden and Vergennes police officers, were dispatched to a report of a suspicious incident involving a man seen walking on foot through properties after multiple gun shots were heard in the neighborhood of Basin Harbor Road in Bridport. The man was reported to have a long gun. Further details were not immediately available to determine the circumstances behind

the shots fired.

Police found a man who identified himself as the person who had fired his gun. The man, later identified as 29-year-old Jonas Hastings, told police he shot a grey squirrel in his yard. No injuries to human were reported. The game warden conducted a separate investigation into the shooting that resulted in a citation for a game violation.

Police said there was no threat to the public and this shooting was determined to be an isolated incident.

In other recent activity, state police:

- On July 4 stopped a vehicle driven by Nathan Redmond, 40, of Vergennes on Route 7 in Middlebury and cited him for driving with a criminally suspended license.

- On the evening of July 8 troopers put out a call for the public to be on the lookout for an 89-year-old Leicester man who was missing and had last been seen the day before driving a green 1996 Toyota Camry at McDonald’s restaurant in Middlebury. The next morning state police said the man had been

located and was safe. A trooper said the man had showed up at a New York hospital mid-morning on the 9th, and hospital staff had alerted the authorities.

- On July 9 just before 2:30 p.m. responded to a one-car crash on Fisher Road near Pearl Road in Orwell. Police report that 79-year-old Douglas Biklen of Orwell was driving a 2022 Tesla Model 3 southbound at a reasonable speed when he fell asleep, the car crossed over to the left side of the road, left the pavement and struck a tree head-on. Biklen wasn’t injured but the Tesla was totaled. Police issued Biklen a traffic ticket for driving on the wrong side of the road.

Troopers were assisted on scene by the Orwell Fire Department and Middlebury Regional EMS.

- On July 11 at around 1:15 a.m. stopped a car driven by Ryan Longway, 22, on Route 7 near Lewis Creek Drive in Ferrisburgh. Police cited Longway of Enosburg Falls for driving with a criminally suspended license. They also issued three traffic tickets.

Vt. State Police Log

Summer Plant Sale

50% - 80% OFF annuals & perennials

Just Reduced	Reg.	Sale
Asst Annuals 4" Rd.	\$4.99	\$0.99
4" Basil	\$4.99	.99¢
Perennials 6" Red Pot	\$10.99	\$5.49
Perennials 6" Blk Ridge	\$12.99	\$6.49
Perennials 6" Blk Smooth	\$14.99	\$7.49
10" Hanging Basket	\$21.99	\$9.99
Hydrangea 3 Gal	\$29.99	\$14.99
18" Upright Patio Pots	\$22.99	---
Container Tomato 3 Gal	\$5.99	---
Pepper Container 2 Gal	\$4.99	---

First Season Greenhouses
 6 Miles West of Vergennes at 2153 Button Bay Road
 Open 9 to 5 Seven Days a Week

BOATING SEASON IS HERE - HOP ON IN!



HARE AND THE DOG
 Legendary WINE • BEER • SPIRITS

Middlebury • Vergennes
www.Hare.dog

Vergennes Police Log

VERGENNES — Vergennes police received two complaints recently of stolen vehicles, but the incidents turned out to have different circumstances, according to police reports.

On July 7 city police were told of a vehicle stolen from a Sunset Drive home. Police said a suspect was captured on security video, and the case remains under investigation.

On July 13 police were told a vehicle was stolen from a First Street home. But after investigating they alleged it was a false report. Police said an investigation is ongoing, and charges are pending.

Between July 7 and 13, Vergennes police also conducted five traffic stops, three cruiser patrols, one foot patrol and two VIN inspections; processed a fingerprint request; and:

- Investigated a report of an argument in the Shaw’s Supermarket parking lot that followed a motor vehicle complaint.

- Received help from the Vermont State Police in checking the welfare of an elderly person described as confused and unable to provide their name in the North Green Street area. VSP determined the individual had wandered away from Vergennes Grand, and they safely returned the person.

On July 8:

- Received a report of a phone scam involving threats against a Comfort Hill resident’s family. The resident said he recognized the call as a scam and did not provide personal information or payment. Police referred him to the Vermont Attorney General’s Office and the Federal Trade Commission to report the fraud attempt.

- Investigated an online complaint from a School Street resident about suspicious activity that occurred on July 3 and 4.

- Dealt with a minor two-car crash on Main Street.

On July 9:

- Helped Homeland Security with a fraud case in which several residents of Vergennes are victims.

- Helped a Vergennes resident who came to station to report they were a victim of a phone scam.

The complainant was provided with information on reporting the incident to state and federal authorities.

- Served a no-stalking order to a city resident.

- Helped the public works department find owners of four vehicles on South Water and School streets that were parked in the path of a paving project set to begin the next day. Police said all the vehicles were moved and cones were placed in the parking spots.

On July 10 heard from a Main Street business owner who was concerned about the welfare of a female and a young child seen walking downtown. Police spoke with the woman and determined they were safe.

On July 11:

- Helped Burlington police by serving a subpoena to appear in court to a Vergennes resident.

- Received a complaint about an individual speeding on Commodore Drive. Officers spoke to the person in question and asked that they be mindful of their speed.

- Dealt with a minor two-car crash on Main Street.

- Received a relief-from-abuse order to be served, but discovered the individual in question now lives in Milton. Police forwarded the paperwork to Milton police.

- Helped a combat veteran who was struggling with PTSD.

On July 12:

- Directed traffic at the intersection of Main and South Water streets until a disabled tractor-trailer truck could be towed.

- Accepted a credit card and gift card found downtown and notified the owner.

- Unlocked the vehicle in which two dogs were locked up at Comfort Hill Kennel. Police said the dogs were OK.

On July 13:

- Helped state police respond to a report from Bridport of an individual shooting a gun near a residence.

- Received an online report about an individual who was shouting profanities at the complainant while walking a dog. Police said this was the second time the complainant reported the individual, and they are working to identify the person.



WHAT DO YOU GET FOR SHOPPING LOCALLY?
THE WOODWARE CREW BRINGS SMILES AND HELPING HANDS
WITH EVERY FURNITURE DELIVERY!



www.woodwarevt.com

Route 7 South • Middlebury VT
 Hours: Monday-Saturday 9-5, Closed Sundays

FINE FURNITURE

802-388-6297



ADDISON COUNTY

Agriculture News

Cold storage for farms available

SHOREHAM — The Vermont Agency of Agriculture is alerting fruit growers and other farmers that VT Cold Storage has opened a new 2,420-square-foot frozen storage facility at its location on Route 22A in Shoreham.

This expansion, made possible with support from the Vermont Working Lands Enterprise Initiative, significantly increases the company's capacity to provide palletized, frozen storage to Vermont's growing food and agricultural economy.

The newly built freezer space adds 48,400 cubic feet of pallet-quantity storage and complements VT Cold Storage's existing ambient, dry, refrigerated and controlled-atmosphere storage capabilities.

More information is online at www.vtcoldstorage.com.



Summer crop

RECENT WEATHER, THOUGH hot, hasn't detracted from Addison County's visual splendor. Here we see an emerging corn crop fronting a western view of the majestic Adirondacks. Independent photo/Steve James

Farmers say crop insurance falls short

By THEO WELLS-SPACKMAN
VTDigger.org

Justin Rich's Burnt Rock Farm lost \$200,000 last year, after floods covered entire fields on his riverside land in Huntington with water and debris.

After paying his premiums to the federal government's Noninsured Disaster Assistance Program, Rich received his payout. It was roughly \$3,000 — less than two cents for every lost dollar.

"It doesn't work terribly well on smaller, medium-scale, diversified farms like ours," Rich said of the program.

The Noninsured Disaster Assistance Program is intended to provide recourse for farmers who don't qualify for federal subsidies on insurance premiums for major crops such as corn, soybeans and apples. The program is not administered by a private provider like subsidized plans are; it's a coverage service from the federal government itself.

subsidies often find them helpful. Andrea Darrow, an owner of Green Mountain Orchards in Putney, said the federal apple subsidies are just enough to make premiums affordable for her.

"We feel, like, so vulnerable without it," she said.

When a bizarrely late frost in May 2023 destroyed 95% of Darrow's crop, the insurance payout helped significantly with the cost of growing another crop. And the family-run business has successfully filed smaller claims on several other occasions.

But roughly 70% of the state's farms carry no crop insurance, according to Vermont Agency of Agriculture Chief Operating Officer Nicole Dubuque.

Rich said he was surprised the number wasn't higher.

"Vermont's agricultural scene is almost completely devoid of conventional grain crops," he said.

Even some dairy farmers who grow silage corn as feed choose to forgo insurance. Earl Ransom, who owns Rockbottom Farm in Strafford, called the crop insurance industry a "scam."

He said he prefers other methods of risk mitigation, some of which might not be an option for all farmers. Ransom doesn't use riverbottom land and is able to produce more crop than he needs for his cows.

"The way that I farm is built on the idea of resiliency," he said.

Ransom and Rich agreed that the only ideal form of insurance at this stage is to have a personal buffer of money, land and crop yield.

But for most, that's not the reality.

Dubuque said the state has been concerned for some time about the lack of options for Vermont growers to hedge their bets financially.

Noninsured assistance premiums can be high, she explained, and federal payout calculations are sometimes affected by other regions of the country where it's cheaper to grow crops.

There aren't enough sweet potatoes grown in the state to develop a base price for Vermont, for example. So when Rich lost all his sweet potatoes last summer, he was given the national average price for them, which is "like an order of magnitude cheaper," he said.

Rich also lost 34.5% of his potato crop, for which he'd paid higher premiums to get more coverage. The threshold for a payout, however, was 35%, he said.

The Noninsured Disaster Assistance Program's administrative process can add months-long wait times for federal payouts, according to Rich.

He said many small farmers who sell through farm stands and other informal venues may struggle to keep meticulous records and submit them.

"It is not a small amount of paperwork," Rich said.

Hank Bissell, owner of Lewis Creek Farm in Starksboro, said he tried only once, decades ago, (See *Crop insurance*, Page 15A)

SERVING LOCAL FARMERS SINCE THE 1970'S.



We carry these major brands and more!



HUESTIS FARM SUPPLY, LLC
3877 Crown Point Rd., Bridport, VT • 802-758-2289

MULCH Hay Bales for Sale



802-377-5455

Pet of the week
Send us your pet!
news@addisonindependent.com

Grants available for dairy processors

Dairy processors can now apply for the Dairy Processor Modernization Grant. This \$1 million investment aims to strengthen regional milk processing capabilities and respond to consumer demand for dairy products from the Northeastern U.S.

Offered through the Northeast Dairy Business Innovation Center, this funding will allow dairy processors to purchase specialized

equipment to expand capacity, boost efficiency, lower energy consumption, improve existing products, and create new, high-value dairy products for the region.

Funding can be used to upgrade or add specialized dairy processing or packaging equipment that is necessary for business growth and viability. Funding can also be used for activities like training, business planning, hiring professional consultants, marketing, or

improving supply chain logistics as long as they directly support the project. Projects that involve assistance from a service provider or business planner will be more competitive.

Grants will range from \$15,000 to \$250,000 with a 25% (cash or in-kind) match commitment required. Approximately \$1 million in total funds is available.

Get more information online at tinyurl.com/ModernDairy.



Reed's Equipment

Supporting Agriculture in Addison County & Beyond Since 1988

802-759-2562
4373 VT RT 17 W.
Addison, Vermont



Engineering for a better world.

BOURDEAU BROS.

Prowler Spreader

- Spreads 90 feet wide
- Able to go down corn rows
- Floatation tires available for wet hay fields



Fertilize your hay fields after the 1st cut
Side dress Corn fields when 12-15" high

Call to schedule this service today!

We're Ready When You Are!
"We Care" for your land and animals



88 Seymour St • Midd., VT • 802-388-7000 or 800-639-7051 • middlebury@bbcinc.us

Be a MEMBER, not just a NUMBER.

Middlebury, VT
802-388-7917
co-opinsurance.com
in f



At Co-op, we're member owned and member committed. Since 1915, we've been providing protection for individuals, farms, and businesses with a large network of local agents, fast and fair claims service, loss control expertise, and affordable rates. At the Co-op, you're a member, not just a number.



HOME • BUSINESS • AUTO • FARM
Middlebury, Vermont • 802-388-7917 • co-opinsurance.com



MEMBER OWNED. MEMBER COMMITTED.



COMPETING IN THE 12- and 13-year-olds age group at the 2025 State 4-H Dairy Judging Contest, June 14 in Rochester, were: (left to right): Boston Wilbur and Payton Lucas, both from Orwell; Carys Wood, East Montpelier; Tenley Chittenden, Shoreham; and Katelyn Sibley, East Montpelier. Missing from photo: Hadley Michaud, Hardwick

4-H'ers compete in state competition

ROCHESTER — The 2025 State 4-H Dairy Judging Contest provided an opportunity for 4-H dairy members to demonstrate their ability to evaluate and rank dairy cattle based on breed standards.

Forty-four 4-H'ers participated in this year's competition, which was held on June 14 at Liberty Hill Farm and Inn in Rochester. The Kennett family — Bob and Beth and their son David and his wife Asia — hosted the competition, providing the venue as well as freshly made donuts, water, snacks and Monument Farms chocolate milk for the participants.

The 4-H'ers judged five classes of Holsteins: spring calves, winter calves, 2-year-olds, 4-year-olds and aged cows. The seniors (aged 14 to 18) also were required to talk about the reasons for their placements.

Scores for each class were combined to determine each individual's overall score and ranking. Up to 10 rosette ribbons were awarded in each age group.

Placements were as follows:

14- TO 18-YEAR-OLDS:

Morgan Michaud, East Hardwick (first); **Mackenzie Chase, Bristol** (second); Dawson Michaud, East Hardwick (third); Talon Michaud, Greensboro (fourth); Steven Werner, Stannard (fifth); **Isabella Wilbur, Orwell** (sixth); **Emma Deering, Middlebury** (seventh); **Carolyn Allen, Vergennes** (eighth); **Hailey Chase, Bristol** (ninth); Emmeline Paquet, East Montpelier (tenth)

Several other 4-H'ers competed in this age group earning blue or red Danish ribbons, depending on their overall score. Winning blue ribbons were **Hailey Bartlett, Bristol; Collin Chamberlin, Addison; McKenzie Forbes, Middlebury; Ruby Hubbell and Ava Wood, both from Shoreham;** Whitney McClain, Tunbridge; Scott Patoine, Hardwick; and Maddie Perry, East Montpelier. Red-ribbon winners were **Hailey Ferrisburgh;** and Natalia and Wyatt

Tarbell, Middletown Springs.

11- AND 12-YEAR-OLDS:

Hadley Michaud, Hardwick (first); Katelyn Sibley, East Montpelier (second); Tenley Chittenden, Shoreham and Carys Wood, East Montpelier (tie for third); **Payton Lucas** (fourth) and **Boston Wilbur** (fifth), **both from Orwell.**

10- AND 11-YEAR-OLDS:

Ella Pope, Shoreham (first); **Rowdy Pope, Bridport** (second); **Paige Chamberlin, Addison** (third); Ella Purchase, East Montpelier (fourth); **Sutton Chittenden, Shoreham** (fifth); **Olivia Tudhope, Orwell** (sixth); Harlow Converse, Derby (seventh)

8- AND 9-YEAR-OLDS:

Scarlett Perry, East Montpelier (first); **Ellis Chittenden, Shoreham** (second); **Amelia Tudhope, Orwell** (third); Sophia Purchase, East Montpelier (fourth); **Lucas Gorton, New Haven** (fifth); Piper Simoneau, Newport (sixth); Jackson Tarbell, Middletown Springs (seventh); Carson Ayer, East Montpelier (eighth).

The event was sponsored by University of Vermont (UVM) Extension 4-H and organized by Extension 4-H Livestock Educator Wendy Sorrell. Adult volunteers were **Dawn Livingston, New Haven;** UVM 4-H Educator Molly McFaun; Amber Perry, East Montpelier; Marissa Simoneau, Newport; and Jen Thygesen, Tunbridge.

Brailey Livingston, New Haven, assisted show official Joanna Lidback of Barton, the state 4-H dairy judging team coach, by leading and handling animals for judging. She is a 4-H dairy member and on the 2025 Vermont 4-H Dairy Judging Team A.



SEVERAL 8- AND 9-year-old 4-H'ers competed in their first-ever State 4-H Dairy Judging Contest. They were: Front Row (left to right): Amelia Tudhope, Orwell; Ellis Chittenden, Shoreham; and Scarlett Perry, East Montpelier. Back row: Carson Ayer, East Montpelier; Piper Simoneau, Newport; Lucas Gorton, New Haven; and Sophia Purchase, East Montpelier. The 2025 event was held June 14 in Rochester. Missing from photo: Jackson Tarbell, Middletown Springs.

Crop insurance

(Continued from Page 14A)

to secure federal insurance for his farm. After a mountain of paperwork, he concluded that financially, "it wasn't going to do me any good."

So when the floods of 2023 and 2024 hit, the \$120,000 loss Bissell endured was uninsured.

With little to no support from the federal level, he and Rich turned to the state. Both received grants from the Business Emergency Gap Assistance Program administered by the Agency of Commerce.

BEGAP isn't an agriculture program, but for both of them, it was a life raft.

"Very fast, very easy to apply for, and extremely useful for those of us affected," Rich said.

Bissell said he was able to recoup 30% of his losses through the program, which prevented what could have been a financial catastrophe.

"We'll live to gamble again," he said.

In addition to the Agency of Commerce's emergency provisions, state lawmakers introduced a bill during the last legislative session with the goal of establishing a Farm Security Special Fund for farmers.

One of the bill's sponsors, Sen. Ruth Hardy, D-Middlebury, cited the difficulty of accessing other aid for small farms, as well as shifting climate patterns, as her rationale.

"Having a fund that is designed specifically for farmers is an important tool to keep local agriculture viable in our state," she said in an email.

The bill stalled in the Appropriations Committee, but lawmakers could raise the issue in the next legislative session.

Dubuque said any amount of further aid would be helpful, but that full recovery for farms after a disaster would require a significant pool of money. Expanding the Noninsured Disaster Assistance

Program at the federal level could also be helpful, she said, especially if some of the administrative burden was lifted.

U.S. Sen. Peter Welch, D-Vt., issued a statement Friday announcing that Vermont farmers affected by natural disasters in 2023 and 2024 can apply for expedited assistance through the USDA's Supplemental Disaster Relief Program.

Over \$16 billion in aid from the 2025 American Relief Act is set to go to farmers across the country, the release said. Only producers who received aid through the Noninsured Disaster Assistance Program or through subsidized crop insurance in 2023 and 2024 are currently eligible.

Dubuque reiterated the central role of small-scale agriculture in Vermont, both for food and tourism.

"Small farms in this state are so incredibly important to our economy," she said.



Addison County

Solid Waste Management District

We help you reduce, reuse, recycle, and compost. Call us for information on trash and recycling disposal services in your area!

District Transfer Station
1223 Rte 7 South Middlebury, VT
HOURS: Monday-Friday 7 AM to 3 PM, Saturday 8 AM to 1 PM
NO RESIDENTIAL TRASH OR RECYCLING

HazWaste Center:
HOURS: Monday-Friday: 8 AM to 2 PM, Saturday 8 AM to 1 PM
BUSINESSES MUST MAKE AN APPOINTMENT

District Residential Drop-Off
100 Kings Way (off Campground Rd.) New Haven, VT
HOURS: Fridays 7 AM to 2 PM, Saturdays 7 AM to NOON
NO LARGE LOADS OR SPECIAL WASTES

CONTACT US
(802) 388-2333 | acswmd@acswwmd.org
AddisonCountyRecycles.org
@addison.co.waste.mgmt | addisoncountysolidwaste



FARM CREDIT EAST

DISCOVER AN ENTIRE ORGANIZATION WORKING FOR YOUR SUCCESS.

Nobody serves your ag credit needs like Farm Credit East.


Farm Credit East was made in agriculture. It's all we do. So every product, every service and every person is dedicated to meeting your financial needs and growing your success. We know agriculture, we understand your business needs, and work to achieve your goals.

Discover the difference at Farm Credit East.

farmcrediteast.com
800.562.2235




- Loans & Leases
- Financial Record-Keeping
- Payroll Services
- Profitability Consulting
- Tax Preparation & Planning
- Appraisals
- Estate Planning
- Beginning Farmer Programs
- Crop Insurance



Champlain Valley Equipment
Middlebury, Colchester, St. Albans
Berlin, Derby
802-388-4967
www.champlainvalleyequipment.com

Your hometown Kubota dealer of choice.






#1 SELLING COMPACT TRACTOR
TRACTORS UNDER 100 HP

If you're looking for top-rated durability and owner experience, look no further.

Our entire lineup of compact and sub-compact tractors is built for comfort and ease-of-use with ergonomic operator-friendly designs, powerful Kubota diesel engines, and a variety of performance matched attachments.

Visit your Kubota dealer today for a demo! KubotaUSA.com



* Based on EDU/UC Data from 01/01/2018 - 12/31/2022 for sales of new compact tractors 0-200 Hp in states defined by the US Census as New England, (Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont.) *Based on EDA tractor sales data of under 40 horsepower models from 2018 to 2022. © Kubota Tractor Corporation, 2024. Your Kubota Limited warranty gives you specific legal rights. You may have other rights which vary from state to state. Kubota Tractor Corporation does not authorize any person to create for KTC any obligation or liability other than that stated in the limited warranty. This material is for descriptive purposes only. Kubota disclaims all representations and warranties, express or implied, or any liability from the use of this material. For complete warranty, disclaimer, safety and incentive offer information, consult your local Kubota dealer and the Owner's Warranty Information Guide for the Kubota limited warranty on all products. Visit KubotaUSA.com/disclaimers for more information.

Youth

(Continued from Page 16A)

those kiddos is to build confidence; to have a voice and to use it for whatever that messaging may be," DaBica told the *Independent*. "For the kids who are returning in the company, it's helping and modeling and being mentors... (it) is pretty amazing to have kids from all five towns participating in this community experience."

This past Friday's performance was the sixth production that DaBica and Gordon have directed through the Bristol Children's Theater Company. The company has hosted programs at a few sites around Bristol over the years, more recently collaborating with the Bristol Recreation Department.



THIRTEEN LOCAL YOUTHS took part in the Bristol Children's Theater Company inaugural summer camp. The group took to the stage this past Friday for "Monologues and More," a production that culminated the week-long camp and featured campers' original work.

Photo courtesy of Alison DaBica

WE'RE EXPERTS IN COOL!



**MIDDLEBURY, VT
VERGENNES, VT
WWW.HARE.DOG**

This year's camp marked the first summer program hosted by the theater company. Thirteen participants aged 8-12 showed up for the inaugural camp, which centered around monologues and dialogues.

"We have done full-length

performances, and so we wanted to have kids dabble with monologues and dialogues and create their own characters and write their scripts and work on their set development," DaBica explained. "This was more of an emergent theater piece, something we were

just like, 'Let's try it and see what happens.'"

SETTING THE STAGE

Throughout the week, campers worked on basic theatrical skills, creating costumes and developing sets for their performances. DaBica noted some youth wrote scripts at

the beginning of the week that they performed this past Friday.

"There's been adaptations from written pieces and monologues that they've seen and heard, and it's just kids taking full ownership of what they want to perform," she said.

Campers worked to fine-tune their scenes throughout the week with support from their peers.

"By Tuesday they are chatting it up and sitting with each other and, (asking) 'what about this, could you use this?'" DaBica said. "I think the small numbers, it really just helps to build a nice little family of actors and actresses."

In addition to building theater skills, campers took part in other activities throughout the week, including swimming at the Mount Abraham Union High School pool and playing games on the Town Green.

"They have taken their work in theater, but then are playing and just laughing and having a really great time," DaBica said.

Campers worked on a variety of different monologues and dialogues to perform for the community. Those included a skit from "Wicked," an adaptation of "I Am Malala," an original work written by two campers titled, "Agatha escapes the nursing home," and other original pieces created by camp participants.

Watching youth grow over the course of the program is part of what DaBica has enjoyed most about her role.

"To see these kids develop within this week has been really transformative. I've enjoyed it immensely," she said.

Campers also spent time working on the sets and props used in their scenes. For instance, one camper recreating Veruca Salt's interview from "Willy Wonka & the Chocolate Factory" created Wonka bars to include in scene.

DaBica noted that one prop was incorporated into every performance — a chest.

"Either a kiddo is sitting on it or standing on it or using it to prop up something," she said. "It's the one thing that's tying us all together, and we all are using it so differently."

Campers' work was on full display this past Friday when the theater company presented "Monologues and More" at Holley Hall. The production featured performances from each of the youths in the camp.

"Monologues and More was a hit! We had another full house despite it being so humid," DaBica said on Monday. "The kids did an amazing job and were very pleased with their performances. Andi and I heard lots of wonderful feedback from families and community members."

She noted that throughout the week, campers had bonded and supported one another.

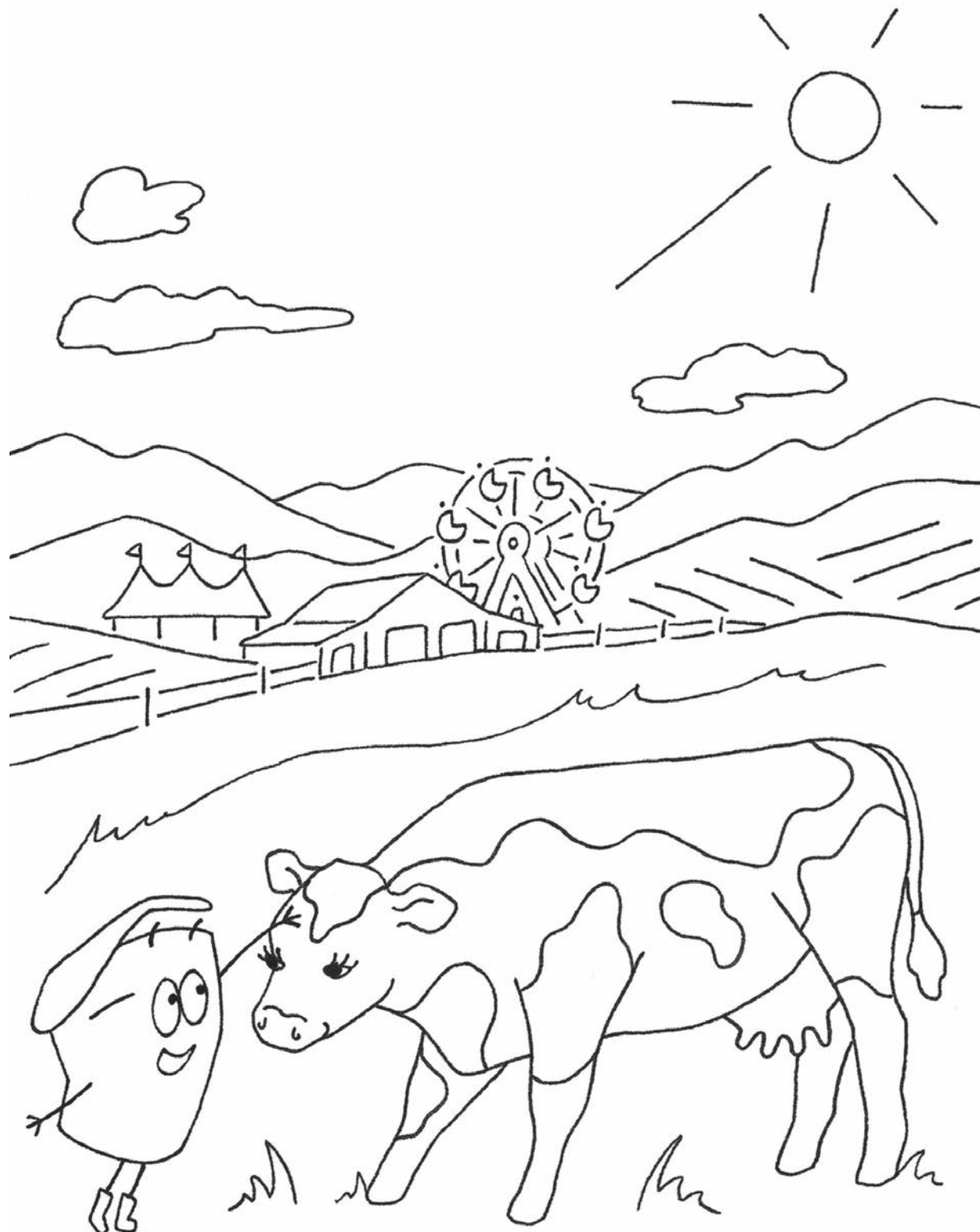
"They were kind, nurturing and so silly. Andi and I were so impressed with their approach to character development and set development," DaBica said. "Some kids wrote their monologues before they arrived on Monday, others wrote them on Monday and a few others were inspired by the words of others and performed those. It was a very special week for all of us."

Looking ahead, DaBica said the theater company is hoping to put on another full-length production this fall and will look to welcome youths to more summer programs in the future.

"The summer camp is something that we hope to offer every year," she said.

Fair - Time Coloring and Decorating Contest

Summer's in full swing! Bring your brightest colors and help Sappy Bucket® celebrate the sights, sounds, and flavors of Addison County Fair & Field Days (7/29 - 8/2)!



Feel free to tear out this coloring page or go to the Addy Indy website for a printable version.

All entries must be submitted by Friday, July 18th. Winners will be notified by July 22nd and officially announced in the July 24th edition of the Addison Independent.

Two winners from each age group will get two passes to Addison County Fair & Field Days and a gift certificate to the fairgrounds sugarhouse, which can be picked up from the Addy Indy office July 22nd-25th.

All submissions will be displayed in the sugarhouse during the fair.

Submit your entries:

🌟 **Online** at addisonindependent.com/contests

🌟 **By Mail or In Person** to Addison Independent, 58 Maple Street, Middlebury, VT 05753

Sponsored by:



ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT

Name: _____ Age: _____
 Parent/Guardian's Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Email: _____
 Age Group: under 5 5-6 7-8 9-11 12-15 16-Adult

Thank you to the Little Pressroom for providing this sweet custom image to color! For Sappy Bucket® products, visit sappybucket.com

- School News
- Classifieds
- Legal Notices
- Police Logs

Walsh takes Vt. Amateur Golf title

By MARIA BARR

MANCHESTER — After three days and 72 holes of competitive play, Burlington's Michael Walsh emerged as the winner of the Vermont Amateur Championship golf tournament on July 10 at the Manchester Country Club.

Defending champ Lucas Politano of Brandon was fourth overall and winner of the junior division.

Walsh, a member of the Lafayette College men's golf team, took the lead during the final 36-hole day, carding rounds of 67 and 72 to finish 8-under par with a final score of 280. It marks Walsh's first Vermont Amateur title and a comeback from last year's four-way playoff, where he was edged out by Politano, a 2025 Otter Valley Union High School graduate and representative of Middlebury's Ralph Myhre club.

This year, Walsh began the final day in a three-way tie for second but separated himself with consistent play, ultimately finishing five strokes ahead of the field.

Cody Semmelrock of Williston Golf Club claimed second place with back-to-back scores of 69 and 68 to close the tournament at 3-under. Barton Golf Club's Jackson King took third with a steady performance across all four rounds, finishing 2-under.

Defending champion Politano made a strong push in Round 3 with a 68. But a closing 78 dropped the future Rutgers University player into a tie for fourth, finishing with a total score of 287, or 1 under par.

Other local finishers included Ralph Myhre's Brady Fallon, who tied for 23rd overall and placed fourth in the junior division at 13-over. Neshobe's Walker Allen, another returning playoff contender from 2024, posted a 302 to tie for 27th.

MORE GOLF RESULTS

Elsewhere, Ralph Myhre club members also fared well. At the VSWG State Day event at Cedar Knoll on July 8, Tekla Fine-Lease finished second in the first flight, and Nicole Laberge took fifth in a net tie.

In the VSWG 2025 Senior Championship at Champlain Country Club, Ralph Myhre's Susan Rand placed 44th gross (186) and tied for 68th net. Other local scores:

- Eva Mastalos: 47th gross (187), tied 1st net (135).
- Jean Goodwin: 82nd gross (204), tied 34th net (148).
- Giselle Lafleche: 91st gross (215), tied 74th net (157).

In Thursday Men's Golf at Ralph Myhre on July 10, the team of Dan Small, Tom Lachenman, Robert Kirkpatrick and George Ramsayer took first place. Small also earned low net honors with a score of 70.

Second place went to Mike Adams, Bill Brown and Uwe Luksch, while Robert Cameron, Tom Maxwell, Stan Pratt and David Zarowin came in third.

In the Vermont Junior Tour event at Quechee Lakeland on July 11, Ronan Duffy placed 28th in the Boys 15-18 Division with a score of 88.

In Friday's Mixer, the team of Dale White, Jill White, Garvi Jesso-White and Wilder Perera won with a score of 31. Bryon Emilo, Julia Emilo, Brian Dodds and Cindy Dodds took second, and Craig Miner, Susan Miner, Fred Lichtenfels and Sheri Lichtenfels placed third.



MARLIN CONSTANTIN BELLMAN powers along on his way to winning the boys' 14-and-under breaststroke race in Tuesday's swim meet in Vergennes.

Independent photo/Steve James

Fun and family win when swim teams meet

By ANDY KIRKALDY

VERGENNES — The official Champlain Valley Swim League record will show that on Tuesday, June 15, the visiting Middlebury Marlins edged the host Vergennes Champs, 249-234, on a steamy summer evening.

What the record won't show is teammates age 6 to 17, about 120 in all between the teams, many of them siblings, cheering together with coaches who themselves were former Champs or Marlins, all enjoying themselves.

Meanwhile dozens of their family members — most in the shade as temperatures remained in the 80s as racing began — chatted with each other and applauded their children's efforts no matter the results.

Welcome to summer swimming, where, sure, it's nice to finish first — the Champs won the league, after all, a few years back — but

it's also enough to get better at a healthy activity and hang out with friends.

Summer swimming also allows some to hone their skills for more competitive winter and even future college swimming, and many others to become leaders and role models for younger teammates.

Two Marlins swimmers talked about being part of their team and their relationship with younger swimmers between their races — Constantin Bellmann, a 14-and-under competitor, and Jorgen Pirrung, one of the few Middlebury 18-and-under competitors.

"It's really a good team," Bellman said. "We're all really so closely tied, closely knit."

Pirrung and Bellmann do feel like they should set an example for their younger teammates.

"The kids on our team are good kids, and they're good listeners," Pirrung said. "They draw out the

best of us as well, and they hold us to a higher standard."

Bellman agrees.

"They do look up to us a lot, and they're also great kids," Bellmann said. "They're looking up to us also makes us the best version of ourselves."

What they are saying fits in with what Marlins Coach Carina Bellman, herself a Marlins swimmer back in the day, described as the Marlins coaches' philosophy when asked if her team was enjoying the summer.

"They're having so much fun," she said. "I think that's really what we focus on. It's camaraderie, teamwork, cooperation, personal growth, and I guess a lot of fun."

Champ Coach Addie Brooks and Bill Clark sounded similar themes.

Brooks is basically a Champs lifer. She started swimming with the team when she was 8 years old and moved into coaching when she

aged out. She sees the youngsters she typically works with enjoying it the way she did.

"They seem to be having an absolute blast," Brooks said of what is, like the Marlins, a mostly young team. "Every day we're here, morning and night, and they're happy to be here."

They're also learning, according to Clark.

"We're definitely seeing the time drops and the improvements in technique," Clark said. "This is the time of the year it starts to come together for them, in midseason, and so we're seeing that, for sure."

The team has many youngsters, including a large bubble of 11- and 12-year-olds and older swimmers who are accomplished at more than just swimming, Clark said.

"They set an example ... They provide some leadership. It's something the younger kids can



CHAMPS U-8 SWIMMER Ezra Norwood lost control of his goggles in this event, but won two races in Tuesday's swim meet in Vergennes.

Independent photo/Steve James



CHAMP JORDAN HUTCHINS swims on her way to victory in the girls' U-14 breaststroke race in Tuesday's swim meet in Vergennes.

Independent photo/Steve James

Marlins outswim visiting Winooski in league meet

By BEE ECKELS

MIDDLEBURY — The Middlebury Marlins Swim Team topped visiting Winooski, 311-113, on Thursday, July 10, in the team's fourth meet of the Champlain Valley Swim League season.

The Marlins are scheduled to head up to St. Albans on Thursday, July 17, for the last dual meet of the season before all teams begin preparations for the league

championships, which will be hosted in Middlebury on Friday, July 25, and Saturday, July 26.

Vs. Winooski at the Middlebury pool, the Marlins quickly rebounded after a July 8 loss, and on July 10 gained a 12-4 edge in relay races over the Waves. The Marlins also had numerous swimmers secure multiple top-three finishes.

Three Marlins claimed three individual wins apiece: Vaden

Brooks, Enea Ancarani and Felix Poduschnick.

Four more twice touched the final wall in first: Vela Remaniak, Mitzi Poduschnick, Henry Cadoret and Jorgen Pirrung.

Additionally, 10 Marlins scored individual wins: Halsey Brooks, Louise Wiker, Rose Phinney, Cooper Butler, Cassandra Bellmann, Ben Phinney, Elise Almstrand, Constantin Bellmann,

Sadie Chance and Selma Citarella.

Marlins scoring points for their team with top-three finishes in those races were:

BUTTERFLY

- U-8 girls: 2. Alula Remaniak.
- U-10 girls: 1. Vela Remaniak, 18.14; 2. Harper Nelson.
- U-10 boys: 1. Enea Ancarani, 16.49; 2. Patrick Martin; 3. Lincoln Hunt.
- U-12 girls: 2. Cassandra

Bellmann.

• U-12 boys: 1. Felix Poduschnick, 33.33; 2. Porter Mackey; 3. Harvey Bishop.

• U-14 girls: 1. Mitzi Poduschnick, 33.99.

• U-14 boys: 1. Henry Cadoret, 31.27; 2. Constantin Bellmann; 3. Weston Wright.

• U-18 girls: 1. Sadie Chance, 30.24.

(See Marlins, Page 2B)

Father, son prevail at Devil's Bowl

WEST HAVEN — Salisbury father-and-son drivers Freddie and Matt Little both won races on Saturday night at Devil's Bowl Speedway.

The elder Little, known as Fast Freddie Little at the track, earned his first win of the season as he dominated the O'Reilly Auto Parts Limited Sportsman 25-lap feature. Katrina LeClaire led the first two laps before Little captured the point on a lap-three restart. Little had to fend off a pair of challenges from Cody O'Brien after back-to-back caution flags as the field tried to complete the first six laps.

After the caution flag flew again on lap seven, Little drove away, leading the final 18 laps to complete the win. Point leaders Alex Layn and Jason Quenneville both struggled with issues on the night, allowing other drivers to gain ground in the championship race. Whiting's Logan Denis was the only other Addison County to crack the top 10, taking ninth.

Matt Little claimed his win in the 20-lap Hoosier Tire Limited Novice Sportsman Feature for his first victory of his career. Little held off a strong effort from former Crown Vic champion Rob Steele in the closing laps to park his machine in victory lane. Steele finished second, followed by a parade of local drivers in the top 10: Bristol's Aiden Benoure in third, Leicester's Matt Cram in fourth, East Middlebury's Chris Sumner in sixth, and Brandon's Francis Clark in 10th.

In the 30-lap Sunoco Sportsman Modified feature Benson's AJ Munger held off a field of contenders to collect his first win of 2025. Munger took the lead on lap seven and kept it for the final 23 laps. Bristol's Josh Masterson pressured Munger in the final laps, but Munger prevailed. Masterson took

(See Races, Page 2B)

Legion nine sweeps three; playoffs loom

By ANDY KIRKALDY

MIDDLEBURY — The Addison County American Legion baseball team swept three recent home games as the local nine locked up one of the four Northern Division playoff berths with a 10-4 record and four games to go.

AC can clinch the No. 3 seed with one win in its remaining games, but will need help to earn a higher seed because the two teams ahead of the local nine in the standings, Essex and St. Johnsbury, own the head-to-head tiebreaker.

In the three recent games, AC on Saturday, July 12 swept a home doubleheader from Franklin County, 7-2 and 7-3, and on Sunday topped visiting first-place Essex, 4-3, scoring the winning run in the bottom of the seventh.

Barring upsets, AC looks to be headed for the No. 3 seed and a date with the No. 2 seed from the South when the state playoffs begin next week.

Postseason games will be played in White River Junction and at Norwich University at dates and times to be announced.

AC Coach Tim Paquette said this past Sunday's win over Essex should give his team a boost moving forward.

"I think it gives the boys confidence. I told the boys this morning we've been winning the games we should win, but we need to win the games against these guys if we want to compete in the state tournament," he said. "This is the caliber of play that we're going to need. We're not going to need to beat the CVUs and South Burlingtons. They're the bottom teams. We've got to beat the kids at the top."

He also noted it was the bottom of the AC batting order that came through in the seventh inning.

"They got on base like I asked

(See Legion, Page 2B)

Swimming

(Continued from Page 1B)

something the younger kids can aspire to when they see the older kids in there, so it really helps," Clark said.

One swimmer the younger Champs can look up to is Will Clark, 16, owner of seven age-group state records and son of the coach. Clark has been swimming competitively since he was 5, and like some summer swimmers wants to pursue the sport further.

"I definitely have some dream colleges I want to go to. But I have to drop some more time to get there. That's another reason I keep coming back."

But there's more to it that just improving his swimming.

"The whole team is like a family. A lot of the kids are siblings of people I've swam with over the years. Everyone is tight-knit, and it's just a fun time. We've got music going at the meets. It's just more fun than the winter."

Coach Bellman, in her 10th year helping the Marlins program, talked about family, too.

"It's so special to be part of this with my kids. We have a lot of kids who are swimming whose parents were swimmers. Having it come full circle is really fun. It's really a family team."

MEET RESULTS

On Tuesday, the Marlins prevailed in 13 of 19 relays, a critical factor in their victory, as the Champs earned the advantage in individual races.

Leading the Marlins in individual wins were Henry Cadoret, Felix Poduschnick and Enea Ancarani with three apiece. Claiming one individual victory each were Tilly Hopkinson, Evelyn Fuller, Cooper Butler, Constantin Bellmann, Selma Citarella, Maxine King and Elise Armstrong.

Young winners Zoey Kress and Juliet Kennedy led the Champs with four and three wins, respectively. Five Champs won twice: Declan Husk, Ezra Norwood, Jordan Hutchins, Ella Bearor, and Will Clark. Champs touching the wall first once were Luke Davis, Vivian Romond, Camron Curtis,

Lauren Husk, Ellie Brooks and Scarlet Giroux.

Scoring points in individual events for both teams in individual events with top-three results on Tuesday were:

BUTTERFLY

- U-8 girls: 1. T. Hopkinson, M, 27.83; 2. J. Kennedy, V; 3. Grace Gaudette, V.

- U-8 boys: 1. E. Norwood, V, 27.08.

- U-10 girls: 1. Z. Kress, V, 15.7; 2. Savannah Wallace, V; 3. Vela Remaniak, M.

- U-10 boys: 1. E. Ancarani, M, 16.93; 2. Riker Cooley, V; 3. Rhett Cooke, V.

- U-12 girls: 1. V. Romond, V, 36.77; 2. Cassandra Bellman, M; 3. Bianca Spafford, M.

- U-12 boys: 1. F. Poduschnick, M, 31.44; 2. Brantley Cook, V; 3. Porter Mackey, M.

- U-14 girls: 1. J. Hutchins, V, 32.62; 2. Annika Smits, V; 3. Lauren Husk, V.

- U-14 boys: 1. H. Cadoret, M, 21.27; 2. C. Bellmann, M.

- U-18 girls: 1. E. Bearor, V, 30.39; 2. Sadie Chance, M; 3. Abigail Hamilton, M.

- U-18 boys: 1. L. Davis, V, 24.76; 2. Khanlen Ouimette, V; 3. Jorgen Pirrung, M.

BACKSTROKE

- U-8 girls: 1. J. Kennedy, 25.62; 2. Ellie Butler, M; 3. Lydia Court, M.

- U-8 boys: 1. E. Norwood, V, 24.86; 2. D. Husk, V; 3. James Foley, M.

- U-10 girls: 1. Z. Kress, V, 25.51; 2. Eleanor O'Leary, M.

- U-10 boys: 1. E. Ancarani, M, 18.35; 2. R. Cooley, V; 3. R. Cooke, V.

- U-12 girls: 1. E. Fuller, M, 37.39; 2. M. King, M; 3. V. Romond, V.

- U-12 boys: 1. C. Curtis, V, 42.15; 2. Harvey Bishop, M; 3. Nolan Almstrand, M.

- U-14 girls: 1. L. Husk, V, 35.51; 2. E. O'Leary, M.

- U-14 boys: 1. H. Cadoret, M, 42.21; 2. Henry Schmidt, M.

- U-18 girls: 1. E. Brooks, V, 33.18; 2. E. Bearor, V; 3. A. Hamilton, M.

- U-18 boys: 1. L. Davis, V, 31.04; 2. W. Clark, V; 3. J. Pirrung, M.

BREASTSTROKE

- U-8 girls: 1. J. Kennedy, V, 31.04; 2. T. Hopkinson, M; 3. G. Gaudette, V.

- U-8 boys: 1. E. Norwood, V, 34.78; 2. J. Foley, M.

- U-10 girls: 1. Z. Kress, V, 21.09; 2. S. Wallace, V; 3. Rose Phinney, M.

- U-10 boys: 1. C. Butler, M, 22.79; 2. R. Cooley, V; 3. Keegan Landon, M.

- U-12 girls: 1. Scarlett Giroux, V, 40.75; 2. Ca. Bellmann, M; 3. Bianca Spafford, M.

- U-12 boys: 1. F. Poduschnick, M, 39.15; 2. Ben Phinney, M; 3. C. Curtis, V.

- U-14 girls: J. Hutchins, V, 38.45; 2. Cecilia Neffinger, V; 3. E. Almstrand, M.

- U-14 boys: 1. Co. Bellman, M, 39.43; 2. Henry Schmidt, M.

- U-18 girls: 1. S. Citarella, M, 33.21; 2. S. Chance, M; 3. Ellie Eckels, V.

- U-18 boys: 1. W. Clark, V, 29.74; 2. Cohen Howell, V; 3. J. Pirrung, M.

FREESTYLE

- U-8 girls: 1. J. Kennedy, V, 22.62; 2. T. Hopkinson, M; 3. E. Butler, M.

- U-8 boys: 1. D. Husk, M, 21.2; 2. E. Norwood, V; 3. Raleigh Woods, V.

- U-10 girls: 1. Z. Kress, 14.66; 2. V. Remaniak, M; 3. S. Wallace, V.

- U-10 boys: 1. E. Ancarani, M, 14.88; 2. R. Cooley, V; 3. R. Cooke, V.

- U-12 girls: 1. M. King, M, 32.5; 2. E. Fuller, M; 3. Gretchen Hill, V.

- U-12 boys: 1. F. Poduschnick, M, 28.21; 2. C. Curtis, M; 3. Ben Phinney, M.

- U-14 girls: 1. E. Almstrand, M, 29.76; 2. J. Hutchins, V; 2. Nicola Power, M.

- U-14 boys: 1. H. Cadoret, M, 27.7; 2. Co. Bellman, M.

- U-18 girls: 1. E. Bearor, V, 27.73; 2. S. Citarella, M; 3. E. Brooks, V.

- U-18 boys: 1. W. Clark, V, 22.86; 2. L. Davis, V; 3. J. Pirrung, M.



MARLIN WILLOW HUNT competes in the 12-and-under girls' backstroke in Tuesday's swim meet in Vergennes.

Independent photo/Steve James

Marlins

(Continued from Page 1B)

BACKSTROKE

- U-8 girls: 3. Ellie Butler.
- U-8 boys: 1. Vaden Brooks, 24.90; 2. James Foley; 3. Hugh Spafford.

- U-10 girls: 1. Louie Wiker, 23.40; 2. Natalie Butler; 3. Romy Graves.

- U-10 boys: 1. Cooper Butler, 21.91; 2. L. Hunt; 3. Keegan Landon.

- U-12 girls: 2. Bianca Spafford.
- U-12 boys: 1. Ben Phinney, 40.50; 2. Bodhi Kenna; 3. H. Bishop.

- U-14 girls: 2. Elise Almstrand.
- U-14 boys: 1. H. Cadoret, 35.58; 3. George Martin.

- U-18 girls: 2. S. Chance.

BREASTSTROKE

- U-8 girls: 1. Halsey Brooks, 28.84; 2. Tilly Hopkinson; 3. A. Remaniak.

- U-8 boys: 1. V. Brooks, 32.24.
- U-10 girls: 1. Rose Phinney, 22.80; 2. R. Graves; 3. V. Remaniak.

- U-10 boys: 1. E. Ancarani, 19.36; 2. C. Butler; 3. Aldon Rafferty.

- U-12 girls: 1. Ca. Bellmann, 42.49; 2. B. Spafford.

- U-12 boys: 1. F. Poduschnick, 39.37; 2. B. Phinney.

- U-14 girls: 1. M. Poduschnick, 40.26; 2. E. Almstrand.

- U-14 boys: 1. Co. Bellmann, 38.53; 2. G. Martin; 3. Henry Schmitt.

- U-18 girls: 1. Selma Citarella, 33.81; 2. S. Chance.

- U-18 boys: 1. Jorgen Pirrung, 38.15.

FREESTYLE

- U-8 girls: 2. H. Brooks.
- U-8 boys: 1. V. Brooks, 25.56; 2. J. Foley.

- U-10 girls: 1. V. Remaniak, 16.07; 2. R. Phinney; 3. H. Nelson.

- U-10 boys: 1. E. Ancarani, 14.86; 2. C. Butler; 3. L. Hunt.

- U-12 girls: 2. B. Spafford; 3. Ca. Bellmann.

- U-12 boys: 1. F. Poduschnick, 29.65; 2. P. Mackey; 3. B. Phinney.

- U-14 girls: 1. E. Almstrand, 30.77; 2. M. Poduschnick.

- U-14 boys: 2. Co. Bellmann; 3. H. Cadoret.
- U-18 girls: 3. Abigail Hamilton.
- U-18 boys: 1. J. Pirrung, 27.77.

Legion

(Continued from Page 1B)

them to, and we picked up the victory. They didn't give up," he said.

Paquette offered one last thought about the upcoming tournament: "Why not us?"

AC has four games remaining: at sixth-place Champlain Valley on Thursday, two at fifth-place Montpelier on Saturday, and one at home vs. St. Johnsbury on Sunday. One of the Montpelier games is a makeup of the July 10 home game with Montpelier, which was suspended when high winds and hail hit the Middlebury College diamond.

AC played its home games this past weekend at Middlebury Union High School due to damage suffered to the college field in the July 10 storm. The Sunday St. J. game will also be played at MUHS.

As of Tuesday night, the Northern Division standings were 1. Essex, 15-3; 2. St. Johnsbury, 12-3; 3. AC,

10-4; 4. Montpelier, 7-8; 5. Franklin County, 5-10; 6. Champlain Valley, 3-13; 7. South Burlington, 2-13.

ESSEX GAME

On Sunday, AC took a 3-0 lead in the first inning, bunching the only three hits the team had through the first six innings. In that inning Aricin Griffin singled, stole a base and scored on a Brody Barnard single. After Clark Crary walked, Ryan Brouillard doubled both runners home.

In a strong effort, AC starter Aricin Griffin kept Essex off the board for five innings, but Essex nicked him for two runs in the sixth, on a throwing error with reliever Ryan Brouillard on the mound after Griffin left with one out.

Essex tied the game off with a triple and single in the top of the seventh.

But AC walked it off in the bottom of the inning scoring against an Essex reliever. Kimball pulled a doubled to right center to lead off.

Aiden Fuller pulled a sharp grounder just fair down the third-base line into the outfield grass, and Kimball raced home with the winning run.

AC SWEEPS

On Saturday, AC picked up the 7-2 win in the first game as Tucker Morter went the distance for the pitching victory, allowing eight hits, fanning six and walking two. Barnard, Griffin and Tucker Wright each singled twice, and Brouillard singled and doubled to pace the AC's 11-hit attack.

In the second game, AC snapped a 3-3 tie in the fifth when Crary and Wright each drilled two-run homers. Barnard contributed two hits to the attack.

Wright started and went three innings, allowing three runs, two earned. Kimball relieved and tossed three scoreless innings to earn the pitching win, and Carter Paquette threw the seventh inning to lock down the win in a rare appearance on the mound.

Races

(Continued from Page 1B)

second, Bridport's Troy Audet was third, and Brandon drivers Vince Quenneville and Joey Scarborough ran eighth and ninth, respectively.

New York driver Chase Moran won the 25-lap McGee Automotive Sprint Cars of New England feature, which did not include any local racers.

In the 15-lap Friend Construction 500cc feature, defending track champion Gage Provencher won for the third time in his last four starts. Brandon's Quinn Quenneville finished third.

The evening concluded with the 15-lap Fisher Auto Parts Mini Stock feature, with Gerry Jordan surviving a race with several dust-ups and

cautions to take home the first-place trophy. Orwell's Jakobee Alger was seventh, and Middlebury's Jake Barrows finished 10th.

Devil's Bowl Speedway will be back in action on Saturday for "Hometown Heroes First Responders Night." Racing begins at 7 p.m.

The Official Radio Station of
SUMMER

DOWNLOAD
the WVTK App Today

Streaming | On-Demand | Contests | and more
Android Auto and Apple CarPlay Compatible

GET IT ON
Google Play

Download on the
App Store

92.1 WVTK
Addison County's Radio Station

921WVTK.COM

How much money and carbon could you save by switching to Vermont Gas?

VGS

Jeff Brown let his players create a winning culture

When Russ Reilly was introduced in 1997 as the new athletic director at Middlebury College after spending 19 years as the basketball coach, he announced: "The first decision I will make as the AD is to fire the men's basketball coach!"

After a national search, Russ's successor was selected and he was a familiar face — Jeff Brown. Russ had known him from Jeff's Hall of Fame playing days at the University of Vermont, his nine years as the assistant coach at UVM, then as a NESCAC coaching rival at Bates College (Russ's alma mater) for three years.

More than familiar — they were friends.

Russ became a volunteer assistant coach for Jeff, working with the big men, for 13 seasons. When Russ died in 2019, the men's basketball position was endowed and Jeff became the first "Russell L. Reilly Head Coach of Men's Basketball at Middlebury College."

After spending 28 years as the Middlebury men's coach, Jeff has now retired, at age 65, as of June 30.

So how did those 28 years go? In a word... great!

It took Jeff a few years, but the program went from being competitive at best in Division III to one of the top programs in the country, year after year.

Jeff's overall record is 457 wins against 248 losses, .648 winning percentage. He coached five all-Americans: Ben Rudin (2009), Ryan Sharry (2011, 2012), Matt St. Amour (2017, of St. Albans, Vt.), Jack Daly (2018), and Alex Sobel (2022, 2023 National Player of the Year in D3).

His Middlebury teams won 20 games nine times (playing a

24-game regular schedule), won NESCAC championships four times, and earned inclusion in the NCAA post-season tournaments 12 times, three times making it to the quarterfinals (the Elite 8) and once to the Final 4. The Panthers' record in NCAA play is 18-12.

In 2011, the Panthers played in Salem, Va., in the National D3 Championship series losing in the semi-finals to the eventual champion, St. Thomas (Minn.) by one basket, 59-57. Their record that year was 28-2. In a five-year period, 2009-2013, Middlebury was 128-18 and averaged 26 wins a season.

Among the individual accolades Jeff Brown has earned are being named NESCAC Coach of the Year five times and the district Coach of the Year twice. In 2023, he was honored with the prestigious College Basketball Officials Association Sam Schoenfeld's Sportsmanship Award.

Jeff was inducted into the UVM Sports Hall of Fame in 1993, as "one of the top all-around basketball players in the history of the school."

During Jeff Brown's tenure as Panther men's coach, Middlebury, Vt., has gone from being a hockey town — to a hockey *and* basketball town.

Jeff grew up in Nyack, about 25 miles north of New York City, in Rockland County, the second of six boys in his family. He was attracted to basketball early. "At age seven, I was playing in a rec league," he said. "I was hooked. Basketball became the centerpiece of my life.

"I was recruited by Vermont, and

some other schools showed interest too, Holy Cross and UMass, but UVM made a solid offer. My friends said, 'Where is UVM!' but I had a wonderful experience there."



Sports (Mostly) **KARL LINDHOLM**

Jeff has coached basketball for 43 years. His path to Middlebury had some stops along the way, first as an assistant at Manhattan College, then at his alma mater for nine years ("I coached Rob Hamlin and Joe Calavita from Middlebury High's 1983 state championship team").

"I enjoyed coaching from Day 1," he said. "Going to Bates as their head coach was not on my radar," he said. "I was happy as a D1 assistant. But I had developed a rapport with Russ Reilly and I knew of his loyalty to Bates.

"But when I walked the campus at Middlebury with two students, I was knocked out. I had only worked at red brick campuses. And I was so impressed with the athletic department generally. I felt I had a great opportunity to recruit high level athletes to Middlebury."

The crude calculus of sports evaluates coaching success in wins and losses — it's black and white, but when you ask people to assess Jeff Brown's leadership of the Middlebury basketball program, their first words are not about w's and l's.

Tim Edwards was a terrific player for Jeff's teams, the NESCAC Defensive Player of the Year in 2009 and 2010. His dad, Duncan, a lifelong educator, described Jeff as "a great coach but an even better man. My son (like so many sons of

Midd) is a better man for having been in his presence — there is no truer or lasting measure of success than that."

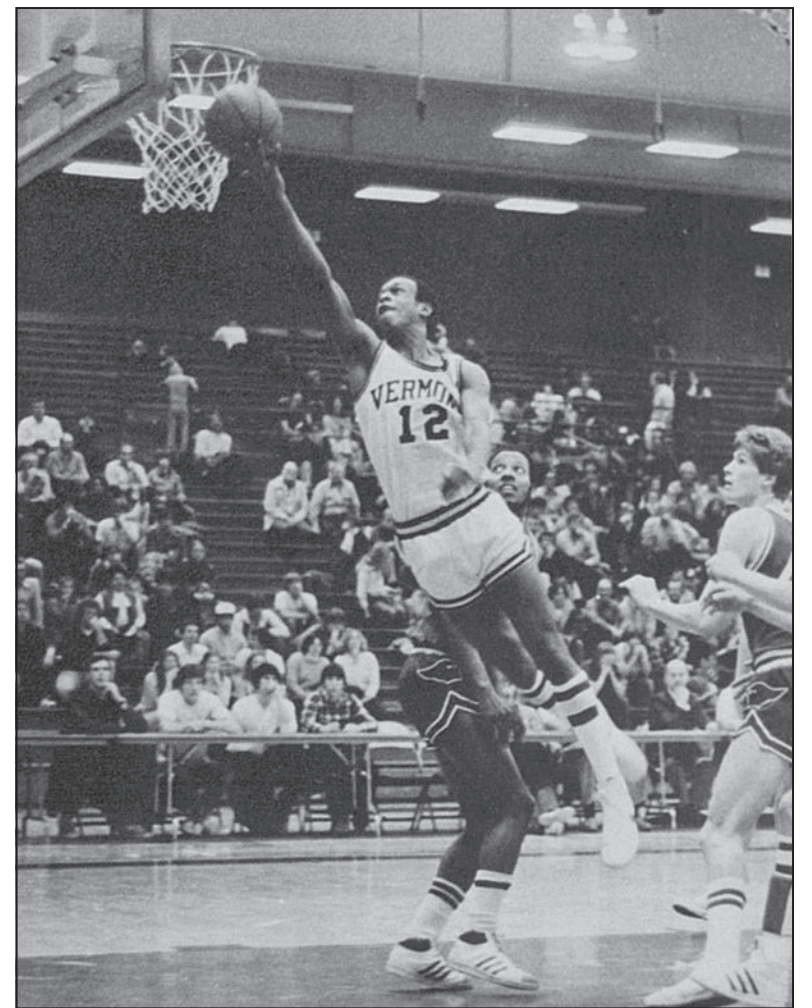
"Working with Coach Brown through the recruiting process," All-American Ryan Sharry (2009-12) said, "was the reason why I chose to go to school in Vermont. I instantly trusted him and was confident he had the program in a great place.

"The main thing that stood out was his composure. No matter the situation, he was always incredibly calm. That steady confidence played a huge role in our ability to mount big comebacks in important games." Sam Rubinstein, Jeff's lead assistant for the past three years (and he has been retained by new head coach Matt Goldsmith) said he has learned from Jeff "how professionals treat people. He treats people the same, regardless of status. He's a great listener. His superpower is his belief in his players. He doesn't micromanage people. He allows players to be who they are.

"When I travel for Middlebury, wear the logo, I am immediately treated with respect. That's about Jeff. He is respected at all levels of the game."

Alex Woolf of Cornwall wrote for *Sports Illustrated* for 36 years and was the pre-eminent college basketball writer in the country. He goes to a lot of Middlebury games. He had this to say about Jeff Brown's coaching: "He had a faith and understanding that the game belonged to his players. He played a lot of them and empowered them.

"When the program 'turned the corner' in the late 2000s, it was because Jeff let his players create a



MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE MEN'S basketball coach Jeff Brown goes up for two points during his days playing college basketball at the University of Vermont. He was captain of the team in 1982 and inducted into the UVM Sports Hall of Fame in 1993.

Credit: UVM Photo

winning culture. He knew only they could do that."

Jeff has no grand plans for his retirement. He and his wife of 39 years, Renee, have three grown daughters — Vanessa, Michele, and Nicole — and six grandchildren. They will continue to live in Middlebury. "I look forward," he says, "to watching Middlebury

basketball games in Pepin, ... and watching my grandkids grow up."

Karl Lindholm, Ph.D., is the Emeritus Dean of Advising and retired Assistant Professor of American Studies at Middlebury College. He can be contacted at lindholm@middlebury.edu.



MIDDLEBURY MEN'S BASKETBALL coach Jeff Brown, recently retired, huddles with his team in 2023. One of his NESCAC coaching rivals, Joe Reilly of Wesleyan, called Jeff "one of the top coaches in all of college basketball — any level, and his influence with be missed in the NESCAC, D3 basketball and beyond."

Credit: Will Costello



JEFF BROWN RETIRED after 28 years at the helm of the Middlebury College men's basketball team at the end of last month with a remarkable record of 457-248, four NESCAC championships and 12 appearances in the NCAA postseason tournament.

Credit: Will Costello

GET READY TO RUN

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

SUNDAY / OCTOBER 19
5K / 10K / HALF MARATHON
MIDDLEBURY, VT

VERMONT'S "SWEETEST" HALF MARATHON
MIDDLEBURY MAPLE RUN 2025

WHAT MAKES IT SO SWEET?

- BEAUTIFUL, scenic routes with views of the Green Mountains & Adirondacks.
- A mix of TRAIL, PAVED AND DIRT ROADS for all events!
- USATF-CERTIFIED COURSE that is well supported, with rolling hills & foliage views.
- Well Organized, Great Swag, Well-Stocked AID STATIONS.
- Post-Race BREAKFAST
- Top Finishers Receive VERMONT MAPLE SYRUP!

REGISTER TODAY! MIDDLEBURYMPLERUN.COM

Half-zip performance shirts available when you register!

VERMONT SUN

RUN & TRIATHLON SERIES

Enter as an individual or a 2-3 member team

VERMONT SUN TRIATHLON
SATURDAY, JUNE 21 (USAT STATE CHAMPIONSHIP RACE)
SATURDAY, JULY 19 (VT SENIOR), SUNDAY AUGUST 17, 2025
600 yard swim • 14 mile bike • 3.1 mile run

LAKE DUNMORE TRIATHLON
SATURDAY, JUNE 21 (USAT STATE CHAMPIONSHIP RACE)
SUNDAY AUGUST 17, 2025
.9 mile swim • 28 mile bike • 6.2 mile run

All races start and end at Lake Dunmore's Branbury State Park

BRANBURY CLASSIC
SATURDAY, JULY 19, 2025
1.5 mile Paddle | 14 mile Bike | 3.1 mile Run

Teams and Individuals • 802-388-6888

VERMONT SUN .COM

Monkton

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

NEWS

MONKTON — There is a lot happening at Russell Memorial Library. Learn the game of chess on Thursday, July 17, from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. with coach and chess expert Andrea Gorostiaga. All levels of players are welcome, from beginners to the elite. This will be an enjoyable afternoon of fun completion. Don't miss it.

Stitch and Spin continues on Sunday, July 20, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. with Assistant Librarian Kat. You can bring your favorite fiber project to work on with other friendly fiber nerds while enjoying a hot beverage, sharing and maybe needed advise on your item. Any kind of project is welcome, being it crocheting, knitting, mending, stitching, weaving, spinning, felting, or anything else you can transport to the library easily. Stitch and Spin happens on the third Sunday of every month. All are welcome.

Unfortunately, the event at the Russell Memorial Library on July 24, Edna Music Night, had to be cancelled. No future date has been determined at this time.

Contact the library at russellmemlibrary@gmail.com to get a listing of the monthly Book Club info on books being read and discussed. Also, you may sign up for an email list or be able to borrow listed books from the library to read for the meeting. The Book Club meets at 7 p.m. on the first Wednesday of every month at the library. A few upcoming books to

read and discuss will be "West With Giraffes" by Lynda Rutledge on Aug. 6, "Berry Pickers" by Amanda Peters for Sept. 3, and "The Maid" by Nita Prose on Oct. 1.

Monkton History Museum invites you to its Grand Opening! Join us Monday, July 21, at 7 p.m., in the new Town Hall Community Room to enjoy cake, a tour of the museum, a slide show of old-time Monkton, and a chance to socialize with other folks who enjoy celebrating our vibrant community.

The very first exhibits, opening on July 21, will be of General Stores (think old-fashioned country stores) in Monkton, one-room schools in Monkton, and the stories of World War II service members who were in the Monkton Grange.

The space is small, so we will be regularly rotating exhibits, the topics of which will be determined in part by community interest.

Next year we will be featuring 250 years since the Declaration of Independence by featuring topics such as life in Monkton at that time, Native people and their prehistory, current cemeteries where some of our earliest white citizens are buried, our very own Tory Rock skirmish, and more to be determined in part by the questions folks pose on the big flag in the Community Room.

We have a lot to celebrate and hope you'll join us on Monday July 21 at 7 p.m. You'll be able to say "I was there" on the day the new museum opened.



THURSDAY

July 17 Little Cloud hand painting in Shoreham. Thursday, July 17, 10 a.m., Platt Memorial Library, 279 Main St. Ages 0-5 and their parents or caregivers.

Shipwreck Tour in Ferrisburgh. Thursday, July 17, 10 a.m.-noon, Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, 4472 Basin Harbor Rd. Dive into Lake Champlain's underwater history without getting wet! This scenic boat tour will take you to the sites of some famous local shipwrecks as Museum experts recount their dramatic stories. Tickets \$25 kids/\$45 adults. More info at LCMHM.org.

Good Trouble in Brandon. Thursday, July 17, 4-6 p.m. Central Park. Indivisible Brandon will again meet in Central Park to show support for democracy. Please bring your signs and Good Trouble. You can learn more about the event at goodtroubleliveson.org.

Historical Society meeting in Bristol. Thursday, July 17, 7 p.m., Howden Hall, 19 West St. At the monthly meeting of the Bristol Historical Society, Reg Dearborn will speak on "Early Fires on Bristol's Main St. from 1872 to 1974." There will be pictures, news stories and N. H. Munsill Hose Co. Fire Department Reports. Free, open to the public, and accessible to those with disabilities. More info: 802-453-3526 or dear4@gmavt.net.

FRIDAY

July 18 Fish fry in Middlebury. Friday, July 18, 5-7 p.m., VFW, 530 Exchange St. Menu includes haddock, baked potato or French fries and cole slaw. \$16 per person. Eat in or take out. Open to the public. Take-out begins at 5 p.m. Proceeds to benefit veterans' programs.

The Summer Party in Ferrisburgh. Friday, July 18, 5-8 p.m., Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, 4472 Basin Harbor Rd. An annual celebration, The Summer Party is a chance for our community, neighbors, friends, volunteers, partners and beyond to come together for one special evening to celebrate our unique Museum and raise a glass to our 2025 season. Delicious food and drink, live music and more. Tickets \$50 include one meal and one raffle ticket. More info at lcmhm.org.

SATURDAY

July 19 Washington Street Cemetery clean up in Middlebury. Saturday, July 19, 8-10 a.m., next to Middlebury Animal Hospital. Help members of the Rotary Club of Middlebury and other volunteers clean up the Washington Street Cemetery to help clear the trees, tall weeds and debris along the two chain link fences on each side of the cemetery. Bring a saw, rake, wheel barrel, weed trimmer — whatever you have. There is no parking at the site.

Yard Sale fundraiser in Monkton. Saturday, July 19, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Monkton Friends Methodist Church, 78 Monkton Ridge. Rain or Shine.

Mid Summer Market in Middlebury. Saturday, July 19, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., College Street Park. Welcome Middlebury College Language School Students. See what's on offer from Vermont artists, craftspeople and purveyors of fine Vermont products and prepared food. Shoppers can expect beautiful handmade items perfect for gifts, mementos, or staples for everyday use. Rain or shine. Learn more at ExperienceMiddlebury.com/midd-markets.

Lemon Fair Insect Control District open house in Middlebury. Saturday, July 19, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., 2790 Weybridge Rd. Learn about how the mosquito season is going for the three towns of Cornwall, Weybridge and Bridport and how to reduce mosquitoes on your property without the use of chemical pesticides. Also meet our two college interns and learn about the work they have been doing this summer. Microscopes set up and you'll be able to observe both odd and fascinating features of mosquitoes. Refreshments available.

Kids' poetry workshop with Ted Scheu in Shoreham. Saturday, July 19, 1 p.m., Platt Memorial Library, 279 Main St.

SUNDAY

July 20 "From New Haven to Korea: Small-Town Faith and Global Courage" in New Haven. Sunday, July 20, 10 a.m., Union Church of New Haven Mills, River Rd. The New Haven Congregational Church invites the public to a special commemorative service honoring Homer Hulbert (1863-1949). A New Haven native, Hulbert became a missionary, linguist, writer and national hero in Korea for his peaceful advocacy of Korean independence during the Japanese occupation.

Blast from the Past: Historic Clock and Watches Afternoon in Addison. Sunday, July 20, 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.

MONDAY

July 21 Citizen science art - sun spot pictures / Square-foot census in Shoreham. Monday, July 21, 10-11 a.m., Platt Memorial Library, 279 Main St. Ages 7 and up.

Vergennes City Band concert in Vergennes. Monday, July 21, 7 p.m., City Green. A staple of Vergennes summer. Relax on the green and listen to live band music.

Monkton History Museum grand opening in Monkton. Monday, July 21, 7 p.m., Monkton Town Hall, 92 Monkton Ridge. Enjoy cake, a tour of the museum, a slide show of old-time Monkton, and a chance to socialize with other folks who enjoy celebrating this vibrant community. We have a lot to celebrate and hope you'll join us.

A frame and a force

IN THE PRESENTATION "A Dramatic Constitution," Thursday, July 24, 6:30 p.m., at Bristol's Lawrence Memorial Library, historian and scholar Meg Mott considers how the U.S. Constitution both forces and frames our disagreements.

TUESDAY

July 22 American Red Cross blood donation in Bristol. Tuesday, July 22, 12:30-4:30 p.m., American Legion Bristol Post 19, 56 Airport Dr. All blood types are needed, and donors who don't know their blood type can learn it after donation. Book a time to give blood or platelets by visiting RedCrossBlood.org, calling 1-800-RED CROSS or by using the Red Cross Blood Donor App.

WEDNESDAY

July 23 American Red Cross blood donation in Middlebury. Wednesday, July 23, 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Co-operative Insurance, 292 Colonial Dr. All blood types are needed. Book a time to give blood or platelets by visiting RedCrossBlood.org, calling 1-800-RED CROSS or by using the Red Cross Blood Donor App.

Canvas window painting with Ms. Kim in Shoreham. Wednesday, July 23, 3-4 p.m., Platt Memorial Library, 279 Main St. Ages 5 and up.

Bristol Town Band in Bristol. Wednesday, July 23, 7-8:30 p.m., town green. Bristol Town Band will be holding their 155th season of weekly summer band concerts. Rain location will be Holley Hall. All are welcome to join the band. More information at 802-281-2315.

THURSDAY

July 24 Green Mountain Club stargazing in Addison County. Thursday, July 24, 9 p.m., location TBD. Navigate the summer night sky and learn to identify bright stars, asterisms and constellations; enjoy looking for Perseid meteors. Weather dependent. (new moon July 24) & peak of Perseid meteor shower on Aug. 12. Check www.gmcbreadloaf.org/calendar for updates. Contact Ken Corey at kencorey53@gmail.com or 802-349-3733 to register. More at gmcbreadloaf.org.

Creative clay storytime in Shoreham. Thursday, July 24, 10 a.m., Platt Memorial Library, 279 Main St. Ages 0-5 and their parents or caregivers.

Graphic novel book discussion: "Botticelli's Apprentice" in Shoreham. Thursday, July 24, 5-6 p.m., Platt Memorial Library, 279 Main St.

Carnival in Brandon. Thursday, July 24, 5-10 p.m., Estabrook Park, Grove St. Brandon's popular annual fast, fun, foody, fanciful carnival is back. A fun, positive and inexpensive event for families in our communities. We have the safe, clean rides, amazing entertainment, cool vendors, and yummy food. Free admission, free parking, free entertainment, and discount coupons for rides. Ride bracelets are \$27 for each 5-hour session, or \$25 with a discount coupon. Proceeds benefit the Brandon Area Toy Project. Continues Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

"A Dramatic Constitution" presentation in Bristol. Thursday, July 24, 6:30 p.m., Lawrence Memorial Library, 40 North St. In this presentation, Meg Mott considers how the U.S. Constitution both forces and frames our disagreements. In the first two centuries, citizens regularly debated public matters, drawing on the Constitution as a shared authority. What does it mean for our republic when only legal professionals take the stage? A Vermont Humanities event.

FRIDAY

July 25 41st Annual Native American Elders and Youth Gathering in Lincoln. Friday, July 25, Sunray Peace Village, 2202 Downingsville Rd. Learn the ancestral wisdom of Indigenous elders and youth, as well as other cross-cultural offerings. Events include daily wisdom teachings, circle of women's moon-time teachings from an Abenaki perspective, art and music activities for children and Monday workshops (separate cost). Healing celebration Saturday night. 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 25, 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Middlebury EMS Building, 55 Collins Dr. All blood types are needed. Book a time to give blood or platelets by visiting RedCrossBlood.org, calling 1-800-RED CROSS or by using the Red Cross Blood Donor App.

Carnival in Brandon. Friday, July 25, 5-10 p.m., Estabrook Park, Grove St. See July 24 listing.

SATURDAY

July 26 41st Annual Native American Elders and Youth Gathering in Lincoln. Saturday, July 26, Sunray Peace Village, 2202 Downingsville Rd. See

July 25 listing.
Sizzling Summer Sidewalk Sale in Vergennes. Saturday, July 26, downtown Vergennes. Clearance deals and must-have treasures up, down and all around Main Street. Bring your friends and plot your course — the bargains will be there for you on the sidewalks, in the shops and even on the street.

MALT Mid-Summer Volunteer Day in Middlebury. Saturday, July 26, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Wright Park, Seymour St. Ext. Help MALT during the TAM's busiest season. Enjoy the dog days of summer on the beautiful TAM in a fulfilling and impactful way. MALT's Lands and Trails Manager, Liam, will be meeting volunteers, providing tools and instructions for volunteer groups. Bring work gloves, water and snacks. More info and registration at www.maltvt.org/events.

Mid Summer Market in Middlebury. Saturday, July 26, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Triangle Park, corner of Main Street and Merchants Row. Cheer on the Middlebury Marlins at their home Swim Meet. On the way, see what's on offer from Vermont artists, craftspeople and purveyors of fine Vermont products and prepared food. Shoppers can expect beautiful handmade items perfect for gifts, mementos, or staples for everyday use. Rain or shine. Learn more at ExperienceMiddlebury.com/midd-markets!

Collections Corner: Shipwreck Simulator in Ferrisburgh. Saturday, July 26, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, 4472 Basin Harbor Rd. Try your hand at being an archaeologist! Visitors will experience an archaeological excavation firsthand in our shipwreck simulator. Staff will teach the basics of archaeological documentation and demonstrate how artifacts now in the collection were recovered. The public will learn about the importance of context in both archaeological investigation and Museum interpretation through this program, as well as get a chance to make their own observations. Free. More info at info@lcmhm.org.

Carnival in Brandon. Saturday, July 26, noon-12 p.m., Estabrook Park, Grove St. See July 24 listing.

Drop-in tie dye bandanas for Field Days in Shoreham. Saturday, July 26, 1-3 p.m., Platt Memorial Library, 279 Main St. This program is a drop-in, so you can come at any time and leave when you're done.

Dance to Joe & Jackie in Middlebury. Saturday, July 26, 4-7 p.m., VFW, 530 Exchange St. Come dance with us. Joe and Jackie play a mix of rock 'n' roll, Country and some oldies. We have some line dances for those who love to line dance as well. The kitchen will be open from 4 to 6 p.m., so come hungry. Free and open to the public. Proceeds benefit veterans' programs.

SUNDAY

July 27 41st Annual Native American Elders and Youth Gathering in Lincoln. Sunday, July 27, Sunray Peace Village, 2202 Downingsville Rd. See July 25 listing.

Sizzling Summer Sidewalk Sale in Vergennes. Sunday, July 27, downtown Vergennes. See July 26 listing.

Carnival in Brandon. Sunday, July 27, noon-5 p.m., Estabrook Park, Grove St. See July 24 listing.

The Memoirs of Isaac Kendall, Soldier of the Revolution, 1776-1777 in Orwell. Sunday, July 27, 1-2 p.m., Mount Independence State Historic Site, 472 Mt. Independence Rd. Paul Andruscin, long-time site interpreter and retired history professor, will talk about his new book of historic fiction, "The Memoirs of Isaac Kendall, Soldier of the Revolution, 1776-1777," which follows the daily activities of a soldier serving with the Northern Army from his enlistment to being stationed at Mt. Independence and involvement in the 1777 battles of Saratoga.

"The Great Bennington Battle and Vermont" in Brandon. Sunday, July 27, 1-3 p.m., Brandon Town Hall, 1 Conant Sq. Historian Howard Coffin discusses the history-changing Burgoyne campaign, focusing on the dramatic battle of "Great Bennington," which was a Vermont battle as well as a New York battle. Free.

MONDAY

July 28 Cardboard build challenge in Shoreham. Monday, July 28, 2-3 p.m., Platt Memorial Library, 279 Main St. Ages 5 and up.

Vergennes City Band concert in Vergennes. Monday, July 28, 7 p.m., City Green. A staple of Vergennes summer. Relax on the green and listen to live band music.

CALENDAR ONLINE
addisonindependent.com

Addison County Parent/Child Center
info@addisoncountypcc.org • addisoncountypcc.org
388-3171

- Community Playgroups
- Parent Education Classes
- Home Visits
- Pregnancy Prevention Programs
- Parent Training & Child Center

*Helping Young Families
Get The Right Start*

Reader Comments

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

A subscriber from Weybridge writes:

"Demonstrates the heart and soul of Addison County!"

Quotes are taken from reader comments submitted with subscription renewals.

ADDISON COUNTY
INDEPENDENT

Trail Fun For Everyone!

MIDDLEBURY AREA LAND TRUST
22nd Annual
TAM TREK
19mi | 10k | 5k TRAIL RUN/HIKE
2mi FUN RUN/WALK
Sept 21, 2025

SCAN to REGISTER

Kids 12 & Under FREE!

www.maltvt.org/tam-trek

Monkton to open history museum

By MARIN HOWELL
 MONKTON — The municipal building at 92 Monkton Ridge is home to a handful of key resources for Monkton residents, particularly the town offices and Russell Memorial Library.

Soon, community members will have yet another reason to stop by the town hall, as a group of residents has been working on a new Monkton History Museum that will open in the lower level of the building next week.

Volunteers plan to rotate the exhibits housed in the museum, and residents are encouraged to stop by and interact with the displays.

“It’s living history,” said Bob Turcot, one of the volunteers working on the museum. “You don’t want something that’s gathering dust there, you want something that people can relate to.”

The seeds for the new museum were planted around five decades ago, when the Monkton Museum and Historical Society was founded in 1976.

The society is “dedicated to collecting, preserving, and displaying items relevant to Monkton’s heritage.” MM&HS Board Secretary Lauren Parren noted that when the new municipal building was completed in 2021, the idea was that the downstairs would include both the library and a museum.

Parren and Turcot have spent several months working with fellow Monkton resident Candace Polzella to put together exhibits for the new museum, which opens Monday.

“In a sense it took decades to get it together, and in a sense, it’s happened really fast,” Parren said of the effort.

They’ve connected with Nate Guilmette of Fiddleback Woodworks to create cabinetry for the museum.

“(Guilmette) had a great vision for cabinetry that we would need to both create a space for us to have attractive displays but also to blend in with the library,” Parren said. “It was important to enhance all the work (the library) has done to make that space beautiful and to make sure our place fit in with that, so it would be welcoming to both the library patrons and the museum patrons.”

The museum focuses on the theme, “Monkton’s ordinary people doing extraordinary things.” The group has been working on three exhibits that will be displayed in the museum this year. They will



MONKTON RESIDENTS LAUREN Parren, left, Candace Polzella and Bob Turcot have spent the past several months working on three exhibits that will be on display in the new Monkton History Museum later this month. The group is pictured in the future home of the museum in the lower level of the Monkton town office building.

Independent photo/Marin Howell

focus on one-room schoolhouses, general stores in Monkton and the service flag that was displayed in the Grange Hall for a number of years.

The flag features stars that represent Grange members who served in World War II. The flag will be on display, along with a flight helmet donated by Polzella. Turcot has also put together a binder with biographies of soldiers, photographs and newspaper articles.

“What we’ve tried to do is create depth to the sites not with objects in the cases but by putting together informational binders so people can read detailed information,” Turcot explained.

The schoolhouse exhibit will feature a desk from the 1940s-50s that patrons will be invited to sit at and complete interactive activities, such as word and matching games. The exhibit will also display items like books, recess toys and pencil boxes.

The general store area will include a display case used in the general store run by Wesley Little, as well as a framed advertisement of goods from 1945. The exhibit will also include a copy of an advertisement from the former Carter Beers store in East Monkton. Patrons will be able to test their knowledge of goods included in the advertisement with interactive cards in the exhibit.

COLLECTIONS & EXHIBITS
 Turcot noted that Monkton resident Cindy Walcott has been working to document pieces in the historical society’s collection, as well as photographing items and adding links online describing the objects. That information can be found on the historical society’s website.

“We really see the collections and

the exhibits as hand in hand; you can’t have one without the other,” he said. “We want people to be able to find information on family members that we might have in the collection, or something like that.”

Parren said volunteers plan to regularly rotate exhibits, with future topics determined with the help of community interest.

“Next year we will be featuring 250 years since the Declaration of Independence by featuring topics such as life in Monkton at that time, Native people and their prehistory, current cemeteries where some of our earliest white citizens are buried, our very own Tory Rock skirmish, and more to be determined in part by the questions folks pose on the big flag in the Community Room,” Parren told the *Independent*.

Residents are encouraged to attach written responses to the banner in the Town Offices’ community room, answering the questions, “What would you like to know about Monkton’s past?” and “Why is it important to preserve Monkton’s history?”

JULY 21 OPENING

Community members are invited to a grand opening of the museum on Monday, July 21, at 7 p.m. The event will kick off in the community room of the town office building, where attendees can “enjoy cake, a tour of the museum, a slide show of old-time Monkton, a chance to contribute ideas for future displays, and to socialize with other folks who enjoy celebrating our vibrant community,” according to Parren.

Moving forward, the museum will be open to the public during library hours and by special request. Admission is free, but donations are welcome.

Residents can get involved with the museum in a variety of ways, such as by helping research future displays, hosting visitors at the museum, and helping create and maintain binders of newspaper articles.

Turcot noted that a couple of the displays have ended with a question, and residents are encouraged to provide information they have on the topics covered in the exhibits.

“One of the things we want to keep in mind is that this is a living museum, so any new information that we find, anything that people come up with, we’ll incorporate that into even the current exhibits,” Turcot said.

He said there’s room for creativity.

“Some of that is going to depend on feedback from people,” Turcot said. “We hope to have feedback cards, things like that, available for folks so if people want to see something in particular, let us know, if we have it in the collections, all the better.”

Parren agreed. “It’s not like the display is done when we open it (on July 21); it’s not finished,” she said. “We still collect stories from people and still collect responses.”

Earlier this week, volunteers were preparing for cabinetry to be installed at the museum and getting the inaugural exhibits ready. Turcot said the group has worked well together over the past several months leading up to the grand opening.

Parren noted that work has been done by volunteers, and the hope is for interested patrons to contribute to future efforts by joining the historical society.

“The only way this is going to keep going is if people join the society to keep it going,” she said. “We need to have lots of membership to have people equally excited about doing stuff like this.”



Leicester

Have a news tip? Call the Addison Independent at 388-4944.

NEWS

LEICESTER — Residents please note: Saturday, July 19, is a day to collect recycling and trash in town, as well as a VT Sun Triathlon. To minimize potential interactions with bikers and town folks, the collection trucks will be across Route 7 in their winter location, on the road to the town office. Pull up parallel to the trucks and then you can be on your way

shortly. It is recommended that you bring your recycling and trash after 9:30 a.m. to avoid the bulk of the riders.

If residents want to know when their road will be sprayed by the OCV staff, they can head to the website, ocwicd.com to find a link on the Home page for folks to put themselves on the email spraying notification list.

New Haven

Have a news tip? Contact Kim Callahan at kimcallahan99@gmail.com.

NEWS

NEW HAVEN — The Beeman Academy Alumni Association will hold its annual dinner at the American Legion Post 14 in Vergennes, on Saturday, July 26, at 5 p.m. A tour of the school will be held at 3:30 p.m. If you graduated from Beeman or attended, you are most welcome. If interested in attending, please contact Carol Charbonneau at charb@gmavt.net. Registration deadline is July 19. This is a chance to reconnect with old friends and classmates.

The Vermont Council on Rural Development will bring its Community Visit program to New Haven this Fall. The program “is a way for towns to engage and bring together residents, set common goals and directions in a neutral and facilitated structure, and access resources that will help them take action on those goals. The Community Visit program gets citizens engaged in working for their communities and connects them to the resources they need to be successful.” There will be three meetings with dates to be announced in August. This is a great opportunity for New Haven residents to share their ideas and voice their priorities for the future of the town. More information about the program can be found at www.vrural.org/community-visits/process/

Free meal boxes (seven breakfasts and seven lunches) for any child 0-18 not receiving free meals at another site this summer are distributed on Thursday afternoons from 4:30-5:30 p.m. at New Haven Community Library.

They are distributed drive-up style and no registration is required. Thanks to MAUSD and our dedicated volunteers for making this possible!

Chess Coach Andre Gorostiaga leads Chess Club for anyone ages 8 and up interested in learning or playing chess. Andre has been teaching chess to youth and adults for nearly five years. He is a certified United States Chess Federation Tournament Director. No registration required. Come join the fun!

“From New Haven to Korea: Small-Town Faith and Global Courage”


There will be a special service honoring Homer Hulbert on Saturday, July 20, at 10 a.m., at the Union Church of New Haven Mills. Hulbert (1863-1949), a New Haven native, became a teacher, linguist, missionary, writer, and national hero in Korea for his peaceful advocacy of Korean independence during the Japanese occupation. Homer’s father, pastor of New Haven Congregational Church from 1859-1869, and later president of Middlebury College, also helped start Beeman Academy, where Homer studied. This moving celebration will include a guest from the Homer Hulbert Memorial Society in Korea, Korean folk music Hulbert helped arrange, and traditional Vermont fiddle tunes. All are welcome to this celebration of local history, music, and faith. Come experience how small-town roots can inspire global impact. Light refreshments will follow the service.

ADDISON COUNTY

School News Briefs

Camila Blanco, Class of 2027, of Salisbury, was named to the dean’s list at Tufts University for the spring 2025 semester. Dean’s


list honors at Tufts University require a semester grade point average of 3.4 or greater.



ADDISON COUNTY

INDEPENDENT

2025 Addy Indy Garden Game





CATEGORIES & FRONT-RUNNERS:

- Asparagus (length x circumference) - Pat Martin, 36" x 2.25"
- Beet (circumference)
- Broccoli (diameter)
- Cabbage (circumference)
- Cantaloupe (circumference)
- Carrot (length x circumference)
- Cauliflower (diameter)
- Corn (length x circumference)
- Cucumber (length x circumference)
- Edible Leafy Greens (length x width - leaf only) - Gary Miller, 16.25" x 8"
- 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) - Bob Poirier, 7"
- Rhubarb (length)
- Rutabaga (circumference)
- Summer Squash (length x circumference) - Elsie Lynn Parini, 5.5" x 14"
- Sunflower (diameter)
- Tomato (circumference)
- Turnip (circumference)
- Winter Squash (length x circumference)
- Zucchini (length x circumference)

Elsie Lynn Parini wowed us with her Patty Pan squash, coming in at a respectable 5.5" L x 14" C. “Aren’t they cute?” she said of her cheerful yellow squash. We agree! That puts Elsie in the lead for the summer squash category.

Meanwhile, **Bob Poirier** submitted a radish with a 7" C. His advice? “Cut ‘em and eat ‘em!” Sounds good to us. With that entry, Bob takes first place in the radish category.


With Elsie and Bob both topping their categories this week, the competition is heating up.

Who will challenge them next? Keep those entries coming – we can’t wait to see what your garden grows!


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.

SPONSORED BY MIDDLEBURY AGWAY



*PLEASE NOTE: EACH INDIVIDUAL IS ELIGIBLE TO WIN ONE GIFT CERTIFICATE, EVEN IF THEY WIN MULTIPLE CATEGORIES.



Thursday & service Business & service DIRECTORY

auto repair
auto sales and leasing
carpentry/contractors
cleaning services

computers
construction
duct work & duct cleaning
lawn care

flooring
masonry
painting
plumbing

AUTO REPAIR

Hometown Service from Your Hometown Dealers!

Factory-Trained Technicians
Servicing all makes and models




G Stone Motors
36 Boardman St., Middlebury (802) 388-6718 gstonemotors.com

Stone
Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram
2149 Rt 7 So., Middlebury (802) 388-9961 stonedcjr.com



WESTSIDE AUTO REPAIR LLC

General Car and Truck Repair
State Inspections for Cars Trucks and Trailers
Tires and Tire Changeovers • Brakes/Oil Changes
Trailer hitches • Rough country lift kits & off road products

Open Tue-Sat • Call or text for appointment
Gary Brown
523 Middle Rd., Salisbury • 802-771-4936

AUTO SALES & LEASING

STONE CHRYSLER DODGE JEEP RAM
NEW AND USED CARS AND TRUCKS



Kelsey Treadway
Sales & Leasing Consultant

We will take anything in trade!

Bus: 802-388-9961
Fax: 802-388-6708
ktreadway@stonedcjr.com
www.stonedcjr.com

2149 ROUTE 7 SOUTH | P.O. Box 748
MIDDLEBURY, VT 05753-0748

CARPENTRY/ CONTRACTORS



RAYMOND RENOVATION & NEW CONSTRUCTION, LLC

Handling all phases of residential and light commercial carpentry since 1992

Mark Raymond, Middlebury, VT
802-388-0742
raymondrenovationvt.com

FULLY INSURED

Golden Ruler Construction
AFFORDABLE & HONEST

Residential & Agricultural Construction
Old Home Renovations
Custom Homes • Barns
Interior Painting • General Repairs

Call Jonathan Hescock
2217 Rt. 74, Cornwall
802-462-3737



VERMONT CUSTOM MOLDINGS
www.vermontcustommoldings.com

CARPENTRY/ CONTRACTORS

Quaker Village CARPENTRY

We have immediate availability!



Siding, Windows, Garages, Decks & Porches,
New Construction, Renovations and Repairs

Maurice Plouffe • 802-545-2251
1736 Quaker Village Road | Weybridge, VT 05753

David Walker Construction

298 Biddle Road
Lincoln, Vermont
05443



cell: 802-989-0320
email: dwconstruction@gmavt.net

Small projects
Entry doors • Decks • Porches


CLEANING SERVICES

Melissa's Quality Cleaning Services

Residential & Commercial
GREAT RATES • FULLY INSURED
Reliable & Thorough

802 345-6257

COMPUTERS



The PC Medic of Vermont now offers both on-site and remote computer services for your PC.

Call today to see which type of appointment you need, and get your PC running correctly again!

For an appointment, call The PC Medic of Vermont at 802-734-6815
www.pcmedicvt.com

CONSTRUCTION

Vantage Point Homes



Salisbury, VT
989-3974

New Construction
Additions
Renovations
Project Design

Like us on Facebook! 

DUCT WORK & DUCT CLEANING



Specializing in Duct Cleaning
And Duct Work for Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning

We use 5,000+ cfm HEPA Vacuum Cleaning Systems

We can design, fabricate, seal, insulate, clean, anything to do with your ducted systems.

Buy Local! 802.989.0396

Commercial/Residential • Owner Operated • Fully Insured • Neat & Clean

PREMIUM BUSINESS SHOWCASE AD

Stand out from the competition when you upgrade your B&S Directory ad with our Premium Business Showcase!

Purchase a quarterly B&S ad package and get one large, full-color ad for only \$200!

Don't miss this special opportunity to promote your business. Contact your ad rep today to secure your premium B&S package: christy@addisonindependent.com
jennah@addisonindependent.com
katyf@addisonindependent.com
tomvs@addisonindependent.com

This ad space could be yours!



Premium Business Showcase ads are 6 inches wide x 6 inches tall.
Regular open rate is \$250+.

FLOORING

Wales Floors, Inc.

For a free estimate call 877-8323

Fully insured

Custom & non-toxic finishes

Installation refinishing & restoration of residential and commercial wood floors

Over two decades experience!



Chris Mulliss FLOOR & UPHOLSTERY CLEANING

Stripping - Waxing - Buffing
Carpet Cleaning & Emergency Water Removal

802-759-2706
phone or fax
or
802-349-6050
cell phone

email: cmulliss@gmavt.net
1900 Jersey St., S. Addison, VT 05491



MASONRY

FINE DRY STONE MASONRY



JAMIE MASEFIELD
CERTIFIED BY THE DRY STONE WALLERS ASSOCIATION OF GREAT BRITAIN

802-233-4670
jmasefield@gmavt.net

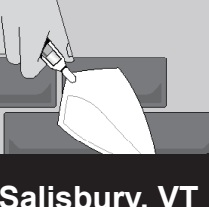
ADVERTISE HERE ADDISONINDEPENDENT.COM

Bruce A. Maheu's MASONRY

NEW & REPAIR
Residential • Lake Camps (Dunmore)
Brick - Block - Stone
Chimneys, Fireplaces, Outside Barbecues, Steps, Patios, Stone Walls

35 Years Experience
Honest & Fair Pricing
Free Estimates
Fully Insured

Call Bruce
Salisbury, VT 802-352-6050



The temps are rising!
Advertise your cooling business **HERE!**



Thursday & service Business DIRECTORY

painting
plumbing
renewable energy
roofing

rubbish & recycling
siding
snow removal
surveying

taxes
tile work
tree service
water delivery
window treatments

PAINTING

HESCOCK PAINTING

A friendly, professional, and affordable family business.
Interior Painting
462-3737 or 989-9107
Kim or Jonathan Hescock
hescock@shoreham.net

CHECK US OUT ONLINE AT

ADDISONINDEPENDENT.COM

PLUMBING



Timothy C. Ryan, P.E.

Serving the Champlain Valley
Since 1887
877-3118
Main St., Vergennes, VT

J.D. FULLER

PLUMBING & HEATING INC.

MIDDLEBURY

John Fuller, Master Plumber
802-388-2019

Serving Addison County since 1989

RENEWABLE ENERGY



Soak Up The Sun!

When you're ready for a solar, heat pump or battery installation, we're here for you!

Since 1972!



Go Green with us -
Call for a FREE on-site evaluation



802 • 453 • 2500
BristolElectronicsVT.com

ROOFING

Michael Doran
as seen at Addison County Field Days!

- Standing seam
- Asphalt shingles
- Slate

Free estimates • Fully Insured
mpdoransr@gmail.com
Phone (802) 537-3555

SEPTIC & WATER

LINCOLN APPLIED GEOLOGY, INC.
Celebrating 40 Years

Environmental Consultants – Licensed Designers
Steve Revell CPG, LD#178 BW
Jeremy Revell LD#611 BW

- Water Supply - Location, Development and Permitting
- On-Site Wastewater Design • Single & Multiple Lot Subdivision
- Property Development & Permitting
- State and Local Permitting
- Underground Storage Tank Removal & Assessment

802-453-4384

Fax 802-453-5399 • Email: jrevell@lagvt.com
163 Revell Drive • Lincoln, VT 05443
www.lagvt.com

SURVEYING

SHORT SURVEYING, INC.
Serving Addison County Since 1991
Timothy L. Short, L.S.

Property Line Surveys • Topographical Surveys
FEMA Elevation Certificates

135 S. Pleasant St., Middlebury, VT
802-388-3511
ShortSurveyingVT@gmail.com

Philo. Surveying LLC
Serving all of Vermont!

ALTA Surveys • Full Boundary Surveys and Plat
Commercial and Residential Subdivisions
Light Boundary Work and Boundary Line Staking
Easement Surveys • Elevation Certificates
LOMA Surveys • Topographic Surveys

(802) 782-9273 • Philo Surveying LLC • Charlotte, VT
Philosurveying.com • References available

TILE WORK

Want Beautiful Tile Work in Your Home, Office, Business Installed as You like?

Contact RB Tile Work!

30 Years of Experience
Updating or remodeling your kitchen bathroom • shower • floors • backsplash
Small tiles to large tiles, I do it all.
Licensed. Insured. References. Free estimates.

RB Tile Work
Call or text: 781 752 5823
Email rbtilework@gmail.com • www.rbtilework.com

Read Local. Support Local.

TREE SERVICE

SARGENT'S TREE SERVICE
349-7459

- Tree Removal
- Tree Pruning
- Storm Damage Clean up
- Stump Grinding

Serving all of Addison County

Over 30 Years Experience
Fully Licensed and Insured
Call for a Free Estimate: 802-349-7459
sargentstreeservice.com

WANT TO MAKE A SPLASH?



YOUR AD SHOULD BE HERE!

WINDOW TREATMENT

Your local source for window treatments from the nation's most popular brands.
Free in-home consultations!

Vermont Window Treatments LLC
M-F: 8am-5pm
Hours by appointment only
Visit our Facebook page or check us out on Instagram!

802-989-1531 | 3333 Case Street, Middlebury
vermontwindowtreatments.com

JACK OF ALL TRADES?

CALL 802-388-4944

OR EMAIL ADVERTISING@
ADDISONINDEPENDENT.COM
TO ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS.



Advertise your business on these pages for under \$10 per week.

Call 802-388-4944 or email advertising@addisonindependent.com for details.

CLASSIFIEDS

Public Meetings

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

Public Meetings

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS is a 12 step program offering recovery from compulsive eating and food behaviors. For meeting times and general information please visit www.oavermont.org or call (802)863.2655.

THE TURNING POINT CENTER of Addison County is open for in-person services, Monday through Friday, 10am-4pm, 79 Court St, Middlebury. We are available by phone 24/7 at 802-388-4249.

Public Meetings

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

Help Wanted

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

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

Highway Maintenance Technician

The Town of Ferrisburgh is looking for a highly motivated individual to fill the role of Highway Maintenance Technician 1 or 2. This is a full-time 40-hour per week position with required overtime during the winter months. The Ferrisburgh Highway Department is responsible for the maintenance of approximately 80 miles of roads. To include grading, ditching, rebuilding, mowing, cutting trees and plowing.

- Applicants must possess the following:**
- Valid Driver's License with Class B CDL or higher
 - Experience with heavy equipment is preferred
 - Experience with winter maintenance is preferred
 - Applicants must reside within 30 minutes of Town Garage
 - Work a 10-hour day, 6am-4pm
 - Follow instruction, work with others and by themselves
 - Ability to maintain vehicles and equipment
 - Pre-employment drug screening

- Benefits include:**
- 4 10-hour days (Fridays off)
 - Paid holidays
 - Health insurance
 - Retirement
 - Paid Vacation
 - Personal time
 - Sick time

Compensation:
\$22-\$27 per hour based on experience and education.

For a complete job description and application, visit the Ferrisburgh Town Clerk's Office.

To apply, please send cover letter, resume and references to Pam Cousino at
townclerk@ferrisburghvt.org or mail to:
Ferrisburgh Town Clerk
3279 US Route 7
Ferrisburgh, VT 05456

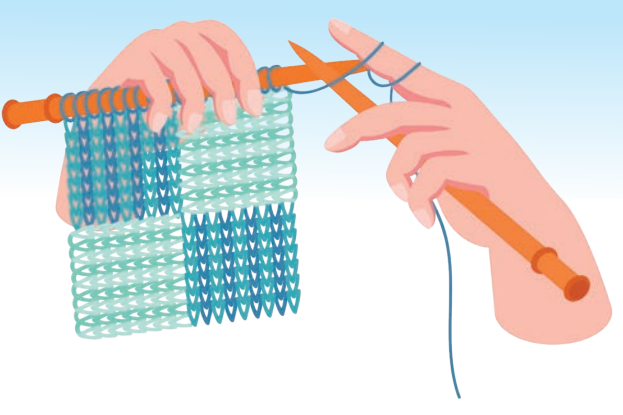
Must be received by July 31, 2025 at 4:00 p.m.

The Town of Ferrisburgh is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer.

Opportunities

Opportunities


Opportunities



Calling all hat and blanket makers!


RSVP of Addison County is looking for volunteers to make hats and blankets for individuals that are experiencing crisis

If you are interested in volunteering please give us a call at 802-388-7044.



AmeriCorps Seniors

Help Wanted



Addison County Parent/Child Center

Join the Parent/Child Center Team
CHILDCARE WORKER/PARENT EDUCATOR

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

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

Salary range \$50,200 to \$59,500 depending on degree.

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

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

In print or online, find your dream job with help from the *Addy Indy*.



addisonindependent.com/help-wanted

ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT

Opportunities

Opportunities

Opportunities

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

Preschool Teacher Associate

Interested in making a difference in the lives of young children and their families?

Head Start has an opening for a Preschool Teacher Associate serving Addison County Early Learning Center starting in August 2025! Head Start is a federally funded, national child and family development program which provides comprehensive services for pregnant women, children from birth to age five, and their families.

As a Head Start Preschool Teacher Associate, you will work in an outcomes-oriented, team environment, and assist the classroom team in planning and implementing a developmentally appropriate environment and experiences for preschool children. Motivated Head Start educators improve the trajectory of children's lives, including children's learning outcomes, living standards, and later academic and professional success. If you want to make a difference in the lives of young children and their families, consider joining the Head Start community

This is full time 40 hours/week position with summer layoff.
Pay range: \$22.08-\$24.07/hour, depending on qualifications.
Health plan and excellent benefits.

Interested in working with us?

To apply please submit a cover letter and resume with your application to <https://www.cvoeo.org/careers>. CVOEO is interested in candidates who can contribute to our organizational and community inclusion. Applicants are encouraged to include information about how they will further the goal of inclusion at the organizational and community level. Review of applications begins immediately and will continue until suitable applicants are found.

We're one of the Best Places to Work in Vermont!
Join us to find out why!



THIS INSTITUTION IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER.

Help Wanted ads can be found on Pages 8B and 9B.

We're HIRING!

The Addy Indy is looking to hire an enthusiastic and motivated **Digital and Calendar editor.**


If you are tech savvy, curious about community events and quick with technology, this position could be perfect for you!

The Digital Editor will work with the news and publishing teams to manage all digital content on our websites (AddisonIndependent.com and MiniBury.com), social media and newsletters.

Experience with WordPress and MailChimp preferred, along with a strong commitment to learn new systems and improve our platforms to reach and engage our readers. Additional responsibilities include copy editing, proofreading and working with our audience development team to analyze patterns and reach more readers!

Expected starting range based on \$20 - \$25/hour commensurate with experience.

The Addison Independent is an equal opportunity employer.



Please send a cover letter, resumé and references to:
news@addisonindependent.com

ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT

Learn more about us at addisonindependent.com

Addison Independent CLASSIFIED ORDER FORM

ADDISON INDEPENDENT
58 Maple Street, Middlebury, VT 05753
802-388-4944
addisonindependent.com • email: classifieds@addisonindependent.com

Cash in on our 4-for-3 rates! Pay for 3 issues, get 4th issue free! An ad placed for consecutive issues runs the 4th time for free!

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____

Or, submit your classified ad on our website: addisonindependent.com

DEADLINE: Monday at 5 p.m.

- RATES**
- 25¢ per word • minimum \$2.50 per ad
 - 50¢ internet listing per issue • minimum 2 insertions

- Special 4 for 3 rates not valid for the following categories: Services, Opportunities, Real Estate, Wood heat, Attn. Farmers, For Rent & Help Wanted
- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Notices | <input type="checkbox"/> Work Wanted | <input type="checkbox"/> Att. Farmers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Card of Thanks | <input type="checkbox"/> Help Wanted | <input type="checkbox"/> Motorcycles |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Personals | <input type="checkbox"/> For Sale | <input type="checkbox"/> Cars |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Meetings** | <input type="checkbox"/> Trucks |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Free** | <input type="checkbox"/> For Rent | <input type="checkbox"/> SUVs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lost 'N Found** | <input type="checkbox"/> Want to Rent | <input type="checkbox"/> Snowmobiles |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Garage Sales | <input type="checkbox"/> Wood Heat | <input type="checkbox"/> Boats |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lawn & Garden | <input type="checkbox"/> Real Estate | <input type="checkbox"/> Wanted |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Opportunities | <input type="checkbox"/> Animals | <input type="checkbox"/> Real Estate Wanted |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Adoption | | <input type="checkbox"/> Vacation Rentals |
- ** no charge for these ads Spotlight with large ✓ \$1

PLEASE PRINT YOUR AD...

Number of words: _____
Cost: \$ _____
of runs: _____
Spotlight Charge: \$ _____
Internet Listing: \$ _____
TOTAL: \$ _____

The Independent assumes no financial responsibility for errors in ads, but will rerun classified ad in which the error occurred. No refunds will be possible. Advertiser will please notify us of any errors which may occur after first publication.

Addison Independent CLASSIFIEDS

Services

BROWN'S CONSTRUCTION renovations, interior/exterior painting, dry-wall, plumbing/electrical services. Fully insured w/ 30+ years of experience covering Northern Addison and Southern Chittenden, references available. Call 802-238-4864

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

MELISSA'S QUALITY CLEANING Services. Residential and commercial. Fully insured. Great rates. Reliable and thorough cleaning. 802-345-6257.

SPRING PROPERTY CLEAN UPS, some landscaping, brush cutting, lawn work, weed flower beds, grocery pick up. Call us today, we do other jobs too. low rates. 802-999-2194, John.

Free

1980'S TIME CAPSULE You are invited to open a time capsule of stories from the early 1980s. Free to all at www.ne-farmer.com

DIGITAL ACCESS View obituaries, calendar listings and classifieds online at addisonindependent.com. Don't miss out on events, garage sales, or opportunities- check out our free digital listings. Looking to read more? Become a subscriber!

Lost and Found

FORGOTTEN ITEM Great Yard Sale Last Weekend At 323 Foote St. CLAIRE you left something here. Please call Henry.

Garage Sales

RAIN OR SHINE SALE July 17-20 Thursday 4-7 pm, Friday 8-4, Saturday 8-4, Sunday 9-12. We have: vintage Tupperware, vintage toys, vintage clothing and newer, 100's of books from very old to new, Army clothes and patches from the 50's, bottles from 1800s-1900s, old political button pins, furniture, blankets, sewing supplies (bins of new material) old sewing machine, kids clothes and toys, DVDs, albums, record player, kitchen supplies, crocks, pottery, salt and pepper sets, numerous cameras, comic books, Garfield books, aviation books, old maps, Popular mechanics and car magazines from the 50s, Avon bottles, old sleds, bicycles, ramps, assorted nails/screws and garden tools, AG Doll clothing sets (many vintage), frames, pictures, guitar, violin, fishing gear, StarCraft boat, planters, Red Rose tea figurines, mini tea sets, cast iron, and so much more! RAIN OR SHINE, 477 Doolittle Road Shoreham VT 05770

Garage Sales

ANNUAL SALE IN THE BARN, 613 West St., Cornwall, July 26th, 8am-1pm, Rain or shine. Artwork, folk art, decorative items, Bennington Pottery dinner plates and other china, handmade pottery, kitchenware, small appliances, Kenmore canister vacuum, Sawzall, belt sander and other tools, John Deere mower deck and blades, garden items and LOTS MORE! No clothing or children's items.

ESTATE SALE Friday, July 18th and Saturday, July 19th. 8-5 370 Wheeler Rd, Brandon, VT. Tools, Antiques, Carpentry tools, Furniture, Hunting and Fishing gear, Guns, Ammo, Ice Fishing Equipment, Vintage Sports Cards, Furniture, Household Items & so much more.

Help Wanted

DENTAL HYGIENIST Full Time or Part Time. David E. Congalton, DDS 106 Main Street, Vergennes. Dr. Congalton's office is seeking a full or part time dental hygienist. Excellent pay and full benefits. Please contact the office at drcongalton@yahoo.com for more information.

PART-TIME PERSONAL CARE assistant wanted to help 77 year old man in Addison for 3-4 hours a day for 4 days a week. Help with housekeeping, cooking, and chores. \$25 an hour. Reply to ellenresnik@gmail.com.

For Sale

2005 HONDA GOLDWING Trike for sale. 65k miles, Excellent condition. \$9,500. Call Jennifer, 802-236-6947

2011 38' CAMPER needs little work. \$6500, must sell. Call 802-349-2918.

ENCORE WOOD STOVE porcelain green with glass door. \$1200 or best offer, must sell. Call 802-349-2918.

EXERCISE EQUIPMENT Life Fitness Series X 5i total body elliptical cross trainer, excellent condition. \$200. johnmorgan8@aol.com, 860-301-2407

FIREWOOD STOVE in excellent shape. \$1800 or best offer, must sell. Call 802-349-2918

TWO ITEMS Kenmore 12k BTU multi-room window AC. Energy star rated, good condition \$75 cash. Drywall/panel hoist 150lb capacity like new, \$125 cash. Call 802-989-0721, leave a message or a text.

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

1000 SQUARE FEET OF RETAIL available with parking on Bakery Lane in downtown Middlebury. 802-349-8544.

5,000 SQUARE FEET available. Exchange Street, Middlebury, VT. 802-349-8544.

ALL REAL ESTATE advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 as amended which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, national origin, sexual orientation, or persons receiving public assistance or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertisement for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination, call HUD Toll-free at 1-800-424-8590. For the Washington, DC area please call HUD at 426-3500.

COMMERCIAL/OFFICE SPACE - 2000 sq ft to 7000 sq ft - Tall ceilings, loading docks, plenty of parking. Middlebury - 802-558-6092

LAKE DUNMORE HOME Private/Modern 1.5 BR house, Lake Dunmore waterfront, garage parking, 12 miles to Middlebury College/Porter. \$1700/month, short term lease (2 months minimum). \$1,500/month for year lease. No pets. No Smoking. Utilities included. Sleeps 4. Contact at aaron@balleriq.com

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

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

Wood Heat

DRY OR GREEN firewood for sale. Delivery available. 802-349-4212.

Att. Farmers

1ST CUT, SMALL square, \$3.25. 2nd cut small square, \$4.25. 802-377-5455.

HAYFIELDS AVAILABLE 30 acres, Whiting/Cornwall line. Free. Ready to be cut and baled. farmer who cut retired. 802-989-8354

WHITNEY'S CUSTOM FARM WORK Pond agitating, liquid manure hauling, drag line aerating. Call for price. 462-2755, John Whitney.



MARKET REPORT

ADDISON COUNTY

COMMISSION SALES

RT. 125 • EAST MIDDLEBURY, VT
Sales for 7/10/25 & 7/14/25

COST			
BEEF	LBS.	/LB	\$
Spring Lake	1160	1.81	\$2099.60
Nop Bros	1235	1.70	\$2099.50
Vorsteveld	1790	1.62	\$2899.80
Gosliga	1685	1.60	\$2696.00
A. Brisson	1690	1.55	\$2619.50
Blue Spruce	1805	1.45	\$2617.25
Macglaffin	950	1.53	\$1433.50

COST			
CALVES	LBS.	/LB	\$
Wilcon	82	15.00	\$1230.00
Barnes Bros	82	14.00	\$1148.00
Sunderland	102	13.50	\$1377.00
M+L Quesnel	97	13.50	\$1309.50
Deer Valley	96	13.30	\$1276.80
Vorsteveld	85	13.00	\$1105.00

Total Beef - 141 Total Calves - 191
We value our faithful customers.
Sales at 3 pm - Mon. & Thurs.
call 1-802-388-2661

ONLINE AUCTION

(1680) FARM EQUIPMENT & TOOLS

AUCTION CLOSES: Fri., Aug. 1 @ 11AM
PREVIEW: Mon., July 28 from 11AM-1PM
LOCATION: Northfield, VT 05663



Join us in Northfield, VT for an online auction featuring over **150 lots** of a wide selection of farm equipment, tools, trailers, lawn & garden gear, power tools, and rural lifestyle items.

THOMAS HIRCHAK COMPANY
THCAuction.com • 802-888-4662

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

TOWN OF FERRISBURGH NOTICE OF HEARINGS

The Ferrisburgh Zoning Board of Adjustment will hold the following public hearings on **Wednesday, August 6, 2025** at the Ferrisburgh Town Hall at 3279 US Route 7, beginning at **7PM**. The hearings will also be available to participants remotely via Zoom; the link will be included in the agenda posted on the Town's website (ferrisburghvt.org) at least 48 hours before the meeting.

Application Number 25-069: New mudroom addition and rebuild portion of existing deck; Applicant: Karin Schmidt; 330 Summer Point Lane; Parcel ID number 19/20/62; Shoreland District (SD-2); Conditional Use.

Application Number 25-070: Reapproval of expired permit 23-023 for commercial bakery with one dwelling unit; Applicant: Debra Townsend / Douglas Sweets; Park Lane Lot #2; Parcel ID number 15/01/22.2; Industrial District (IND-2); Conditional Use.

The files for the above applications are available for inspection at the Town Clerk's Office. Persons wishing to appear and be heard may do so in person or be represented by an agent or an attorney. Communications about the above hearings may also be filed in writing with the Board or the Zoning Administrator at the Ferrisburgh Town Hall or by email to zoning@ferrisburghvt.org.

Pursuant to 24 V.S.A. 4464(a)(1)(C) and 4471(a), participation in this local proceeding is prerequisite to the right to take any subsequent appeal.

TOWN OF SHOREHAM NOTICE OF TAX SALE

The resident and non-resident owners, lienholders and mortgagees of lands in the Town of Shoreham, in the County of Addison, and State of Vermont are hereby notified that taxes assessed by such town for the years 2022, 2023 and 2024 remain, either in whole or in part, unpaid on the following described lands in such town, to wit:

Sharon Bortell: Delinquent 2022, 2023 and 2024 Property Taxes

Being 2.25 acres of land, more or less, with dwelling and any and all improvements thereon, located at 263 Doolittle Road, Shoreham, Vermont, and being all and the same lands and premises conveyed to Sharon Bortell in a Final Decree of Distribution in the Estate of Pauline G. Warner dated April 8, 2019, and recorded in Book 89 at Page 77 of the Shoreham Land Records. (Parcel I.D. #02-01-05.002).

Matthew and Jessica Friend: Delinquent 2023 and 2024 Wastewater

Being .57 acre of land, more or less, with dwelling and any and all other improvements thereon, located at 107 Firehouse Road, Shoreham, Vermont, and being all and the same lands and premises conveyed to Matthew M. Friend and Jessica Friend in a Warranty Deed from Hannah K. Zeno dated August 20, 2021, and recorded in Book 94 at Page 53 of the Shoreham Land Records. (Parcel I.D. #09-01-64.000).

And so much of such lands will be sold at public auction at the Shoreham Town Clerk's office, a public place in such Town on the 4th day of September, 2025 at 9:00 o'clock a.m., as shall be requisite to discharge such taxes with costs and fees, unless previously paid. Be advised that the owner or mortgagee, or the owner's or mortgagee's representatives or assigns, of lands sold for taxes shall have a right to redemption for a period of one year from the date of sale pursuant to 32 V.S.A. §5260.

Any questions or inquiries regarding the above-referenced sale should be directed to the following address:

Carroll, Boe & Kite, P.C.
ATTN: James F. Carroll, Esq. or Wanda M. Murray, Paralegal
64 Court Street
Middlebury, Vermont 05753 Telephone: (802) 388-6711

Carroll, Boe & Kite, P.C. and the Town of Shoreham do not give any opinion or certification as to the marketability of the title to the above-referenced properties as held by the current owners/taxpayers.

The only acceptable forms of bid payment at the day of tax sale are is bank check payable to Carroll, Boe & Kite, P.C., Real Estate Trust Account. **No personal checks will be accepted.**

Dated at Shoreham, Vermont this 15th day of July, 2025.
Carol Murphy,
Town of Shoreham Delinquent Tax Collector

Public Notices Index

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

Addison County Courthouse (1)

Cornwall (2)

Ferrisburgh (1)

Lincoln (1)

Middlebury (1)

Starksboro (1)

State of Vermont (1)

TOWN OF LINCOLN PUBLIC NOTICE

Wednesday, August 6, 2025, 6:00 PM

Lincoln Town Office, 62 Quaker St., and virtually via Zoom

The Lincoln Development Review Board will hold a public hearing for:

1. Conditional Use Application #25-025 on behalf of Gillian and Russell Comstock for Metta Earth Forest Sanctuary Natural Burial site. Located at 334 Garry Rd., Lincoln, VT. Parcel ID # 27-10-01-16.300

Participation in the local proceeding is a prerequisite to the right to take any subsequent appeal. Please call the town office at 802-453-2980 to arrange a time to view the complete application.

The Zoom link will be included in the agenda which can be found on the town's website, <https://lincolnvermont.org>, in the week prior to the hearing.

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).

Best Management Practices for the Use of Neonicotinoid Treated Article Seeds and Neonicotinoid Pesticides.

Vermont Proposed Rule: 25P031

AGENCY: Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets

CONCISE SUMMARY: This rule establishes BMPs for use of: (A) neonicotinoid treated article seeds when used prior to January 1, 2031; (B) neonicotinoid treated article seeds when the Secretary issues a written exemption order pursuant to section 1105b of this chapter authorizing the use of neonicotinoid treated article seeds; (C) neonicotinoid pesticides when the Secretary issues a written exemption order pursuant to section 1105c of this chapter authorizing the use of neonicotinoid pesticides; and (D) the agricultural use after July 1, 2025 of neonicotinoid pesticides the use of which is not otherwise prohibited under law.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT: Steve Dwinell, Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets 116 State Street, Montpelier, VT 05620-2901 Tel: 802-522-6973 E-mail Steve.Dwinell@vermont.gov URL: <https://agriculture.vermont.gov/best-management-practices-neonicotinoid-treated-article-seeds-and-neonicotinoid-pesticides>.

FOR COPIES: Zach Szczukowski, Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets 116 State Street, Montpelier, VT 05620-2901 Tel: 802-636-7029 E-Mail: Zach.Szczukowski@vermont.gov

STATE OF VERMONT

SUPERIOR COURT
Addison Unit

CIVIL DIVISION
DOCKET NO: 22-CV-00857

U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY, BUT SOLELY AS TRUSTEE OF CITIGROUP MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST 2020-RP2 PLAINTIFF

VS.

VICTOR R. GITTENS AND OCCUPANTS RESIDING AT 128 MAPLE RUN RD, LEICESTER, VT 05733

NOTICE OF SALE

In accordance with the Judgment and Decree of Foreclosure by Judicial Sale entered on August 12, 2024, in the above captioned action brought to foreclose that certain mortgage given by Victor R. Gittens and Joan A. Cameron O'Neil to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for First National Bank of Arizona, dated April 8, 2005, and recorded in Book 60, at Page 437 and re-recorded in Book 91, at Page 361, of the Town of Leicester Land Records, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder by virtue of the following Assignments of Mortgage: (1) Assignment of Mortgage from Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for First National Bank of Arizona to Aurora Loan Services LLC recorded in Book 64, at Page 58, (2) Assignment of Mortgage from Aurora Loan Services LLC to Citigroup Mortgage Loan Trust 2020-RP2 recorded in Book 85, at Page 320 and (3) Assignment of Mortgage from Citigroup Mortgage Loan Trust 2020-RP2 to U.S. Bank Trust National Association, not in its individual capacity, but solely as Trustee of Citigroup Mortgage Loan Trust 2020-RP2 recorded in Book 86, at Page 404, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction on **August 7, 2025 at 10:00 AM at 128 Maple Run Rd, Leicester, VT 05733** all and singular the premises described in said mortgage,

To Wit:

Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed to Joan A. Cameron O'Neil and Victor R. Gittens by Warranty Deed of Joan A. Cameron O'Neil dated December 6, 2002 and recorded December 19, 2002 in Book 56, at Page 557 of the Town of Leicester 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 Mortgagor 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.

U.S. Bank Trust National Association, not in its individual capacity, but solely as trustee of Citigroup Mortgage Loan Trust 2020-RP2

Bozena Wysocki, Esq.
BROCK & SCOTT, PLLC
23 Messenger Street
2nd Floor
Plainville, MA 02762
VT_Noticesofhearing@brockandscott.com

TOWN OF CORNWALL REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Town of Cornwall seeks proposals from qualified firms or individuals to provide general accounting, financial consulting and advisory services. These services will support the Town's Treasurer and Selectboard in managing municipal finances in compliance with Vermont statutes, municipal policies, and best practices.

Proposals must be submitted by end of day 08/01/25. Late submissions will not be considered.

Submit Proposals To:
Tanya Byker
Town of Cornwall
2629 RT 30 Cornwall, VT 05753
Email: TBykercornwall@gmail.com

Thank you for your interest in providing financial services to the Town of Cornwall. We look forward to your proposal.

Sheriff's Log

ADDISON COUNTY — Officers in the Addison County Sheriff's Department on July 8 arrested Thomas George, 30, of Shelburne and cited him for criminal threatening, violation of conditions of release, unlawful mischief and disorderly conduct. Following a court hearing at the Mahady Courthouse, George began threatening court staff, including deputies, stating that he would come back and shoot everyone.

Due to other threats against court staff at the Mahady Courthouse on July 7 (July 7, 2005, was the biggest day of terrorism in the United Kingdom, and public safety officials are wary of the anniversary), deputies provided extra security for the whole week.

Between July 7 and 11, deputies completed patrols in multiple towns and stopped 56 vehicles for various motor vehicle violations and fingerprinted eight people for background checks.

Also, on behalf of Middlebury police, deputies provided transport of prisoners arrested on warrants on July 9 and again on July 11.

In other recent activity, Sheriff Michael Elmore and his deputies also:

- On July 7 assisted a person with a broken-down vehicle in the middle of the intersection of Academy and College streets in Middlebury.
- On July 7 investigated an animal cruelty complaint on Needham Hill Road in Orwell.
- On July 7 assisted state police

by checking someone's welfare in Shoreham.

- On July 7 investigated an animal cruelty complaint on Jersey Street in Pantton.

- On July 8 investigated an animal cruelty complaint on Cutting Hill Road in Shoreham.

- On July 9 investigated a littering complaint at the Fern Lake access in Leicester.

- On July 9 provided a VIN verification for a Leicester resident.

- On July 9 heard from a Weybridge resident that a suspicious vehicle was driving up and down Cave Road. They described it as a silver Buick SUV with Vermont plates and said it drove by between five and 10 times between 10 a.m. and noon. Anyone with additional information on this incident is asked to call the sheriff's department at 802-388-2981.

- On July 9 conducted a background check.

- On July 9 looked into a complaint of a dirt bike on Orwell's Main Street. Deputies were unable to locate the vehicle.

- On July 10 looked into a burning complaint on Lake Dunmore Road in Leicester. The sheriff said a trailer was being torn down and burned. The fire department was called to extinguish the fire and the person burning the items was issued a ticket for the violation.

- On July 10 assisted state police with a 9-1-1 hangup call on North Street in New Haven. Officers determined there was no emergency.



Peasant kitchen goods

SCADS OF BARGAIN hunters descended on St. Stephen's Church and the tents set up around it on the Middlebury town green Saturday for the annual Peasant Market. There was a little bit, no, a lot of everything — linens, antiques, picture frames, kitchen and living room chairs, plants, sports equipment, tools, toys, artwork, plants, homemade pies and, shown here, a basement full of kitchen supplies. Funds raised each year go to local charities.

Independent photos/John S. McCright

K-9 Guinness sniffs out drugs and firearms

MIDDLEBURY — The Middlebury Police Department's super-dog Guinness earned an extra bowl of kibble last week, following several cases in which he and his handler, Officer Aidan Alnwick, played pivotal roles in investigating challenging cases stretching from Middlebury to Castleton.

On July 9, K-9 Guinness was led to a stolen vehicle found in the North Pleasant Street area. Guinness alerted on the vehicle following a drug sniff, according to police, who said their subsequent search of the vehicle led to the discovery of fentanyl, crack/cocaine, as well as a firearm and ammunition. Police cited Patrick L. Cota, Jr., of Bristol, on three outstanding arrest warrants and possession of stolen property. More charges are pending in this case, according to police.

Middlebury Police Log

On July 12, Alnwick and Guinness were called to help state police and authorities in Rutland, Castleton and Fair Haven track down a suspect who had fled law enforcement on Route 22A in Fair Haven.

Also on July 12, Vermont Fish & Game wardens asked Guinness to conduct a drug sniff on a vehicle they had stopped near the intersection of Court Street and South Village Green. Authorities had issued no report of an arrest in the case at press time.

Then, on July 13, Alnwick and Guinness were asked to aid state police with a traffic stop at the intersection of Route 7 and Ossie Road, after troopers suspected the vehicle in question might contain contraband. Guinness alerted on the vehicle, and authorities subsequently found and seized what Middlebury police described as "a felony amount of suspected crack." Police said that investigation ongoing.

In other action last week, Middlebury police:

- Cited Joseph Laronde, 62, of Portland, Maine, for possession of stolen property and unlawful trespass, after investigating a motor vehicle complaint in the Charles Avenue area on July 8.
- Served a no-trespass order on July 8 on a person who wasn't wanted at Two Brothers Tavern.
- Launched an investigation on July 8 into a suspected assault and retail theft from a MacIntyre Lane business.
- Served a no-stalking order on a local resident on July 8.

- Assisted state police in investigating a single-vehicle crash on Route 7 South on July 8.
- On July 9, marked off a hole developing on Mill Street and alerted the department of public works.
- Checked on the welfare of a woman in the Court Street area on July 9.
- Responded to a reported assault at a Halladay Road home on July 9. Police reported no arrests in connection with the case.
- Responded to a medical call, with CPR in progress, on Elm Street on July 9.
- Checked on a possibly drunken man on Creek Road on July 10.
- Responded to a report of a man on Court Street who appeared to be impaired on July 10.
- Served a no-trespass order on July 10 on a man who wasn't wanted at the Middlebury Inn.
- Responded to a two-vehicle crash, with no reported injuries, at the intersection of Main and Seymour streets on July 11.
- Received reports on July 11 of "concerning behavior" in the downtown area.
- Conducted a downtown foot patrol on July 11.
- Arrested Antonio E. Johnson, 29, of Middlebury on an active warrant for his arrest on July 11.
- Responded to a two-vehicle crash, with no reported injuries, on Route 7 South on July 11.
- Received separate complaints about persons setting up tents in the Marble Works and near the Memorial Sports Center on July 11.
- Spoke with a person who filed a harassment complaint on July 11.
- Responded to a reported fight in the Bakery Lane area on

July 12. Police said they found no evidence an assault had taken place.

- Cited Michael Cooke, 62, of Crown Point, N.Y., for driving with a criminally suspended license on Court Street on July 12.

- Responded to a trespassing complaint at Hannaford supermarket on July 12.
- Returned a lost phone to its owner on July 12.

- Assisted state police on a mental health call on Lake Dunmore Road in Salisbury on July 12.

- Assisted state police with a crash investigation on Porter Drive on July 12.

- Responded to a break-in at Drop-In Brewing Co. on Route 7 South on July 12. Police said the culprit(s) forced their way in and stole an undisclosed amount of cash. The case remains under investigation, police said.

- Responded to a vehicle crash on Washington Street on July 12.

- Responded to a reported road-rage incident in the Seymour Street area on July 12.

- Tried to find a wanted person on Lake Dunmore Road in Salisbury on July 12.

- Began investigating two separate suspected retail thefts from Hannaford supermarket on July 13.

- Helped a local resident who believed their medication had been stolen on July 13.

- Investigated a report of suspicious activity outside a closed Merchants Row business at around 3:30 a.m. on July 13.

- Responded to a report of a cow loose on Lower Foote Street on July 14.

- Assisted Vermont State Police with an arrest on Route 7 on July 14.

TOWN OF STARKSBORO DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD NOTICE OF HEARING

John Miles & Samantha Slayton submitted a Waiver application (25-DRB-01WVR) for relief from the front setback requirements for a new storage shed located on a 161.6-acre parcel (ID 10555) at 2509 Shaker Hill Road. The proposed project is in the LDRC District.

The Starksboro Development Review Board will conduct the hearing on August 14, 2025, starting at 7p.m. at the Starksboro Town Office with remote access (info below). The application is available to review by request of the Starksboro zoning office.

Pursuant to 24 V.S.A. §§ 4464(a)(1)(C) participation in this local proceeding is prerequisite to the right to take any subsequent appeal.

Town of Starksboro is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.
 Access via Zoom: Meeting ID : 896 1741 5124
 Passcode: a3Aeh#7%
 Phone 1-929-436-2866
 Passcode : 83764154

Stephen Rooney, Zoning Administrator
 Date: July 14, 2025

TOWN OF CORNWALL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD

The Cornwall Development Review Board will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, August 6, 2025 at 7 pm.

The hearing will be held in person at the Town Hall and by Zoom. An online meeting link and a dial in number will be published on the agenda for the meeting.

Purpose of the hearing:

To conduct a conditional use review of a request by Elizabeth Herrmann Architecture & Design for a waiver of the front yard setback and the lot coverage maximum, in connection with the proposed construction of a house on the property located at 1017 Ridge Road, Cornwall, Vermont and owned by Peter Wyman and Alice Wyman. The property is in the Medium Density Residential District.

Electronic copies of this application are available to the public on the Town's website, www.cornwallvt.com. The application is also available to the public at the Cornwall Town Clerk's office, 2629 Route 30, Cornwall, Vermont.

Persons wishing to be heard at this public hearing, or their representatives (a licensed Vermont Attorney or an authorized agent), may participate in the hearing by using the online meeting link or the dial in number. Participation in this public hearing is a prerequisite to the right to make subsequent appeal.

Public Notices

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

FULL PASSPORT SERVICE

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

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

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

TOWN OF MIDDLEBURY SELECTBOARD MEETING ROOM 116 – LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM TOWN OFFICES – 77 MAIN STREET TUESDAY, JULY 22, 2025 - 7:00 P.M.

Also available via Zoom:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83645224002>
 By Phone: +1 646-558-8656 (not toll-free)
 Webinar ID: 836 4522 4002

AGENDA

- 7:00 1. Call to Order
- 2. *Approval of Agenda
- 3. *Approval of Consent Agenda
- 3a. *Approval of the Minutes of the July 8, 2025 Regular Selectboard Meeting
- 3b. *Acceptance of Selectboard Subcommittee Meeting Minutes (if any)
- 3c. *Approval of Applications - Renewal of State Licenses/Permits (if any)
- 3d. *Approval of Check Warrants
- 3e. Consent Agenda Placeholder
- 3f. Consent Agenda Placeholder
- 3g. **Town Manager's Report
- 7:05 4. **Citizen Comments (Opportunity to raise or address issues not otherwise included on this agenda)
- 7:10 5. *Public Works - Proposed Purchase – Excavator
- 7:20 6. **Department Presentations - Iisley Library Director Dana Hart
- 7:30 7. *Town Bonds
- 7:40 8. **Town Committee Discussion - Public Health & Safety Committee
- 7:50 9. *Public Hearing - Downtown Improvement District Ordinance - Amendment
- 8:00 10. **Board Member Concerns
- 11. Executive Session - Not Anticipated
- 12. Action on Matters Discussed in Executive Session
- 8:10 13. *Adjourn

*Possible Decision **Discussion

SUBSCRIBE

LET'S MAKE THIS EASY!

SKIP THE MANUAL RENEWAL PROCESS & SIGN UP TO AUTO-RENEW.

Questions?

CALL SEAN TODAY!
 802-388-4944

Subscriber Name _____ Card # _____
 Mailing Address _____ CCV _____ Exp. Date _____
 Phone Number _____
 Email Address _____

NAME, EMAIL & CREDIT CARD INFO REQUIRED. We will never share your information, we promise. Credit card info is encrypted and destroyed after the first payment.

PRINT + DIGITAL SUBSCRIPTION

PICK A PAYMENT SCHEDULE THAT WORKS FOR YOU!

THANK YOU!

- MONTHLY \$10/month
- SENIOR \$9/month
- YEARLY \$120/year
- SENIOR \$108/year

ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT

Prefer to send a check or cash? That's great, too! Simply mail your payment with this renewal form to us at 58 Maple Street, Middlebury, VT 05753.

You can also subscribe online at: addisonindependent.com/subscribe

Bristol Police Log

BRISTOL — Bristol police on July 11 responded to a report of an assault that occurred on Mountain Street. After investigating, police arrested Jonah Jennings, 21, of Bristol and cited him for first degree aggravated domestic assault.

Between July 6 and 12 Bristol police completed five foot patrols, conducted 21 traffic stops and checked security at Mount Abraham Union High School six times, at Bristol Elementary School six times and at local businesses six times.

Police also processed six fingerprint requests, conducted one welfare check and responded to one 911 hang-up call that proved to be dialed on accident.

In other recent activity, Bristol police:

- On July 7 enforced the town's trespassing ordinance at Sycamore Park.

- On July 9 received a report of a court order violation on West Street. An investigation is ongoing.

- On July 9 responded to a motor vehicle complaint on West Street. Police did not observe any violations.

- On July 10 received a report of an abandoned vehicle on Main Street and contacted the owner.

- On July 10 responded to a single vehicle crash on North Street.

- On July 10 removed items from the travel lane of Route 116 South.

ARTS + LEISURE

The Addison Independent

July 17, 2025



PING PONG

MIDDLEBURY TABLE TENNIS SWINGS TOWN INTO ACTION

Despite the heat, Nico and Noah D'Avignon face off for a game of ping pong in Middlebury's Cannon Park late last month.

PHOTO / KATIE FORD

Bouncing back and forth on how to spend your free time this summer? For a little over a year, Middlebury's Cannon Park has been home to a donated ping pong table that has had the town blocking, serving and back spinning, no matter the season.

BY **BEE ECKELS**

In the spring of 2024, two downtown business owners, Ben Wells of the Marquis Theatre and Café and Dan McIntosh of The Middlebury Shop, noticed something interesting about Cannon Park, which is adjacent to the block including The Middlebury Shop, Tinker and Smithy Game Store, and Frog Hollow Bikes.

The concrete space there was the perfect size for a ping pong table.

"I lived in China in the early '90s for about

"I THINK IT'S A PRETTY COOL REFLECTION OF THE TOWN."

— Ben Wells,
Middlebury Marquis owner

three years, and all the parks in China had ping pong tables," McIntosh said. "One of my favorite things was to go to the park and play ping pong."

Already having an available ping pong table hidden away in the basement of the Marquis, Wells and McIntosh began a discussion with the town, securing permits to permanently leave the table outdoors in mid-July of 2024. Wells and McIntosh were fully responsible for the cost of the table, paddles, and ping pong balls.

Both Wells and McIntosh said they have been pleasantly surprised with how infrequently they had to replace the supplies.

"I think it's a pretty cool reflection of the town. Rather than the equipment constantly disappearing, it's actually the opposite," Wells said. "We come and we're like, 'There's five new paddles.' Somebody cleared them out of their basement or something."

McIntosh explained that the season plays a major role in which pieces of equipment are used. During the summer, players can use almost any type of paddle or ball, but the duo has discovered that in the winter they need to switch from spongy, rubber paddles to wooden ones, as well as invest in orange ping pong balls to avoid losing them in nearby snowbanks. McIntosh also highlighted that there is a squeegee out by the table to aid

SEE PONG ON PAGE 4



Lincoln residents Steve and Judith Harris took their annual trip south in their Airstream last winter. They stopped in Jekyll Island State Park in Georgia for the Christmas holiday.

PHOTOS / STEVE & JUDITH HARRIS

After a busy and somewhat harrowing fall 2024 season in Lincoln, on Dec. 11, we set off on our four-month dodge of winter in our habitual pattern of trying to avoid the long nights and slippery days of a New England winter. Our 10-year-old Airstream trailer had spent most of October and November "in the shop" in Burlington, getting "winterized" and repaired.

BY **STEVE HARRIS**

Rather than annoying me, I am deeply grateful for every hour of use we get out of the old girl without any serious frustration. We estimate nearly 1,000 days/nights of occupancy so far, a fair trade for the annual inconvenience and cost of keeping our trailer road-worthy. For the same reason I rejoice every morning I awaken to a new day without serious healthcare issues presenting roadblocks to pleasurable activity and gratitude, especially since my peers and favorite celebrities have started dying, all too soon and without my permission...Quincy Jones? Seriously? We have to get by without that guy?

Each home departure has offered different lessons for us to learn, and this one involved a full day of biblical rain followed by a three-day blast of frigid air. We couldn't add water to our camping experiences until the low



temperatures climbed out of the teens and that turned out to be in Emporia, Vir. Our intermediate goal is a full week of holiday celebrations on Jekyll Island, Ga., and then on south to some familiar spots we have come to love, and some new ones that have sparked our curiosity. We would rather learn more about environments that are familiar than run the risk of unpleasant experiences in unknown places. We are wired identically that way; modest adventurers equally moved by familiar people and contexts as by stunning discoveries.

Last year, I focused on the views through the window to share the facts and figures of a landscape foreign to us and most of you. This year, I hope to reflect more deeply on what is going on inside the tow vehicle, the camper and us. I am feeling obliged to record our

enjoyment of these fragile years of our ability to manage lengthy RV road trips. I am as shocked at my age as I am by my reflection. We are not filled with hubris and over-confidence; it feels more like respect and admiration for the people that tolerate us and the places where we feel welcomed by the residents.

Here's a moment that struck me as an example of why we go through the effort to get up and out of our home each winter. It happened as I was waiting for a pizza I had ordered by cell phone at a "wood-fired oven" business in suburban Washington, D.C. Millersville, MD., is a working-class neighborhood about 10 miles east of the Capitol. We arrived hungry and tired on a late Friday afternoon and decided on take-out as our best solution after setting up camp. The only non-chain provider nearby turned out to be a very small commercial space at one end of a much larger package store covered with placards and prices of the latest flavored hard seltzer. It was a cheap sliding window with a metal canopy under which to wait while three male members of a Middle Eastern family buzzed around inside. The older bearded patriarch was running the oven, a young man in his 20s sorting pies and orders, and a teenager manning the phone, which rang every 30 seconds or so. My order created a

SEE TRAVEL ON PAGE 8

‘There Once Was ...’ returns with Greek Myths

Coming next weekend is Spice Studio's "There Once Was..." performance. The Bald Mountain Theater will present its annual emersion into the world of folk and fairy tales in this production on July 25, 26 and 27 at the studio in Rochester.

The company of five actors, director and a musician work for a week, with all the creative theatrical styles, and concoct a fascinating and colorful pageant of story.

Previous years have seen the group tackle tales from Russia, Italy, Ireland, Japan and the Kazaks with memorable results. This July Bald Mountain Theater will take on the classics of Greek Myths including best known favorites like "Hercules" and some fun discoveries.

Using pantomime, shadow theater, puppets, lots of colored fabric "There Once Was ... will be thrilling with performances by Chris Caswell, Jordan Gullickson, Wilder Bowen, Mian O'Dowd, and Sasha Olinick. Percussion by Thom Kozumplik. Directed and conceived by Wilder Bowen and Bald Mountain artistic director Ethan Bowen.

Tickets are \$15 available in advance at baldmountaintickets@ludus.com and at the door. Spice Studio is located at 482 South Main Street, in Rochester. The Friday, July 25 and Saturday, and 26 performances are at 7:30 p.m., and the show on Sunday, July 27, will be at 2 p.m.

Sheldon hosts hope

The Henry Sheldon Museum is honored to host a panel discussion in conjunction with its current exhibition "Finding Hope Within: Healing and Transformation through the Making of Art within the Carceral System." This conversation, to be held July 23, from 12:30-1:30 p.m., at the museum in Middlebury, will highlight how art becomes a powerful tool for healing, empowerment, and human connection within Vermont's correctional facilities.

The panel will feature a diverse group of speakers deeply engaged in this work, including:

A formerly incarcerated poet, **Kalanni Gagne**, currently in fellowship with the Vermont Folklife Center, who gifted art during her incarceration and now uses poetry to process significant trauma and reclaim her voice.

Anna Jennings, poetry facilitator at Southern State Correctional Facility

Jess Kell, Parenting Coordinator with Kids-A-Part, supporting incarcerated mothers and their children.

Kylen Veilleux, Director of the DIVAS program,

SEE SHELDON ON PAGE 4

STORIES BEGIN HERE

11TH ANNUAL
MIDDLEBURY
NEW FILMMAKERS
FESTIVAL

PROGRAM NOW AVAILABLE

Visit us online to preview the MNFF11 films and explore the daily schedule.

AUGUST 20-24

PASSES, TICKETS & PROGRAM
MIDDFILMFEST.ORG

MIDDFILMFEST PRESENTING SPONSOR IPJ Real Estate

PONG

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

daring souls who wish to play a quick game in the rain.

While Wells and McIntosh use the table all year round, they find it is most

popular during the warmer months. A string of lights put up by the town has expanded the hours of play available to citizens after dark; an initiative that helps support the activity during the colder seasons. Both local businessmen are hopeful that more lights will be set up to encourage play all year round.

“IT’S A GREAT THING FOR FAMILIES. YOU CAN GRAB SOME FOOD ... GO SIT ON THE BENCHES AND EAT AND PLAY PING PONG.”

— Dan McIntosh,
The Middlebury Shop owner

The court might be emptier during the winter and nighttime, but on many recent days it has been packed. Despite the fierce heat that often accompanies the Vermont summer, Wells and McIntosh are happy to report that they find people of all ages out at the table all the time.

“If the sun is shining, people are outside,” Wells said. “We see extended families hanging out there. It’s awesome.”

Last summer, Wells and McIntosh even went as far as to get a group of people together, forming an unofficial summer league. Every Wednesday night they would get food from the Marquis and sit around playing ping pong.



A group of kids prepares for a friendly game of ping pong after a spring rainstorm. One kid has used a squeegee to clear water from the court.

PHOTO / KATIE FORD

Wells said they played “just to have fun” and that it was never designed to be “super competitive.”

What started as a way to take a break from work to play a friendly game of ping pong against each other has transitioned into the creation of a fun space for the community to come together and hang out while doing something

active and social. McIntosh dreams big, hoping one day there could be as many as 20 tables scattered around Middlebury so citizens can have unlimited access to this game.

“It’s a great thing for families. You can grab some food from any of the spots around here and go sit on the benches and eat and play ping pong,” he said.



FANCY FRIDAYS

7 - 10 P.M. EVERY FRIDAY

BLUE BAR AT SWIFT HOUSE INN

HOSTED BY DJ SERENA
MIXOLOGIST LAURA FENN

COCKTAIL ATTIRE PREFERRED

25 STEWART LANE MIDDLEBURY, VT
FOLLOW @SWIFTHOUSEINN FOR UPDATES

SHELDON

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

supporting incarcerated survivors of domestic and sexual violence. Contributors from **Vermont Works for Women** and **A Revolutionary Press**, exhibition curators and

partners that empower individuals to recognize their skills, creativity, and economic potential during and after incarceration.

Together, the panelists will explore the wide range of artmaking taking place inside Vermont correctional facilities — from poetry and painting to mixed media and therapeutic expression. They will share how art becomes more than just creative output — it is a vehicle for healing trauma, building confidence, developing critical thinking skills, and cultivating hope in times of deep isolation.

Free and open to all. Generously sponsored by a St. Stephen's community grant.

ART ON EXHIBIT

EDGEWATER AT THE FALLS

1 Mill Street, Middlebury

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

"Pastoral Impressions," featuring the landscapes of local artist Joe Bolger. Bolger's paintings are characterized by his commitment to plein air painting, a practice that allows him to observe and depict the transient effects of light in real-time. On view June 7-July 27.

JACKSON GALLERY

68 S Pleasant Street, Middlebury

Visit townhalltheater.org/jackson-gallery or call 802-382-9222 for more info.

"Above Vermont: Photographs by Caleb

Kenna." Come see Kenna's bird's-eye view drone photographs capturing breathtaking views of Vermont in all its glorious seasons. A reception for the artist will be held on Friday, July 11, from 5-7 p.m. On view June 27-Aug. 31.

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE MUSEUM OF ART

72 Porter Field Road, Middlebury

For more info visit middlebury.edu/museum/exhibitions

"Series Without Limits: Photographs, Prints, and Film by Andy Warhol" presents Andy Warhol's artistic legacy through a selection of prints, photographs, and film to illuminate the complex tensions animated within his artistic practice. Warhol investigates how images function as currency within society. The selection of screenprint portraits on view reveal Warhol's fascination with fame and celebrity culture. On view May 23-Aug. 10.

PHOTOPLACE GALLERY

3 Park Street, Middlebury

For more info visit photoplacegallery.com.

"Color + Space." Showcases how color not only enhances composition but also influences depth, perspective, and perception. Whether vibrant or restrained, structured or organic, let color guide the viewer's experience of space. Juror Ann Jastrab selected approximately 35 images for exhibition in the Middlebury gallery, and 40 more for the online gallery. On view July 3-July 25.

ROKEBY MUSEUM

4334 Route 7, Ferrisburgh

For more info visit Rokeby.org or call 802-877-3406

"Inspired by Nature: The Women Artists of Rokeby," shares a small portion of the work made by Ann Stevens Robinson and her daughters Rachael Robinson Elmer and Mary Robinson Perkins. On view May 10-Oct. 12.

SEE EXHIBITS ON PAGE 15



ARIES: March 21/April 20. Aries, the week kicks off with a surge of vitality and determination. You're eager to take action, and the universe backs you. It's a perfect week to push ahead with goals.

TAURUS: April 21/May 21. Creative energy flows in and a long-dormant idea may spark back to life, Taurus. You're in the right mindset to pursue something artistic and innovative. Reconsider a refreshing hobby.

GEMINI: May 22/June 21. Gemini, you're in your element this week and buzzing with charm and curiosity. Engaging conversations abound. Opportunities to connect, both socially and professionally, come easily.

CANCER: June 22/July 22. Cancer, a small act of courage pays off in a big way, and you'll find that trusting yourself leads to a fulfilling outcome this week. Embrace your instincts.

LEO: July 23/Aug. 23. Love and joy surround you, and this week is ideal for connecting with someone special or deepening an important bond, Leo. Your heart feels open, and good things are flowing your way.

VIRGO: Aug. 24/Sept. 22. A chance to help or support someone brings a deeper sense of purpose. Kindness flows easily from you now, Virgo, and the gratitude you receive in return is both touching and inspiring.

LIBRA: Sept. 23/Oct. 23. This week your relationships are in harmony, Libra. You're feeling strongly supported. Conversations flow with ease, and people are drawn to your warm personality.

SCORPIO: Oct. 24/Nov. 22. A milestone is within reach, and the progress you've made starts to emerge this week, Scorpio. Your persistence and inner fire have been guiding you forward.

SAGITTARIUS: Nov. 23/Dec. 21. Sagittarius, a fresh perspective allows you to release old worries or doubts. This is a week of clarity and growth during which inspiration meets personal freedom.

CAPRICORN: Dec. 22/Jan. 20. Practical matters — especially career or finances — are looking up, Capricorn. A smart decision made now could lead to something even better down the line.

AQUARIUS: Jan. 21/Feb. 18. Aquarius, you've had your eye on the prize for some time now, and the good news is that the finish line is within arm's length. Stick with things for just a little longer.

Adagio Chocolates
Summer Is Great
For Chocolate!
Tue-Sat 11-6 52 Main Street Middlebury, VT
www.adagiochocolates.com 802-382-4000

Middlebury
FLORAL & GIFTS
Support Your Local Florist!
Flowers, Gifts, Cards, and More
M-F 9-5:30, Sat. 10-2 • Rt. 7 South, Middlebury
802-388-2800 • www.middleburyfloralandgifts.com

SEMI-ANNUAL CLEARANCE SALE
UP TO 75% OFF
OUR SALE IS IN FULL SWING!
QUILTERS' CORNER
MIDDLEBURY SEW-N-VAC
260 Court Street, Middlebury, VT. 05753
(802)388-3559
OPEN: M-F 10-5 and Saturday 9:30-4

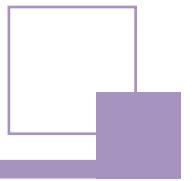
FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

JULY 18 — Nelson Mandela, anti-Apartheid activist, President of South Africa (d)
JULY 19 — Edgar Degas, painter (d)

JULY 20 — Sandra Oh, actor (44)
JULY 21 — Robin Williams, actor & comedian (d)
JULY 22 — Selena Gomez, singer-songwriter (33)
JULY 23 — Alison Kraus, singer (54)
JULY 24 — Kristin Chenoweth, actor (56)

CALENDAR

JULY 17-25
2025



FRIDAY, JULY 18

GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB HIKE IN FERRISBURGH.

Friday, July 18, Kingsland Bay. Meet on the west side (from Ferrisburgh Town Beach) a moderate hike through open fields and woods, partly along the shore of Lake Champlain, with views to the west and north. Around 2 miles, with under 200 feet of elevation gain. Contact leader David Andrews at 802-388-4984 or vtrevda@yahoo.com for details. More at gmcbreadloaf.org.

MAGICIAN JUGGLER EXTRAORDINAIRE JASON TARDY IN MIDDLEBURY.

Friday, July 18, noon-1 p.m., on the green. Tardy is a multifaceted performer who uses his strength, endurance and skill to create a crazy high-energy, comedy and juggling show like you've never seen before. His hilarious show includes innovative choreographed juggling, fitting his body through a tennis racket, balancing a ladder on his face, standing on a yoga ball and fire eating and fire breathing. A Festival on the Green brown bag special. Free.

LITTLE CITY JAZZ BAND IN NEW HAVEN.

Friday, July 18, 6-8 p.m., Lincoln Peak

Vineyard. 142 River Rd. Free Live music at the vineyard featuring local musicians and food trucks. Bring a blanket and a friend and celebrate the weekend with Vermont wines and Vermont vibes. Food by Mediterranean Mix and wine available for purchase.

BUFFALO ROSE IN MIDDLEBURY.

Friday, July 18, 7-8:15 p.m., on the green. Buffalo Rose hails from Pittsburgh, Pa. This six-person ensemble uses powerful vocal harmonies with strong instrumental backup that provides a dynamic live show. They collaborate to move acoustic music to a new contemporary place without losing sight of their roots. A Festival on the Green event. Free.

MADAILA IN MIDDLEBURY.

Friday, July 18, 8:30-9:45 p.m., on the green. After a few years of performing, Madaila's founding member and Middlebury resident Mark Daly disbanded the group in order to spend more time with his young family. Going solo for a spell, he grew tired of "doing it himself" and reformed the band last year with a different lineup. A Festival on the Green event. Free.

SATURDAY, JULY 19

COMMUNITY ART-MAKING

DAY IN MIDDLEBURY.

Saturday, July 19, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Henry Sheldon Museum garden, 1 Park St. Printmaking and recycled papermaking with printer John Vincent and fiber artist Kelly Hickey.

KEVIN KARECKAS IN BRANDON.

Saturday, July 19, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Kennedy Park, off Center St. Free live music.

FIDDLERS JAM IN MIDDLEBURY.

Sunday, July 20, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., VFW, 530 Exchange St. Join the Champlain Valley Fiddlers for music and fun. \$3 cover. 50/50 raffle. Door prize. Refreshments available.

LOGAN RIESTERER IN BRANDON.

Saturday, July 19, 4-6 p.m., Red Clover Ale, 43 Center St. Free live music with beer and goodies for purchase.

"A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM" IN MIDDLEBURY.

Saturday, July 19, 4:30 p.m., plaza, Town Hall Theater, 72 Merchants Row. A rollicking festival of fools collides in Shakespeare's beloved comedy, realized onstage at Town Hall Theatre's newly built outdoor plaza by an ensemble of eight talented young actors, ages 11 to 13. The ensemble fluidly shifts roles throughout the play,

with every actor stepping at least once into the worlds of the lovers, the fairies, and the mechanicals. Suggested donation \$5-\$10 to help raise money for future free programs at the Center for Learning and Engagement.

KING PEDE CARD PARTY IN FERRISBURGH.

Saturday, July 19, 6:30 p.m., Ferrisburgh Town Hall, 3279 Route 7. A sandwich supper and then on to an evening of fun and games.

VERMONT JAZZ ENSEMBLE STREET DANCE IN MIDDLEBURY.

Saturday, July 19, 7-9:45 p.m. Main St. The Festival on the Green's capstone event, featuring big-band selections by the Vermont Jazz Ensemble. With musicians hailing from all comers of the Green Mountain State, Vermont Jazz Ensemble is a 17-member instrumental group that performs selections in the jazz and Big Band styles and also plays a repertoire of rock, fusion, Latin and popular styles. We shut down Main Street for you to boogie and jive on the state's most unique dance floor! Christine Stone will join us to teach some basic dance steps.

SUNDAY, JULY 20

WINDBORNE COMMUNITY

SINGALONG IN MIDDLEBURY.

Sunday, July 20, 11 a.m., Maloney Outdoor Performance Plaza, Town Hall Theater, 72-76 Merchants Row. Sing along to traditional harmonies from around the world. With bold, inventive arrangements and deep roots in vocal tradition, this dynamic quartet brings centuries-old songs to life. Their performances span global styles and eras, weaving rich storytelling with a passionate commitment to folk music's legacy of social activism. Free More info at townhalltheater.org.

BLAST FROM THE PAST: HISTORIC CLOCK AND WATCHES AFTERNOON IN ADDISON.

Sunday, July 20, 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.

SUNDAY SESSIONS IN MIDDLEBURY.

Sunday, July 20, 1 p.m., Ralph Myhre Golf

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 802-388-3062.	
Channel 1071 Through the Night: Public Affairs, Bulletin Board Friday, July 18 5 a.m. Press Conferences 7:30 a.m. Congregational Church Service 9 a.m. All Things LGBTQ 10 a.m. Selectboard 4 p.m. Memorial Baptist Church Service 5:30 p.m. Energy Week 6:30 p.m. Press Conferences Saturday, July 19 5 a.m. Democracy Now 10 a.m. Selectboard 4 p.m. Memorial Baptist Service 5:30 p.m. Eckankar 7 p.m. Catholic Mass 9 p.m. All Things LGBTQ 11 p.m. Energy Week Sunday, July 20 5 a.m. Montpelier Happy Hour 8 a.m. Energy Week 9 a.m. Catholic Mass	11 a.m. Memorial Baptist Service 12:30 p.m. Selectboard 4 p.m. Congregational Service 5:30 p.m. All Things LGBTQ 6:30 p.m. Eckankar 7 p.m. Catholic Mass Monday, July 21 4:30 a.m. Energy Week 5:30 a.m. Eckankar 6 a.m. Press Conferences 10 a.m. Selectboard 12 p.m. Montpelier Happy Hour 5 p.m. Press Conferences 7:30 p.m. Democracy Now Tuesday, July 22 5 a.m. All Things LGBTQ 6 a.m. Press Conferences 9:30 a.m. Eckankar 10 a.m. Selectboard 3 p.m. Democracy Now 4 p.m. Congregational Service 5:30 p.m. Energy Week 7 p.m. Selectboard LIVE Wednesday, July 23 7:30 a.m. Memorial Baptist Service	9:30 a.m. Catholic Mass 10 a.m. Selectboard 4 p.m. Energy Week 7 p.m. Selectboard 10 p.m. Energy Week Thursday, July 24 5 a.m. Press Conferences 8 a.m. Congregational Service 12 p.m. Selectboard 8 p.m. Energy Week 9:30 p.m. Eckankar 10 p.m. Selectboard Channel 1091 Friday, July 18 5:30 a.m. Tai Chi 6 a.m. Yoga 7:30 a.m. Festival On the Green '25 12 p.m. Sharpe Takes 7 p.m. Festival On the Green 10 p.m. Festival On the Green Saturday, July 19 4:30 a.m. Tai Chi 5 a.m. Chair Yoga	6 a.m. Festival On the Green 12 p.m. Festival On the Green 4 p.m. Ilsley Book Talk - Julie Parker 5 p.m. Sharpe Takes 7 p.m. Festival On the Green 8:30 p.m. Festival On the Green Sunday, July 20 5 a.m. Sharpe Takes 6:15 a.m. Yoga for Kids 6:30 a.m. Tai Chi 7 a.m. Festival On the Green 12 p.m. Book Talk - Julie Parker 7 p.m. Festival On the Green Monday, July 21 5 a.m. Book Talk 6 a.m. Chair Yoga 12 p.m. Tai Chi 12:30 p.m. Chair Yoga 5 p.m. Sharpe Takes 7 p.m. Festival On the Green 10 p.m. Festival On the Green Tuesday, July 22 5:30 a.m. Tai Chi 6 a.m. Yoga	12 p.m. Sharpe Takes 1:15 p.m. Festival On the Green 5 p.m. Tai Chi 6 p.m. Mary Hogan Kindergarten Orientation 7 p.m. Festival On the Green 9 p.m. Book Talk Wednesday, July 23 5 a.m. Tai Chi 6 a.m. Chair Yoga 7 a.m. Festival On the Green 3 p.m. Mary Hogan Kindergarten 4 p.m. All Things LGBTQ 5 p.m. Book Talk 7 p.m. Festival On the Green Thursday, July 24 6 a.m. Tai Chi 6:30 a.m. Chair Yoga 7:30 a.m. Festival On the Green 4 p.m. Book Talk 5 p.m. Sharpe Takes 7 p.m. Festival On the Green 10 p.m. Festival On the Green	

Course, 317 Golf Course Rd. An afternoon of live music with Vermont-based singer-songwriter Nick Bredice, who's raw, indie-folk sound and improvisational energy have made waves across the Northeast. Free and open to the public.

WINDBOURNE IN MIDDLEBURY. Sunday, July 20, 4 p.m., Main Stage, Town Hall Theater, 72-76 Merchants Row. A full-on performance by what NPR called "the best musical discovery of the year." Tickets \$15/\$35 available at givebutter.com/uwlBeW.

LARRY & JOE IN CORNWALL. Sunday, July 20, 4-6 p.m., at The Barn, Bread Loaf View Farm, 564 Cider Mill Rd. An intimate music show featuring the marvelous duo Larry & Joe. Larry Bellorin hails from Monagas, Venezuela, and is a legend of Llanera music, and a master of the harp. Joe Troop, who resides in North Carolina, is a Grammy-nominated bluegrass and old time musician, gifted on guitar, banjo, fiddle and more. Larry left Venezuela under duress for North Carolina. Advance tickets \$30. Send check to Lloyd Komesar, 23 Catamount Drive, Leicester, VT 05733, Or purchase directly via Venmo @daskom. \$35 at the door.

MONDAY, JULY 21

CITIZEN SCIENCE ART - SUN SPOT PICTURES / SQUARE-FOOT CENSUS IN SHOREHAM. Monday, July 21, 10-11 a.m., Platt Memorial Library, 279 Main St. Ages 7 and up.

VERGENNES CITY BAND CONCERT IN VERGENNES. Monday, July 21, 7 p.m., City Green. A staple of Vergennes summer. Relax on the green and listen to live band music.

TUESDAY, JULY 22

GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB

HIKE IN HANCOCK. Tuesday, July 22, Middlebury Snow Bowl, Route 125. Hike up back trails of the Middlebury Snow Bowl. A 3-mile round-trip, 1,000 vertical feet gain, moderately strenuous, good views. Dogs welcome on leash. For more information or to join, contact Morris Earle at 802-734-0984 or [morisearle@gmail.com](mailto:morrisearle@gmail.com). More at gmcbreadloaf.org.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 23

FINDING HOPE WITHIN: ARTISTS AND CURATORS PANEL IN MIDDLEBURY. Wednesday, July 23, 12:30-1:30 p.m., Henry Sheldon Museum, 1 Park St. In conjunction with our summer exhibit, Finding Hope Within, HSM will present a lunch time panel discussion with the artists and curators of the exhibit in the Cerf Gallery, followed by a gallery tour. More info at henrysheldonmuseum.org/events.

THE ALBANY SOUND IN BRISTOL. Wednesday, July 23, 5-8 p.m., The Tillerman, 1868 North 116 Rd. The Albany Sound is Lowell Thompson, Michael Chorney, Pat Melvin and Jeremy Fredrick. The band honed its sound, a rich combination of American country, folk and rock, with a weekly residency in Bristol. Thompson's songs make up the heart of The Albany Sound and complement their repertoire with renditions of rarities by Lucinda Williams, John Prine, Bobby Charles, Small Faces and others. Music is free. Food and beverages for purchase.

TWANGTOWN PARAMOURS IN BRANDON. Wednesday, July 23, 6 p.m., behind the Brandon Inn. Come hear this soulful Americana duo and Retro Blues band. Rain location Brandon Town Hall.

BRISTOL TOWN BAND IN BRISTOL. Wednesday, July 23, 7-8:30 p.m., town green. Bristol Town Band will be holding their 155th

season of weekly summer band concerts. Rain location will be Holley Hall. All are welcome to join the band. More info at 802-281-2315 for further information.

THURSDAY, JULY 24

GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB STARGAZING IN ADDISON COUNTY. Thursday, July 24, 9 a.m., location TBD. Navigate the summer night sky and learn to identify bright stars, asterisms and constellations; enjoy looking for Perseid meteors. Weather dependent. (new moon July 24) & peak of Perseid meteor shower on Aug. 12. Check gmcbreadloaf.org/calendar for updates. Contact Ken Corey at kencorey53@gmail.com or 802-349-3733 to register. More at gmcbreadloaf.org.

SHIPWRECK TOUR IN FERRISBURGH. Thursday, July 24, 10 a.m.-noon, Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, 4472 Basin Harbor Rd. Dive into Lake Champlain's underwater history without getting wet! This scenic boat tour will take you to the sites of some famous local shipwrecks as Museum experts recount their dramatic stories. Tickets \$25 kids/\$45 adults. More info at LCMM.org.

FINDING HOPE WITHIN ARTISTS AND CURATORS PANEL IN MIDDLEBURY.

Wednesday, July 23, 12:30-1:30 p.m., Cerf Gallery, Henry Sheldon Museum, 1 Park St. Panel discussion with the artists and curators of Finding Hope Within exhibit followed by a gallery tour.

GRANVILLE DAZE; HASSETT AND HART IN HANCOCK. Thursday, July 24, 6:30-8 p.m., on the green. At all outdoor concerts, food will be available from the Hancock Volunteer Fire Department and the Hancock Recreational Committee. Bring a chair and enter your name in a weekly free raffle for gift certificates from Heart of Hancock and Hubbard's Store. Rain site: Hancock Town Hall.

FRIDAY, JULY 25

41ST ANNUAL NATIVE AMERICAN ELDERS AND YOUTH GATHERING IN LINCOLN. Friday, July 25, Sunray Peace Village, 2202 Downingsville Rd. Learn the ancestral wisdom of Indigenous elders and youth, as well as other cross-cultural offerings. Events include daily wisdom teachings, circle of women's moon-time teachings from an Abenaki perspective, art and music activities for children and Monday workshops (separate cost). Healing celebration Saturday night. 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.

ATLANTIC CROSSING IN NEW HAVEN. Friday, July 25, 6-8 p.m., Lincoln Peak Vineyard, 142 River Rd. Free live music at the vineyard featuring local musicians and food trucks. Bring a blanket and a friend and celebrate the weekend with Vermont wines and Vermont vibes. Food by La Chapina and wine available for purchase.

"THERE ONCE WAS ..." ON STAGE IN ROCHESTER. Friday, July 25, 7:30 p.m., Spice Studio, 482 South Main St. Bald Mountain Theater's annual emersion into the world of folk and fairy tales will explore Greek Myths this year. A company of five actors, director and a musician work for a week, with all the creative theatrical styles, and concoct a fascinating and colorful pageant of story. Tickets \$15, available in advance at baldmountaintickets@ludus.com and at the door.

SEE MORE CALENDAR LISTINGS ONLINE!
ADDISONINDEPENDENT.COM



Book your 2025 meeting at Basin Harbor and enjoy extra value for your group – when you reserve 10 or more lodging rooms, your meeting room rental fees will be completely waived. It's the perfect opportunity to gather your team in a beautiful lakeside setting while maximizing your budget.



Contact Erin today!
erin.church@basinharbor.com
(802) 771-4715

Blueberry Hill
PIZZA BY THE POND
Wood-fired pizza from our outside hearth in the quintessential summer setting!
WALK-INS WELCOME BUT RESERVATIONS STRONGLY SUGGESTED
www.blueberryhillinn.com/pizza **Thursday July 24, 5-8 PM**

Next concert: Bloodroot Gap

TRAVEL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

significant kerfuffle as the teenager had fumbled the way it was taken, and although I was assured the two pies were nearly ready, I had

to repeat what they were and wait while the order was re-inserted into their "system" and the amount due was recalculated. This took no more than 10 minutes, standing in the freezing dark of an early winter night. Other customers approached the window and were greeted by name, mostly by the old man at the oven, and scored their orders. The roar of the surrounding commuter traffic was punctuated by sirens and overhead jet planes, a sonic immersion as far from the intense silence of our home as a person can get.

When my pies were boxed and ready, the old man abandoned the oven, brought them out a door I had not noticed until he walked through it, looked me straight into the eye and apologized for the confusion. His gaze was steady and sincere, and his words, though accented, were clear and spoken with conviction beyond doubt. The whole experience sounded to my ears like a choral rendition of "America the Beautiful." The pizza was as good as we have ever tasted anywhere.

A week and another 400 miles south of Washington, D.C., we passed through three familiar campgrounds, mostly hugging the main artery (I-95) in our belated attempt to slip out from under the most recent cold air mass of winter overrunning our progress. We arrived on Jekyll Island during the afternoon of Sunday, Dec. 22. Our second full day here was spent touring the charming historic resort, all decked out for Christmas Eve. We hope this full week of creating a new holiday tradition in our little family of three can survive another few years, as there is something special about this place so uniquely suited to our temperaments and expectations.

Jekyll Island seems to be a non-commercially overwhelmed, a Georgia State Park built upon a National Historic Landmark District. It is full of remarkable plants, beaches, animals and people that are uniquely capable of taking care of themselves and their families. Here, there are no "edge-hogs" fencing off the beaches, no gated communities shutting you out, only a restrained but warm dedication to moving holiday sentiments expressed in lights and decorations and small crowds enjoying the intense quiet of isolation. The place seems immune to the forces that we humans have employed to spoil so much. Such careful preservation requires foresight and determination.



Campground entrance on Jekyll Island, Georgia.

PHOTO / STEVE & JUDITH HARRIS

One inescapable change to the rural landscape of the America's coastal south this past December was the complete evaporation of all outward signs of a disgruntled minority of angry white men. All the Trump flags, hand-lettered signs, billboards, posters and bumper stickers of the past five years are gone. The thoroughness of this change in social marketing has been abrupt. It seems to me that the snarling, car-chasing dog finally caught its prey on Nov. 5, the driver has politely relinquished the steering wheel, and the dog is wondering what to do next. Governing is always more difficult and less satisfying than loud and open rebellion.

Perhaps this apparent armistice was embedded in the holiday spirit that occasionally wafted under my nose, like the whiff of campfire smoke in December. Once in a great while I like to accept pointless adherence to my tribal instincts just for the heck of it all. A recent prominent example is my affection for my alma mater and The Ducks of Oregon. They (we) were so far undefeated in football this past year, and my old pal, Jim Weston still resides in Eugene. He crossed the continent and settled there at my invitation to help me as a carpenter some 50 short years ago. There he met his wife, Terri, and they both created a family of remarkable children in a loving home. Since we both uprooted ourselves from the East to become Oregonians (my allegiance to the West Coast turned out to be the temporary

one), he and I have become a nation of two football fans, he with the season tickets to Autzen Stadium, and me with the degree from the University pretending that the outcomes of every season matter. We know they don't really, but the world at large pretends they do. It's just boys playing a game with rules and traditions that pull on the mythic strings of memory and origin. But this past year, with the Mighty Ducks competing for the national championship, Jim and I were hanging on every game, every play and every personality. If college football can keep old friendships like ours alive, how bad can it be?

This holiday season was, therefore, made memorable for me by a once-in-a-lifetime defiance of the football odds. Christmas Eve's campfire made it more so as we listened to the soundtrack of children all around us playing games and enjoying a few lingering moments without their phones. Dogs barked and parents chatted quietly while the sunset in hues of orange and yellow shone through the over-arching live oaks of Georgia's unspoiled low country. The staff here, mostly volunteers, put out hundreds of Lumières (small paper bags with a lit candle inside) outlining the main access road into the assembled campers as evening gradually gave way to a tender and quiet nightfall. It felt closer to the peace and beauty of the original than anything we have ever felt anywhere.

Judi and I headed to our beds wishing you all similar moments of celebrations in your lives. It was hopefully a Merry Christmas for all, and for all a good night.

— sbh

Steve and Judith Harris met on a construction site in Burlington 38 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. Steve originally wrote this piece on Dec. 14, 2024. It has been edited and abridged to fit.

TRAVEL

LOOK FOR WEEKLY TRAVEL STORIES NOW THROUGH AUG. 14

ARTS+LEISURE

WITH JUDITH & STEVE HARRIS

WINTER ADVENTURES IN AN AIRSTREAM

PUZZLES

sponsored by **SPARROW ART SUPPLY**

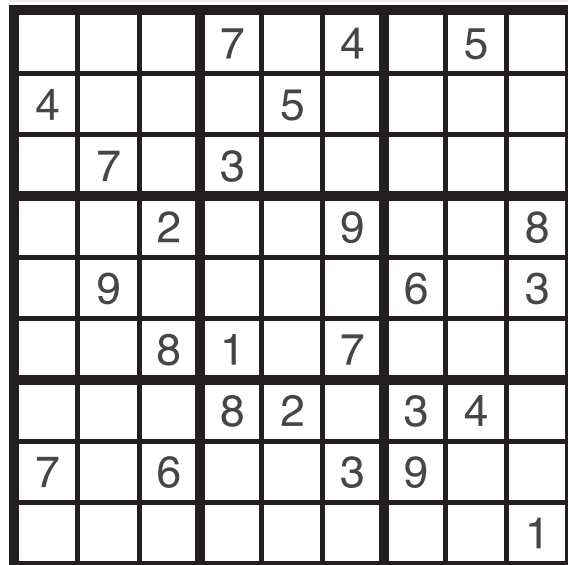
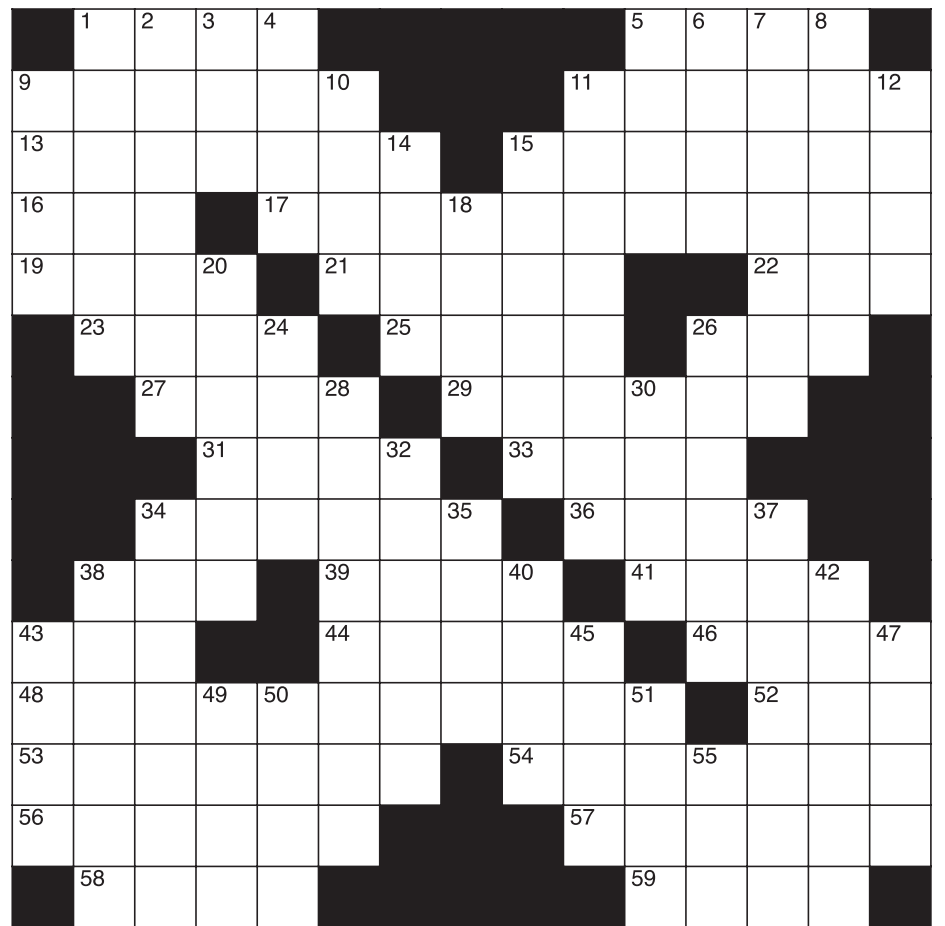
ACROSS

- 1. Resorts
- 5. One point south of southwest
- 9. Musical performances
- 11. Matched
- 13. Four-footed animal part
- 15. Express severe disapproval of
- 16. Type of leaf
- 17. Preparatory
- 19. Walk heavily
- 21. Succulent plants
- 22. Rectangle of grass
- 23. Lump in yarn
- 25. Too
- 26. Foot (Latin)
- 27. Afflicts
- 29. Smoothed
- 31. Mind (Greek)
- 33. Tampa ballclub
- 34. Semitic language
- 36. Sheltered sides
- 38. Ocean
- 39. Electronic point of sale
- 41. Thrust a knife into
- 43. 12th month (abbr.)
- 44. Ringworm
- 46. Father of Aoris (Greek myth.)
- 48. Fighting back

- 52. Cease to exist
- 53. Insects in adult stage
- 54. Freestanding sculpture
- 56. Caps
- 57. Repents
- 58. Brown and Wallace are two
- 59. Moved quickly

DOWN

- 1. Goes bad
- 2. Yard structure
- 3. They __
- 4. Marine invertebrate
- 5. European river



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

- 6. Office supplies firm
- 7. Physically abused
- 8. Service stations in Australia
- 9. Kills
- 10. Liquid body substances
- 11. Particular to a given individual
- 12. Brave or noble act
- 14. Sicilian city
- 15. Conqueror
- 18. Elected officials
- 20. Type of "pig"
- 24. Drop of viscous substance
- 26. Monetary unit of Spain
- 28. Guarantees
- 30. Coloring materials
- 32. Reddish browns
- 34. Square measure
- 35. Will not
- 37. Canned fish
- 38. Appeared
- 40. Six (Spanish)
- 42. Took off
- 43. Negligible amount
- 45. Posts in a Greek temple
- 47. Witnesses
- 49. Phil __, former CIA
- 50. Places to park
- 51. Guns
- 55. Dance to pop music

This week's puzzle solutions can be found on Page 11.



sparrowartsupply.com

Did you know? We're now

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK!

Creativity doesn't take a day off, and nor do we!
Pop in any day for paint, pens, sketchbooks, and a dose of inspiration.
We'll help you find the perfect materials for your upcoming project.

Visit us at 44 Main Street in Middlebury!

ASK A MASTER GARDENER

TREES, GLORIOUS TREES!



Amy Simone is a UVM Extension Master Gardener from South Burlington.

Trees are among the hardest working plants in the landscape. Even the smallest yard can accommodate at least one or two of these botanical powerhouses.

Adding a tree will provide habitat and shelter for many animals and beneficial insects. Birds will build nests in the branches and eat

BY **AMY SIMONE**

the berries, squirrels will tuck the seeds away for winter and a whole host of insects will be attracted by the nectar of its flowers.

Meanwhile, below ground, the tree's roots are expanding out and down and may capture toxic heavy metals and sediment, preventing them from entering stormwater systems. Strategically placed trees can combat soil erosion and minimize water runoff.

Despite all their attributes, however, the purchase of a tree can seem intimidating. Keep in mind the value of the investment of time and labor by the grower, especially as the caliper (diameter of tree trunk) size increases.

The good news is that younger, smaller trees are less expensive as well as more resilient to transplant stress. Once established, they will grow quickly.

AGWAY Think of Agway when you think of your pets!

Proud to help you provide quality care for all of your pets, we know your animal companions are a central part of your life!

PET FOOD ASK ABOUT OUR **Pet Food Club** Earn rewards for your purchases!

Quality Brands Including:

Pronature, RAW, HEALTH EXTENSION, HOLISTIC SELECT, Taste of the Wild, IAMS, Nutro, DIAMOND NATURALS, Purina ONE, Merrick, Orijen, Aunt Jeni's Home Made, Eagle Pack, sojos, inception, Signature, WELLNES, VERUVA, Greenies, ACANA

Everything you need for pet support!

TOYS & TREATS

Accessories & Grooming Supplies
Leashes • Harnesses
Collars • Clothing
Food Dishes
Storage Bins
Beds & Baskets

SELF SERVE DOG WASH

Brushes, shampoos, skin treatment, ointments to keep your pets' coats healthy and problem free!

Kennels, Dog Houses & Carrying Cases
Come in and check the variety we have in stock!

Large & Small Animal Products
Feed • Supplements • Training & Grooming Supplies
Cages, Foods, Treats & Bedding
Bird food, toys and cages
Basics for fish, too!

Wild Bird Supplies
Feeders,
Seed & Suet,
Houses & Accessories.

MIDDLEBURY AGWAY Open 7 days

338 Exchange Street, Middlebury
388-4937 • www.MiddleburyAgway.com
Mon - Fri 8-6 • Sat 8-5 • Sundays 9-4

Join our email list for preferred customer savings!

YOUR YARD, GARDEN AND PET PLACE™ • www.middleburyagway.com

During photosynthesis, a tree binds carbon dioxide into sugar, releasing oxygen and storing the carbon in its wood. The tree's leaves filter out air pollutants, thereby reducing smog, acid rain and cooling greenhouse gas-related temperatures.

Trees are your natural awning, creating a cool, shady area for you to escape the summer heat. The addition of fruit or nut trees will also provide you with delicious food.

Regarding growth, another concern you may have about planting trees is their future size. Thankfully, there are options for varieties that do not get very large. Treeform paniculata hydrangeas, dwarf crabapples and laceleaf Japanese maples are examples of trees with mature heights of less than 12 feet.

If you are looking for a tree to make a big impact, but not exceed 20 feet in height, there are several options. Flowering dogwoods,

SEE TREES ON PAGE 11



Trees with unique leaf shapes are like artwork for the landscape, making them a good choice for any yard.

TREES

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

serviceberries and some magnolia varieties as well as full-sized crabapples and Japanese maples are excellent choices in this range.

With the capacity to accommodate a larger tree, you are only limited by the light and soil conditions in your yard that match the needs of the trees. Honey locusts provide filtered shade to your patio and an oak tree supplies an entire neighborhood of wild creatures with food and shelter. Willow trees will happily absorb excess water from a low area in your yard.

Fruit trees are fun to add to your landscape, offering fragrant spring flowers followed by a bounty of fruit, giving you plenty to share with the animals. There are apricot, peach, pear, plum, cherry and apple varieties with mature heights of less than 20 feet. Be sure to look for resistant cultivars to the most common diseases affecting each species. Likewise, walnut, chestnut and hazelnut trees are both beautiful and productive.

Beyond the deciduous (leaf-shedding) trees, is an entire realm of evergreen varieties. Evergreens are invaluable as shelter and food for animals, as well as for



Even a small yard can accommodate a Japanese maple tree, which has a mature height of 20 feet.

PHOTO / AMY SIMONE

privacy and wind protection for you. Again, there are options with mature heights of 6 to more than 60 feet, as well as a plethora of forms, habits, hues of green and needle types.

Once you have chosen the trees to incorporate into your landscape, carefully follow the steps to properly plant and care for them. They will repay you with benefits that last more than a lifetime.

For information on tree planting and care, visit vtcommunityforestry.org/tree-care.

Pets In Need

HOMeward BOUND

Addison County's Humane Society

Bambi

Bambi is a sweet but shy girl. Tuna is the way to her heart, but she enjoys any treats! She was originally from an outside colony, but she made it clear that she wanted to be around people. Bambi is vocal, affectionate, and loves head rubs. She gets along with other cats and has outdoor experience.



Charlotta



Charlotta is a goofy and sweet girl. She arrived as a stray, so her history is unknown. Charlotta appears to be a senior girl and has some cute, crinkly ears that have healed. Her favorite things include curling up in her bed for a nap and looking out the windows. She gets along with other cats, but we are unsure about dogs.

Whopper

Whopper is an affectionate, gentle giant. He is the purrfect boy and has gotten along with cats, dogs, and children! Whopper is on a sensitive skin diet that helps with his apparent allergies.



Bailey



Hi! My name is **Bailey!** I'm a 3-year-old 62-pound hound mix. I'm an active girl and I love being outside. Since I'm a hound, I'd love to be able to use my nose as much as possible. Puzzle toys and nose work would be wonderful things to add to my daily enrichment. I've lived with cats, dogs, and a bird. Keep in mind though, that I did like to chase the cat! When I'm not outside, I like to snuggle up on the couch. I'm housebroken, crate trained, and I know a few basic commands.

Bella

Hi! I'm **Bella**, A 7-pound Chihuahua mix. Life's been hard for me lately. My owner passed away and I've felt lost in the world. My foster mom says I'm slowly warming up to her, but still have ways to go. I prefer a same-sized dog friend who can boost my confidence. I absolutely love cats and would love a feline companion. I really need an owner who won't push me past my threshold and will understand that it will take a lot of time and patience for me to open up.



Homeward Bound
Addison County's Humane Society



Want to learn more?

Call or check our website. We may have a pet for you!
802-388-1100 | HomewardBoundAnimals.org
236 Boardman Street | Middlebury, VT

PUZZLE

SOLUTIONS

JULY 17, 2025

S	P	A	S		S	W	B	S						
O	P	E	R	A	S		P	A	I	R	E	D		
F	O	R	E	L	E	G		C	E	N	S	U	R	E
F	I	G		P	R	E	P	A	R	A	T	I	V	E
S	L	O	G		A	L	O	E	S		S	O	D	
S	L	U	B		A	L	S	O		P	E	S		
	A	I	L	S		S	A	N	D	E	D			
	N	O	U	S		R	A	Y	S					
	H	E	B	R	E	W		L	E	E	S			
	S	E	A		E	P	O	S		S	T	A	B	
D	E	C		T	I	N	E	A		A	R	A	S	
R	E	T	A	L	I	A	T	I	N	G		D	I	E
I	M	A	G	O	E	S		S	T	A	B	I	L	E
B	E	R	E	T	S			A	T	O	N	E	S	
D	E	E	S					S	P	E	D			

2	1	3	7	9	4	8	5	6	
4	8	9	6	5	1	7	3	2	
6	7	5	3	8	2	1	9	4	
1	6	2	5	3	9	4	7	8	
5	9	7	2	4	8	6	1	3	
3	4	8	1	6	7	5	2	9	
9	5	1	8	2	6	3	4	7	
7	2	6	4	1	3	9	8	5	
8	3	4	9	7	5	2	6	1	

Basic Dog Obedience Classes

All breeds • All ages



Have fun while teaching your dog to be a valued and welcome member of the family!

Monday evenings for 6 weeks
Beginning Monday, July 21



Hand-in-Paw Training & Boarding Kennel

Call or email for more information:
(802) 462-2992



Peg@starvalegoldens.com



487 BURNHAM DRIVE, MIDDLEBURY
\$635,000

#HOME

A LOOK AT ADDISON COUNTY PROPERTIES FOR SALE

A cheery Cape to call your home

A delightful and cheery Cape-style home in The Woodlands community, with a layout and flow that makes “at home” feel just right. All the living spaces you need are located on the main level: a direct-entry mudroom, home office, family room, living room, dining room, renovated kitchen, laundry room, the primary bedroom suite (complete with its own full bath and walk-in closet), and a lovely screened porch. The bonus space in the basement has been converted into a home gym (equipment could be included), and there’s still plenty of storage space in the unfinished section. The second floor hosts three bedrooms, storage closets, a linen closet, and an additional bathroom for the rest of the family or visiting friends. The generous yard is great for watching the birds, kicking around a ball, or listening to the breeze through the woodland trees.



*This week's property is managed by IPJ Real Estate.
More info at middvermontrealestate.com.*





MAKE A MOVE!

IN OUR REAL ESTATE SECTION

Our dedicated sales team can connect you with Addison County homebuyers, sellers & professionals.

advertising@addisonindependent.com



creating real estate solutions
IRENE POOLE, REALTOR®



802-989-5563 | IreneVTRE.com



New Haven
1349 Lime Kiln Road
3.3 Acres

Beautiful open meadow with country views, state WW permit for 3 BD home. Well-located to Middlebury, Vergennes, Burlington.

\$245,000

For Sale by Owner
1-802-324-0422



Make the dream of home ownership a reality.
We can help. Contact us today or apply online.
Sharon Brown | Community Lender | NMLS #491713



nbmvt.com • 1-877-508-8455
Bank NMLS #403372

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

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 1-800-669-9777.



Let Us Sell or Find Your Roost!

173 Court St. • Middlebury, VT

Roxanna Emilo, Broker/Realtor/Owner
Cell: (802) 349-9837

Christine Fraioli, Realtor
(802) 989-2234

Office: (802) 388-4440 • emilovtrealestate@gmail.com
www.emilorealestate.com

NORTH POND RD, SALISBURY

Rare opportunity to own land with North Pond frontage and a peaceful stream. Though recently logged, many sugar maples remain. Enjoy a small lake view on this mostly flat, buildable lot. No septic engineering yet, but the site appears favorable. A unique chance to own a large parcel near the lake—call for details!

MLS# 5038141 \$359,000



Charming 1888 farmhouse with Adirondack views, rolling fields, and modern updates. Renovated 3-bed home features a sunny kitchen with custom oak cabinets. Enjoy original hardwood floors, an electric fireplace, an office, and spacious laundry. Outside: a stunning patio with pavilion, perennial gardens, and a spring-fed pond. The property has a history as a working farm and includes a heated 48' x 78' building with office, wash bay, and 1-bed suite. Zoned Commercial & Residential—endless possibilities!

MLS# 5022374 \$1,499,000



UPPER PLAINS RD, SALISBURY

This is a lovely piece of land which has been partially cleared, ready to build your new home. Wooded in a country setting with mountain views. Conveniently located close to Lake Dunmore, Middlebury, East Middlebury, Ripton, and Brandon. For the asking price, the seller will pay for Perk/Septic Design system through a licensed engineer/ will also install electricity for the first 150 ft. Town Zoning regulations 2-acre building lots.

MLS# 5039940 \$299,000



1413 LAKE DUNMORE RD, LEICESTER

This expansive 2.15-acre property features a mobile home shell that can either be renovated or removed to make way for a fresh build. A conventional septic system is already in place and drilled well on site. Nestled near Lake Dunmore, with easy access to boating, fishing, and swimming. Please note: The mobile home is not financeable, but it's grandfathered in as a mobile home. Motivated Seller.

MLS# 5034146 \$125,000



the REAL ESTATE COMPANY
of VERMONT



60 South Maple Street, Vergennes

Well-maintained 3-bed, 2 bath "Little City" home just blocks from Main Street. Featuring gleaming wood floors, a flexible layout, a sunny kitchen with maple cabinets, granite counters, and pellet stove. Relax on the deck or tend to the landscaped gardens with raised beds, perennials, and mature trees.

MLS No. 5050540 | \$ 450,000



548 Watch Point Rd, Shoreham

This beautifully maintained Queen Anne Victorian seamlessly blends distinctive period architecture, modern systems, mature landscaping, and pastoral views. With five bedrooms, two baths, multiple porches and a finished attic bonus space this lovingly cared for home offers warmth and character and plenty of space all situated on a park like 2.7 acre lot with pond.

MLS No. 5047185 | \$ 725,000



TBD South Lincoln Rd, Lincoln

62.3-acre wooded parcel with western view potential and Cota Brook along its northern edge, featuring waterfalls and swimming holes. Ideal for recreation or future development. Close to the New Haven River, hiking, skiing, and a vibrant community. This special land offers natural beauty with long-term potential.

MLS No. 4971457 | \$ 475,000

for more information, contact our office:



Jill Fraga
Broker/Owner/Realtor®



Danelle Birong
Broker/Realtor®



Tammy Petersen
Agent/Realtor®



www.theRealEstateCompanyVT.com

3 MAIN STREET | BRISTOL, VERMONT 05443 | 802.453.6161

SOLD! VERGENNES
PROPERTY TRANSFERS

By **ANDY KIRKALDY**

VERGENNES — In all, 45 arms-length real-estate sales were recorded at Vergennes City Hall between Jan. 1, 2024, and June 30, 2025.

Those sales included 36 single-family homes, including one home described as manufactured and six mobile homes on First or Second streets. One home on Sunset Drive sold twice, and there were four purchases of homes by Limited Liability Corporations (LLCs), with some of those deals listed as investment buys.

LLCs also purchased five apartment buildings. There were two sales of commercial property, one not including land.

The following sales were recorded in those 18 months, listed by one seller, one buyer, brief property details and sales price:

1/31/24: Celia Sears to Adam Bunde, home at 100 Comfort Hill on 0.4 acre, \$300,000.

1/31/24: River's Edge Associates to Gregory Stickel, home at 355 Commodore Drive on 0.46 acre, \$766, 524.

2/2/24; Richard

Charlebois Jr. to Jennifer Lyons, mobile home at 12 Second St., \$35,000.

2/15/24: Stephens Trust to Stephens Acres LLC, 11.12 acres on Scovel Lane, \$112,500.

2/21/24: Horton Alden III to 187 Main LLC, commercial property at 187 Main St.,

\$275,000.

2/28/24: Otter Creek Holdings LLC to Settlers Park Apartments LLC, apartment building at 297 Main St., \$335,000.

3/1/24: Bhuyan NX VT Real Estate LLC to Marco Samaritoni, home on 0.2 acre at 15 Sunset Drive, \$320,000.

3/27/24: John Graham Emergency Shelter to 345 East Street LLC, multi-family dwelling at 3-5 East St., \$260,000.

4/15/24: Noah Potvin to Susan McCarthy, home at 183 Commodore Drive on 0.47 acre, \$630,000.

5/15/24: Rest Assured Investments LLC to Cory Glover, home at 188 Green St. on 0.58 acre, \$550,000.

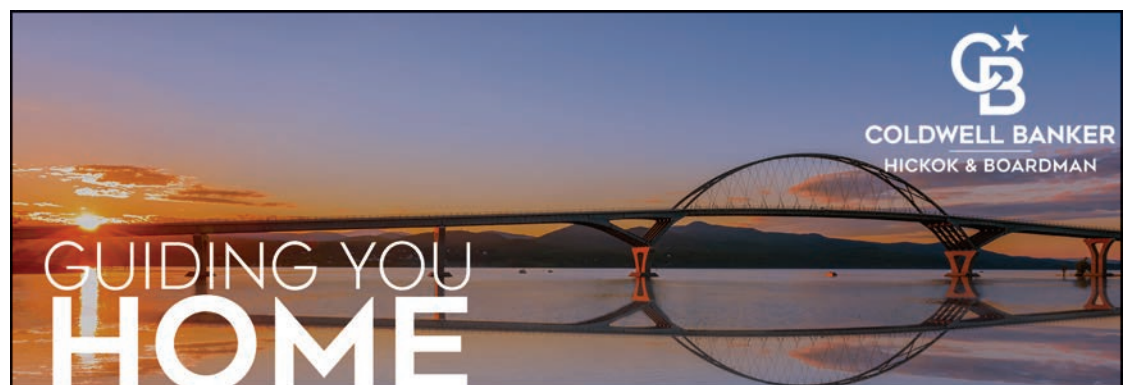
5/15/24: Cory Glover to Brett Henderson, home on 0.2 acre at 20 East St., \$435,000.

5/22/24: Kyle Bushey to Alexandra Murphy, home on 0.3 acre at 3 Bombard Place, \$205,000.

5/24/24: Lenore Danyow estate to Beth Tarallo, home on 0.5 acre at 6 Green Meadow Drive, \$575,000.

6/21/24: Stephen

SEE PROPERTY ON PAGE 16



We take enormous pride in consistently outperforming the market averages - but even more importantly, our clients' expectations with a **99% satisfaction rating**.

Contact us today to experience it for yourself.



Addison | \$1,199,000
Michael Johnston
(802) 846-9518



Addison | \$429,000
Melinda Morse
(802) 861-4765



Ripton | \$1,200,000
Irene Poole
(802) 861-4757

268 Main St, Vergennes | HickokandBoardman.com | 802-863-1500

EXHIBITS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

SHELDON MUSEUM

1 Park Street, Middlebury
For more info visit
henrysheldonmuseum.org

"Artists in the House: An Exhibit & Silent

Auction Fundraiser" brings together contemporary artists in Addison County in this 50/50 fundraiser and summer exhibit, which features over 30 works on display in the Museum's historic kitchen. To bid, visit henrysheldonmuseum.org/events/artists-in-the-house-fundraiser. On view May 21-Sept. 6.

"Finding Hope Within: Healing & Transformation Through the Making of Art Within the Carceral System," features works of art that have emerged through the carceral system in Vermont alongside historical artifacts from the collection of the Henry Sheldon Museum. These original artworks were curated by A Revolutionary Press and Vermont Works for Women for their "Finding Hope Within" traveling exhibit. On view May 21-Sept. 30.

SPARROW ART SUPPLY

44 Main St., Middlebury
For more info visit sparrowartsupply.com

"Spotlight @ Sparrow: Mira Veikley Cabrera." This month's exhibit will feature a collection of limited edition, hand-embellished fine art prints — each uniquely finished with the botanical pigments that inspired the originals, including flowers, berries, and leaves. Find more about Mira on Sparrow's website. On view through July.

SEE MORE EXHIBIT LISTINGS ONLINE!

ADDISONINDEPENDENT.COM/ART-EXHIBITS

PRICE IMPROVEMENT 2 COUNTRY HOMES



3900 Jersey Street, Panton

This immaculate ranch home, nestled on 15 acres, offers three bedrooms, including a primary with a spa-like bath and walk-in closet. The spacious living room features built-in bookshelves and a fireplace. The open kitchen/dining area provides deck access, perfect for entertaining. Walk-out basement is ideal for recreation and gatherings. Within a mile of Lake Champlain and minutes from Vergennes and the NY Bridge.

MLS# 5042471

\$629,000



909 East Street, New Haven

This impeccably maintained ranch-style home offers two large bedrooms with ensuite baths on the main level. Enjoy a spacious living room with a gas fireplace and mountain views, as well as a kitchen with ample cabinets and a breakfast nook. A formal dining room can also serve as a library or office. The home also features a three-season sunroom and a large deck.

MLS# 5039979

\$649,000



Sean Dye,
802-338-0136



Nancy Larrow,
802-989-9653



Susan Burdick
802-989-9058



Cory Foote
802-349-7101



Galina Mencilr
802-353-5370



Genevieve Smyth
802-497-7374

BERKSHIRE
HATHAWAY
HOMESERVICES

VERMONT REALTY
GROUP

We are a designated agency brokerage.

802-877-2134 • WWW.REVT4U.COM

YOUR FOREVER REALTORS,
BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS ONE HOME AT A TIME!



This beautifully appointed 4-bedroom, 3-bath home offers exceptional space, comfort, and versatility for today's modern living. Two inviting living areas and a generously sized kitchen are perfect for entertaining or everyday family life. There is also a large deck with beautiful views. The home features hardwood floors throughout, with porcelain tile in key areas. The spacious primary bedroom



163 STICKNEY RD., WHITING
MLS #5049132 - \$550,000

boasts an updated en suite bath and ample closet space. Upstairs, you'll find a large sitting area, 3 bedrooms, a full bathroom and a unique bonus room. The finished attic offers two additional rooms, and the partially finished basement includes a kitchen and half bathroom, making it perfect for a home business, in-law suite, or rental potential with town approval. Central vacuum throughout. This home is full of possibilities!

Affordable renovated cape on 7+ acres in Brandon! This renovated 3-bedroom, cape is just minutes from Brandon. Originally built in 1880, the home has been thoughtfully and completely rebuilt offering peace-of-mind updates including a new poured concrete foundation, new roof, and modern systems. Enter through a sunny, natural wood-paneled sunroom. From there, the open-concept kitchen, dining, and living area is anchored by a soapstone wood stove, and the den is ideal for a home office or reading nook. Upstairs, the spacious primary bedroom features a skylight and loft area and two additional bedrooms. Outside, enjoy a 21' x 72' greenhouse, garden space. Country living at its best: peaceful, private, and move-in ready!



1075 HIGH POND RD., BRANDON
MLS #50050561 - \$325,000

Unique, year-round property on beautiful Lake Sunset with 90' of lake frontage. Expansive, east-facing deck overlooks the picturesque lake. Amazing lake views from nearly every corner of the house. Open floor plan makes it a great place to entertain. Main floor bedroom, full bathroom and a separate laundry area with pantry. In the winter enjoy the Vermont Castings wood stove. Upstairs in the loft area you will find the primary bedroom with a 3/4 bathroom and another bedroom, both sporting lake views. Covered storage area for the wood, garbage and recycling and a separate shed for kayaks, water toys and more. Standby automatic generator. This well-maintained property is being sold fully furnished.



2436 PERCH POND RD, BENSON
MLS #5049691 - \$519,000

This three bedroom, two full bath home is located on just over 5 acres of land close to Bristol village. The rooms are large and inviting. The living area is open and great for entertaining. The vaulted ceilings, exposed post and beams and wood burning soapstone stove add character. The kitchen has a large soapstone counter top and plenty of cupboard space and there is a new pantry with a nice sliding barn door. There is a first floor bedroom with adjoining bath and first floor laundry which allows for one-level living if desired. Upstairs are two generously sized bedrooms and a full bath. The walk-out basement is spacious with tall ceilings and could easily be finished.



100 LEDGE LANE, BRISTOL
MLS #5047553 - \$470,000

Champlain Valley
Properties

70 Court Street, Middlebury, VT
802-989-7522 | ChamplainValleyProperty.net





ADDISON NEW LISTING!
8498 VT ROUTE 22A
 MLS #5051243 | \$835,000
 4 BD | 5 BA | 3286 SF | 7.80 ACRES

Circa 1813 Federal style beauty originally known as the Benjamin Southard, Jr. House. Many updates and some modern touches meet today's standards for amenities while keeping all its original charm!



MIDDLEBURY NEW LISTING!
1726 MUNGER STREET
 MLS #5050214 | \$275,000
 4 BD | 2 BA | 2128 SF | 2.00 ACRES

Fantastic opportunity in this property. Whether you restore the home and barns or use this gorgeous land as a building site, this could be the property you've been searching for! Don't hesitate to ask for more info!



SALISBURY NEW LISTING!
1950 LAKE DUNMORE ROAD
 MLS #5050505 | \$699,000
 3 BD | 2 BA | 2222 SF | 0.20 ACRES

South-facing home with direct access to 60 ft. of privately-owned waterfront. Vinyl siding, metal roof, and pressure-treated decking make it an easy-to-maintain retreat. Permitting for a new septic system underway.



RIPTON NEW LISTING!
498 SCOTT ROAD
 MLS #5051293 | \$495,000
 2 BD | 3 BA | 974 SF | 33.56 ACRES

Originally a poet's summer refuge "Sweet Retreat" offers a wooded wonderland bordered by National Forest and conserved land. Light-filled interior, south-facing screened porch, direct access to recreation. Paradise!



NEW HAVEN NEW LISTING!
322 BELDEN FALLS ROAD
 MLS #5050855 | \$299,000
 2 BD | 1 BA | 1008 SF | 1.60 ACRES

Many updates to this versatile home. Two-bay garage with overhead storage. A level lot with good, usable acreage. Only a short distance to the Trail Around Middlebury and Otter Creek's Beldon Falls. A special spot!

PROPERTY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

Ratkovits to Lillian Brennan, home on 0.21 acre at 22 Sunset Drive, \$390,000.

6/24/24: Justin Soter to Zu Wei Zhai, home at 12 Thomas Circle on 0.38 acre, \$333,500.

6/18/24: Habitat for Humanity to James Muir, home at 18 Booth Woods on 0.56 acre, \$337,100.

7/23/24: Alison Barrett to Mallory Brace, mobile home at 26 Second St., \$45,000.

7/26/24: Charlie Properties LLC to Otter Creek Realty LLC, home on 0.2 acre at 64 Main St., \$473,000.

7/31/24: Rheel Gevry to Alesia LLC, apartment building at 34 South Maple St. on 0.4 acre, \$415,000.

8/12/24: Lisa Turpin to Rehm Family Trust, home at 2 Crosby Court on 0.34 acre. 8/23/24: Brigitte Husk to Lover Dear LLC, apartment building on 0.1 acre at 19 South Maple St., \$240,000.

9/6/24: Brian Crossman to Ryan Cantarella, home at 17 Comfort Hill on 0.1 acre, \$525,000.

9/26/24: June Flanagan to Kirstein Putnam, mobile home at 17 First St., \$45,000. 10/1/24: Everett Lander to 45 West Main LLC, home on 0.2 acre at 45 West Main St., \$380,000.

10/23/24: Sarah O'Donnell to Curtis Rodgers, home at 41 Green St., \$403,000.

10/25/24: Skyler Shute to Jeremy Dowdy, home at 29 Main St. on 0.4 acre, \$285,000.

10/28/24: Andrew Workman to 21 New Haven LLC, home at 21 New Haven Road on 0.2 acre, \$220,000.

11/8/24: Route 22A and 1 Main LLC to Vergennes 50 LLC, warehouse buildings at 1 Main St., \$50,000.

11/25/24: Tina Gilbert to Jennifer Coyle, home on 0.2 acre at 20 West St., \$405,000.

11/27/24: Catherine

Desjadon to Dennis Coakley, home on 0.3 acre at 38 Bowman Road, \$495,000.

12/5/24: River's Edge Associates to Abigail Hammerl, home at 358 Commodore Drive on 0.50 acre, \$679,000.

12/2/24: H.V. 2005 Inc. to Sienna Apartments LLC, 1.08 acres on Armory Lane, \$60,000.

1/10/25: Donna Desjardin, to The Herreshoff House LLC, home at 67 Green St., \$775,000.

1/15/25: Kathi Lawrence to Scott Brace, manufactured home on 0.2 acre at 81 West Main St., \$115,000.

2/13/24: Fecteau Residential Inc. to Vt. State Housing Authority, mobile home at 19 First St., \$106,673.

2/13/24: Fecteau Residential Inc. to Vt. State Housing Authority, mobile home at 11 First St., \$103,313.

3/7/25: Marco Samaritoni to Jonathan Armell, home on 0.2 acre at 15 Sunset Drive, \$315,000.

3/17/25: Laurie Brandenberger to Brian Crossman, home on 0.57 acre at 119 West Main St., \$500,000.

4/4/25: Emily Robbins to Morgan Collins, home at 0.3 acre at 42 Bowman Road, \$420,000.

4/11/25: Michael Kennedy to McKinly Brumback, home on 0.2 acre at 41 West Main St., \$514,000.

5/15/25: Ariel Vadebancoeur to Johnathan O'Hern, home at 3 Adele Drive on 0.55 acre, \$457,500.

5/30/25: Kristopher Perkins to Mercedesie Norton, mobile home at 20 First St., \$49,000.

5/3/25: Douglas Hawley to Sean Darrow, home at 3 Thornwood Lane on 1.9 acres, \$547,000.

6/4/25: River's Edge Associates to James Booth, home at 378 Commodore Drive on 0.46 acre, \$689,000.

6/5/25: River's Edge Associates to Peter Kahn, home at 395 Commodore Drive on 0.46 acre, \$875,000.

ipjrealestate.com

34 Main Street, downtown Middlebury
info@ipjrealestate.com | 802.388.4242

