



Small town art

Artists in Orwell are ramping up for their third annual art festival next week. See Arts + Leisure.



League meet

The Champs and the Marlins both boasted multi-race winners this weekend. See Page 1B.



Profiles!

Learn more about the people who run businesses in our community in our 40-page pull-out.

ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT

Vol. 79 No. 31

Middlebury, Vermont ♦ Thursday, July 31, 2025 ♦ 80 Pages

\$2.00

Hospital takes steps to curb workplace violence

Porter is emphasizing de-escalation in response to legislation

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — A new state law requiring hospitals to develop and implement “workplace violence security plans” took effect on July 1, and officials at Porter Medical Center (PMC) have been busy ramping up safety protocols at the county’s health care hub off

South Street in Middlebury.

At issue is H.259, which the state Legislature overwhelmingly endorsed this past session. Gov. Phil Scott signed it into law as “Act 9” this spring. Among other things, it requires that hospitals:

- Form a “security plan development team” made up

of hospital employees and representatives of relevant law enforcement agencies. The resulting plan must include options for employee name tags to omit employees’ last name; ensure a hospital employee trained in de-escalation strategies is always present in the hospital’s emergency

department and other patient care areas; and that a hospital employee be trained in trauma-informed care and victim support to serve as a liaison to law enforcement and victims.

- Ensure their security train appropriate hospital employees on such topics as responding to the presence of weapons and de-escalation techniques. The plan (See Porter, Page 8A)



MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE PRESIDENT Ian Baucom stepped into his role on July 1. Some of his priorities for the months ahead include engaging with members of the college community. Independent photo/John S. McCright

Baucom settles in, sets priorities

College finances, Monterey on his list

By MARIN HOWELL

MIDDLEBURY — Middlebury College President Ian Baucom just got to town this month, but he’s already got a sense of how tied the institution is to the community that surrounds it.

“From its origins, Middlebury understood itself as the town’s college — that really struck me,” Baucom said during a recent interview. “As I think about how that unfolds over time and what

it means, a question that is in my mind is, ‘What does it mean for us to continue to be the town’s college, and Vermont’s and the nation’s and the world’s and the planet’s?’”

Baucom will help the institution answer that question in his new role as college president, a post he stepped into on July 1. He succeeds Interim President Steve Snyder and former President Laurie Patton. (See Baucom, Page 15A)



Listening to the judge

TEN-YEAR-OLD BLAKE MOULTON of Middlebury, a member of the New Haven Dairy 4-H, pays close attention to the judge as she shows her calf, JJ, in the junior Jersey division competition at Addison County Fair & Field Days on Tuesday. The fair runs through Saturday. See stories and photos from the fair throughout this edition.

Independent photo/Steve James

Language teachers build skills

Earn license through new Midd program

By MARIN HOWELL

MIDDLEBURY — Meigan Clark has always loved languages, literature and teaching.

Those passions are ones she explored as a student at Middlebury Union High School through various extracurricular activities

and they eventually led her to her current position teaching French at a charter high school in New York City.

“(The position) allowed me to try teaching, see how I liked it before getting my certification,” Clark said. “Now I’ve decided that

is the career path I want to pursue. I love working with young people, with teenagers, getting to support them as they grow.”

This summer, Clark is back in her hometown taking part in a program that will further expand her options for a career teaching languages. She’s one of 19 students enrolled in (See Language teachers, Page 16A)

Gov. seeks additional Addison-4 rep. options

By JOHN FLOWERS

BRISTOL — Gov. Phil Scott and Addison County Democrats have apparently reached a bump in the road toward picking a successor to former Rep. Mari Cordes, D-Bristol, who resigned from her Addison-4 House seat in late June to take a nursing job in Nova Scotia.

It remains to be seen whether it’s just a speed bump or a major obstacle that will compel Scott to deviate from tradition and pick

a successor *not* appearing on a list of hopefuls submitted by the resigning lawmaker’s party.

As previously reported by the *Independent*, the county Democrats’ Addison-4 District Representative Committee — consisting of party leaders from the Addison-4 towns of Bristol, Lincoln, Monkton and Starksboro — met a month ago to consider five potential Cordes replacements, selecting former longtime Addison-4 Rep. Dave (See Gov. Scott, Page 10A)

Neighbors pan Middle Rd. project

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — Neighbors of a proposed 32-unit apartment building near the intersection of Middle Road and Route 7 near the One Dollar Market are promising to turn out in force for the Middlebury Development Review Board’s next review of the project, likely to occur after Labor Day.

Opponents of the proposed four-story structure — which

would include a restaurant — have coalesced under the banner of “Neighbors for Responsible Development,” or NRD. They’re raising objections to the scale, aesthetics and what they believe would be worsening traffic and pedestrian safety issues on Middle Road, which leads to Middlebury Union Middle School.

The *Independent* last April (See Middle Rd., Page 16A)

Field Days shearer keeps her craft alive

By MARIA BARR

NEW HAVEN — At the Addison County Fair and Field Days, a quiet but steady draw on the Agricultural Stage on Tuesday was a sheep shearing demonstration by professional shearer Siri Swanson. The sheep, a Finnish Landrace — or Finn — belonged to the Gordon-Layn family of Monkton.

The event bridged past and future: an age-old craft meeting a new generation reviving endangered livestock traditions.

Swanson co-owns Yankee Rock Farm LLC in Bridport with her partner Colin Siegmund. She visits over 600 farms annually across New England and maintains a flock of about 200 sheep herself. Like many young agriculturalists, her journey began in 4-H.

“When I was a 4-H kid, I learned the basics of shearing just by being around, you know. I sheared a couple of my own sheep, but I didn’t love it,” Swanson said. “I went to school for animal science and was getting towards the end of college, looking at jobs, and a shearer in Vermont retired. So the opportunity was there. And I started shearing kind of begrudgingly. I didn’t want to take it on full time.

“But I think I just hadn’t trained



SHEARER SIRI SWANSON positions a Finnish Landrace sheep to get him ready for a fresh shave on Tuesday at Field Days. The sheep’s owner, Bailee Layn-Gordon, stands behind to snap a photo of the beloved Finn pre-haircut. Independent photo/Steve James

enough. And so it’s really hard when you’re starting. When that opportunity came up, when he retired, and there was a lot more sheep to shear, I found I really did love it.”

Now one of the most experienced shearers in the region, Swanson

works with farms of all sizes, which she says has shaped her understanding of the industry.

“All around New England, we see people raising sheep for every different purpose — small scale, large scale, commercial, (See Sheep shearing, Page 13A)



The Vergennes Partnership is grateful to have a summer intern, Yuvika Merotha, from Middlebury College, who’s developing a feasibility study exploring the potential for a “public art and park project” at the silo located on Route 22A at the southern entrance (See By the way, Page 10A)

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Steamboats chug into Otter Creek

North American Steamboat Association holds annual meet-up

By BEE ECKELS

FERRISBURGH — Whenever the weather gets too warm, you can count on Vermonters to hit the lake.

Some seek the thrill and speed of motor boats, bringing their water tubes and water skies with them. Others prefer an exercise-oriented approach, choosing kayaks and canoes over motor powered vessels.

If you were to drive past the River's Edge Cottages and RV Park last week, Vermont residents would have seen a third option: steamboats.

For more than 25 years, the North American Steamboat Association (NASBA) has been gathering in Otter Creek for their annual steamboat meet-up in Vergennes, with River's Edge in Ferrisburgh

as their elected homebase. Calling steam boaters from all across the Northeast Region, Otter Creek offers a great location for those drawn to the relaxation and antique aspect that steam boating holds.

"The great thing about Vergennes and being on Otter Creek is ... if the lake is too choppy and it's too windy, you can go back and forth to the falls," said Gina Fauzio of Jim Thorpe, Pa. "You can go up to the lake and turn around and come back. The creek is just a nice, slow, calm ride."

Fauzio and her husband, John, have been steam boating for over 17 years and have been coming to the Vergennes meet-up for about 14 years.

"I didn't even know what a steamboat was when I first met my husband," Fauzio said. "I lived on Lake Wallenpaupack and had a boat ... he was always volunteering and likes to work on steam trains ... so he said, 'I like steam, you like boats, let's get a steamboat.'"

Having purchased their boat *Qualcheu* ("it smokes" in the Lenape language) from a man in Munda, N.Y., in 2007, Fauzio describes it as a "true antique." *Qualcheu* is a 1987 refurbished lifeboat complete with a Navy G engine that was converted to a steam launcher. While a few boaters have stuck with using coal to power their boats, Fauzio mentioned that the *Qualcheu* burns wood to heat the water in the boiler. This hot water produces steam that applies pressure to the pistons and pumps them up and down in order to move the propeller. All this work gives the boat a cruising speed of around seven miles per hour, with some boats going even slower.

But for most, speed is not the reason behind their love for steam boating.

For Eric Annis of Brattleboro the steam boating season is a time to enjoy some peaceful, undisturbed relaxation on the water, even when surrounded by his family,



ERIC ANNIS OF Brattleboro docks his steamboat at River's Edge Cottages and RV Park in Ferrisburgh after a day of battling the waves on Lake Champlain. His boat is part of a large group that tow up to Otter Creek every summer.

Independent photo/Bee Eckels



STEAM COMES FROM the chimney of a vacant steamboat moored at the River's Edge dock in Ferrisburgh.

Independent Photo/Bee Eckels

including his daughter Sarah, who interest with him. Among these people are his friends and fellow boaters, Chuck Baima and Gina and John Fauzio. Every day the group heads out at 10:30 a.m. with the rest of the flotilla that makes way for the deeper waters of Lake Champlain. At noon, all the boats raft up and float together, forming a makeshift island, for lunch. At

"My husband said, 'I like steam, you like boats, let's get a steamboat.'"
— Gina Fauzio

around 4 p.m., all the boaters return for "happy hour" and the chance to build friendships on dry land.

"The people that we meet here ... are some of the nicest people ... and the way the boat runs, it doesn't go very fast," Fauzio said. "It just makes it a nice vacation."

Annis, Baima and Fauzio look forward every year to the weeks they get to spend on their steamboats. This excitement leads them to travel to places like Vergennes, but also to Clayton and Waterford, N.Y., and (See Steamboats, Page 3A)

Joyce creates fair magic

By BEE ECKELS

NEW HAVEN — Looking for some summertime magic? The *Addison Independent* has it on a good account from magician Tom Joyce that the phrases to chant this summer are not "abracadabra" or "open sesame." Instead, he says the magic words are "I love Field Days."

For 21 years, Joyce has been performing at the Addison County Fair and Field Days. He began putting on his act in 2004, and now does two shows every day. He is located in the tent next door to the FFA Food Booth.

"Whenever I go to Field Days, magical and amazing things seem to happen all day long," Joyce told the crowd.

During his 45-minute performances, Joyce performs a series of tricks that delight and excite his audience. On Wednesday, he opened with a mind-reading trick that involved the participation of the young camper-packed audience that had come to find refuge from the boiling sun.

He selected one of the children to close their eyes and placed a cube covered in six different emojis into a small box. Then, Joyce asked one of the counselors to guess what emoji the camper was thinking of. When the counselor guessed "sunglasses," Joyce opened the box and there it was, a smiling emoji wearing sunglasses.

Following the success of his first trick, Joyce used three colorful scarves — blue, green and red — and played an interactive rhyming game with the audience. Once he ran out of things that rhyme with "red," Joyce ended the trick by (See Magic, Page 7A)

What's happening at Chipman Inn this summer?

CHIPMANINN.COM

Exhibiting their power, oxen go 'All the way!'

By PAIGE HESCOCK

NEW HAVEN — Regular attendees of the ox pulling at Butterfield Arena at the Addison County Fair & Field Days would be quite familiar with this phrase — "All the way!"

It was repeatedly called out by Annie Wilson, the longtime announcer of the event on Wednesday. She declares this when a yoke of oxen, pulling a stone-boat that carries at least 500 pounds to start the pull, has successfully reached the end line (six feet of distance from the starting point).

Wilson has been the commentator since 2004, after Margaret Belle retired. Before that, attending the annual ox pull at Field Days was routine for Wilson, who would always be listening to the announcers and keeping track of the scoring, even establishing her own scoring system.

"Annie has always been a huge fan of ox pulling and has learned a lot just from watching," Renee Pechie, a friend of Wilson's and the scorekeeper of the event, told the *Independent*.

Wilson was often surrounded by farm animals growing up, when her parents owned Holsteins

and Morgan horses. She now has Lineback cattle and some heifers of her own.

Today, that lifelong connection

to livestock continues, as Wilson now works with oxen that compete across a range of weight classes.

There are five different weight

classes in which the oxen are classified: 2,000 lb. or under; 2,400 lb. or under; 2,800 lb. or under; (See Oxen Page 3A)



BRIAN PATTON GUIDES his pair of Chianina oxen, Bob and Squid, towards the stone-boat for their turn in pulling.

Independent photo/Paige Hescok

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A GROUP OF camp kids play a quick round of mini golf at the Addison County Fairgrounds on Wednesday afternoon before heading next door to watch a Pirate Man Dan show. The golf course, provided by the Portable Mini Golf Company of Essex, is a new feature at Field Days this year.

Independent photo/Bee Eckels

Mini-golf makes Field Days debut

By BEE ECKELS

NEW HAVEN — It's mini golf on the go! If you have not had the chance to stop by the portable mini golf course, located in between the large concert tent and the midway at the Addison County Fair and Field Days, then you might be missing out on a tee-rific time!

The Portable Mini Golf Company (PMGC) is a first-time attendee of Field Days, and it is bringing its A-game.

"We are based in Essex, so we have done the Chittenden County Fair before," a PMGC employee said. "But this is our first time here. We thought it would be a good way to advertise."

With a total of 18 holes — all

hand-made by the PMGC owner — available for fair-goers to use for free, there is a high chance to have large amounts of fun, even when playing on a miniature level. These holes include unique and challenging obstacles, such as towers, windmills, picnic tables, ramps and zig-zagging turf patterns.

While Field Days is only hosting 18 holes, private events that book PMGC can rent anywhere from nine to 36 holes.

So, if you haven't been to the fairgrounds yet, get on down there and make sure to play a round of mini golf with your family and friends on your way to check out the rides or the demo derby. Putter late than never!

Oxen

(Continued from Page 2A)

3,200 lb. or under and "free-for-all," where there is no limit on the weight.

Each ox pull has five minutes to get to the end of the line and three tries within those minutes. Blocks weighing 500-1,000 pounds are added to the stone-boat after each pair of oxen has reached the line. More weight is added until only one yoke of oxen is left standing after the rest have been eliminated. The same process continues for each weight class.

Wilson expresses how humane these practices are. If the oxen cannot pull the weight, their owners will not force them to strain their muscles too much, she said.

"These guys (the oxen) love to do it, and the owners just love their animals. This is bovine husbandry: animal lovers who truly care for their animals," Wilson said.

"This group of pullers is a great bunch of individuals who treat their

oxen well," Pechie reaffirmed.

The oxen come from all over the Northeast: Vermont, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and New York.

Scott Spencer, an oxen owner from Benson, spoke about his two oxen that he entered in the free-for-all weight class for the first time.

Brick, his 7-year-old Chianina ox, went from 1,700 to 2,000 pounds in only a month. He feeds his bigger oxen 16 quarts of cow grain, DAC oil and half to a full bale of hay a day. To keep them well-hydrated, he provides them with a 5-gallon pail of orange-flavored electrolytes.

Spencer plans for his oxen to grow even bigger over time. One pair currently weighs 4,100 pounds together, and he hopes they will weigh 5,000-5,200 pounds by this time next year.

"You've got to get your oxen as big as possible for the free-for-all. I feed them and work them like they're athletes," Spencer said.

Steamboats

(Continued from Page 2A)

to Lake Winnepesaukee and Lees Mills, N.H., for bigger steamboat gatherings.

Despite the reputation that

steamboats have acquired for being "slow-paced" or "not exciting," Annis argues that there is "always something to do on a steamboat because you can't sit."

Trash district taking mattresses, boxsprings to recycle

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — With less than 20 years of capacity left in the Vermont's only operating landfill in Coventry, Addison County Solid Waste Management District (ACSWMD) officials — and their counterparts statewide — are looking to divert as much waste as possible through recycling.

To that end, the ACSWMD on Aug. 1 will launch a new mattress and boxspring recycling program at its Route 7 South transfer station. The district is contracting with Casella Waste Management to break down the mattresses and boxsprings at its facility in Willimantic, Conn., according to Public Outreach Coordinator Emily Johnston. She noted up to 80% of mattress and boxspring material can be recycled, including wood, metal, foam, shoddy and textiles.

"We started tracking mattresses on May 13. Since then, the district has received an average of 17

mattresses per day. We have heard from industry experts that spring and summer are the 'high season' for mattresses, so if we extrapolate this to a year, we can assume we would get 3,000 or more mattresses in a year. We are here to help any large generator of mattresses recycle them," Johnston told the *Independent*.

Note that while some of the solid waste district's recycling amenities are free, the fee for disposing of your mattress and boxspring is about to go up. It's predicated on the cost of hauling and recycling the material, Johnston said.

Prior to Aug. 1, unloading a mattress and box spring at the transfer station cost \$10-\$20,

according to Johnston.

"While this was inexpensive, we were aware that mattresses are a problem material at the landfill due to their tangling in equipment, taking up large amounts of space and causing other operational issues," she said.

Here are the new charges, effective Aug. 1:

- \$15 to recycle a crib mattress.
- \$40 each to recycle all other size mattresses or boxsprings.
- \$156 per ton — plus a \$45 fee — to landfill all sizes of mattresses or boxsprings.

Drop-off of mattresses in quantities greater than 10: by appointment only, at \$40 each.

"In evaluating our rates for recycling, we wanted to create an

incentive to recycle by having a cheaper rate for recycling than for landfilling. We also wanted to have similar rates to the other solid waste management entities," Johnson said.

She stressed mattresses aren't eligible for recycling if they're wet, "excessively damaged," moldy, contain insects like bed bugs, or have had hazardous substances spilled on them.

Anyone with questions on the new mattresses/boxspring recycling program can call 802-388-2333, or email acswwd@acswwd.org.

John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.

"We wanted to create an incentive to recycle by having a cheaper rate for recycling than for landfilling."

— Emily Johnston

Goat show attracts a small but loyal crowd

By IAN CURRY

The finest goats in the county gathered on Wednesday afternoon's Goat Show at Addison County Fair and Field Days. Hosted in the far northeast corner of the fair, the Goat Show attracts a small, but dedicated crowd of goat-rearers, showmen and curious spectators willing to stand in the afternoon's especially strong midday heat to witness the crème of Addison County's goatherds.

To a layman, goats might seem like simple animals, or perhaps an ingredient for a stew. But to goatherds like Sharlena Payne, they're far more than that.

"They're like your kids. Sometimes you get mad at them, but when you see them playing and interacting with each other you can't help but love them," she said.

Payne raises 29 goats and one donkey on what she calls a non-

commercial, "wannabe farm" in Cornwall. The work she puts into raising the animals in her backyard is often all-consuming but absolutely worth it in the end, she said.

Payne entered 17 of her goats in Wednesday's show, which were corralled into the arena by youngsters learning the craft. A showman leads each one before the audience where a judge assesses the goat's physical characteristics, its disposition and sometimes the showmanship of the handler.

"This fair is what we live for — 364 days a year," Payne said.

Payne's handlers are primarily interested children who participate in local 4-H programs like the Critter Creek 4-H club in Salisbury, which Payne said was spearheaded by her late sister. Payne said her sister's death two years ago inspired

her to involve more local youth in her small goat farm.

"It felt like the right thing to do," she said.

When asked what makes a perfect goat, Payne said that judges look for all sorts of things, like its length, health, cleanliness and posture. But, she said, only one thing matters to her in the end.

"If they're cute, they're perfect."

Sixteen-year-old showman Makayla Warner echoed those sentiments.

"They're cute and adorable," she said.

Warner, who took home first place in last year's Goat Show, said that the intense process of preparing a goat to be judged starts at least 10 days in advance. The goat has to be shaved, its hooves trimmed and its square stance practiced.

The Middlebury teen has been

caring for goats since she was 9 years old, when a family friend brought three goats home with her from work. Warner has since fallen in love with the animals and sees the fair as a great way to show off her skill and dedication to caring for livestock.

"It's fun to show an animal. It's not all just about ribbons but it's a valuable learning experience," Warner said.

Warner sees animals as an important part of her future too.

"I plan on having my own goat farm, she said."

Older goatherds like Payne are happy to see local youth to get involved with the animals that play such important roles in Addison County life.

"Once you get the blood for it, it stays with you," Payne said.

"You gotta love it."



NATALIE LAYN, 14, of Monkton, left, and Makayla Warner, 16, of Middlebury show off their prized goats to the judge and audience at Wednesday's Goat Show at the Addison County Fair and Field Days.

Independent photo/Ian Curry

Great to see you at the fair! Congratulations to all competitors!

We are honored to be part of this annual community event.



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Photos by Addison Independent and G Stone Motors

Guest editorial

Let's take our flag back

We Americans, liberals and authentic conservatives alike, are greatly to blame for allowing the American flag to be corrupted into a symbol of Trumpism.

Admittedly, our nation has always been at odds with itself, reckoning with the contradictions between our ideals and our acts. We've never been unequivocally good, and the flag has flown over violent land grabs, slavery, and other suppressions of freedom. But our ideals are admirable and inspiring and, at its best, our flag represents those ideals at least as aspirations.

It's too weak a response to say it's our flag too, that we're as patriotic as Trumpists are, because Trumpism is not a proper measure of patriotism. Indeed, Trumpism is deeply unpatriotic. Yes, it celebrates symbolic patriotism, the Pledge of Allegiance, "God Bless America," chanting "USA, USA, USA," iconic flags and pickups. But, while full of jingoistic bluster and powerful emotion, Trumpism is essentially a list of grievances with everything that makes America great; actually, with everything that makes America America in the best sense.

Patriotism, the real stuff, has more to do with respect for our nation's best founding and defining principles, sincere fondness for our fellow Americans, concern for their life, liberty, and pursuit of happiness.

THE PLACE

Start with America — the Place, the real estate. Is Trumpism an ideology that values our land? Our water? Our air? Our ecosystem of various interdependent species?

Does Trumpism embrace a system of science-based environmental protection and rehabilitation? Does Trumpism take responsibility for a serious response to human-caused Global Warming? The Trumpist agenda is to roll back our entire environmental protection regime; land, water, air, and ecosystem. "Drill, Baby, Drill."

THE PEOPLE

Does Trumpism tend to the well-being of the American People? Well, yes, in some cases, the very wealthy for example. But the targets of Medicare cuts are Americans, too. Our Old Folks are American Old Folks. Our small rural communities are small American rural communities. People who struggle economically and must rely on various forms of government aid, and who will suffer from reduced help, are struggling Americans. So, too, are Americans of various pigmentation from whom Trumpism strips away the protections of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion efforts. The women whose authority over their own bodies Trumpism has stolen are American women. The LGBTQ+ folks for whom Trumpism displays such contempt are Americans.

THE PRINCIPLES

Besides representing a place and a people, our flag represents our founding and defining principles. There can be intelligent, good faith disagreements about whether or not a particular policy violates those principles, but Trumpism is a sustained comprehensive attack on the intellectual and ethical pillars of our republic. The following is a very incomplete sampling.

Sovereignty of the People? Denial of the 2020 election. Pardons and appointments of January 6 insurrectionists. Voter Suppression.

Checks and Balances? Rubber stamp Congress. Blatantly illegal executive actions. Complaints about "judicial interference." SCOTUS grant of dictatorial presidential power.

Federalism? Military Interference in California.

Free Speech? Arrests for disapproved editorials.

Freedom of Assembly? Military suppression of peaceful protests in Washington and Los Angeles, including tear gas and rubber bullets.

Due Process? Masked men without credentials or insignia, kidnapping people without warrants, incarceration and deportation without trials or even charges.

Cruel and Unusual Punishment? Family separation. El Salvador prison conditions, detention venter conditions.

So, take our flag back.

This is about symbolism, to be sure. But a symbol matters when what it symbolizes matters.

Equality, Life Liberty and Pursuit of Happiness matter. The Constitution matters. That's what our flag represents, not the darkness of Trumpism.

— Dick McCormack of Bethel is a retired politician and teacher, and still a folksinger.

Head on out to Field Days

If you haven't yet been out to Field Days, head out there today to catch the final few days of this Addison County tradition. Events end Saturday, Aug. 2.

The fair draws more people than any other event in the county, and for good reason: farmers, sugarmakers, cooks, bakers and canning experts compete for a multitude of bragging rights; folks work with their powerful draft horses and oxen to pull incredible weights, while the tractor pull is an entertaining (and loud) event certain to impress. The Demolition Derby is just plain fun for everyone, and then there is all the other stuff: carnival rides, cotton candy, maple goodies, and hundreds of animals — dozens of varieties of fascinating chickens and cute, cuddly rabbits; pigs, cows, horses, goats and sheep to name the most popular.

Contestants with green thumbs vie for blue ribbons, and 4-H kids and young adults compete at a high level to show off their prize stock.

In the end, Field Days is a celebration of the farm traditions that have shaped the culture of Vermont, and of Addison County, for generations. That's something not to take for granted, but to cherish each and every year.

Angelo Lynn



Prize winner

ROWDY POPE, 12, of Iroquois Acres Farm in Bridport is tickled to show his award-winning Holstein, Gypsy, at Addison County Fair & Field Days this week. We're not so sure what Gypsy thinks of the honor.

Independent photo/Steve James

I wear your dress sometimes

This is a cautionary tale.

My mom was a great seamstress. For my wedding day, she helped me create a simple, long, white velvet gown. She made herself a lovely gold and white brocade dress. It was a simple, sleeveless, empire style and came exactly to the knee. My wedding dress has hung untouched in my closet for close to 60 years. But many people in our family have worn that brocade dress, most recently our oldest granddaughter. She wanted it for a school dance, but thought the zipper was stuck and might need to be replaced.

I took the dress to the wonderful woman at Desabrais, who patiently fixed the problem with just a piece of wax and a few stitches to prevent the zipper from opening too far. While she worked, I shared the story of my mother's dress with a couple of other customers, two folks I've known for many years.

The short form goes something like this:

This is the dress my mother made to wear to my wedding. Later she gave it to me to wear for fancy events. My daughter wore it as she started her music career. She even wrote a song about the dress. Later, my niece wore it as a college student, and now my granddaughter is hoping to wear it to a gathering this weekend. Clearly the dress has suited many situations and people.

As I kept thinking about the dress's history, I remembered the events, cultures, and political situations it has lived through. When my mom first stitched it, only married women in the U.S. had legal access to birth control. No woman in our country had

legal access to abortion. Women and girls with limited means sometimes resorted to dangerous and potentially deadly ways to avoid birthing a child they knew they could not support. Or they struggled to raise a baby without any help from the father or the community. Women and girls from families with greater means, often left the country. They were the lucky ones who could exercise some control over their own bodies and make choices about education, careers, and the size and shape of their families.

By the time I was wearing the dress, young women were joining consciousness-raising groups, demanding (even more loudly than our mothers had) a level of control over our own bodies and our own lives. "Our Bodies Ourselves" by the Boston Women's Health Collective was the guidebook for

many in my generation, and the legal victories were inspiring. By 1972 all women and men in America had legal access to birth control, and in 1973, the landmark Roe v. Wade case was decided by the Supreme Court. Finally, it seemed that women were being given equal rights in the health care arena with men.

By the time my daughter was wearing the dress she was singing "This is just to tell you that I wear your dress sometimes," her song, which ends,

*And my body by the letter of the law is still my own
When I lay down in the darkness
Unburdened and alone
With the liberty you've given
Like the clothing you've outgrown
To your granddaughter.*

(See Ways of Seeing, Page 5A)

Ways of Seeing

By Cheryl Mitchell



Locals make conservation happen

Hello, Addison County readers! I'm thrilled to write my first monthly feature on conservation for the Addison Independent. As the new executive director of the Middlebury Area Land Trust (MALT), I am honored to join this community that cares deeply about its landscape, wildlife, farms, rivers, and forests.

For the past 16 years, I served as a Commissioned Foreign Service Officer with the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). My career took me to the Caribbean, the Middle East, Sub-Saharan Africa and, most recently, to South America, where I directed USAID's Amazon Regional Environment Program.

Through this monthly feature, I will explore conservation topics that connect our daily lives in Vermont to regional and global challenges. We'll discuss how to confront invasive species in the Otter Creek watershed, what Vermont's environmental policy means for Addison County, the ways wildlife are interconnected, what each of us can do

to be trail stewards, and how federal funding changes affect us here in the Green Mountains. I also invite you to reach out and tell me about the topics on your mind. Your questions and curiosities can help shape the future of this column.

Community-based conservation: a common

thread

I was drawn to MALT for its strong tradition of community-based conservation. At its core, conservation is about people as much as it is about land and nature. MALT's work over the past 38 years — conserving over 3,500 acres of land, farms, forests and wetlands; our annual summer and after-school environmental camps for youth; and providing year-round outdoor recreation opportunities through our 30 mile Trail Around Middlebury (TAM) biking and hiking trails — demonstrates how powerful it can be when a community rallies around the places it loves.

This model of conservation is deeply familiar to me. While working in the Amazon basin, I saw how critical it was to partner with local and Indigenous communities to protect forests and rivers. The Amazon is vast — covering eight countries and home to one out of every 10 known species on Earth. But despite its immensity, this mighty forest's fate ultimately hinges on the decisions and rights of the people who live there.

A Lesson from the Amazon

I'd like to share a story from my time in South America that reminds me why community-centered

(See Kevin Fox, Page 5A)

Letters to the Editor

Answer begs more questions

Thank you for printing Senator Heffernan's letter last week. The letter may raise more questions than it answers.

For over a week, very detailed reports of Mr. Mahdawi's ordeal were on every media. Yet the Senator says that there was insufficient discussion and process was not followed.

Does this mean that the senator did not believe the basically undisputed facts presented by the media? Or did he simply not see or hear them?

As to process, was it followed in the detention of Mr. Mahdawi?

If a legal resident, and liked and respected member of a Vermont community is not safe, who else is not safe?

Perhaps food for thought before the next elections?

Robert Anderson
Bristol

Israel must stop killing in Gaza

I am a fortunate senior citizen enjoying retirement in our welcoming and friendly town; I am also Jewish.

The horrific actions of Hamas on Oct. 7, 2023, killing, raping and abducting concert goers, have been widely reported and condemned. I feel that Israel had the right to respond but not by a continuous military action against the entire Palestinian population. The background of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is well known and can be discussed interminably but the current situation cannot be justified.

I have decided that it is my moral obligation to speak out to decry the current Israeli actions that have led to wide-spread deaths and starvation of the Palestinian residents of the enclave. I believe it is time for citizens and organizations to speak out and I urge our local religious and civic organizations to call for the end of military action by both sides, release of the remaining hostages, and for a cease-fire that will enable international organizations to bring in food, medical supplies and to attend to the injured.

The politics of the Mideast can be discussed endlessly and there will be those who disagree with me for many related reasons, but I feel there is no need for further debate regarding the need to stop the killing and starvation.

Max Kraus
Middlebury

Vote explanation seems flawed

Thank you for adding the text of SR 13, the State Senate Resolution that Sen. Steve Heffernan opposed. Maybe he should have let his position speak for itself if the argument he presented in his July 24 Letter to the Editor to justify his vote is the best he can do.

Sen. Heffernan says, in effect, that he refused to consider the non-binding resolution beyond deciding that it had not met his standards for "proper Due Process" being observed in its creation. That's confusing because due process is a concept applied to protecting rights granted under laws. It has nothing to do with stating opinions in order to weigh in on public debate, which is clearly all the text of the resolution does.

He goes too far in implying that the "Founding Fathers" were against resolutions like this one. Our history has plenty of examples of non-binding resolutions being approved by legislative bodies without extensive hearings. No court that I know of has ever ruled that such activity violates the Constitution.

In the end, Sen. Heffernan's letter boils down to frustration that people elected to political office are often regarded as politicians. I'll confess it's hard for me to believe he honestly thought a "no" vote wouldn't be read in Addison County as

(See Feder letter, Page 4A)

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

Assistant Editor: John S. McCright
Reporters: John Flowers
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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.

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Letters to the Editor

New Middle Road housing would help fill a void

I'd like to offer a different view to the ongoing debate regarding the proposed apartment building on Route 7. I grew up in Florida, not far from where last week's *Addison Independent* travel column rightly noted how towns like mine have been transformed. Gated communities, car dealerships, and shopping centers have swallowed the orange groves and tomato fields of my childhood. That loss is real. And it's part of why I chose to live in Vermont. The last thing I want is to Floridafy the place I decided to put down roots.

In the five short years I've been here, I've grappled personally with the red tape that has helped lead to stifled development and exacerbate a homelessness crisis I couldn't have imagined when I first set my mind on moving to Vermont nearly a decade ago. In 2022, my husband and I undertook a major renovation to bring a dilapidated mold-infested home back to life and convert it into an affordable housing duplex. Labor shortages (ironically compounded by the housing crisis),

ballooning material cost, and miles of red tape turned what should have been a year-long project into a nearly three-year ordeal that not only robbed us of our sanity, but kept families from moving into safe housing they desperately needed.

The finished units sat vacant for months, while two families experiencing homelessness — eight people in total including five children — remained in limbo, waiting for a system burdened by its own process. I had to explain to these families, keys in hand, that they couldn't move in because we needed more signatures, another inspection from another agency, a final stamp of approval and then another. After three years, the human cost of all of the bureaucratic delays was real and right in front of me.

The proposed apartment building on Route 7 might not be ideal, but it is a serious response to a real crisis. It's central to downtown, accessible to public transit, and won't be subject to Act 250 — the very thing that makes so

many other locations financially impossible to develop. That's why it's happening here.

I'm not advocating for soulless cookie cutter architecture, unsafe housing, or poorly designed traffic patterns. We should absolutely push for buildings that preserve the integrity and identity of our small towns, but to what cost? I hope the design continues to get refined and the builders find a way to bring rents down. But more than that, I hope we can reject aesthetic purity and say yes to more homes even when their location, style, or "green space" isn't postcard-perfect.

Try telling the nurse commuting 45 minutes to work, or the single mother spending her ninth month in a hotel with five children, that they need to keep waiting because the apartment they could call home doesn't have enough tree cover. It's time to move beyond simply preserving community and start taking meaningful steps to build it.

**Erica Langston
Shoreham**

Reconvene Congress and help solve real problems

The Hebrew prophets warned the Israelites about the dangerous road they were on and gave them an alternate route: Turn away from your idols and turn back to God. John the Baptist warned the religious leaders about the dangerous road they were on and gave them an alternate route: Change your ways. Jesus warned all people using stories and well-known sayings like the one I learned young from my sea captain grandfather: Red sky at night sailors' delight; red sky in the morning sailors take warning. Jesus let the people know that it was a red sky morning for them and gave them an alternate route: Love your neighbor as yourself.

It is a red sky morning for "We the People" of the United States of America. The road we are All currently on is dangerously leading to fascism. The exit ramp is less than one quarter mile away.

We have already seen the warning signs: mass detention and exile of immigrants and migrant workers without due process; silencing of those who disagree with the current Administration; a non-functioning Congress; a threatened system of justice.

Exit Now! Take Alternate Route!

Standing together as the people, we have the power to change our route. Call on Congress to get back to work. Enact laws that

are just and fair for all people. Fill the void that right now is allowing the Administration to implement executive orders that slash services to the most in need of them, to run roughshod over the media, and to limit freedoms guaranteed in the Constitution. Call on the Federal courts to uphold the laws as enacted by Congress and supported by the Constitution. We are powerful when we stand together to protect freedom of speech, freedom of lawful assembly, freedom of religion, the right to vote...

Warning! Dangerous Road! Exit Now! Take Alternate Route!

**Patti Welch
Bristol**

Beavers create, enhance and maintain habitat areas

Beavers are remarkable animals who are both admired for their industrious engineering skills and disliked when their activities flood roads and fields. But our often-contentious relationship with them is long overdue for change. Recently, several studies have demonstrated the remarkable financial benefits of managing beavers humanely with beaver deceivers, pond levelers, and fences rather than traditional methods of trapping, shooting or blowing up dams. Now that Federal disaster relief is not guaranteed, and emergency funds may not be available to towns for infrastructure protection and flood remediation, towns could save thousands of dollars by employing non-lethal beaver controls.

As a keystone species, beavers create, enhance and maintain habitat that countless other species rely on for survival. And as ecosystem engineers, beavers change the landscape by converting small streams into vast dynamic wetlands, swamps and meadows. Beaver wetlands slow the rate of snowmelt and runoff; they store and cool vast amounts of water underground that reduces the erosive impact of floods and can be released during droughts. Wetlands also act as firebreaks and critical places of refuge for wildlife during wildfires. Moreover, the sediment at the bottom of ponds filters out pollutants and improves water quality downstream.

While beavers could be among our best allies in the ongoing battle with the changing climate, I admit that they can be frustrating and can cause serious problems in areas prone to flooding. Flooded

roads, farm fields, building sites, and blocked culverts are often extremely expensive and recurring problems for towns and landowners.

Beaver conflicts are generally handled by killing the beavers and destroying their dams. But this is rarely a permanent solution as any good territory will be claimed by new beavers resulting in a continual cycle of flooding, road or culvert damage, infrastructure repairs, and repeated annual killing of numerous animals.

Alternatively, non-lethal means of controlling beaver activity is achieved by simply regulating the flow of water out of ponds or wetlands through devices that allow water to flow through a dam or culvert without the beavers' desire or ability to block it. This permits the many benefits beavers provide to ecosystems and biodiversity to remain in place while also protecting infrastructure.

In Alberta, Canada, researchers assessed the efficacy of pond leveling devices and fencing to manage beaver activity in areas with chronic flooding. A cost benefit analysis compared the cost of traditional management approaches (i.e.: trapping, etc.) with non-lethal alternatives. The differential was remarkable. Over a period of seven years, traditional management cost the province over 3 million dollars, where the installation of non-lethal devices cost \$179,440!

Another study analyzed the efficacy and comparative costs of using flow devices to resolve beaver conflicts along roads in seven counties in the Coastal Plain of Virginia. Flow devices

were installed in fourteen sites damaged by beavers. The average maintenance cost at each site was less than \$20 after flow devices were installed compared to \$21,490 per site per year for maintenance, road repairs, and population control prior to this installation.

In Billerica Mass., 55 beaver conflict sites were studied from 2000-2019. Again, results showed that the sites managed with non-lethal controls cost much less than those managed by lethal removal. While it cost \$409 to trap beavers at each site per year, installations of flow devices at each site cost on average \$229 per year. Thus, the town saves \$7,740 annually with non-lethal management.

In all these cases, and every place a pond leveler is used to protect both habitat and infrastructure, the many ecological benefits of beaver-managed wetlands are immeasurable and greatly enhance the obvious financial savings. But, sadly, traditional methods for controlling beaver activity are still commonplace and seem to be the first choice of towns, landowners, and wildlife managers. The resulting loss of wetlands has dire ecological detriments. Floods, droughts, biodiversity losses, and wildfire are all symptomatic of our rapidly changing environment. Clearly, harnessing the beaver's ability to mitigate impacts from climate change makes enormous sense and is far preferable than removing them again and again from the landscape in a way that harms ecosystems and needlessly drains municipal funds.

**Jennifer Lovett
Starksboro**

Ways of Seeing

(Continued from Page 4A)

Women of her generation were able to take for granted that decisions about their bodies really were their own.

Then came 2022. Our granddaughter, because she lives in Vermont, will still be able to make her own choices as she comes of age, thanks to the foresight and work of legislators like Ruth Hardy, Kesha Ram Hinsdale, and Becca Balint. However, my niece, who lives in Texas, can no longer make these kinds of decisions.

Her choices are controlled by a government that neither respects nor values women.

Reviewing the dress's history, I realized the perils of taking our rights and freedoms for granted. Our granddaughter's favorite Broadway play is *Suffs*, the story of the Women's Suffrage Movement. That struggle ended with women gaining the right to vote in 1920. It is a right that I have taken for granted all my life. Yet as I watch the rights of other groups and individuals getting

systematically eroded, I wonder what will be taken away next. And will my mother's dress endure to see the rebirth of kindness and caring in our country?

Cheryl Mitchell is president of Treleven, a retreat and learning program located on her family's sheep farm in Addison County. She does freelance consulting on issues related to children, families, social policy and farm to community work. She can be reached at cheryl.w.mitchell@gmail.com.

Apartment building proposal would undo planning

Are the Town Planners listening? There was careful thought and hard work that went into the most recent town plan. It reflects a genuine desire to preserve the small town feel and aesthetic of Middlebury. They've done well in achieving that goal.

There is now a proposal being considered for a four story, big box type apartment/restaurant building, on a small parcel of land at the corner of Middle Road and Route 7, with design and placement that seem to go against everything the planners have valued for years.

This four-story building will overpower everything around it and offends the southern entrance to our lovely town. The 32 apartments

will consist of a few 2-bedroom, but mostly 3- and 4-bedroom units for students, young professionals and multigenerational families, offering parking for one vehicle per unit. The 28-seat restaurant will require parking for patrons and staff. It's difficult to see how the parking plan of approximately 40 or so slots will accommodate the entire complex.

Tenants, restaurant patrons, delivery trucks and trash pick-up will undoubtedly add to the congestion on Middle Road.

Will families or young professionals be able to afford these units? Will families with young children or aging parents want to live in this environment? Will

young professionals really want to double/triple/quadruple up and only have access to one vehicle?

Undoubtedly there is a need for more and affordable housing, but given the economics, location, et al, how can this be a viable part of the town plan? Many have expressed opposition for justifiable reasons. If allowed, will precedent be set for additional big box development?

Are the town planners, who are entrusted to represent the interests and needs of Middlebury residents listening?

We don't want big box type stores, but this big box human holder is ok?

**Pamela Spatafora
Middlebury**

Feder letter

(Continued from Page 4A) making a political "I'm with Trump" point. I'm surprised he went public with saying he was disappointed that so many of us reached the predictable conclusion about what happened when he refused to stand up for Mr. Mahdawi's rights. He was put on the spot and he opted for a de facto acceptance of this chapter in the Trump

Administration's increasingly lawless anti-immigrants and anti-foreign residents campaigns. These are campaigns that courts are repeatedly concluding violate the due process rights of many individuals.

His problem is that most of us know he didn't need "due process" hearings and presentations before the Judiciary committee to know that. Nor did

he need hearings to know that it often takes the legal system a long time to protect due process rights. That is what the Trump administration counts on to execute its strategy. If he is going to claim he's just defending due process, he would represent us better by being clearer about where it is really being threatened.

**Barnaby Feder
Middlebury**

Kevin Fox

(Continued from Page 4A) conservation matters everywhere, including here in Vermont.

In 2023, I traveled to a remote area along the Napo River in the Ecuadorian Amazon. The Napo is a major tributary of the Amazon River, running through dense rainforest rich in wildlife, medicinal plants and cultural heritage. Our U.S. Embassy team was meeting with an Indigenous federation representing dozens of communities along the river. They were alarmed by a new illegal gold mining operation that had moved upstream.

When we arrived by boat, the problem was immediately visible. Areas of the riverbank were deforested and scarred with piles of rock and sand. The water, usually dark with tannins, was now clouded with milky brown sediment, certainly poisoned with toxic mercury. These encroachments threatened community lands where children swam, drinking water was drawn, and fishermen unloaded their catch. One elder told me quietly, "The river is life. If the river dies, we die too."

His words struck me. Illegal mining not only pollutes rivers, but destroys forests, drives away wildlife, and fuels organized crime and even human trafficking.

But what was most striking was — despite the odds — how this small, but mighty community then organized to defend their river. With support through local NGOs, they created river monitoring committees, mapped illegal mining sites with drones, and negotiated with government officials to increase enforcement and invest in alternative livelihoods like sustainable fisheries and agroforestry.

Their scrappy determination in the face of adversity reminded me that real conservation happens when local people have the tools, rights and voice to protect the places they depend on. The community recognized the value of nature and it is not about outsiders imposing rules; it is about working alongside communities to empower their stewardship.

Connecting Global and Local

You might ask, what does illegal mining in the Amazon have to do with conservation in Vermont? Everything, in a way. Both here and there, conservation is rooted in relationships — our relationship to the land, to each other, and to future generations. Whether defending a river from toxic pollution in Ecuador or protecting a meadow from invasive species in Cornwall, the principle is the same: local action

sustains healthy ecosystems and strong communities.

At MALT, we continue to deepen these relationships — partnering with farmers to preserve nature through conservation easements, with trail users to maintain public access, with schools to connect children to the outdoors, and with community stakeholders to increase flood resiliency. This shared conservation partnership is what makes MALT and our Addison County community special.

In the coming months, I hope this column will be a space to learn together, celebrate conservation successes and confront challenges honestly. I welcome your suggestions on topics you care about, questions you have, or stories you would like to share.

Please reach out to me at kevin@maltvt.org or stop by our office in the historic Marble Works. I am eager to meet you, hike the TAM together, and listen to your hopes for the land we call home.

Conservation may begin with protecting forests, rivers or wildlife, but ultimately, it is about sustaining the communities that depend on them. Thank you for welcoming me to Addison County. I look forward to exploring our shared conservation journey with you each month.

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ADDISON COUNTY

Obituaries

Margaret (Ladue) Farnsworth, 88, of Vergennes

SOUTH BURLINGTON — Margaret Farnsworth, 88, formerly of Vergennes, passed away Wednesday, July 23, 2025, at The Residence at Shelburne Bay.

She was born Aug. 13, 1936, in Colchester, the daughter of William and Antoinette (Gendron) Ladue.

She was a graduate of the class of 1954 at Essex Junction High School and a graduate of the class of 1958 at University of Vermont. She married Willis Farnsworth on July 9, 1960, and he predeceased her in 2013.

She was a member of St. Peter's Church in Vergennes and taught catechism for many years. She worked at Bixby Library. She taught at Adams Elementary School in Burlington.

Her hobbies were square dancing, gardening and playing cards, and in later years, spending



MARGARET (LADUE) FARNSWORTH

time with her grandchildren, family and friends.

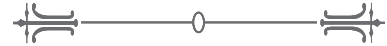
Margaret is survived by her children, Stephen Farnsworth and wife Tanya DeKona, and Wayne

Farnsworth and wife Debby; three grandchildren, Caroline, Anne and Willis and his wife Janina; a great-grandson, Tobias; and several nieces and nephews.

She was predeceased by her sister, Florence Reynolds and a brother, William Ladue.

Special thanks to The Residence of Shelburne Bay, Bayada Hospice Services, and Home Care Assistance of Greater Burlington.

A Mass of Christian burial was celebrated at noon on Wednesday, July 30, at St. Peter's Church in Vergennes with interment following in Prospect Cemetery in Vergennes. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made in her memory to Bayada Hospice Services, 463 Mountain View Drive, Suite 100, Colchester, VT 05439. To send online condolences to her family please visit www.brownmcclyfuneralhomes.com. ♦



Linda Lee Bourdeau, 71, of Middlebury

MIDDLEBURY — Linda Lee Bourdeau, 71, of Middlebury, Vt., passed away peacefully at her home in Stephenville, Texas on July 6, 2025.

She was born July 9, 1953, in Middlebury to her parents, Leona (Mitchell) Bourdeau and Raymond Oscar Bourdeau, both of whom predeceased her in death.

She is survived by her brother, Rodney Bourdeau and his wife Brenda of Middlebury, Vt.; her daughters, Morgan Downs of Stephenville, Texas, and Jason and Katie (Downs) Davis of Pittsford, Vt.; her nephew, Jared Bourdeau of Salisbury, Vt.; and the absolute light of her life — her "favorite" as she always joked, only granddaughter, Raegan Rae Sopha of Stephenville, Texas.

Linda had a deep, lifelong passion for Morgan Horses, NASCAR, and Brooks & Dunn. Her happiest moments were spent at weekend horse shows, Friday night gymkhanas at Audro Acres, where she was a "mom" to all the horse girls, and later in life, at her granddaughter's soccer games.

Sixteen years ago, Linda moved to Texas to be near Raegan — a choice that brought her



LINDA LEE BOURDEAU

immeasurable joy and meaning. She was fiercely devoted to her granddaughter, rarely missing a soccer game or chance to joke and make her laugh. Those years were filled with unconditional love, wit, and the kind of memories that linger long after the moment has passed.

Linda had a soft spot for animals (especially horses & cats), an unwavering loyalty to the Boston Red Sox, and an iced coffee in hand no matter the weather. Although she had relocated to Texas, she

never forgot where she came from and proudly loved Vermont. She could talk your ear off about old Westerns, crime shows, or animals. She was never short of opinions. Her sense of humor was wicked, her opinions were unfiltered, and her heart golden.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Linda's honor can be made to the American Diabetes Association, Rutland County Humane Society, or The Silver Bells Project aka Project Wings of an Angel, all causes close to her heart.

A graveside burial service will be held Sunday, Aug. 3, at Evergreen Cemetery in Pittsford, Vt., at 12:30 p.m., immediately followed by a celebration of life at the Brandon American Legion, where the family will receive friends and loved ones from 1 to 4 p.m.

Please join us as we come together to share in her memory, and the humor and the love she brought to our lives. She'd want good snacks, laughter and stories to be shared.

In her honor, we ask you to wear something red — her favorite color.

Arrangements are by Miller & Ketcham Funeral Home, Brandon. ♦



Marlene Ann Thornton (Latourelle) celebration of life

SHOREHAM — The family of Marlene Ann Thornton (Latourelle), who passed away in March 2025, invites you to join in a celebration of her life on Saturday, Aug. 9, from 2-5 p.m., at Norton's Gallery on Route 73 in Shoreham. Enjoy some wine and cheese and share stories and memories. Also at this time, Norton's will introduce Marlene's Cardinals, a project in Marlene's memory to fund glioblastoma research and patient support at UVM. ♦



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William 'Bill' Hoyenski, 85, of Benson

BENSON — Bill Hoyenski "left the planet" on Saturday, July 19, 2025, at Porter Medical Center. Having survived several cardiovascular ailments over the past 25 years, he counted himself lucky to reach 85.

Bill was born on Easter Sunday, March 24, 1940, in Danbury, Conn., to William Hoyenski Sr. and Emma Epper of Bethel, Conn. He checked the calendar each year for another Easter birthday, and ultimately learned that would not happen again until the year 2391. While he enjoyed and admired Robert Heinlein's fictional character Lazarus Long, Bill did not care to reach the age of 451.

A bit of a rebel, Bill left school at age 15 and often said his real education came from the hours spent reading encyclopedias in the school library during detention. Armed with encyclopedic knowledge, Bill had several successful careers and entrepreneurial ventures. Working at Viking Wire Co. in Danbury, he learned to manufacture ultrafine magnet wire. He partnered with friend Richard Main to start their own company, H&M Magnet Wire, and their wire was used in the manufacture of the Viking I spacecraft sent to Mars. H&M was later sold to R.S. Watkins and Sons of New Milford, Conn., where Bill worked many years as manager.

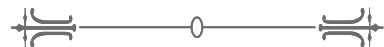
Bill fell in love with Vermont visiting a farmhouse that his parents owned in the hills of



WILLIAM "BILL" HOYENSKI

Roxbury during his youth. In 1977 he and his wife Marta moved their family to West Salisbury. During his years in Vermont, Bill owned a toy distribution business, worked as quality control manager for Belden Wire Co., bought and renovated Shoreham's original Grange Hall to include apartments and an antiques shop, and he drove school bus in Shoreham and Orwell. He also enjoyed refinishing antique furniture for the shop. Upon sale of the Shoreham property, Bill and Marta lived in Port Henry, N.Y., where they flipped a few real estate properties before leaving to try the snowbird life in Florida. Finding Florida was not their thing, they finally settled in Benson.

Throughout his life Bill explored many interests, often related



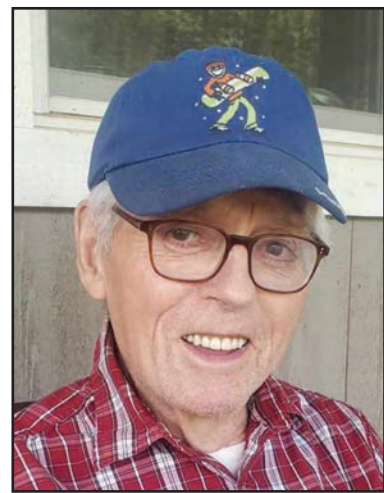
John William Lewis, 82, of Middlebury

MIDDLEBURY — John William Lewis, 82, passed away July 17, 2025, with his wife, Sandra and daughter Lana by his side.

John was born Sept. 6, 1942, in Brockton, Mass., to Ladd and Doris (Sanborn) Lewis. John was the third of seven children.

John was a man of many talents and trades; from carpentry, woodworking, plumbing and heating, to tinkering on vintage cars and projects around the house. He worked in many professions over the years, including factory work, heating and ventilating, owning his own plumbing and heating business, and later, becoming a gas technician and finally, as a maintenance worker for Cabot Cheese.

John was a man who was liked by all who met him, who would always greet you with a hello and a smile. He was a man who loved cars and often had a story to tell about the vintage cars he once owned. He last acquired a 1955 Ford Victoria, and you would find him in his driveway tinkering with it in hopes of bringing it to life for



JOHN WILLIAM LEWIS

one more ride. Due to declining health, he hadn't been able to tinker on it for a few years but loved to still see her in his yard.

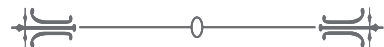
John leaves behind his wife, Sandra Lewis; his children, Frank (Theresa) Lewis, Shane (Laurie) Lewis, Mary (Jamie) Hollenbeck, Lana (John) Gingras, Chris (Shelley) Lewis, Danny (Heather) Lewis, Michael "Mike" (Pam) Kingman, and Laurie (Corey)

to nature and the outdoors. He hunted, fished, canoed, searched lakeshores and fields for Indian artifacts, panned for gold, collected rocks and minerals, excavated old homesites for collectable bottles, foraged for wild edibles and mushrooms, and took up photography. He and Marta were avid yard-salers and enjoyed long drives exploring New England.

Bill is survived by his wife of 66 years, Marta (Sohayda), who he married on Thanksgiving Day; sister-in-law Bette Ann Tracy (Boyd) of Rutland, Vt.; children Julie Hoyenski (Peter Lackey) of Middlebury, Vt., and William "Bill" Hoyenski (Ewa) of Wroclaw, Poland; grandchildren Owen Tucker of Shoreham, Vt., and Eric Hoyenski (Ala) of Poland; great-grandchildren Benjamin and Hannah Tucker; nieces Jennifer Stephan and Marta Hoyenski; and his oldest friend and cousin, Chad Hoyenski (Jeanne) of Waldoboro, Maine.

He was predeceased by brothers Edward Fitzsimmons and Thomas Hoyenski, and nephew Edward Hoyenski.

There will be no service or calling hours. A celebration for close friends and family may occur at a later date. Memorial contributions may be made to your favorite public radio station, the ACLU, Addison County Home Health and Hospice, or the American Heart Association. ♦



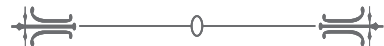
Pratt; 15 grandchildren, Derek, Marissa, Christopher, Benjamin, Joseph, Jason, Kimberly, Kyle, Mitchell, Amanda, Brandon, Lily, Sean, Alexandra and Devyn. He also leaves 25 great-grandchildren.

John is also survived by his sisters, Diane Pilon, Judith "Judy" (Harold "Buck") Mayo and Donna (Marcel) Gervais; brother-in-law Thomas "Tommy" (Linda) Smith; sister-in-law Sharon Wickman; and many nieces and nephews.

John was preceded in death by his parents, Ladd and Doris Lewis; brothers Frederick "Freddy" and Francis "Franny" and sister Barbara Emch; brothers-in-law Arthur Pilon and Carroll "Crow" Emch; and sister-in-law Annette Lewis.

We would like to extend our thanks to Wayne and Sara of Addison County Home Health & Hospice for their care and support; also, the physicians, nurses and LNA's of Porter Hospital while he was in their care.

Please celebrate John by extending a smile and kindness to people at random as he would do! ♦



Sarita Johnston, 94, of Vero Beach, Fla.

VERO BEACH, Fla. — Sarita B. Johnston, of Vero Beach, Fla., passed away peacefully on July 17, 2025, surrounded by her loving family.

Born on Nov. 30, 1930, in Bogotá, Colombia, Sarita was the beloved daughter of Isaac Behar and Cruzana Behar Villegas. In August 1954, she married George Donald Johnston Jr. ("Don Johnston") in Bogotá, beginning a lifelong partnership filled with love and adventure.

Don's career with J. Walter Thompson led the family across the globe, living in Colombia, the Netherlands, Japan, Germany, the United Kingdom, and finally settling in the United States. Throughout these many relocations, Sarita's strength, adaptability, and unwavering love created a warm and stable home in every country. She was an exceptional wife and mother, embracing each new culture and challenge with grace.



SARITA JOHNSTON

In Vero Beach, Sarita was a vibrant and active member of the community. She was a longtime member of the tennis club at John's Island and the Bent Pine Golf Club, where her fierce competitive spirit and love of the game made her a respected and admired presence

on the court. Sarita and Don spent many happy months at Yankee Kingdom Orchard in Addison with their extended family.

Sarita will be remembered for her sharp wit, generous heart, and unwavering devotion to her family and friends. Her kindness and humor left a lasting impression on everyone who knew her.

She is survived by her three sons, Donald, Richard and Michael; her daughters-in-law, Nuria and Amy; nine grandchildren and five great grandchildren, to whom she was a fabulous, funny, and deeply caring pillar of strength; a matriarch in the best sense of the word. Her presence brought joy and warmth to every family gathering, and her legacy of love and laughter will live on in their hearts.

A private interment ceremony for immediate family members will take place later this fall. The family will also organize a memorial mass at Holy Cross Catholic Church to celebrate Sarita's life. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Habitat for Humanity, a cause close to the family's heart.

Sarita was deeply loved and will be profoundly missed. ♦

Obituary Guidelines

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

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

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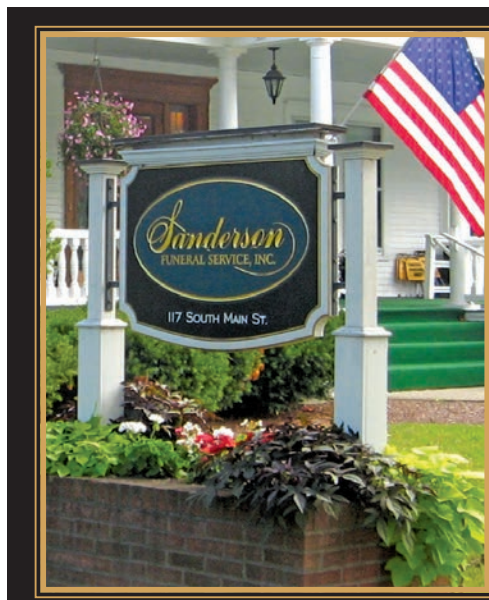
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Gary W. Lange, 71, of Vergennes

VERGENNES — Born on July 19, 1954, Gary W. Lange left the planet on July 23, 2025.

He lived a life full of love, laughter, joy and friendship, which he enjoyed thoroughly and immensely, and left with a heart full of gratitude for the life he was fortunate enough to live.

He was blessed to have a wonderful human being as his “girlfriend,” and as his incredible spouse. Martha Redpath was his lover, best friend, and an amazing mother to their children, Sam, Jon, and Grace, and now as grandmother to Coco, and Miles.

Gary’s greatest joy was in having a family and being a father. He has left the planet proud of the human beings his children have become.

Gary and Martha had large families, with nine other siblings and their spouses and resulting in 35 nephews, and nieces, and 21 great-nephews and nieces. Gary, a.k.a. Uncle G, loved being an Uncle. “Uncling,” as he called it, was one of his favorite activities.

He had a zest for life, and enthusiasm that was infectious. He had a love of physical activity and adventure from powder days at Mad River Glen, to skiing the “Birches,”



GARY W. LANGE

back country ski trips, to golfing, hiking, triathlons, or a marathon. He had a true love of biking that bordered on addiction and included many, many miles over the years — many bike touring trips, including a casual 90 day, 3,900-mile bike trip across the U.S., and then some with his incredible spouse at age 60.

He enjoyed a four-decade career as an attorney, which he saw as a service profession, helping his clients through their business and estate planning needs. Many of his clientele were with him for decades.

Many of them were friends who became clients, and many were clients who became friends. He was trusted and respected by all of his clients, and to his credit, many of his legal colleagues sought out his legal counsel and advice for their own legal needs.

He was dedicated to land conservation and represented many individuals seeking to conserve their property with land trust organizations, and would also represent the land trusts in these transactions. On this front, he was most proud of his work as Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Lake Champlain Land Trust in the early 1990s, and of his work as the Chair of LCLT’s project committee, ushering the conservation projects through the process. Under his tenure, and guidance LCLT was instrumental in conserving thousands of acres of land, miles of shoreline, and multiple islands.

A celebration of life service will be held at Kingsland Bay State Park, Ferrisburgh, Vt. on Aug. 11, from 4-6 p.m. Contributions in his memory can be made to Lake Champlain Land Trust at www.LCLT.org.



JACK JACKMAN

Jack Jackman, 73, of Addison

ADDISON — Jack Jackman, 73, passed away peacefully on July 21, 2025, surrounded with love from his wife, Terry of 48 years; daughter Megan (Ryan McLean) and son Robert (Harold Deering); three grandchildren, Logan, Bryden and Seaver; and one great-grandchild, Reese, who he loved dearly.

Upon his wishes, there will be no service. ◊

Trish G. Morris of Ferrisburgh

FERRISBURGH — Trish G. Morris, formerly Trish Gould MacHarg, passed peacefully into God’s arms on July 28, 2025.

Trish embraced life with an adventurous spirit, framed by the woods and lakes of the Green Mountains and Adirondacks. Knowing Trish meant knowing her contagious laughter and sense of humor. She found the most joy in her family and friends, and always her dogs. Trish put her heart and soul into the lives of many children and families in her Vermont community during her career as a Speech and Language Pathologist.

She was married to Kenneth G. MacHarg until his passing in 2019. Together, they raised two children: Graham MacHarg and wife Cayenne, and MacKenzie Seeley and husband J.P.

Trish later found love again and married David Morris, her devoted husband through this final journey. Trish cherished her stepson, Christopher Morris.

Trish was the beloved grandmother to Calvin, Ryan, Ethan, Wyatt and Louisa. They will always be thinking of their “Morp” when they are sledding, fishing, kayaking or water-skiing. She is also survived



TRISH G. MORRIS

by her two sisters, Sandi Moore and husband Frank, and Betsy Courtemanche and husband Ed, and many nieces and nephews.

Trish’s faith guided her life and gave her courage as she battled ALS.

The family invites all friends and family to celebrate her life with them at a later date, to be announced.

In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to Addison County Home Health and Hospice in memory of Trish. The family is forever grateful for the support and love that ACHH provided while she was living with ALS. ◊



IN THE MIDDLE of his trick titled “Vanishing Bananas,” Tom Joyce acts surprised when bananas keep appearing in his hands.

Independent photo/Bee Eckels

Magic

(Continued from Page 2A)

pulling a bouquet of flowers out of the middle of the green scarf. This feat received a collective gasp from the children.

Joyce pulled out his “clap-o-meter” to measure the enthusiasm of the audience. Not surprisingly, the box burst open in response to the deafening roar produced by the kids.

The audience was deeply involved in this interactive show with many members going up to stand next to Joyce and hand him missing bits that had flown off of one wand end or another. They even cheerfully heckled him when he made silly, purposeful, mistakes. While not all of these interruptions were planned, Joyce

seamlessly worked them all into his act.

Some of Joyce’s signature acts, and quite obviously fan favorites, include the “Vanishing Banana” trick where instead of making bananas disappear, he multiplies them and acts alarmed when he holds up his hand and finds yet another banana in it; the “Loose Wand” trick where he pretends the caps at either end of his wand are screwed on tightly, but when he turns around, they shoot off into the audience to the delight of the kids; the “Timmy the Toilet Paper” trick which ends with Joyce pulling a 20-foot-long strand of toilet paper out of his mouth; and the “Tooth Fairy” trick where he pulls half dollar

coins out of thin air.

When a segment concludes, Joyce will say the phrase, “That’s the end of that one,” to which the audience will respond “Awww.”

Joyce will then whip around and say, “But I have another one!” and the audience will shout, “Yay!”

At the end of his show, Joyce concluded with a trick that made large pieces of colorful tissue paper disappear. But, when he opened his hands, they exploded into a bunch of tiny colorful ribbons, mimicking a firework explosion. He then thanked the audience for attending.

“I will literally be here all week,” Joyce said jokingly (but truthfully).

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Serving your home community

Find out what it takes at the Platt Library on Aug. 13

SHOREHAM — What is it like to be a state legislator? Come to an informational public meeting at the Platt Library in Shoreham on Wednesday, Aug. 13, at 7 p.m., to hear panelists Senator Ruth Hardy and former Legislator Joe Andriano speak from their experience. They will discuss what the job entails, from the initial decision to run as a member of a political party or as an Independent, to questions of time, salary and support. The title of the event is “Serving your community — What does it take to be a Vermont State Representative.”

The goal of the meeting is to bring together people who want to know more about how to run for the office, and those who want to understand what the experience is like for our legislators. The audience will have opportunities to ask questions and give comments. Ruth Hardy is a State Senator representing Addison County. Joe Andriano formerly served as the Representative for the Addison-Rutland district.

“One thing I’m really excited about with this event is the opportunity to talk about the nuts and bolts of serving in the legislature,” says Andriano. “For good reason, legislative breakfasts and other events focus on the politics of the day. But this evening will be a chance to set politics aside and talk about how someone becomes a legislator and what the day-to-day work of the job is really like.”



SEN. RUTH HARDY



FORMER REP. JOE ANDRIANO

The meeting is for anyone curious about the job and the process. It is open to all,

though the emphasis will be on the Addison-Rutland district (Shoreham, Whiting, Orwell, Sudbury, Hubbardton). During the last two elections, there was only one candidate on the ballot for the Addison-Rutland district: only a Democrat in 2022, only a Republican in 2024, and no Independents. Ensuring that people have a choice on election day is one of the basics of our democracy.

As Sen. Hardy put it, “I’m always eager to talk with people about what it’s like to serve in the legislature and participate in our democracy. We need more people to step up and be involved in public service.”

This public event is organized by the Shoreham and Whiting Town Democratic committees, with the hope that it will spark interest and discussion around the opportunity to serve as a state legislator. Informative handouts will be provided as will refreshments.

Porter

(Continued from Page 1A)

must also describe when a law enforcement officer should remain with a patient demonstrating violence.

Hospitals must review their security plans annually, revise them when necessary, and distribute it to all their employees, volunteers, board directors, relevant law enforcement agencies, and “any other identified partners.”

• Establish and use a workplace violence incident reporting system to track and analyze incidents of workplace violence at the hospital, including data on the number of reported incidents and the number of incidents reported to law enforcement.

In line with the new state directives, Porter Associate Vice President for Operations Brandi Helm told the *Independent* the institution has spent the better part of a year improving the safety climate for staff, patients and visitors. Specific actions have included establishing a Porter Workplace Violence Steering Committee that meets quarterly, adopting regular staff training sessions focusing on de-escalation to avert potential physical interactions with patients or visitors experiencing mental health and/or anger issues, increasing the size and presence of PMC’s security team, updating safety procedures, and partnering with law enforcement, including Middlebury police.

“We’re seeing people in some of the most stressful and scariest moments of their lives. It’s our job to get people through that.”

— Brandi Helm

Porter officials have also applied for grants to install metal detectors — a step some other Vermont hospitals have taken — and will install ballistic glass in the hospital’s emergency department take-in area.

“It’s an ongoing piece of work; I think we have to continue to be flexible and stay ahead of where we are,” Helm said of the workplace safety effort. “I think this work is probably more profound than when I got into health care 10 years ago. We’re focusing on it more, and we really should be.”

National, state and local statistics — in addition to Act 9 — bear out PMC’s focus on protecting those coming to get health care at its facilities, which include the hospital, Helen Porter Rehabilitation & Nursing, and around a dozen affiliated primary care practices.

Between July 2023 and December 2024, the Vermont Association of Hospitals and Health Systems recorded 89 instances of violence and threatening behavior in hospitals, with more than half of those cases involved an assault on a health care worker, according to reporting by *VTDigger*.

A 2024 nationwide survey conducted by National Nurses United found that in 2023, 81.6% of nurses had experienced at least one type of workplace violence — and nearly half had seen a rise in rates of violence. That survey was completed by 1,000 nurses in 48 states.

The county’s hospital has also seen its share of tumultuous and aggressive behavior. Some of it



BRANDI HELM

has been exhibited by folks whose mental health issues became more acute during long periods of pandemic isolation. Some among the swelling ranks of the homeless are living with severe mental illness that can play out when they seek health care. And due to Vermont’s shortage of residential mental health programming, hospital emergency departments — like Porter’s — have become a de facto way station for folks waiting for psychiatric placements.

CALLING MIDD COPS

Between July 1, 2023, and July 1, 2025, Middlebury police responded to Porter Medical Center 48 times for safety-related issues, according to Chief Jason Covey.

During the past few years, Porter has focused on increasing the size and visibility of its security team, according to Helm. She said PMC works to have “at least two” security guards on campus 24/7. In addition to responding to specific calls for assistance, those security guards make repeated, mapped rounds throughout the Porter complex, making sure doors are locked (after hours) and that nothing seems amiss.

In addition, the hospital has taken steps to update its security camera system, improve lighting in the hospital parking lot, and equip more Porter rooms with locks requiring an employee badge swipe.

Helm said Porter has placed major effort in educating its staff on dealing with potentially volatile situations. And that starts with a mandatory AVADE training program that’s specifically geared to health care settings.

“It’s a multi-day training that staff are attending, regardless of if you answer the phone or an emergency department nurse. You’re going to have some form of de-escalation training,” Helm said.

The training is done in-house by Porter employees who attended an AVADE course. Trainees are taught how to deal with potential interactions ranging from a despondent visitor threatening staff, to a memory-loss patient lashing out for no apparent reason.

“It’s a proactive approach to deescalating violence,” Helm said. “Whenever we can, we want to avoid physicality.”

She noted using the correct body language, tone and verbiage have proven effective in getting a potential antagonist to calm down without throwing a punch or uttering hateful words.

“A hospital is a place of healing and we’re trying to create a healing environment. Regardless of what you’re here for, you’re here to heal, and we want you to have the best experience you can,” she said of the hospital’s ultimate goal.

Helm said the AVADE training has been getting good reviews from staffers who’ve taken it, and she believes it’s already making a difference on campus.

“I see people use (their training) every single day,” she said. “And I think we also have to remember that we’re seeing people in some of the most stressful and scariest moments of their lives. It’s our job to get people through that — to meet them where they’re at. But there’s data and science around the best way to do that, and we need to train our staff on the best way to do that.”

HEALTH CARE STAKEHOLDERS

Middlebury Police are providing a huge assist in PMC’s workplace safety efforts, according to Helm. Covey is part of Porter’s Workplace Violence Steering Committee, which includes folks from Middlebury Regional EMS and other health care stakeholders.

Among other things, the committee reviews how violent incidents on campus were handled, suggests new safety policies and revisions to those policies, and takes an active interest in education and training.

Middlebury police officers routinely tour Porter facilities to broaden their knowledge of the campus layout and operations should they be called in for an emergency.

“Hospitals are complex; there are lots of different places and doors,” Helm said.

And speaking of training, police recently conducted an “active shooter” drill at Porter’s Vergennes Primary Care offices.

“It’s really scary, but we want our staff to feel prepared,” Helm said.

Covey believes Porter is on the right track in making progress on safety.

“Prior to improving their protocols and increasing security staffing, MPD often spent countless hours, usually in the emergency department, acting

almost as de facto security. It was not uncommon for multiple MPD officers to have to remain in the ED for two, four, or more consecutive hours to help ensure the safety of medical staff due to unruly patients or visitors,” Covey said.

“While we continue to be called, appropriately, our need to remain at the hospital for long periods of time has been relieved in large part by improved safety protocols and enhanced security staffing,” he added.

Lake Champlain Basin seeks proposals

GRAND ISLE, — The Patrick Leahy Lake Champlain Basin Program, in partnership with NEIWPC, seeks proposals for projects that restore aquatic organism passage in the U.S. portion of the Lake Champlain Basin.

The intent of this opportunity is to remove barriers to aquatic organism passage and restore stream connectivity, adding high-quality habitat, connecting cold-water stream networks, and enhancing natural ecosystem function of river systems.

According to Dr. Eric Howe, NEIWPC Program Director of the Lake Champlain Basin Program, said, fish and other aquatic species rely on healthy, connected streams. These projects will reconnect waterways, restore vital habitat, improve water quality, and increase community resilience across the Basin.

Activities supported by this funding could include:

- Project screening and scoping
- Feasibility and/or alternatives analyses
- Engineering design and/or permitting
- Construction or site restoration
- Site monitoring
- Site maintenance.

Approximately \$2.5 million is available to support awarded projects. Eligible organizations include colleges, universities, nonprofit organizations, for-profit companies, and non-federal/non-state government agencies, including municipalities, that are located in the United States and work in the U.S. portion of the Lake Champlain basin.

The awarded grants will support projects that advance the goals of the long-term Lake Champlain management plan Opportunities for Action (plan.lcbp.org). This grant opportunity is supported by funds awarded to Lake Champlain by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) via the

Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

The review of proposals for this opportunity will occur in two rounds, and we will host one information session in advance of each round’s deadline. We encourage all applicants to submit their best proposals by the first deadline to maximize their chances of early consideration.

The first submission deadline is 5 p.m. on Sept. 8, with an information session to be held 1-2 p.m., Aug. 6.

The final submission deadline is 5 p.m., Oct. 8, with an information session to be held 1-2 p.m. Sept. 3.

Awarded projects from the first and second rounds may begin in March and April 2026, respectively. For further information, contact the Lake Champlain Basin Program, 54 West Shore Road, Grand Isle, VT at (802) 372-3213 / (800) 468-5227 or visit www.lcbp.org.

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By the way

(Continued from Page 1A)

to the Little City (across from the Strong House Inn). A critical piece of her study is assessing community interest and concerns with such a project. Examples of using silos as the canvas for public art can be found in Jeffersonville, Vt. To help with her research on a possible silo art/park project in Vergennes, Merotha has developed a very quick online survey she'd like you to complete. You can find it at tinyurl.com/334tsu7v. She's hoping to have the survey results in by this Friday, Aug. 1.

If you're low on resources, you can still find the ultimate bargain for summer recreation. Entry into state parks this summer is free to Vermonters enrolled in 3SquaresVT, Summer EBT, WIC, Reach Up, those receiving fuel assistance, General Assistance, and the Essential Person Program — which helps low-income, older, blind, or disabled individuals remain in their homes by providing financial assistance for someone to live with and provide care. The state parks' free summer pass program for low-income Vermonters kicked off this past May as a pilot program, and it's catching on. According to the Agency of Human Services, the parks are averaging around 2,400 visits per week through this program, in 37 state parks covering all Vermont counties. So if you have an active benefit card, bring it with you to a state park for free admittance.

Speaking of "free," free tours will be offered at the historic John Strong Mansion/Museum this coming Saturday, Aug. 2. Located at 6656 Route 17 in Addison, the mansion belonged to the late John Strong, a Revolutionary

War patriot and a prominent early citizen of Addison County. Five generations of the Strong family lived in the home, built in 1796. Their lives were intertwined with historic events at Fort Ticonderoga, Crown Point, and the Plattsburgh battle sites. The Saturday tours will extend from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Also at the Strong Mansion on Aug. 2 (from 1-2 p.m.), Ellen Thompson will give a free presentation titled, "Education, values, creativity: Samplers of Post-revolutionary Vermont." Thompson is manager of the Vermont Sampler Initiative, which seeks to identify American schoolgirl samplers made before 1900. Her presentation will be held outdoors, so please bring a chair.

It's time to start planning for another frightening year for the Med47 Foundation Haunted Forest. The Cousino family has been hosting their Halloween-time haunted forest in Bristol for many years, with proceeds going to the Med47 Foundation. The foundation — named for the late Brendon Cousino — provides grants to rescue agencies and those considering careers in that field. October is still a ways away, but the haunted forest is a major undertaking, and the Cousinos could use your help. They'll host a planning meeting on Thursday, Aug. 7, at 6:30 p.m. at their place at 3319 S 116 Road in Bristol. This meeting will be an opportunity for you to share your ideas. Rough plans at this point call for a theme of "fairy tales and myths." If you plan on coming, please RSVP at 802-233-8334, or med47foundation@gmail.com.

Members of the Addison County Regional Planning

Commission (ACRPC) will be at the following events to share information and to discuss the draft Addison County Future Land Use Map and housing targets for our county and individual municipalities: Friday, Aug. 1, noon-3 p.m., at Addison County Fair & Field Day; Thursday, Aug. 7, from 3-7 p.m., at the Vergennes Farmers Market; Monday, Aug. 11, from 3-7 p.m., at the Bristol Farmers Market; and Wednesday, Aug. 27, from 1:30-4:30 p.m., at Middlebury's Downtown Market. What is this about? This Future Land Use Mapping is part of Act 181, Vermont's new land use law passed by the Legislature in June 2024. Act 47 of 2023 introduced new requirements for regional and municipal plans, one being the inclusion of housing targets for 2029 and 2050 to ensure an adequate supply of safe and affordable housing. Why is this important? Understanding these changes early will help your community proactively plan for growth, align with state policy, and position itself for future funding and support. All residents of Addison County are invited to view a large-scale draft Future Land Use Map, and it's available at the ACRPC office at 14 Seminary St. during normal business hours. Would you like to meet one-on-one or with a small group of community members? Contact Katie Raycroft-Meyer (kraycroftmeyer@acrpc.org), Danelle Birong (dbirong@acrpc.org), or call 802-388-3141 to schedule time to meet with a member of ACRPC. To view the detailed draft Future Land Use Map and Housing Targets by town, please visit the ACRPC website.



THANKS TO A grant from Vermont's Clean Water fund, road and gully erosion along Tatro Road in Starksboro will be addressed to reduce sediment heading directly into Lewis Creek. Photo by Jessica Louisos, SLR

LCA Common Ground project complete

By KATE KELLY AND SARA LOVITZ
Lewis Creek Association

STARKSBORO — A grant from the state Clean Water fund (through the Clean Water Service Provider in the Otter Creek-Lewis Creek basin) allowed Lewis Creek Association to hire engineers from SLR Consulting to design a fix for the road leading to Common Ground Center in Starksboro.

Once constructed, this fix will decrease the erosion occurring on a section of the privately owned portion of Tatro Road. The gravel roadway has continued to erode during heavy rains over the past few years, dumping sediment and pollutants directly into Lewis Creek, which ultimately flows into Lake Champlain in Ferrisburgh. The project will help to reduce phosphorus, which, when it reaches high levels, contributes to harmful algal blooms and fish die-offs in Lake Champlain.

When constructed, the project will improve the road conditions and reduce erosion and the resulting sediment washing into Lewis Creek. The plans include raising and regrading of a portion of the road, the addition of a turnout, and removal of grader berms, which will allow water to sheet off into the adjacent swale. The swales will be reshaped as necessary to hold more water, then stone-lined where they are steep, or grass-lined where not as steep. Current 10-inch and 12-inch culverts will be replaced with 15-inch culverts to better accommodate the increased volume of stormwater due to the increasing intensity of rainstorms. These improvements, taken together, will help reduce sediment and other pollutants washing into Lewis Creek while also minimizing the



LEWIS CREEK ASSOCIATION'S Kate Kelly and SLR Engineers look at Lewis Creek with visible road erosion at the Common Ground Center. This erosion will be addressed by a drainage improvement project funded in part by a grant from the Vermont's Clean Water fund.

chances of the road washing out in the future.

LCA has applied for partial funding for construction from the Clean Water Service Provider in Basin 3, with the remainder of the cost coming from Common Ground Center. Once constructed, this site will become one of LCA's Ahead of the Storm demonstration projects in the watershed. These projects will help Starksboro

citizens and students learn more about their watershed's water quality needs and fixes.

You can learn more about the Ahead of the Storm program at <https://bit.ly/lca-aots>. It is crucial that we all do our part to improve water quality in small ways, in order to improve Lake Champlain's water quality and beauty, and to protect the animals and plants that live in our rivers and streams.

Sheriff's Log

ADDISON COUNTY — In the past week, officers in the Addison County Sheriff's Department focused a lot on preparation.

On July 21, Sheriff Michael Elmore led a safety meeting at Addison County Fair and Field Days in preparation for the fair; on July 21 and 22 a deputy attended ARIDE training at the Police Academy in Pittsford to enhance their ability to detect impaired driving; on July

23 Sheriff Elmore and a deputy attended the semiannual FTO update at the police academy in order to continue training new deputies; the next day several deputies participated in training taught by Sheriff Elmore in order to carry TASERS; and on July 24 and 25 a deputy went to the police academy in Pittsford to attend crash investigation training.

Between July 21 and 26, deputies completed patrols in multiple towns and stopped 30 vehicles for various motor vehicle violations and fingerprinted 10 people for background checks. Between July 20 and 21, sheriff's deputies (under contract) provided special patrols

in Goshen to deal with speeding complaints.

During that period, deputies provided transport on behalf of the Bennington County Sheriff's Department on July 21, Middlebury police on July 22 and on behalf of the Franklin County Sheriff's Department on July 25; plus, on July 21 they transported someone to the Brattleboro Retreat.

In other recent activity, Sheriff Michael Elmore and his deputies also:

- On July 21 completed two background investigations.
- On July 22 and 23, escorted oversized loads from Bennington to the New Hampshire border.

ADDISON COUNTY School Briefs

Brooke Bertrand, a resident of Whiting, was honored for academic achievement by being named to

the dean's list at Delaware Valley University for the spring 2025 semester.

Ben Huston of Vergennes graduated from Bates College in Lewiston, Maine, with a major in Earth and Climate Sciences and minor in Philosophy. Huston was also granted the

Bates Senior Scholar Award, an honor bestowed upon graduating seniors who have participated in varsity sports for four years and have maintained a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or above.

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Items not accepted for recycling

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- Waterbeds & air mattresses
- Futons

Up to 80% of the material in a mattress can be recycled!

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Gov. Scott

(Continued from Page 1A)

Sharpe of Bristol and Jeanne Albert of Lincoln, a longtime educator and chair of the Lincoln School District board.

The other three on the list were Karen Lueders of Lincoln, Robert Demic of Bristol, and Dave Lucey of Monkton.

But a week later, the Addison-4 District Representative Committee put out the call for a third name to submit to the governor. The panel met again and took a straw poll on each of five people hoping to join Sharpe and Albert on the governor's list: Demic, Lueders and Lucey resubmitted their names, along with Bristol's Bob Bernstein and former Monkton selectboard Chair Stephen Pilcher.

Pilcher — who had resigned his position as Monkton Democratic Town Committee chair to enter the Addison-4 conversation — became the third pick.

But Scott hasn't selected any of the three to serve out Cordes's term, set to expire at the end of 2026. Rather, he's asked for the

names and contact info for the other hopefuls who didn't make the final three.

State law allows Scott to "appoint a qualified person to fill the vacancy for the remaining portion of the term, whether or not the appointee is recommended by the party committee."

Amanda Wheeler, Scott's press secretary, provided this update to the *Independent* on Wednesday morning:

"We have heard concerns about the nomination process from members of the community, which prompted the request for the full list of names. The governor will appoint a Democrat, keeping with his practice of appointing from the same party. But as you note, he is not statutorily required to appoint from the list provided, which may require us to solicit names outside of the process to ensure members of the community feel the process is fair and transparent."

Since the Legislature isn't slated to reconvene until January, there's "still have plenty of time to appoint

an individual before the start of the 2026 session," Wheeler added.

But local Democratic leaders aren't happy with the governor's request for additional names, believing Scott should pick from the party's top three choices and not cast his net beyond that trio. Paul Forlenza, the Lincoln Democratic Town Committee chair and a leader of the effort to forward Addison-4 nominees to Scott, said he wrote a letter to the governor's office stating the party wouldn't recommend additional names.

"We sent the governor three good candidates. If he'd like to come back to us and say he's not going to choose one of them, we'll have to meet again. But his office didn't say that to me. They just said he wants the additional names."

However, with few exceptions, the sitting governor has picked from a list of candidates furnished by the exiting lawmaker's party. Forlenza said he hopes Scott follows that tradition.

John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.

LOCAL SPORTS

WE'VE GOT IT COVERED!

Steve James

Andy Kirkaldy

Matt Dickerson

Karl Lindholm

Town's email system hacked

MIDDLEBURY — Middlebury police received a report from a municipal official on July 22 that someone had hacked into the town of Middlebury's email system and had then tried to convince a person to transfer a "large amount of money" to them.

Police said no money transfer took place, but the town quickly sent out an advisory about the hack and attempts to use the town email address as a scam.

The advisory reads: "A town email account was hacked that sent out spam links to community members that contained a link that requires you to enter email credentials in order to access the document. If you did click the link, you should immediately change your passwords. If you ever are unsure if a link from the town is legitimate, please call the sender of the email, or call the town offices at 802-458-8001."

In other action last week, Middlebury police:

- Responded to a reported domestic disturbance on North Forty Lane on July 21.
- Spoke on July 21 to local landlord about a former tenant allegedly damaging his property.
- Responded to July 21 report of a "possible fight" involving at least four people at 30 South Village Green. Police reported no arrests or injuries in connection with the incident.
- Conducted foot patrols downtown on July 22, 23, 24 and 25.
- Returned a lost set of keys and a credit card to their separate owners on July 22.
- Received a complaint about an intoxicated man at the Charter House Emergency Shelter on North Pleasant Street on July 22.
- Located and returned a vulnerable adult who had wandered away from a local group home on July 23.
- Responded to a disturbance at the Hannaford supermarket on July 23.
- Checked on the welfare of a man found sleeping under a tree in the South Village Green neighborhood on July 23.
- Received a report about loose cows wandering around East Main and Case streets on July 23.
- Responded to separate reports of people experiencing mental health issues on Mill and Shannon

Middlebury Police Log

streets on July 24.

- Checked the welfare of a man whom police said appeared to be under the influence of illicit drugs during the morning of July 24.
- Responded, with Middlebury firefighters, to a two-vehicle accident (no reported injuries) at the intersection of Court Street and Mary Hogan Drive on July 24.
- Responded to a domestic dispute in the Jackson Lane area on July 24.
- Responded to a report of an "eight-person fight" off Case Street on July 24. Police reported no arrests or injuries in connection with the incident.
- Checked the welfare of a man who police said "appeared to be under the influence of illicit drugs" in the Main Street area on July 25.
- On July 25, assisted Middlebury Regional EMS on Route 30 in Cornwall with a man who had been found at the side of the roadway, suffering from a mental health issue.
- Received a report about alleged vandalism to the community playground off Schoolhouse Hill Road on July 25.
- Investigated a report of an attempted burglary at a Seymour Street business on July 25.
- Responded to a trespassing complaint in the Washington Street area on July 25.
- Checked on a suspicious vehicle reported on Mary Hogan Drive on July 25.
- Assisted with a mental health patient at an Exchange Street office on July 25.
- Responded, with Middlebury Regional EMS, to a potential overdose case on Boardman Street on July 25.
- Responded to a domestic dispute on Burnham Drive on July 25.
- Investigated allegations that some teens in East Middlebury had damaged property in the East Middlebury Recreation Park off Schoolhouse Hill Road on July 25. Police reported, "Though there may have been some minor mischief, there was no evidence of actual

damage or any malicious intent."

- Responded, with rescue officials, to a medical call at the Charter House Emergency Shelter on North Pleasant Street on July 25.
- Investigated a report of a drunken man who had allegedly sustained a head injury in a biking accident on Weybridge Road during the evening of July 25. Police said they located the man in Weybridge and got him medical help.
- Gave a courtesy ride to a Porter Hospital patient who was stranded on July 26.
- Responded to a July 26 report of a vehicle leaving Porter Drive after allegedly striking another vehicle.
- Responded to a report of people yelling in the Case Street area during the morning of July 26. Police said the yelling was coming from bear hunters who were calling their dogs.
- Received a report about a person experiencing a mental health crisis in the Monarch Court area on July 26.
- Helped a state trooper with a DUI screening on North Pleasant Street on July 26.
- Investigated a reported assault on Court Street on July 27. Police said they served a no-trespass order on a person connected with the incident.
- Assisted Vermont State Police at the scene of a domestic dispute off Shellhouse Mountain Road in Ferrisburgh on July 27.
- Investigated a report of a fight outside the Jolley convenience store off Court Street on July 27. Police said there were no injuries, and the people involved had left the area.
- Gave a courtesy ride to a Porter Hospital patient who was stranded on July 27.
- Responded to a reported dispute between two Buttolph Drive neighbors on July 27.
- Cited Wayne N. Gorton, 72, of Middlebury for driving with a criminally suspended license on Seymour Street Extension on July 27.
- Cited Megan M. Amoroso, 36, of Brandon for suspicion of driving under the influence, following a traffic stop on Route 7 near Plains Road on July 28.
- Deployed K-9 Guinness for a drug sniff at a traffic stop near the intersection of Route 7 and Lake Dunmore Road in Salisbury on July 28.

Lincoln

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

NEWS

LINCOLN — Lincoln Sports summer campers have been working with Lausanne Allen and learning the art of contra dancing and would like to invite all Lincoln Sports families and community members to an evening of food, dancing and fun on Friday, Aug. 8, at Burnham Hall. A potluck will be held from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. and contra dancing will be from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Please bring a savory or sweet dish to share for the potluck. Funded in part with a generous donation from 5 Town Friends of the Arts.

Medusa kicks off the third Burnham Presents season on Saturday, Aug. 30, at 7:30 p.m., at Burnham Hall. This string quartet connects audiences across dividing lines of culture and

identity to reveal the common threads beneath. Medusa is composed of Georgia Hathaway, Lea Kirstein, Marta Solek and Saskia Tomkins. All seasoned players whose collective experience as side players in successful bands spanning decades, Medusa is a refuge for their natural creation transmuted through a common string language.

Tickets are by sliding scale admission: \$30 generous+, \$25 generous and \$20 general. Kids 12 and under are \$10 at the door. Youth on laps are free. Season tickets are now available for all concerts at burnhampresents.org.

Until next time ... The Influence Of A Good Teacher Can Never Be Erased.

Monkton

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

NEWS

MONKTON — Things continue to happen at the Russell Memorial Library!

On Wednesday, Aug. 6, starting at 7 p.m., join Janet for the monthly Book Club meeting. Email russellmemlibrary@gmail.com to find out more information or to sign up for the email list of books to read and be discussed.

Chess Class is on Thursday, Aug. 7, from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. All levels of chess players are welcome. Local chess coach and expert Andrea Gorostiaga will be on hand to teach and guide you in the art of playing chess. Email the library if you have questions or call 802-453-4471.



THIS





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When our dad, **Jim Gill**, passed away tragically four years ago, we made the decision to carry on the operation of **Champlain Valley MotorSports** - the business he built with pride, grit, and an unwavering dedication to his customers.



It has been our privilege to keep that legacy alive. And now — we are ready and excited to hand the reins over to someone who has been an invaluable member of the Champlain Valley MotorSports family since nearly the beginning.

Effective August 1st, we will be transitioning ownership of the business to Mike Paquette, our General Manager and a trusted partner to our family for 30 years. Mike will be operating his new business as Champlain Valley Marine.

Our dad purchased Bronson's Marine from his employer in 1993 and renamed it Champlain Valley MotorSports. And today, we are proud to pass that legacy forward in the same spirit — from one dedicated employee to another. While this marks the end of our time as an Arctic Cat dealership, Mike will continue operating the **marine service and storage** side of the business with the same reliability, care, and deep knowledge that his customers have come to expect. We congratulate Mike on this exciting new chapter, and can't wait to see all that he accomplishes. And we thank him very sincerely for his three decades of dutiful service to Champlain Valley MotorSports, which could not have operated without him.

We also want to extend our heartfelt thanks to Andrea Hornbeck, our longtime bookkeeper, whose dedication and steady presence behind the scenes helped keep CVMS running smoothly for the past 22 years and through several transitions. Andrea, we could not have asked for a better bookkeeper, or a better friend to our family.



Finally, to the many **loyal customers, friends, and riding buddies** who made Champlain Valley MotorSports so much more than just a business — **thank you**. You were the heartbeat of our dad's work, and we are deeply grateful for the support you showed him, and us.

To new (but not-that-new) beginnings
~ Rob & Nick Gill



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Field Days returns

ADDISON COUNTY FAIR and Field Days kicked off on Tuesday for a week of carnival rides, friendly competition and connecting with Vermont's agricultural roots. Pictured clockwise from left are Sutton Chittenden of Shoreham's Richville Farms, who is all smiles after his calf, Kinishwa-Et, placed second in the Junior Championship Jersey contest; Sudbury's Ted Russell drives his team of Belgian draft horses; Heather Morse's cake earns the top prize; youths try out a fair ride; Orwell's Dan Norris waits for his antique ice-cream maker to produce a mint-flavored treat; Morse and her sons take a spin; cousins Nora and Leonne Plouffe of Bridport tackle tasks in the dairy barn; and Autumn Thresher, 12, of Salisbury takes a break with her calf, Una.

Independent photos/Steve James





BARBER TODD GOODYEAR, right, talks with fairgoer Ed Blechner outside the Blue Ribbon Barber Shop, a pop-up business that Goodyear set up on the grounds of the Addison County Fair and Field Days for this week.

Independent photo/Paige Hesco

New at Field Days

Anyone looking for a haircut?

By **PAIGE HESCOCK**

If you are taking a stroll through the Addison County Fair & Field Days this week and happen to need a haircut, you are in luck! Mac's Barbershop, which just opened last November on Merchants Row in Middlebury, has another location on the fairgrounds, just for the one week of the fair.

Located right outside of the Home and Garden Barn, Blue Ribbon Barber Shop not only offers haircuts, but also hot towel shaves, beard trims and nose and ear hair removal. But the main feature that will certainly draw customers in is the A/C unit inside the shed.

"I had a dream, a dream of knowing exactly what the fair

needs," said Todd Goodyear, who is the barber running the shop during fair week.

"I love the fair and being a barber, so I wondered how I could put these two things that I love together," he said.

Goodyear's process in achieving his dream was simple: He acquired the shed from Livingston Farm in Bristol and then had to apply for a barbershop license to set up his shop at the fair.

He completed his training at O'Brien's Aveda Institute in Williston and has only been a barber for three months now.

Although he is new to the job, Goodyear loves the work, especially how working at a barbershop is all about the

conversations.

"Connecting with the community is a large part of being a barber. I've learned that the key to being a great barber is being able to ask good questions and learn to listen well," Goodyear said.

He looks forward to further developing his barber skills and is eager to eventually master this ability.

"Parlaying these skills with a natural care for the community is what this is all about," Goodyear said.

Blue Ribbon Barber Shop offers haircuts for \$20, with a discounted rate of \$15 for seniors. Beard trims are \$15, or \$30 when combined with a haircut. Nose wax is \$7, ear wax \$5, or both for \$10.

Sheep shearing

(Continued from Page 1A)
scale, large scale, commercial, pets — like all of it. Every type of breed and fiber. And that has been so informative to me to see all the different ways people can successfully raise sheep — and unsuccessfully, you know, everyone has these trials and tribulations. I think as a shearer going to all these farms, there's no other education in your local sheep industry better than that," Swanson said.

While she still enjoys the technical aspects of shearing, teaching the next generation has become her biggest reward.

"Working with kids is the most rewarding for me right now, because I was in that position several years ago. Like, there's a 4H kid here who just this year I helped teach her how to start to shear her own (sheep) bellies... to see a kid get comfortable with their sheep, get comfortable with some equipment, and it can really pull them out of their shell and just become like a whole new person giving them these tools and the confidence to show off what they're doing," Swanson added. "I think it's really impressive what they can do and I'm really glad to be a part of it."

NEXT GENERATION

That idea — young people gaining confidence through hands-on animal work — was echoed in the story of the sheep Swanson had just shorn. It belonged to a family involved in the Youth Conservationist Program (YCP), a national initiative connecting youth with endangered heritage sheep breeds.

Natalie Layn, 14, and her cousin Olivia Gordon-Layn, 12, participate in the YCP, which places yearling ewes with youth age 9–18. The program aims to preserve heritage livestock once common on American farms — breeds prized for genetic diversity and hardiness.

To keep their sheep, participants must show them at two fairs, use the fleece, complete educational projects, and create a scrapbook

for donors. Success earns them the right to keep and breed the animal.

Natalie's journey began by reaching out to Swanson. Heather Layn, Natalie's mother, explained:

"My daughter started showing sheep seven years ago. The first year, she had no idea what she was doing, and she actually reached out to Siri to give her some tips. And the following year, she started leasing sheep from her, so she could learn more about it in show. And then we learned about the new conservation program where they give heritage breed sheep to kids. So my daughter applied, and her first year applying, she won, and we had to go to Maryland to a little festival to receive this sheep."

Their efforts didn't stop there. "So Natalie completed her first year... and then she reapplied again this year thinking that she wouldn't get selected. And she got her cousin to join her and they both won. So we go back to Maryland, and we got more sheep. So now we're doing a whole program all over again."

Heather added that three girls in the family have now received sheep through the YCP.

"My daughter's 14 right now. And Olivia was 11 when she won her sheep. And then my other niece, she won a sheep in the program as well. She's 10. So when we went down there, they were gifting the sheep — I believe there's 22 sheep gifted — the kids were from all across the country... And they started calling out all the kids from Vermont. And they were like, whoa, there must be some really good 4-H leaders down there pushing the program."

Young participants like Natalie and Olivia show that Vermont's sheep farming tradition is far from fading. In fact, it harkens back to the early 19th-century "sheep boom," when the arrival of Merino sheep from Spain transformed Vermont into a wool powerhouse.

The demonstration ring at Field Days — with heritage breeds and young handlers — offers a living glimpse of that legacy. Through



VETERAN SHEARER SIRI Swanson carefully shaves a Finnsheep at the Addison County Fair and Field Days on Tuesday. The three to four pounds of wool were immediately gathered by a member of the Twist O' Wool Guild to be used for demos later in the afternoon.

Independent photos/Steve James



SIRI SWANSON ADMIRES her work after successfully shaving the Finnish Landrace sheep at an educational demonstration at the Addison County Fair and Field Days on Tuesday. The Finn produced three to four pounds of wool, which is the result of three months of growth

shearers like Swanson and the dedication of 4-H families and youth conservationists, Vermont's rural heritage isn't just remembered — it's alive.

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Captain Jack guides the ferry across Champlain

By IAN CURRY

SHOREHAM — When 69-year-old Captain Jack Doyle left a lucrative career on Wall Street, he did not expect to spend his retirement ferrying passengers across Lake Champlain on the *Addie B*, a diesel-powered tugboat guided by a well-maintained system of recycled ski lift cables.

The Fort Ticonderoga Ferry has been crossing Lake Champlain since 1759 and is one of the country's oldest ferries, connecting Shoreham, Vt., with Ticonderoga, N.Y. Nowadays, it carries around 30,000 passengers a year — tourists and commuters alike — on a leisurely seven-minute cruise across the lake.

"The first time I rode the ferry I bought a t-shirt with no idea this is how I'd spend my retirement," Doyle said.

"Now I'm the busiest retired man

in America."

But to Captain Jack the ferry is more than a novelty — it's a calling. He, his co-captains and deckhands are all proud to have joined a long line of ferrymen stewarding what Doyle calls "an iconic part of American history."

"The first time I rode the ferry I bought a t-shirt with no idea this is how I'd spend my retirement. Now I'm the busiest retired man in America."

— Captain Jack Doyle

The ferry, which predates American independence, has borne witness to some of the most vital turning points in the nation's history, from the American Revolution to the invention of the steam engine and construction of the railroads. It has even carried the likes of George Washington, Benedict Arnold and Nathaniel Hawthorne who called it a "pleasant and lively spot."

Having spent countless hours on the water, Captain Jack and Co-Captain Joshua Ferguson love telling passengers about the history that surrounds them. They can point

out the exact route Ethan Allen and his Green Mountain Boys took across the lake to capture the nearby Fort Ticonderoga by surprise in 1775. The successful raid was an early turning point in the American Revolution.

Fort Ticonderoga celebrated the 250th anniversary of the raid in May with a full-scale re-enactment of Ethan Allen's crossing of the lake, which both Doyle and Ferguson called a surreal and amazing experience.

"The waters of Lake Champlain, to me, are the baptismal waters of the Republic," Doyle said.

The ferry is the oldest company in all of Vermont, but just a few years ago, the company was in poor financial shape and its continued existence was under threat.

"I couldn't bear to see the ferry not operating after 250 years of service, or see it handed off to someone who doesn't understand how important it is to Vermont and the country," Doyle said.

"How could I not get involved?" The ferry is a vital connection between communities in Vermont

and New York state, providing towns and businesses on either side of the lake with valuable tourism traffic and more transport options.

"It was a lot more complicated than I thought. It's a job that requires an immense amount of attention and energy," Doyle said.

As a trained merchant marine who has sailed thousands of miles around the Gulf of Mexico and spent 10 years restoring sailboats, Captain Ferguson knows a thing or two about boats and their importance even in a land-locked state like Vermont.

"People don't realize just how dynamic Lake Champlain is as a waterway," Ferguson said.

Lake Champlain isn't just a beautiful recreational area. In addition to supporting boat traffic between Vermont and New York, the lake also connects major ports along the St. Lawrence Seaway in Quebec to the Hudson River, which winds all the way down to bustling ports in New York and New Jersey.

The ferry has also partnered with a variety of local businesses and organizations. Captain Ferguson



CAPTAIN JACK DOYLE has a lively conversation with passengers while guiding the ferry across the lake. The Fort Ticonderoga Ferry is a vital connection between communities on both sides of Lake Champlain.

Independent photo/Ian Curry

said that anyone who rides the ferry is entitled to free cider doughnuts at Champlain Orchards in Shoreham. U.S. military veterans, first responders and nurses are also all entitled to a 25% discount on ferry trips.

"Vermont's maritime economy is so important," Ferguson said.

Along with captaining the Fort Ticonderoga ferry, Ferguson teaches children the art of sailing on nearby Lake Bomoseen.

"I love it," he said. "My passion is supporting our local businesses and teaching kids so that we can preserve our thriving maritime culture."



THE FORT TICONDEROGA Ferry has been plying the waters of Lake Champlain since 1759. The ferry has taken many forms over the centuries, ranging from sailboats to steam ferries. Today, the diesel-powered *Addie B* carries cars, cyclists, and pedestrians between Shoreham and Ticonderoga, N.Y.

Independent photo/Ian Curry

Bristol Police Log

BRISTOL — Bristol police responded to a handful of incidents involving animals over the past week.

On July 22 a dog was found on North Street and dropped off at the police department. Police located the owner, returned the dog and issued a warning.

The next day, police responded to a dog left in a vehicle on Mountain Street. Police determined the dog was not in distress and asked the owner to move the vehicle to a shaded location.

On July 24, Bristol's community resource specialist responded to a dog running loose on West Street. The owner was located, and a citation was issued.

Between July 20 and 26 Bristol police completed four foot patrols, conducted 10 traffic stops

and checked security at Mount Abraham Union High School six times, at Bristol Elementary School six times and at local businesses five times.

Police also processed eight fingerprint requests, conducted one welfare check and verified three vehicle identification numbers.

In other recent activity, Bristol police:

- On July 21 initiated a property watch for a resident in the police district.
- On July 21 responded to a report of a family fight on Pine Street but determined no action rose to the level of a crime.
- On July 22 provided traffic control while a disabled vehicle was removed from Burpee Road.
- On July 22 began investigating a possible trespass at Sycamore

Park.

- On July 22 received a late report of a hit and run that took place on Route 116 North.
- On July 23 responded to a report of a vehicle striking a parked car on Main Street.
- On July 23 responded to a report of a dog in a car on Prince Lance, but the vehicle was gone when police arrived.
- On July 23 assisted Vermont State Police at Blaises Mobile Home Park.
- On July 24 received a report of a phone lost on Prince Lane.
- On July 25 logged a report of a custodial dispute on Liberty Street.
- On July 25 received a report of a possible intoxicated driver on West Street but did not locate the vehicle.
- On July 26 assisted two people with a courtesy ride.

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Baucom

(Continued from Page 1A)

The *Independent* spoke with Baucom about what led him to Middlebury and the work he hopes to accomplish in the months ahead. That will include tackling issues like the future of Middlebury College's graduate school in Monterey, Calif., and ongoing efforts to balance the institution's budget.

That work will also unfold amid a challenging backdrop for higher education institutions across the country, which are continuing to navigate not only a changing economy but also various federal actions targeting colleges and universities.

Discussing what's ahead for Middlebury College and higher ed institutions at large, Baucom expressed a sense of optimism and a commitment to listening to and learning from members of the local college community.

"My responsibility is to be the president of everyone who's part of Middlebury," he said. "I need to go to where their offices are. I need to see their labs. I need to be outside of the main administrative building."

Baucom's path to Middlebury has been shaped by a career in higher education and an appreciation for the power of education that he gained while growing up in South Africa (see related story).

He most recently served as executive vice president and provost of the University of Virginia and as the Robert C. Taylor Professor of English at the university. Prior to that, he served in various roles at UVA, Duke University and Yale.

He received his bachelor's degree in political science from Wake Forest University, an experience that was influential in his aspiration to one day lead a liberal arts college.

"There were 3,200 (undergraduate) students when I was there, and I had that experience of great classes and two professors who just poured themselves into my life," Baucom recalled. "I got to experience that, and I wanted to be part of that again."

There were other aspects of Middlebury College that drew Baucom to the institution, including the college's dedication to the arts, the environment and languages.

A commitment to the arts and languages is one aspect of Patton's legacy Baucom aims to carry on, along with the former president's work around data literacy and conflict transformation.

BALANCING THE BUDGET

Baucom has identified some other areas of focus for the coming months, including working with members of the college community around how to build a stronger financial future for the institution.

This past spring, administrators announced compensation cuts and other steps the institution would take as part of an effort to balance



MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE PRESIDENT Ian Baucom speaks with Maria Barr and Ian Curry, both Middlebury students interning for the *Independent* this summer. Work ahead for the new president includes ongoing efforts to balance the institution's budget and decide on the future of its graduate school in California. Independent photo/John S. McCright

its budget.

Faculty, staff and students have pushed back against those measures, which included new limits on retirement benefits and growing undergraduate enrollment.

"Much of this is to sit, listen, make a commitment, and as we work through ongoing budget challenges that's how I want to approach things."

— Middlebury President Ian Baucom

Asked how the institution will work to tackle its deficit while incorporating feedback from the college community, Baucom said internal discussion — including disagreement and criticism of administrative actions — is important and welcomed.

"It's part of what a healthy community is," he said.

Baucom is looking to do more of the work he's begun over the past few weeks, which has included meeting with the college's faculty council and individual faculty members.

"Much of this is to sit, listen, make a commitment, and as we work through ongoing budget challenges that's how I want to approach things," he said.

He acknowledged that much of the hard work related to balancing the budget has happened over the past year.

"The college is in a much stronger financial position than it was," he said. "I'll be getting ongoing updates on having this resolved, and my intention is to keep working with our constituent groups to figure out the best way for us to have a path forward and try to get that balance right between counsel, insight, shared deliberation, and the moment where someone has to make a decision and making sure we get that all and to pay deep attention to shared governance and the various responsibilities that have been delegated to us."

FUTURE OF MIIS

Related to ongoing budget discussions is the question of the future of the Middlebury Institute of International Studies at

Monterey, or MIIS.

College students and faculty have pointed to losses the institution has experienced since it acquired MIIS more than a decade ago. In May, college faculty passed a Sense of the Faculty Motion asking college officials to begin a comprehensive restructuring of MIIS and close the campus within three years.

In a July 1 message to the college community, Baucom stated that "resolving the future of MIIS and its range of academic programs" is one the institution will answer within his first year as president.

"This is a crucial thing for us to do, and we have to be involving our community in this, but that is a decision that needs to be made and we will make," he told the *Independent*.

Baucom noted that as the institution resolves that question it can begin thinking about areas central to its core mission as a residential liberal arts college, such as financial aid and faculty.

"All of our community — our faculty, our staff, everyone — we need to be compensating and supporting them well, and there are particular issues with faculty compensation that we have to pay attention to," he said.

Strengthening the institution's core is among Baucom's other priorities for the months ahead. He said the foremost of those priorities is sitting and talking with members of the college community.

"I've only been here for 25 days, so just the priority of making time, going for long (walking meetings), being with all our community, that's an absolute first priority," he said.

Other priorities include connecting to the whole of who Middlebury is.

"Connecting to the whole is making the MIIS decision and then in parallel, asking how we best connect the various pieces of Middlebury — the core of the college, its schools abroad, its language schools, its various research centers," Baucom explained.

Baucom has also identified "meeting our moment" as an area of focus for Middlebury College.

He's acknowledged this moment is a complex one for the college and for all of higher education. Since President Donald Trump took office in January institutions across the country have weathered several federal actions attacking colleges and universities, from the funding they receive to international students and diversity initiatives.

How can Middlebury College work to uphold those and other aspects of higher ed institutions' work?

"You start by asking yourself, 'Are we a values-driven institution or not?' and the answer is 'Yes,' but that's where you start, and then 'Will we continue to be a values-driven institution?'" Baucom said. "Political currents change, values don't. To understand the political current, you have to understand what your values are and make a decision and then you have to name the values."

For Middlebury College, those values include academic freedom, and caring for the future of the environment and planet, and "the diversity and richness of the world's languages and cultures," Baucom said.

"I think that's where you start, is by saying 'What are the values' and 'Will we defend them,' and I just want to be clear; we will," he said.

While this moment may be new, Baucom noted higher ed institutions have a long history to refer to and build off of.

"Other than religious institutions, colleges and universities are the longest-enduring form of civil society in the world," he said. "In this moment we live toward the future, but we do live with the enduring power of education behind us. I take comfort and inspiration in that."

Education leads Baucom from South Africa to Middlebury

By MARIN HOWELL

MIDDLEBURY — In some ways, Ian Baucom's journey to Middlebury College began in South Africa.

The new college president was born in the U.S. but lived in South Africa until he was 14, where his parents were missionaries and ran adult literacy programs for mine workers during the Apartheid era. It was there that Baucom saw firsthand the power of education, particularly in a struggle for democracy.

"That was from the students in Soweto in 1976 to the work of universities in South Africa to my parents working with mine workers," he told the *Independent*. "That has had an impact on me, and that's really what anchored this tie that I have in my head between education and democracy."

Baucom, 58, noted his childhood also showed him that no transition into democracy is ever complete, as democracy itself is never complete.

"South Africa is not a complete democracy any more than anywhere else in the world, but it is a radically changed place," he said.

"I think to many people, not everyone fortunately, but to many people the end of Apartheid seemed unimaginable," Baucom continued. "South Africa is lucky that there were people who never believed that, who

always believed that the end would come ... and it ended, and it ended because of people who struggled — civic leaders, union leaders, religious leaders, educational leaders, political leaders."

Witnessing the end of Apartheid has given Baucom a "profound sense of historical optimism," even amidst the challenges faced today by higher education and many other sectors of American life.

"History can change," he said.

Baucom shared those and other takeaways from his childhood with community members at Middlebury College's Wilson Hall this past spring. In that initial institution-wide address, Baucom

previewed some of the work he's now begun in his new role as college president (see story on Page 1A).

Baucom, who earned a Ph.D. in English and Master's degree in African Studies at Yale, also highlighted how he and his family would seek to join their lives with members of the college community, a transition they began making earlier this summer. It's an effort Baucom's family has made at universities he's previously worked at, living in a house on the University of Virginia's central lawn and staying in a first-year dormitory for three years at Duke University.

Baucom's wife, Wendy, is a writer. They have five adult children and a teenage son, who made the move to Vermont with them. In his March address Baucom said he and his family would come to be a part of the college community on days both sweet and challenging, filled with spring air or snow.

"On all those days, Wendy and I and our family are coming to join this family and join our lives with you, which takes me back to gratitude," he said. "Thank you for welcoming us. Thank you for adopting us. Thank you for allowing us to share this place. Thank you for the gift of this new home."



IAN BAUCOM

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Middle Rd.

(Continued from Page 1A) reported news of the “Middle Road Housing” project pitched by Phil Rosenzweig, under the corporate name of Middlebury Investors LLC. A real estate attorney by trade, Rosenzweig has also launched several housing projects of his own — including the Valley Forge Terrace luxury apartments in Pennsylvania.

The Middlebury DRB in April got its first look at conceptual plans for the project, calling for 32 apartments, including one one-bedroom unit; five two-bedroom units; and 26 four-bedroom units. Ten of those four-bedroom units would be contained on a single story; the remaining 16 would be so-called “up-down” units spanning the third and fourth floors of the apartment building, which would be 46 feet, 10 inches tall from ground to parapet, according to plans prepared by Vermont Integrated Architecture.

Rosenzweig had originally committed to making 20% of Middle Road Housing’s units “affordable,” based on the availability of an Act 250 waiver for projects built in a designated Neighborhood Development Area. The 0.71-acre parcel on

which the project would be built is at 55 Middle Road — within Middlebury’s Neighborhood Development Area.

But Rosenzweig told the *Independent* earlier this week that he’s decided to scuttle the affordable housing component — without forfeiting an Act 250 waiver.

Christine Murphy lives on Meadow Glen Drive off Middle Road. While the new apartment building wouldn’t be in her sightline, she said she’s concerned about the impact the development might have on Middle Road that’s already brimming with buses and other vehicles when MUMS is in session.

“There’s a logjam of cars, both in the morning and the afternoon,” Murphy said. “That’s not going to get any better (with a 32-unit apartment building).”

Murphy said she’d like to see a traffic study performed to accurately gauge the impacts that

Middle Road Housing could have on Route 7 and Middle Road.

“I would not object to (the project) being smaller,” she added.

Sandy Bemis, another nearby neighbor, said the proposed scale of the building bothers her the most. She and other NRD members said Rosenzweig’s effort to secure a waiver to locate the building 64 feet from the center of Route 7 — instead of the 125-foot setback prescribed by zoning — would make the building’s 46-foot height and scale even more pronounced.

“It’s too big, boxy and would look huge on that corner,” she said. “This would tower over that corner.”

Bemis also noted plans for a Stewart’s Shop to replace the nearby Jolley (Mobil) convenience store/gas station at 220 Court St. She believes that shop would bring added traffic to the area, adding confusion for motorists entering — or traveling between — parking areas serving The Centre shopping complex, the One Dollar Market, Middle Road, and other popular destinations.

Murphy and Bemis said they don’t believe Middle Road Housing will be able to provide enough parking for its tenants, visitors and those who would dine at the proposed restaurant (which has yet to be named).

While Rosenzweig and his team have met the town’s mandate of 45 spaces for a 32-unit apartment complex at that location, Murphy, Bemis and other NRD members noted that Rosenzweig has deemed the apartments well-suited for multi-generational family households, groups of cohabitating young professionals, and perhaps multiple Middlebury College students who have

permission to live off-campus.

As such, opponents said they don’t believe each unit can be confined to one or even two vehicles, even with public transportation.

“Two-thirds of the proposed units will include two story, four-bedroom floorplans,” reads a list of concerns co-authored by NRD members Murphy and Joey De Angelo, who also resides near the proposed project.

“Parking lot space allocation of one space per unit is inadequate.”

The *Independent* reached out to Rosenzweig for his reaction to neighbors’ concerns. He noted he and his team met with neighbors in late May at the Residence at Otter Creek. He said he’s made some project revisions based on that feedback, including:

- Moving the building “somewhat further back” from Route 7, adding and “now the setback from Route 7 is fully compliant with the PUD approval already in place for this property regarding that setback from 2019.”

- Adding more two- and three-bedroom units on the second floor (meaning fewer four-bedroom units).

- Adding a “slight bend in the building along Middle Road to give it more architectural shape and dimension. We have also added architectural detail to the Dollar Store side of the building for view from the other side of Route 7, heading toward the Middlebury Inn.”

- Adding an interior bike-storage area.

- Adding sidewalks, where functional.

- Adding “some additional parking spots.”

Rosenzweig said he’d be able to share specifics of these changes during the DRB’s as-yet unscheduled next review of his project.

John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.

“Two-thirds of the proposed units will include two story, four-bedroom floorplans ... Parking lot space allocation of one space per unit is inadequate.”

— Murphy and Joey De Angelo



2017 MUHS ALUM MEIGAN Clark is back in town this summer taking part in the inaugural class of a new Master of Arts in Teaching program offered through the Middlebury Language Schools. The program offers participants a secondary teaching license in modern languages valid for teaching 7-12 grades in public school systems around the country.

Photo courtesy of Meigan Clark

Language teachers

(Continued from Page 1A)

the inaugural class of a new Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) with Licensure program being offered through the Middlebury Language Schools. The program offers participants a secondary teaching license in modern languages that’s valid for teaching grades 7-12 in U.S. public school systems.

“For me, because I don’t yet have my teaching certification, I’m only eligible to teach in charter or private schools,” Clark said. “That’s the first set of opportunities the program will open up for me, is being able to teach in any high school.”

“Beyond that, getting to have the immersion experience, getting to take high-level language, literature, linguistic courses in French with other students who are so passionate about the content is an amazing and very enriching experience,” she continued.

The program is offered in nine languages, including Chinese, Italian and Hebrew. At the end of the 18-month program, students obtain a master’s degree leading to licensure.

There are a few different components to the offering, the first is a six-week summer semester that kicked off in June.

“We have three classes a day; it’s about three hours of class ... Most of the students in the MAT program, we have our classes together,” Clark said. “The classes are very small, so you really get to know the professors.”

Outside of their courses, students take part in various activities on campus, such as clubs, films and guest speaker events. Clark is involved in the theater workshop within her language school, which was set to put on a play this week. She noted there are also French baking and cooking activities, a choir and several other types of events for students.

Participants live on campus and have meals with other students in their language school.

“It’s a good mix of a lot of work for our courses, a lot of studying, and also a lot of socializing in the language, which is a very cool experience,” Clark said of the program.

After this summer, students will complete four online, asynchronous courses throughout the academic year. They’ll return to Middlebury College next summer for another six-week semester and finish off the program with 13 weeks of student teaching and a final 15-week course.

“(The program) is designed for working professionals, probably people who already have some role in education, are on this rhythm where you can get your summer off,” said Thor Sawin, associate dean of Language Schools for curriculum.

NEED FOR LANGUAGE TEACHERS

Sawin, who developed the new MAT program, noted the offering is one people have been asking for. He also pointed to a need for foreign language teachers, particularly after the pandemic.

“The statistics show that it’s the hardest position to fill, some years it’s after special education teachers, some years it’s even harder than special education teachers,” he said. “I think a lot of the time it’s because foreign language teachers are the only one in their language in their school. Whereas the math teachers and the English teachers

kind of have a department, you’re often on your own as a language teacher.”

Sawin noted that not having a qualified teacher is the primary reason why a school would end a language program.

“Often it’s the case the school actually still wants to continue the language, but they can’t find a qualified teacher who’s willing to do that, especially in smaller areas,” he said.

The need for foreign language teachers is being felt around the country, including at Vermont schools. Sawin noted schools in the Addison County area have been fortunate.

“(Locally) we have those teachers, but when they retire eventually or if for some reason they need to leave the field, will they be able to find someone to replace (the teacher)?” he said. “What ends up happening in a state like Vermont is you were lucky that you had a person who was a Vermonter who had the right qualifications who was willing to be around.”

Sawin is hoping the program will help address some of that need.

“There’s no way we can change the entire ecosystem, but if we could help save languages at a few schools, that’s some kind of role we could play,” Sawin said.

SOMETHING UNIQUE

The new MAT program is one of just a few such offerings around the country. Sawin pointed to a handful of similar programs, noting that unique aspects of the Middlebury program include classes taught in language and a focus on teaching foreign languages to middle and high schoolers.

“It’s really unique to be in a program where you’re only with other people with your specific needs,” Sawin said.

For Clark, the people she’s met through the program are part of what she’s enjoyed most about it.

“I’ve already made so many amazing friends here ... even if you’re a master’s student and you have a very high level of proficiency with the language, communicating only in a language that is not your first language is very taxing,” she said. “There’s a lot of camaraderie in being in that situation together.”

Sawin and Lesley Huston, assistant director for the MAT program, have already seen a lot of interest in the offering. Students have come from around the country to attend, and in some cases, students enrolled in other master’s programs offered through the Language Schools have switched over to the MAT offering.

“I’m really impressed that we have a diverse cohort in many ways,” Sawin said. “Not just in the way they look, but their stories and where they’re at in their professional lives is very diverse, the kinds of school experiences they have and where they want to go ... There’s a lot for them to learn from each other in that regard.”

Sawin and Huston have been encouraged by the program’s inaugural cohort and the interest shown in the new offering thus far.

“I think it’s really exciting to see so much interest in language teaching still,” Huston said. “With the world as it is right now, you’d think people would not be choosing to be language teachers, but they are and they’re young people, and it’s exciting.”

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A HEAT OF boys dive into the Middlebury town pool for the U10 25 breaststroke at the Champlain Valley Swim League title meet on Saturday. Vergennes swimmer Bennett Blacklock, pictured in lane five, landed in the top-ten after a massive time drop of over two seconds.

Photo by Oliver Parini

ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT

B Section

THURSDAY, JULY 31, 2025

SPORTS

ALSO IN THIS SECTION:

- School News
- Classifieds
- Legal Notices
- Police Logs

Swimmers fare well at league meet

Champs take third, and Marlins fifth in CVSL contest

By BEE ECKELS

MIDDLEBURY — The Vergennes Champs swim team finished third and Middlebury Marlins swimmers took fifth in the Champlain Valley Swim League Championship Meet, hosted at the Middlebury town pool this past Friday and Saturday.

The Burlington Tennis Club Barracudas won the title among the seven CVSL teams; Vergennes tallied 636.5 points and Middlebury garnered 469.5.

Across three sessions of competition, individual swimmers and relays from both local teams secured numerous top-three finishes.

Leading the way with three individual wins in the 18-and-under boys' 100 individual medley, 50 breaststroke and 50 freestyle was VST swimmer Will Clark, who scored 48 points for the Champs.

An impressive number of Marlins earned two individual wins: Enea Ancarani, Felix Poduschnick, Ben Phinney, Selma Citarella and Jorgen Pirrung. VST and Midd swimmers who scored one individual win a

piece were Riker Cooley, V; Zoey Kress, V; Maxine King, M; Jordan Hutchins, V; Constantin Bellmann, M; and Henry Cadoret, M.

Winning relays for VST were U10 girls 100 medley relay comprised of Margaret Smits, Savannah Wallace, Zoey Kress and Mabelle Fidalgo; VST's U18 boys 200 medley relay comprised of Noah Smits, Will Clark, Khanlen Ouimette and Cohen Howell; MIDD's U10 boys 100 free relay comprised of Enea Ancarani, Lincoln Hunt, Cooper Butler and Patrick Martin; VST's U18 girls 200 free relay comprised of Ella Bearor, Ellie Brooks, Ella Romond and Adrienne Smits; and VST's U18 boys 200 free relay comprised of Cohen Howell, Rowan Neffinger, Noah Smits and Khanlen Ouimette.

Next up will be the Vermont State Championship Meet this Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 2 and 3, at the Upper Valley Aquatic Center in White River Jct.

At the league championships this past weekend, Champs and Marlins swimming to top-ten finishes and scoring points for their team in

those races were:

FRIDAY P.M.

U18 boys 100 butterfly: 2. Noah Smits, V; 3. Constantin Bellmann, M.

U10 girls 100 individual medley: 2. Savannah Wallace, V; 5. Vela Remaniak, M; 8. Rose Phinney, M.

U10 boys 100 IM: 1. Riker Cooley, V, 1:26.37; 3. Cooper Butler, M; 6. Rhett Cooke, V; 7. Patrick Martin, M.

U12 girls 100 IM: 3. Cassandra Bellmann, M; 4. Vivian Romond, V.

U12 boys 100 IM: 1. Ben Phinney, M, 1:19.18; 6. Enli Parrillo, V; 7. Brantley Cooke, V; 8. Nolan Almstrand, M.

U14 girls 100 IM: 2. Jordan Hutchins, V; 4. Lauren Husk, V; 5. Annika Smits, V; 8. Cecilia Neffinger, V.

U14 boys 100 IM: 1. Co. Bellmann, M, 1:13.25; 2. Connor Husk, V.

U18 girls 100 IM: 2. Sadie Chance, M; 3. Adrienne Smits, V; 8. Ellie Eckels, V.

U18 boys 100 IM: 1. Will Clark, V, 57.17; 3. Khanlen Ouimette, V.

(See CVSL, Page 3B)



MIDDLEBURY'S CECILY O'LEARY prepares to take off for the final leg of the U12 girls 200 medley relay. The Marlins relay of Maxine King, Bianca Spafford, Cassandra Bellmann and Cecily O'Leary took third.

Photo by Josh Romond



IT'S NOT UNCOMMON to see cars catch fire during the demolition derby at Addison County Fair and Field Days. Here, the vehicle of "Cheeseburger Eddie" starts to smoke after a collision during one of several derby heats on Tuesday night.

Independent photo/Steve James

Demo Derby kicks off with family and flames

By MARIN HOWELL

NEW HAVEN — Some sounds are quintessential to Addison County Fair and Field Days — cows mooing, children laughing and, of course, cars crashing into each other again and again and

again.

Such was the soundtrack at the New Haven fairground on Tuesday night, where the popular G. Stone Motors Demolition Derby kicked off for the first of three nights.

On the surface, it may seem repetitive to watch vehicles ram into one another for two hours. But each heat brings its own share of excitement and disappointments — the cars that roar back to life after a hard hit, family members

competing together on the tractor pad, air horns sounding as Vergennes firefighters rush to assess a vehicle that has caught flames.

Crowds on Tuesday saw drivers (See Derby, Page 4B)

Legion baseball falls to St. J

Tough 3-2 loss ends post-season run

By MARIA BARR

NORWICH — The Addison County American Legion baseball team's postseason run came to a tough end on Saturday. The local nine fell just short of a spot in the state championship game with a 3-2 loss to St. Johnsbury Post 58 in the semifinal game played in Norwich.

Three Addison players — Carter Paquette, Eyon Tembruell and Tyler Kimball — were recognized for their strong play by being named to the All-Tournament Team.

Addison County grabbed an

early 1-0 lead on Saturday thanks to a balk by the Post 58 pitcher. St. Johnsbury took the lead in the fifth inning, tying the game on a disputed walk and going ahead on a double.

In the top of the seventh and final inning, Addison loaded the bases. Tembruell tied the game with a full-swing bunt that brought in a run. But with a chance to take the lead, Ryan Brouillard popped up to end the inning.

In the bottom of the seventh, St. Johnsbury quickly put runners on (See Legion, Page 2B)

AC Little Leaguers face tough competition in tourney

BEVERLY, Mass. — The Addison County All Stars baseball team made history this week by playing in the Eastern Regional Tournament, which pitted the local 9-to-11-year-olds (the Vermont state champs) against all stars from several East Coast states.

AC players held their own against a strong New Jersey team (Jackson Holbrook) in their first game on Monday in Beverly, Mass. The game at Harry Ball Field saw AC hang in there, down by only one run, 2-3, in the third inning.

Then the squad from Jersey turned it on and pulled away for a 12-2 victory.

The Addison County squad's second game in the tournament saw the local nine face off against a tough team from Maryland (Montgomery County). Despite some great pitching and hits from the AC team, Maryland came out on top, 13-0.

AC's third game in the tourney will be played Thursday afternoon. To offset the travel, lodging and meals costs for the weeklong (See All Stars, Page 2B)

You don't need to age to enjoy the outdoors

Getting older isn't all bad. For one thing, getting older means I'm still alive. It has a few other benefits, too. A few weeks ago, my wife and I stopped at a U.S. Forest Service Androscoggin Ranger Station on our way through Gorham, N.H., and purchased an America the Beautiful pass. This is a lifetime pass for seniors only (over age 62) good for entry to national parks and federal recreation lands (Forest Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, etc.) as well as 50% discounts on many amenities. It cost only \$80, and covers us both plus two guests (as long as we are visiting the same park in the same car.) And for only two dollars, seniors can get a lifetime pass to Vermont State Parks. The price of both of our passes together isn't even enough to buy a greeting card with a photo of a state park.

When I was young (and my definition of "young" now includes anything less than a half century) I assumed that outdoors and comfort were mutually exclusive. Lifting 80 pounds of canoe onto the roof of our car seemed like a completely natural and necessary part of our canoe outings, just like feeling every single rock beneath my body was part of a tenting experience. And tents themselves had to be part of the overall experience of the outdoors. When I was *really* young (by which I mean upstream of 40) I would even take pride in how much discomfort I could endure in order to enjoy the outdoors. Although, admittedly, I was only 20 when I

decided I was old enough not to suffer through my father's canvas war-surplus tent any more on our wilderness fishing trips. Now that we are seniors (downstream of 60), we are much more accepting — I might even say *indulgent* — of simple comforts, without any feelings of guilt. We still like tenting. My wife especially enjoys the simplicity of sleeping in a tent and going to sleep when it gets dark. No artificial lights, except the requisite flashlight to get to the campground restroom. Except now, if we feel like getting a cabin instead of a tent site, we don't feel guilty or embarrassed doing so. There is something to be said for being able to stand up and stretch in the morning without first having

to crawl out through the tent door, find our shoes beneath the vestibule, and dig out our raincoats. In our mid-50s, we splurged for a Wenonah lightweight Kevlar canoe weighing under 40 pounds. Out of habit, we still grunt when we lift it onto the car, but the reality is we can lift it with one hand each without even straining. So now when we go canoeing, we don't risk injuring our backs and shoulders before we even get the canoe into the water. (We just tire our shoulders out much more quickly *after* we get on the water.) A couple years ago we replaced our old camping pads with a new high-tech one: a queen-sized extra-thick Klymit pad that is both far more comfortable and far lighter and less bulky than our former pads. It fills up the entire tent. And I can't feel any rocks or roots beneath, which barely even feels fair. We even use it when we are sleeping in a cabin. Last year's purchase with our credit card points was a screen house to put over a picnic table at a campground. Camping with it for the first time at a state park in the Adirondacks, after a one-hour paddle around the lake, we spent the rest of the evening reading under the tent *without any mosquitos divebombing us!*



MATTHEW DICKERSON
Outdoor columnist



ON A RECENT visit to a lake the columnist enjoyed the simple pleasure of watching loon parents feed their loonlets.

Photo by Matthew Dickerson

Myhre hosts Dud Phinney Tourney

By MARIA BARR

MIDDLEBURY — Ralph Myhre Golf Course hosted its largest event, the annual Dud Phinney Member-Guest tournament, over three days last weekend. The event followed its traditional format, with Friday featuring an 18-hole qualifying round, followed by three 9-hole match play rounds and a horse race on Saturday, and two additional 9-hole match play rounds on Sunday. The results in each flight:

FLIGHT 1: 1. Raymond Fitzgerald and Cam Fitzgerald; 2. Dale White and Brian Connolly; 3. Kyle Goodman and Hogan Beazley.

FLIGHT 2: 1. Kirk Goodman and Brett Everest; 2. Luther Tenny

and Kobe Pinkham; 3. Steve Maier and Pete Maier.

FLIGHT 3: 1. Kris Kelton and Ross Lengyel; 2. Robert Cameron and Gabe Cameron; 3. Daniel Zinn and Tanner Starz.

FLIGHT 4: 1. Michael Bordeleau and Pierre Bordeleau; 2. Mark Gagne and Chris Gagne; 3. Dan Myhre and Kevin Perry.

FLIGHT 5: 1. Bryon Emilo and Jesse Emilo; 2. Robert Peters and Albie Cousineau; 3. Steve Goodman and George Goodman.

FLIGHT 6: 1. Andrew Myhre and Colin Babcock; 2. Raymond Gale and Rick James; 3. Kevin Newton and Dylan Newton.

Legion

(Continued from Page 1B)

base. A pair of walks and a couple of close calls by the umpire loaded the bases, and their cleanup hitter walked on a full count to end the game in walk-off fashion. Despite the defeat, Addison had a strong showing at the five-day tournament, going 2-2 in pool play and finishing as one of the top two teams in its bracket.

TOURNEY HIGHLIGHTS

Wednesday, July 23 — Addison started strong with a 3-0 shutout win over Brattleboro.

Thursday, July 24 — In a high-scoring battle, AC lost to top-seeded Essex Post 91, 11-7. Tembruell had a big day at

the plate with a double, triple, three RBIs and two runs scored. Paquette reached base three times, scored three runs, and stole two bases. Brouillard added an RBI single and two walks. On the mound, Tucker Wright struck out seven over five innings. Friday, July 25 — Addison bounced back with a 7-4 win over Bellows Falls. Tembruell pitched all seven innings, allowing just three earned runs while striking out three. Offensively, Paquette drove in two runs and stole two bases. Aricin Griffin tripled and added a sacrifice fly. Connor Crary reached base three times and scored once.

Locals claim wins at the races

Clark, Provencher and Shepard pull off top-place finishes in non-marquee rounds at Devil's Bowl

WEST HAVEN — In the marquee race at Devil's Bowl Speedway on Saturday, local drivers didn't break the top three, but Addison County racers won three other races.

In the 38-lap Sunoco Sportsman Modified Feature, Brandon's Joey Scarborough managed to clinch fourth place on the West Haven dirt track. Salisbury's Jim Ryan placed sixth in the main event, and Orwell's Tim LaDuc, who won last week's race, came in 10th.

In other races, Michael Clark Jr. of Salisbury, Gage Provencher of Bridport and Kaleb Shepard of Vergennes all claimed victories in a night that ended in an intense doorhandle to doorhandle battle. Clark outclassed the competition and claimed victory in the 25-lap O'Reilly Auto Parts Limited Sportsman feature. The Salisbury driver advanced from sixth to second in the first five laps. Clark held a tight grip on first in the final 15 laps of the race, fending off challenges from second place driver Jason Quenneville of Queechee. Gary English of Salisbury placed fourth.

In the Hoosier Tire Novice Sportsman Feature, New York state's Jaden Pierce placed first. Brandon's Winston Forbes

placed fourth. Defending track champion Gage Provencher of Bridport took his fifth win in his last six events by claiming the checkered flag in the Friend Construction 500cc Mini Sprints. Despite a tough race, Provencher secured first. Quinn Quenneville of Brandon followed in second place, with Leicester's Levi Cram coming in third. Meanwhile, Shepard claimed his first win of the 2025 campaign in the Fisher Auto Parts Mini Stocks feature. Despite fierce competition in the closing laps, Shepard was able to hold onto first. Cornwall's Brian Blake placed third. Fans were treated to quite the spectacle in the night's second Mini Stock Feature. Tyler Bell and Jeremy Brownell, both of New York state, traded paint in an intense door-to-door duel. A late spin ended Bell's chance at victory and Brownell finished first. Brandon's Mark Mahoney came in third, while Bob Wood and Quinton Bishop of Whiting finished fourth and fifth, respectively. Devil's Bowl Speedway is off for summer break on Aug. 2 but will be back in action on Sunday, Aug. 10.

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Cliffs Clear to Hike and Climb Again

MONTPELIER — Hikers and rock climbers can return to Vermont cliffs now that peregrine falcon nesting season has ended. The Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department



and Audubon Vermont have confirmed that the majority of young falcons have learned to fly and should not be disturbed by human presence on the cliffs. According to Audubon biologist Margaret Fowle, who coordinates the monitoring effort on behalf of the Fish and Wildlife Department, biologists and volunteers monitored peregrine pairs that occupied at least 40 Vermont cliffs in early spring and summer. Fowle noted that peregrine nesting success would not be possible without the more than

45 volunteers who monitor the nest sites statewide from March to the end of July. Vermont Fish and Wildlife and Audubon Vermont partner to monitor and protect peregrine nesting sites in Vermont. Peregrine falcons were removed from the state's Threatened and Endangered Species List in 2005. Ongoing cooperation from recreationists and continued monitoring efforts by Vermont Fish and Wildlife and Audubon Vermont will help sustain the peregrine's remarkable recovery into the future.

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All Stars

(Continued from Page 1B) tournament, the AC team started a Go Fund Me campaign. Members of the team and their families were very grateful for all the support they received to make this life enriching experience possible.

ADDISON COUNTY School Briefs

The following local residents were named to Clark University's Spring 2025 dean's list: **Joanna Toy**, Starksboro, second honors; **Helen Engvall**, Bristol, second honors; and **Eli Burgess**, Lincoln, second honors. Students must have a GPA of 3.8 or above for first honors or a GPA between 3.50 and 3.79 for second honors.

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CVSL

(Continued from Page 1B)

U12 girls 200 freestyle: 4. Willow Hunt, M.
 U12 boys 200 free: 3. N. Almstrand, M.
 U14 girls 200 free: 3. Eleanor O'Leary, M.
 U14 boys 200 free: 1. Henry Cadoret, M, 2:20.51; 2. Co. Bellmann, M; 5. Weston Wright, M.
 U18 girls 200 free: 3. Quinn Mackey, M.
 U18 boys 200 free: 1. Jorgen Pirrung, M, 2:13.48.
 U18 girls 100 breaststroke: 1. Selma Citarella, M, 1:13.53; 3. E. Eckels, V; 7. Gretchen Hill, V.
 U18 boys 100 breast: 2. Co. Bellmann, M; 5. George Martin, M; 8. Henry Schmitt, M.
 U18 girls 100 backstroke: 3. Abigail Hamilton, M; 7. Ellie Brooks, V; 9. Ella Romond, V; 10. Maxine King, M.
 U18 girls 200 IM: 2. Ella Bearor, V.
 U18 boys 200 IM: 1. J. Pirrung, M, 2:35.75.
 U12 girls 100 free: 1. M. King, M, 1:10.55.
 U12 boys 100 free: 1. Felix Poduschnick, M, 1:05.29; 4. Keegan Cooley, V.
 U14 boys 100 free: 2. H. Cadoret, M; 5. H. Schmitt, M.
 U18 girls 100 free: 5. Q. Mackey, M.
 U18 boys 100 free: 1. W. Clark, V, 50.22.
SATURDAY A.M.
 U8 girls 100 medley relay: 5. VST (Lydia Court, Grace Gaudette, Juliet Kennedy, Allie Curtis).
 U10 girls 100 medley relay: 1. VST, 1:17.20 (Margaret Smits,

S. Wallace, Zoey Kress, Mabelle Fidalgo); 3. Midd. (Natalie Butler, Romy Graves, V. Remaniak, R. Phinney); 9. VST (Anya Wolfe, Mikayla Crossman, Meela Hill, Rowan Knox); 10. Midd. (Alexis Shackett, Harper Nelson, Louise Wiker, Tess Moscalu).
 U10 boys 100 medley relay: 2. Midd. (Lincoln Hunt, Cooper Butler, Enea Ancarani, P. Martin); 3. VST (Jaxon Phelps, Evan Angier, R. Cooley, R. Cooke); 9. Midd. (Kjell Pirrung, Keegan Landon, Paxton Wright, Aiden Bolt).
 U8 girls 50 free: 8. G. Gaudette, V.
 U8 boys 50 free: 5. Henry Lake, V; 6. Hugh Spafford, M.
 U10 girls 50 free: 1. Z. Kress, V, 32.62; 2. S. Wallace, V.
 U10 boys 50 free: 1. E. Ancarani, M, 32.19; 3. R. Cooley, V.
 U8 girls 25 fly: 5. J. Kennedy, V; 10. Olivia Wimett, M.
 U10 girls 25 fly: 2. Z. Kress, V; 4. V. Remaniak, M; 7. M. Fidalgo, V.
 U10 boys 25 fly: 2. E. Ancarani, M; 5. L. Hunt, M; 6. J. Phelps, V; 9. R. Cooke, V; 10. P. Martin, M.
 U8 boys 25 back: 2. Declan Husk, V; 4. Raleigh Woods, V; 7. H. Lake, V.
 U10 girls 25 back: 7. M. Fidalgo, V; 8. N. Butler, M.
 U10 boys 25 back: 2. C. Butler, M; 5. K. Landon, M; 7. J. Phelps, V; 9. L. Hunt, M.
 U8 girls 25 breast: 5. J. Kennedy, V.
 U10 girls 25 breast: 2. S. Wallace, V; 3. Z. Kress, V; 7. R. Phinney, M; 9. N. Butler, M; 10. R. Graves, M.
 U10 boys 25 breast: 4. C. Butler, M; 6. K. Landon, M; 7. Bennet

Blacklock, V.
 U8 girls 25 free: 5. A. Curtis, V; 8. J. Kennedy, V.
 U8 boys 25 free: 5. R. Woods, V; 6. D. Husk, V.
 U10 girls 25 free: 2. V. Remaniak, M; 9. M. Fidalgo, V.
 U10 boys 25 free: 1. E. Ancarani, M, 14.40; 3. R. Cooley, V; 4. L. Hunt, M; 7. R. Cooke, V; 10. J. Phelps, V.
 U8 girls 100 free relay: 4. VST (A. Wolfe, Skylar Buckley, L. Court, A. Curtis); 5. Midd. (O. Wimett, Caroline Dietrich, Alula Remaniak, Ellie Butler).
 U10 girls 100 free relay: 2. VST (S. Wallace, M. Smits, M. Fidalgo, Z. Kress); 5. Midd. (V. Remaniak, H. Nelson, R. Phinney, N. Butler); 10. Midd. (R. Graves, T. Moscalu, L. Wiker, Georgia Nelson).
 U10 boys 100 free relay: 1. MIDD, 1:07.38 (E. Ancarani, L. Hunt, C. Butler, P. Martin); 4. VST (R. Cooke, E. Angier, B. Blacklock, R. Cooley); 7. VST (D. Husk, H. Lake, Elijah Neffinger, R. Woods); 9. Midd. (K. Landon, H. Spafford, P. Wright, K. Pirrung).
SATURDAY P.M.
 U12 girls 200 medley relay: 3. Midd. (M. King, Bianca Spafford, Ca. Bellmann, Cecily O'Leary); 4. VST (Juliette Angier, Scarlett Giroux, V. Romond, Lydia Bearor).
 U12 boys 200 medley relay: 3. Midd. (B. Phinney, F. Poduschnick, Harvey Bishop, N. Almstrand); 4. VST (E. Parrillo, Camron Curtis, B. Cooke, K. Cooley).
 U14 boys 200 medley relay: 3. Midd. (G. Martin, H. Schmitt, H. Cadoret, W. Wright).
 U18 girls 200 medley relay: 2. Midd. (A. Hamilton, S. Citarella, S. Chance, Mitzi Poduschnick).
 U18 boys 200 medley relay: 1. VST, 1:50.35 (N. Smits, W. Clark, K. Ouimette, Cohen Howell).
 U12 girls 50 fly: 5. V. Romond, V; 8. Ca. Bellmann, M.
 U12 boys 50 fly: 1. F. Poduschnick, M, 32.23; 4. B. Cooke, V; 7. H. Bishop, M.
 U14 girls 50 fly: 2. J. Hutchins, V; 5. M. Poduschnick, M; 8. An. Smits, V.
 U14 boys 50 fly: 3. C. Husk, V.
 U18 girls 50 fly: 2. S. Chance, M; 5. Ad. Smits, V; 6. E. Bearor, V.
 U18 boys 50 fly: 2. N. Smits, V; 3. K. Ouimette, V; 4. J. Pirrung, M.
 U12 girls 50 back: 3. M. King, M; 6. V. Romond, V; 8. B. Spafford, M.
 U12 boys 50 back: 1. B. Phinney, M, 36.27; 3. E. Parrillo, V; 4. C. Curtis, V; 5. B. Cooke, V; 8. H. Bishop, M.
 U14 girls 50 back: 2. L. Husk, V; 7. M. Poduschnick, M.
 U14 boys 50 back: 4. C. Husk, V; 8. Skyler James, V; 9. W. Wright, M.
 U18 girls 50 back: 5. E. Romond,



VERGENNES SWIMMER ZOey Kress competes in the U10 girls 25 butterfly on Saturday morning of the CVSL Championship Meet. Kress took second overall with a time of 15.53.

Photo by Tammy Cook



HARPER BLACKLOCK, ONE of VST's youngest swimmers, stands behind the blocks before her race on Saturday. Her coaches, Cherise Woods and Adrienne Smits, offer the five-year-old encouragement and pre-race advice.

Photo by Tammy Cooke



MIDDLEBURY'S CASSANDRA BELLMANN swims in the U12 girls 50 breaststroke on Saturday during the Champlain Valley Swim League Championship Meet. She touched the wall in third place, dropping an impressive 1.4 seconds from her seed time.

Photo by Josh Romond

U12 girls 50 breast: 5. J. Kennedy, V; 3. Z. Kress, V; 7. R. Phinney, M; 9. N. Butler, M; 10. R. Graves, M.
 U10 boys 25 breast: 4. C. Butler, M; 6. K. Landon, M; 7. Bennet Blacklock, V.
 U12 girls 50 breast: 3. Ca. Bellmann, M; 5. S. Giroux, V; 6. B. Spafford, M; 10. Anna Zelonis, V.
 U12 boys 50 breast: 2. B. Phinney, M; 8. Martin Gee, V.
 U14 girls 50 breast: 1. J. Hutchins, V, 38.00; 4. C. Neffinger, V; 8. G. Hill, V; 10. Rose Roberts, V.
 U14 boys 50 breast: 4. G. Martin, M; 7. S. James, V; 8. H. Schmitt, M.
 U18 girls 50 breast: 1. S. Citarella, M, 32.77; 6. E. Eckels, V.
 U18 boys 50 breast: 1. W. Clark, V, 29.10; 6. C. Howell, V; 7. Rowan Neffinger, V.
 U12 girls 50 free: 6. V. Romond, V; 9. J. Angier, V.
 U12 boys 50 free: 2. F. Poduschnick, M; 4. E. Parrillo, V; 6. N. Almstrand, M; 7. C. Curtis, V.
 U14 girls 50 free: 6. L. Husk, V; 9. An. Smits, V; 10. M. Poduschnick, M.
 U14 boys 50 free: 2. H. Cadoret, M; 4. C. Husk, V.
 U18 girls 50 free: 2. Ad. Smits, V; 3. S. Chance, M; 4. E. Bearor, V; 7. S. Citarella, M; 8. A. Hamilton, M; 10. E. Brooks, V.
 U18 boys 50 free: 1. W. Clark, V, 22.51; 2. K. Ouimette, V; 3. C. Howell, V; 5. J. Pirrung, M; 5. N. Smits, V; 9. R. Neffinger, V.
 U12 girls 200 free relay: 4. Midd. (M. King, C. O'Leary, B. Spafford, Ca. Bellmann); 5. VST (J. Angier, L. Bearor, A. Zelonis, S. Giroux).
 U12 boys 200 free relay: 2. Midd. (H. Bishop, B. Phinney, N. Almstrand, F. Poduschnick); 4. VST (B. Cooke, K. Cooley, E. Parrillo, C. Curtis).
 U14 girls 200 free relay: 2. VST (An. Smits, C. Neffinger, L. Husk, J. Hutchins).
 U14 boys 200 free relay: 2. Midd. (G. Martin, H. Schmitt, W. Wright, H. Cadoret).
 U18 girls 200 free relay: 1. VST, 1:51.17 (E. Bearor, E. Brooks, E. Romond, Ad. Smits); 3. Midd. (A. Hamilton, S. Citarella, Q. Mackey, S. Chance).
 U18 boys 200 free relay: 1. VST, 1:40.63 (C. Howell, R. Neffinger, N. Smits, K. Ouimette).

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A VEHICLE TOUTING support for local farms gets support of its own, from a small payloader, after becoming a casualty during demolition derby action Tuesday evening at Addison County Fair & Field Days in New Haven.

Independent photo/Steve James



A DRIVER SPRINGS out of his vehicle after it was put out of commission during Tuesday's G. Stone Motors Demolition Derby.

Independent photo/Steve James

Derby

(Continued from Page 1A) compete in three categories: Bone Stock Compacts, V8 and Mini Vans.

There were three heats for Bone Stock Compacts, each of which produced a few winners that advanced to a 10-car feature event to cap off the evening.

Tuesday's heat winners, including the drivers designated by announcer Kilie Martell as the "Mad Dog" winner of their heat, are listed below. To earn the "Mad

Dog" honor a driver must be the most aggressive behind the wheel in the first two minutes of a heat.

Names are printed as they appear in results.

- **Heat One:** Tim Whitney, Brady Lloyd, Zach Bottala.

- **Heat Two:** Lexi Whitney, Special Eddie Havens, Austin Bowdish.

- **Heat Three:** Issah Whitney, Tim Fredrick, Ross Lumbra.

- **Feature event:** 1. Havens; 2. Tim Whitney; 3. Bottala; and Mad

Dog Lexi Whitney.

- **V8 Heat:** 1. Tommy Woodbury; 2. Wade Steel; 3. Matt Merchant. Steel and Merchant both earned Mad Dog honors.

- **Mini Vans Heat:** 1. Greg Whitney; 2. Tanner English; 3. Kilie Martell. English also recieved the Mad Dog award.

Racing continued Wednesday evening after the deadline for this edition, and wraps up Thursday beginning at 7 p.m. at the Tractor Pad.



A DEMO DERBY official makes a ruling amidst a scrum of vehicles during Tuesday evening's action at Addison County Fair & Field Days.

Independent photo/Steve James



VEHICLE N64 IS rolling on rims after taking major damage from a collision during Tuesday demolition derby action on the tractor pad at Field Days.

Independent photo/Steve James



Meeting the challenge

CHAMP KHANLEN OUIMETTE, left, powers through his leg of the U18 boys medley relay at the CVSL meet this past Saturday. His team took first in the event. Right, Marlin Sadie Chance swims the breaststroke leg of the U18 girls 100 individual medley on Friday evening. Chance fought hard and came out with a second-place finish.

Photos by Josh Romond



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community calendar

Vermont's migratory game bird seasons set

MONTPELIER – The Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department has announced the 2025-2026 migratory game bird hunting season dates and bag limits. A printable copy of the Migratory Bird Syllabus can be downloaded from the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department's website under "Hunt" – "Waterfowl." A printed version also will be available from license agents and post offices in August.

A statewide Vermont open hunting season for resident Canada geese will occur September 1-25. The daily bag limit is five Canada geese in the Connecticut River Zone and eight in the rest of the state during this September season. The purpose of the September season is to help control Vermont's resident Canada goose population prior to the arrival of Canada geese migrating south from Canada.

A second Canada goose hunting season for resident and migrant geese will be held October 11-November 9 in the Lake Champlain and Interior Zones with a daily bag limit of one Canada goose. A late Canada goose season will be held Dec. 1-Jan. 19 in the Lake Champlain and Interior Vermont Zones and Dec. 27-Jan. 15 in the Vermont land of the Connecticut River Zone (does not include Connecticut River waters). The daily bag limit in all three zones will be five Canada geese.

Duck season this fall opens on October 11 in the Lake Champlain and Interior Vermont Zones and on October 13 in the Connecticut River Zone. The Lake Champlain Zone has a split season of Oct. 11-Nov. 2 and Nov. 22-Dec. 28. The Interior Vermont Zone has a straight season of Oct. 11 Dec. 9.

Scaup daily bag limits vary by season dates. The Lake Champlain (Oct. 11-Nov. 2 & Nov. 22-Dec. 8) and Interior (Oct. 11-Nov. 19) zones allow the harvest of one scaup daily. The remainder of the

season you are allowed two scaup daily. Within the Connecticut River Zone, you are allowed only one scaup daily for the entire season.

Vermont's youth waterfowl hunting weekend will be September 27 and 28. Resident and nonresident hunters 17 years of age or younger on those dates may hunt ducks and geese within the Lake Champlain and Interior Vermont Zones during this weekend while accompanied by an adult 18 or older.



Woodcock hunting season is September 27-November 10 statewide with a three-bird bag limit.

In addition to a hunting license, a waterfowl hunter 16 or older must carry a current federal duck stamp and Vermont Migratory Waterfowl tag to hunt waterfowl in Vermont. Federal stamps are sold at post offices, federal refuges, or online from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. State Migratory Waterfowl tags are available on Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department's website and from license agents. The hunter must sign the federal duck stamp.

All migratory game bird (woodcock, ducks and geese) hunters must also be registered with the Harvest Information Program (H.I.P.) in each state they hunt. You can register on Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department's website or call toll-free 1-877-306-7091. After providing some basic information, you will receive your annual H.I.P. registration number, which is then recorded on your hunting license.

The hunting season dates, bag limits and related regulations for all migratory birds are set annually within a framework established by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and in coordination with New York and New Hampshire.

Waterfowl season dates and bag limits are set in three zones: Lake Champlain, Interior Vermont, and Connecticut River.

July 31 THURSDAY

Addison County Fair and Field Days in New Haven. Thursday, July 31, Field Days Rd. The popular annual fair runs through Saturday, Aug. 2. Don't miss it! More info at addisoncountyfairfielddays.com.

Rainbow Storytime in Shoreham. Thursday, July 31, 10 a.m., Platt Memorial Library, 279 Main St. Ages 0-5 and their parents or caregivers.

Storytime in Starksboro. Thursday, July 31, 10:30 a.m., Starksboro Public Library, Route 116. Songs, stories and fun! All towns welcome.

Aug 1 FRIDAY

Addison County Fair and Field Days in New Haven. Friday, Aug. 1, Field Days Rd. The popular annual fair runs through Saturday, Aug. 2. Don't miss it! More info at addisoncountyfairfielddays.com.

Aug 2 SATURDAY

Addison County Fair and Field Days in New Haven. Saturday, Aug. 2, Field Days Rd. Final day of the popular annual fair. You're not too late! More info at addisoncountyfairfielddays.com.

Yard sale day in Brandon. Saturday, Aug. 2, 9 a.m., locations around town. Day-long event. Rain or Shine. Official yard sales make it on the master list which will be available the morning of Aug. 6 at the Brandon Museum and Visitor Center (4 Grove St., Route 7 next to the church at the intersection with Route 73 West).

Book sale in Middlebury. Saturday, Aug. 2, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Middlebury United Methodist Church, 43 N. Pleasant St. Held by The Friends of Ilsley Library. We have summer reading for the whole family at great prices and are located just a hop, skip and a jump from your Saturday errands in town. Proceeds fund Ilsley Library programs for all ages as well as staff development opportunities. Come check us out!

Free Tour Day at the John Strong Mansion/Museum in Addison. Saturday, Aug. 2, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., John Strong Mansion/Museum, 6656 Route 17. More info at DARJohnStrongMansion@gmail.com.

Find Waldo celebration in Middlebury. Saturday, Aug. 2, 11:30 a.m., Henry Sheldon Museum Tent, 1 Park St. Vermont Book Shop will host an end-of-search celebration under the tent in the Henry Sheldon Museum garden. A grand-prize drawing will be held, cupcakes and refreshing beverages will be served, and merriment will ensue. There might even be a real-life Waldo sighting.

"Education, Values, Creativity: Samplers of Post-revolutionary War Vermont" in Addison. Saturday, Aug. 2, 1 p.m., John Strong Mansion/Museum, 6656 Route 17. Ellen Thompson, the manager of the Vermont Sampler Initiative, will talk on the project to identify American schoolgirl samplers made before 1900. Thompson's talk will focus on how these important historical "documents" help to inform us about our past. Free and open to the public. Bring a chair, if possible.

Summer Reading prize giveaway in Shoreham. Saturday, Aug. 2, 1-2 p.m., Platt Memorial Library, 279 Main St.

Aug 3 SUNDAY

Breakfast Buffet in Middlebury. Sunday, Aug. 3, 8-10 a.m., VFW, 530 Exchange St. Menu includes pancakes, sausage gravy / biscuits, bacon, hash, sausage, hash browns, scrambled eggs, omelets, eggs to order, toast, coffee and orange juice. Cost \$13adults/\$7 children. Open to the public. Proceeds to benefit veterans programs.

Hike into History in Orwell. Sunday, Aug. 3, 1-4 p.m., Mount Independence State Historic Site, 472 Mt. Independence Rd. Walk in the footsteps of Revolutionary War soldiers. Mount Independence Coalition president and guide Stephen Zeoli will tell you about some events leading up to the Revolution, as you look at traces reflecting the importance of Mount Independence in 1776 and 1777. Wear walking shoes and dress for the weather.

Pie & Ice Cream Social in Ferrisburgh. Sunday, Aug. 3, 1-4 p.m., Rokeby Museum, 4334 Route 7. Do you love pie? Join us to celebrate summer and community with Rokeby's annual Pie & Ice Cream Social. Bring your family and friends and spend the afternoon eating pie and reconnecting with the community — a delicious way to support the Museum.

Vermont Adult Learning maker fair, book giveaway, and open house in Middlebury. Sunday, Aug. 3, 3 p.m., Vermont Adult Learning, 99 Maple St., Marble Works. Visit our Center during Foodaroo to explore items made by students, staff, and volunteers, pick up a book, or learn more about our services. The rain date is August 10, 2025.

Foodaroo in Middlebury. Sunday, Aug. 3, 4-8 p.m., River front park, the Marble Works. It's Foodaroo's 10th anniversary. Come experience Vermont's most talented culinary artisans and beverage makers, with an emphasis on Addison County and Chittenden County vendors and farms. From food trucks to brick-and-mortar operations, this event showcases creative, locally-sourced cuisine. Attendees taste their way through a huge diversity of vendors while musicians, street performers, dancers and more showcase the best of Vermont's thriving maker movement. Entrance fee \$5 (cash). Kids 12 and under FREE. Food and beverages available to purchase. A portion of proceeds to The Giving Fridge!

Aug 4 MONDAY

Bingo in Middlebury. Monday, Aug. 4, VFW, 530 Exchange St. Doors open at 4:30 p.m. Quickies begin at 6 p.m. and regular Bingo starts at 7 p.m. \$1,000 jackpot. Kitchen open 5-6:30 p.m. offering regular Bingo menu special and homemade desserts. Open to the public.

Vergennes City Band concert in Vergennes. Monday, Aug. 4, 7 p.m., City Green. A staple of Vergennes summer. Relax on the green and listen to live band music.



What's better than pie?

GET YOUR FIX of homemade pie a la mode at Rokeby Museum's annual Pie and Ice Cream Social on Sunday, Aug. 3 from 1-4 p.m. at the museum's campus in Ferrisburgh. It's a delicious way to support the museum.

Photo courtesy of Rokeby Museum

Aug 6 WEDNESDAY

Shoreham Historical Society meeting and Callender and Shoreham Village Cemeteries tour in Shoreham. Wednesday, Aug. 6, 6:30 p.m., Old Stone School House, Route 22A. Following the business meeting attendees will carpool to the cemeteries.

Bristol Town Band in Bristol. Wednesday, Aug. 6, 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.

Aug 7 THURSDAY

Birding with Kids and Vermont Audubon in Starksboro. Thursday, Aug. 7, 11 a.m., Starksboro Public Library, Route 116. An Audubon educator will visit the library for a morning of birds, crafts and science. This is a drop-in program for kids of all ages. Join us for a second date (can do just one or the other or both!) August 7 at 11am. All towns welcome.

Book donation day in Vergennes. Thursday, Aug. 7, 3-6 p.m., Bixby Memorial Library, 258 Main St. Clear your bookshelves. Donate your summer reads to the Bixby Library Book Sale. Donations accepted in the back parking lot. Fiction should be published after 2014 or written by a popular author, and non-fiction should be current and saleable.

Aug 9 SATURDAY

French and Indian War reenactment in Crown Point, N.Y. Saturday, Aug. 9, Crown Point State Historic Site, 21 Grandview Dr. Over 100 volunteer reenactors will portray the French, British, American and Native Peoples who were here during the French and Indian War. The day will be filled with activities illustrating life in the 18th Century. Visitors will learn about the daily routine in an army camp. They will encounter soldiers drilling and camp followers preparing food.

Town-wide yard sale in Bridport. Saturday, Aug. 9, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., locations around town.

Used book sale in Vergennes. Saturday, Aug. 9, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Bixby Memorial Library, 258 Main St. Lazy summer days are almost over, so now is the time to add to your summer reading. Browse through the selection of used books for sale in the Otter Creek Room downstairs. Enter from the back parking lot. Choose from a large variety of fiction, non-fiction and children's books, the more recently donated in boxes and on carts. Not priced — sold by donation. Venmo accepted.

3rd Annual Orwell Art Festival. Saturday, Aug. 9, 10 a.m., Orwell town green, 436 Main St. Don't miss our 3rd Annual Orwell Art Festival, featuring our unique blend of local artists creating pottery, painting, fiber art, and more! Visit our Facebook page for the latest details on attending artists, food and music www.facebook.com/Orwellartists.

Morgan Horse Farm Vermont Day in Weybridge. Saturday, Aug. 9, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., UVM Morgan Horse Farm, Battell Dr. Come see horse presentations from 10 a.m.-noon and picnic on the lawn with the mares and foals from 12:30-2 p.m. Free admission, rain or shine.

Captain, a very special dog, in Salisbury. Saturday, Aug. 9, 10 a.m., Salisbury Free Public Library, 918 Maple St. Captain, a very special dog, and his trainer Melissa McCue-McGrath sniff out and identify invasive insects. Come meet and the extraordinary pup learn from McCue-McGrath, a professional dog trainer and canine behavior consultant, author and podcaster talk about how she trains these dogs and the amazing things they do.

Takeout turkey and summer salad supper in Vergennes. Saturday, Aug. 9, 5 p.m., Vergennes United Methodist Church, 127 Main St. across from the Opera House. Menu includes cold

turkey, potato salad and broccoli salad, roll and dessert. Cost \$12. Order by 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 7 by calling 802-877-3150.

Aug 10 SUNDAY

Fundraising breakfast in Bristol. Sunday, Aug. 10, 7:30-10 a.m. or until the food runs out, Libanus Lodge, corner of North and Elm Streets. Menu includes sausage gravy with homemade biscuits, scrambled eggs (or over easy if you ask us to flip them) bacon, sausage patties, sausage links, homefries, pancakes, blueberry pancakes, French toast, all with Vt maple syrup and butter, assorted juices, apple bread pudding and coffee. Cost \$9 for adults and children under 12 only \$5. All profits are donated to a person or group in need within the 5 Town Area.

Town-wide yard sale in Bridport. Sunday, Aug. 10, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., locations around town.

French and Indian War reenactment in Crown Point, N.Y. Sunday, Aug. 10, Crown Point State Historic Site, 21 Grandview Dr. See Aug. 9 listing.

Aug 11 MONDAY

Bingo in Middlebury. Monday, Aug. 11, VFW, 530 Exchange St. Doors open at 4:30 p.m. Quickies begin at 6 p.m. and regular Bingo starts at 7 p.m. \$1,000 jackpot. Kitchen open from 5-6:30 p.m. offering regular Bingo menu special and homemade desserts. Open to the public.

Vergennes City Band concert in Vergennes. Monday, Aug. 11, 7 p.m., City Green. A staple of Vergennes summer. Relax on the green and listen to live band music.

Aug 12 TUESDAY


Burgoyne and his Hessian troops presentation in East Middlebury. Tuesday Aug. 12, 7 p.m., Sarah Partridge Library and Community House, 431 E. Main St. In the Spring of 1777, General John Burgoyne led his troops, including some Hessian soldiers, from Canada and stopped around Putnam Creek, N.Y. One of them was Heinrich Christoph Heyer, who became an early settler of East Middlebury. East Middlebury Historical Society will host his sixth great-grandson Duke Whitney to talk about the campaign, the settlement and home of his ancestor. Free.

wed 13 WEDNESDAY

Political luncheon series in Middlebury. Wednesday, Aug. 13, 12:30 p.m., EastView at Middlebury, 100 EastView Ter. Join Professor Matt Dickinson for a discussion of current political events, every other week all summer. Bagels are served. Call 802-989-7501 for Zoom link or you are welcome to attend in-person.

Lawn party and chicken barbeque in Bristol. Wednesday, Aug. 13, 5 p.m.-dusk, on the town green. St. Ambrose Parish hosts, with barbequed chicken and all the fixings. Pie contest and sale, baked goods, white elephant table, face painting and kids' games. More info at 802-453-2488.


Serving your community — what does it take to be a Vermont State Representative? in Shoreham. Wednesday, Aug. 13, 7 p.m., Platt Memorial Library, 279 Main St. Informational public meeting for anyone curious about the job of Vermont state legislator, or thinking of running for office. Panelists State Sen. Ruth Hardy, Addison District, and former state Rep. Joe Andriano, Addison-Rutland, will share their experiences. There will be plenty of time for questions and comments from the audience. All are welcome; refreshments provided.



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*Helping Young Families
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Reader Comments

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

A subscriber from Bristol writes:

"Appreciate it, look forward to getting it!"

Quotes are taken from reader comments submitted with subscription renewals.



ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT



Skatepark design meeting set Aug. 6

MIDDLEBURY — The town of Middlebury is partnering with New Line Skateparks and the Middlebury Skatepark Project (MSP) to design a new mixed-use public skatepark, the entities announced this week. This collaborative effort aims to create an inclusive, thoughtfully designed space that reflects the needs and spirit of the community.

The design phase will begin with a crucial public input meeting on Wednesday, Aug. 6, from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Middlebury Town Offices. This is an opportunity to learn more about the project, share ideas through group discussions and interactive design exercises, and demonstrate public support of the skatepark.

“We are excited that we are one step closer to delivering a free to use skatepark in Middlebury,” said Ethan Murphy, president of the Middlebury Skatepark Project. “We are incredibly proud of MSP’s all-volunteer team for reaching this major milestone that is the culmination of four years of dedicated work fueled by broad community support.”

According to Murphy, New Line Skateparks is a great skatepark design/build firm with showcase

skateparks all over the country and the world. It was selected from a competitive pool of applicants for its innovative approach to skatepark design. New Line’s proposal stood out for its ability to integrate a wide variety of features that appeal to all skill levels while also emphasizing aesthetic quality and harmony with the surrounding environment.

The town was particularly impressed by New Line’s creative vision and its commitment to both functionality and design. The work promises a space that is not only exciting for skaters but also inviting and beautiful for the entire community.

The Aug. 6 meeting will be hosted by Chris Long from New Line, a skatepark designer with a background in civil engineering and nine years of experience working on skatepark projects across the country. Attendees will have the chance to share their ideas, ask questions, and contribute to shaping a facility that meets the needs and aspirations of Middlebury’s wheeled sports community.

For those unable to attend, an online survey will be available for two weeks following the event. This feedback is an important part

of the concept design phase and will help guide the design directions developed by the skatepark design team.

The Middlebury Skatepark Project contributed nearly 90% of the cost of the design contract with New Line, with the remainder coming from the Middlebury Parks & Recreation budget for skatepark expenses. MSP’s contribution comes thanks to three years of fundraising efforts, and it includes: an \$8,000 grant from the Vermont Community Foundation; a \$5,000 allocation from the town of Cornwall’s ARPA funds; a \$2,500 Peasant Market grant from St. Stephen’s Episcopal Church; \$500 from the Congregational Church of Middlebury; \$500 from the Rotary Club of Middlebury’s golf tournament fund; and a multitude of individual and business donations.

For information on skatepark fundraising efforts, events and outreach, follow Middlebury Skatepark Project on Facebook or Instagram (@middleburyskateparkproject). Visit middleburyskatepark.com to sign up for the monthly email newsletter, or email middleburyskatepark@gmail.com.

Guided hike to explore the history of Mt. Independence

ORWELL — Enjoy a guided hike into history at the Mount

Independence State Historic Site in Orwell, on Sunday, Aug. 3, from 1 to 3 pm. Guide Stephen Zeoli, president of the Mount Independence Coalition, the site friends group, will share his wealth of knowledge about the Revolutionary War at Mount Independence and what you can

see on the grounds. Wear sturdy shoes or walking boots and bring water.

The hike is included in the price of site admission: \$8 for ages 15 and up, \$1 for children 6-14, and under 6 free. Call 802-948-2000 for more information.



FIVE MEMBERS OF the 1963-64 Shoreham High School basketball team pose with the new historical marker across from the Shoreham green on July 19. The distinguished gentlemen — (left to right) Denny Barnard, Ed Barnard, Bernard “Bernie” Cousino, Harold Small and Tommy Buttolph — recalled how their Raider squad made it to the state Class S final that year.

Photo courtesy of Ed Barnard

Marker cites Shoreham High

By JOHN S. McCRIGHT
SHOREHAM — The Vermont Division for Historic Preservation’s newest roadside marker went up this month in Shoreham.

In a July 19 ceremony on School Road across from the Shoreham town green, State Historic Preservation Officer Laura Trieschmann unveiled the large green marker that on one side told a brief story of Newton Academy and the other extolled Shoreham High School.

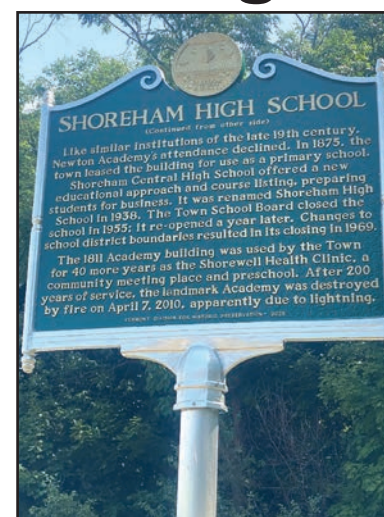
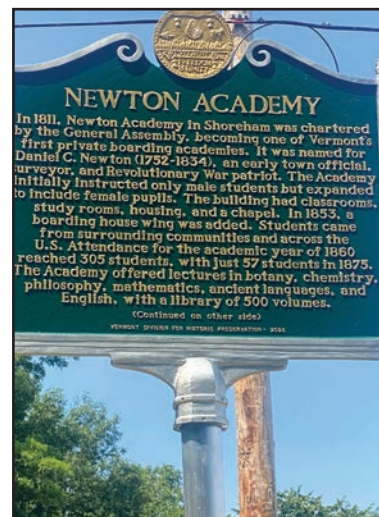
“The Vermont Roadside Historic Site Markers provide summaries of history worth remembering,” Trieschmann said this spring in announcing the Shoreham marker and 14 others. “The markers are sharing history that has often been overlooked or forgotten, stories important to our understanding and respect of the past.”

Newton Academy was one of Vermont’s first private boarding academies when it was chartered by the General Assembly in 1811. Students came not just from Shoreham and surrounding communities, but from across the United States, in 1860 reaching 305 students learning about botany, chemistry, philosophy, mathematics, ancient languages, and English.

With attendance declining, the town of Shoreham leased the school building and changed its name to Shoreham High School in 1938. As times changed, the school board closed Shoreham High School in 1955, reopened it a year later before finally closing it for good in 1969.

The building was used for various purposes, including as a preschool and as the Shorewell Health Clinic. Sadly, a lighting strike (apparently) started a fire that destroyed the building on April 7, 2010.

The July 19 dedication of the marker offered the opportunity for the Shoreham High School alumni to hold a reunion; more than 100 SHS graduates and friends attended. After Shoreham selectboard Chair Steve Goodrich and Trieschmann delivered remarks, and the marker was revealed, a group of five alumni



A NEW MARKER on School Road in Shoreham extols the history of Shoreham High School, which closed in 1969, and on the other side recounts the school’s forerunner, Newton Academy.

posed for a photo near the marker.

The group were among the 12 members of the Shoreham Raiders basketball team in the 1963-64 school year. The team — including Denny Barnard, Ed Barnard, Bernard “Bernie” Cousino, Harold Small and Tommy Buttolph, who were at the reunion — made their way through the state tournament to earn a spot in the Class S championship game, which was played at UVM’s Patrick Gymnasium. They earned second place.

Ed Barnard, a bit of a historian, has published a book titled “On the Common: A History and Memoir of Newton Academy,” which can be found at Platt Memorial Library, among other places. Despite the fact that he is currently a Florida resident, Barnard contributed many of the

words on the historical marker.

There are now 335 state historic markers around the Green Mountain State, including a new one this summer in Weybridge, and this is not the first in Shoreham.

There is one on Route 74 dedicated to Ethan Allen and the Green Mountain Boys, who embarked for Fort Ticonderoga from Shoreham’s Hands Cove in May 1775. A marker on Larrabee’s Point describes the first regular Lake Champlain ferry.

Not far from the Shoreham High School marker, is a marker for Shoreham native Levi Morton, who became governor of New York and vice president of the United States. Finally, a marker on Shoreham Depot Road and Dame Road celebrates one of only two covered railroad bridges left in Vermont.



STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION Officer Laura Trieschmann speaks about the importance of Vermont history at the unveiling of a new historic marker in Shoreham this month.

AUCTIONS

MARKET REPORT
ADDISON COUNTY
COMMISSION SALES
RT. 125 • EAST MIDDLEBURY, VT
Sales for 7/24/25 & 7/28/25

		COST		
BEEF	LBS.	/LB	\$	
Nop Bros	1925	1.60	\$3080.00	
Blue Spruce	1410	1.60	\$2256.00	
Ethan Allen	1345	1.60	\$2152.00	
Goodrich Farm	1730	1.52	\$2629.60	
Vorstevel	1900	1.50	\$2850.00	
DeFreest Farm	1680	1.48	\$2486.40	
K Rousseau	1315	1.45	\$1906.75	

		COST		
CALVES	LBS.	/LB	\$	
Vorstevel	94	13.60	\$1278.40	
P. Livingston	81	13.20	\$1069.20	
Sunderland	96	13.00	\$1248.00	
Deer Valley	107	12.50	\$1337.50	
Nop Bros	89	12.50	\$1112.50	

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ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT 2025 Addy Indy Garden Game

At long last, we have another Garden Game entry!

A big shoutout to Joan Derry, who stopped by with a radish clocking in at a whopping 8.25" C. Now that's a root worth celebrating. Joan's ravishing radish takes the lead.

As summer heats up, we're hoping the Garden Game does too. Whether you've got a sunflower that scrapes the sky, a zucchini the size of a baseball bat, or a tomato shaped like Elvis... we want to see it!

Big, odd, beautiful, or just plain impressive, bring your veggies in to stake your claim in this year's Garden Game!

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.

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) - Joan Derry, 8.25"
- 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)

AGWAY

*PLEASE NOTE: EACH INDIVIDUAL IS ELIGIBLE TO WIN ONE GIFT CERTIFICATE, EVEN IF THEY WIN MULTIPLE CATEGORIES.

100+ Women donate to athletes

FERRISBURGH — 100+ Women Who Care Addison County held their third-quarter meeting of 2025 Tuesday, July 15, at Basin Harbor. The group distributed \$17,599.91 to local non-profits.

The three finalists for this quarter were Special Olympics Vermont - Addison County for expanding sports offerings,

especially swim lessons, and for buses to competitions; Willowell Foundation for camp tuitions and a lightning-safety shelter); and Bristol Fire Department for a permanent and adjustable training structure on the property. Special Olympics was the top vote recipient, receiving 70% of the available funds. The runners-up both

received 15% of the available funds.

100+ Women Who Care Addison County has gifted \$200,000 to Addison County charities in its two years. More members are always welcome. Find out more at www.100wacvt.org. The group's next meeting will be in October.

SPECIAL OLYMPICS VERMONT – Addison County, was one of three recipients of 100+ Women Who Care Addison County's quarterly gifts. The top vote recipient, Special Olympics, will use the funds to expand sports offerings, especially swim lessons, and for buses to competitions

Photo courtesy of Judy Kowalczyk



A quiet spot

A CLASSIC ADIRONDACK chair awaits a tired swimmer or boater to sit and relax on a recent sunny July day at Kingsland Bay State Park in Ferrisburgh. Everyone seemed to be too busy having fun in the water.

Independent photo/John S. McCright

Two cited for driving under the influence

VERGENNES — Vergennes police cited two individuals for driving under the influence in separate incidents this past week. On July 21, Vergennes police apprehended Thomas Hynes, 39, of Bristol after Vermont State Police reported a vehicle driving erratically on Route 7 in Ferrisburgh. City police caught up with the vehicle at the park-and-ride in Ferrisburgh and charged Hynes with DUI and driving with a criminally suspended license.

On July 26, Vergennes police were notified of a woman who was seen getting into her car while believed to be under the influence of drugs. Officers located Carol Parchment, 26, of Bristol and charged her with DUI after conducting sobriety tests.

Between July 21 and 27, Vergennes police conducted seven patrols in cruisers and one on foot, made 17 traffic stops, processed

Vergennes Police Log

four fingerprint requests and three VIN inspections, filed one information report, and responded to one false alarm.

In other recent activity, Vergennes police:

- On July 21 identified two individuals involved in a July 17 theft from Kinney Drugs. Police referred a Salisbury woman and a Ferrisburgh man to the restorative justice process for retail theft.

- On July 21 were advised of a possibly suicidal woman. Police conducted a welfare check and determined the woman was not suicidal and in good health.

- On July 22 assisted Vermont State Police with a traffic stop on Route 7 near Little Chicago Road.

- On July 23 logged a report from a resident who had received a threatening phone call from an unknown individual.

- On July 24 investigated a report of a dog locked in a car parked on Main Street. Police found the car was running with the air conditioning on and the dog wasn't in distress.

- On July 26 responded to a call from a Waltham resident who was cornered by two dogs. The dogs were gone when police arrived, and the individual said he was unharmed.

- On July 26 responded to calls about a homeless woman who had been sleeping at the armory. She wasn't there when police arrived, but officers later found her and offered resources.

- On July 21 responded to a report of a vehicle driving on the lawn of Vergennes Union Elementary School.

ADDISON COUNTY School Briefs

Isaiah Visser of Vergennes has graduated from South Dakota State University following the spring 2025 semester. Visser graduated with an Associate of Science from SDSU's College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences.

Bee Eckels of Vergennes was named to the 2025 spring semester dean's list at Simmons University in Boston. To qualify for the list, undergraduate students must obtain a grade point average of 3.5 or higher, based on 12 or more credit hours of work in classes using the letter grade system. Eckels is one of the *Addison Independent's* summer interns this year.

Spotlight on Vergennes

Rokeby Museum nets \$1 million donation

FERRISBURGH — The Rokeby Museum has received a landmark \$1 million donation from the Patrick Foundation, marking a pivotal moment in the museum's history and setting the stage for a new chapter of preservation and growth.

The donor emphasized the importance of place in making Rokeby's mission tangible and lasting. This gift will support the preservation of the museum's historic structures — ensuring the spaces that hold its stories are protected for generations to come.

"This extraordinary act of generosity confirms what many of us believe," said Joel Loquvam, Chair of the Rokeby Museum Board of Trustees. "Rokeby's message is not only vital — it's enduring. The Patrick Foundation's gift reflects both trust in our leadership and belief in Rokeby's importance not only for Vermont, but our nation as well."

Loquvam added, "This is a major milestone — one that the Patrick Foundation can be credited with launching. Their gift has ensured the preservation of Rokeby's historic structures and set into motion what we believe will be the first of many transformative donations. Like the four-minute mile — once people saw it could be done, others followed. Rokeby's message is worth that momentum. It's worth the belief."

Rokeby Museum is a National Historic Landmark that interprets four generations of a single family — farmers, Quakers, abolitionists, and artists. With its preserved buildings and powerful archives, the museum offers a unique window into American history, activism, and resilience.

To learn more about Rokeby or contribute to its future, visit rokeby.org

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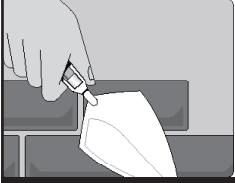
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Public Meetings

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

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

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.

Public Meetings

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,

Public Meetings

isolation, anger, or depression? You don't have to face it alone. Talk with a caring person who understands what you're going

Public Meetings

through today by calling or texting the free and confidential Pathways Vermont Support Line available 24/7 at (833) VT - TALKS.

Help Wanted

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Highway Maintenance Assistant
(Full-Time)

Join our team of essential workers who keep our roads safe, our town connected, and our community running.

The Town of Shoreham is accepting applications for a full-time Highway Maintenance Assistant to join our dedicated highway crew. This is a year-round, 40-hour-per-week position, with overtime available in the winter for snow plowing. Typical duties include road grading, ditching, patching, culvert and sign maintenance, tree and brush removal, and seasonal plowing and sanding.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- A Commercial Driver's License (CDL), or the ability to obtain one
- Experience operating trucks and heavy equipment
- Mechanical ability and general problem-solving skills
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BENEFITS:

- Competitive pay: \$26-\$30/hour, depending on experience
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Help Wanted

Help Wanted

Help Wanted


Head Start Preschool Teacher
Addison County Early Learning Center
New Haven

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This is a fulltime 40 hours a week position, approximately 42 weeks a year (summer layoff). Rate of pay during first 60- working day probationary period is \$27.26/hour; post probationary rate of pay is \$28.75/hour. Health plan and excellent benefits. Health plan and excellent benefits.

Please submit a cover letter, resume, and 3 professional references with your application to cvoeo.org/careers. No phone calls please.

CVOEO is interested in candidates who can contribute to our organizational and community inclusion. Applicants are encouraged to include in their cover letter information about how they will further this goal.




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Help Wanted

Help Wanted

Help Wanted



Addison County Parent/Child Center

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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.

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CSAC serves 2,000 clients annually, providing a full spectrum of mental health, developmental, and substance use services, including outpatient therapy, residential care, case management, and 24/7 crisis response. With a \$32M budget and 300 staff, CSAC is a recognized leader known for innovation and strong community partnerships.

THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR WILL:

- Champion equity, diversity, and people-centered care
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Immediate opening.
Please submit applications by email to jobs@energynavigators.org.

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More details are available at: <https://www.cecac.org/community-organizer>.

Opportunities

Opportunities

Opportunities

Opportunities

Opportunities

Opportunities




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Homeward Bound
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- Two (2) 12-14 Passenger School Buses
- Type II School Bus - Vermont Compliant
- Delivery by September 5, 2025

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Submission Deadline: August 1, 2025 at 12:00 PM

Contact: David Roberts, Director of Operations
Email: droberts@pahcc.org
Phone: 802-382-1012

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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.

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

TOWN OF ADDISON PUBLIC NOTICE

The Addison Planning Commission meeting will be held on Monday, August 18, 2025 at the Addison Community Center at 6:30 PM. (regular monthly meeting)

1. Open the meeting.
2. Roll call given.
3. Public comment time allowed (beginning & end if deemed necessary).
4. Continue to work with Katie Raycroft-Meyer on the Town Plan revisions, finalizing details & progressing with the next steps for the Town Plan. Katie will send a rough draft of the plan for a discussion at the August meeting.
5. Approve the meeting minutes for July 21, 2025.
6. Discuss any remaining miscellaneous Planning Commission business or concerns.
7. If needed, allow additional public comment time before adjourning.

Michael Hollis, Chair
Starr Phillips, Secretary
Addison Planning Commission

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

TOWN OF BRIDPORT ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

The Bridport Developmental Review Board will hold a public hearing on August 20, 2025 at 6pm in the Bridport Town Office, at 82 Crown Point Rd., on each of the following applications:

- At 6:05 PM on Application (#25-23) by Timothy Hotte. Applicant requests a 2-lot subdivision on Orchard Drive.
- At 6:10 PM on Application (25-19) by Brennan Kensey. Applicant requests to pour a 16'x16' slab for a shed with insufficient side setback.

Plans and additional information regarding any such application may be viewed at said Town Office or by calling 802-758-2483, Ext. 2. Participation in the Bridport Developmental Review Board proceeding is a prerequisite to the right to take any subsequent appeal on any decision of it on an application.

Dinah Bain, Chair
Al Zaccor, Secretary
Tim Howlett, Acting Zoning Administrator

MEETING OF THE ADDISON COUNTY REGIONAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

13 August 2025 at 12pm

The quarterly meeting of the Addison County Regional Emergency Management Committee (REMC) will be held on 13 August at 12pm (in person at the ACRPC conference room at 14 Seminary St. with Zoom option). Details can be found at: <https://acrpc.org/acrpc-remc/>

Meetings are held quarterly, with future meetings scheduled for the:

- Second Wednesday of November
- Second Wednesday of February
- Second Wednesday of May
- Second Wednesday of August

The REMC conducts All-Hazards preparedness planning and coordinates with Vermont Emergency Management (VEM), the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC), and the statewide Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC).

The REMC is made up of Local Emergency Management Directors and Emergency Services Representatives from each municipality in the region. Representatives from fire departments, emergency medical services, law enforcement, media, transportation, hospitals, the department of health district office, organizations serving vulnerable populations, and any other interested public or private individuals or organizations are welcome to attend and participate!

For more information, contact ACRPC Emergency Management Planner, Andrew L'Roe at alroe@acrpc.org or 802-388-3141 x3.

ACT 250 NOTICE MINOR APPLICATION #9A0221-6 10 V.S.A. §§ 6000 - 6111

The Vermont Agency of Transportation, Attn: VTrans, C/O Julie Ann Held, has filed application #9A0221-6 for a project generally described as replacement of Bridge No. 13A over an unnamed brook to the Middlebury River along Vermont Route 125 in Ripton. The project includes: (1) removal of the existing culvert and replacement with a precast concrete box culvert (6.5' x 14' x 40'); (2) related roadway work; and (3) associated channel work including stone fill and slope stabilization. The project is located on VT Route 125 at Mile Marker 0.289 in Ripton, Vermont. The application may be viewed on the Land Use Review Board's Act 250 Database (<https://anrweb.vt.gov/ANR/Act250/default.aspx>) by entering project number "9A0221-6."

No hearing will be held, and a permit may be issued unless, on or before Wednesday, August 20th, 2025, at 4:30 PM, a party notifies the District 9 Commission in writing of an issue requiring a hearing, or the Commission sets the matter for a hearing on its own motion. Any person as defined in 10 V.S.A. § 6085(c)(1) may request a hearing. Any hearing request must be in writing, must state the criteria or sub-criteria at issue, why a hearing is required, and what additional evidence will be presented at the hearing. Any hearing request by an adjoining property owner or other person eligible for party status under 10 V.S.A. § 6085(c)(1)(E) must include a petition for party status under the Act 250 Rules. To request party status and a hearing, fill out the Party Status Petition Form on the Board's website: <https://act250.vermont.gov/documents/party-status-petition-form>, and email it to the District 9 Office at: Act250.Essex@vermont.gov. Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law may not be prepared unless the Commission holds a public hearing.

For more information contact the District Coordinator listed below.

Josh Donabedian
District 9 Coordinator
111 West Street
Essex Junction, VT 05452
Joshua.Donabedian@vermont.gov

Public Notices Index

Public Notices for the following can be found on **Pages 11B and 12B.**

Addison (1)	Orwell (1)
Addison County Courthouse (1)	Patricia A. Hannaford Career Center (1)
Addison County Regional Planning Commission (1)	Salisbury (1)
Addison County Solid Waste Management District (1)	Shoreham (2)
Bridport (1)	Starksboro (1)
Ferrisburgh (1)	Vergennes (3)
Leicester (1)	Vermont Agency of Transportation (1)

TOWN OF SHOREHAM NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Development Review Board will hold a public hearing on 8/19/2025 at 7:00:00 PM at Town Office (297 Main St) to consider application #25-010 submitted by William Sharron for a variance in accordance with the Shoreham's Unified Development Regulations.

The location of the proposed project is 724 DeLong Ln. and involves building a new 10' x 12' shed on a nonconforming lot, thus requiring a setback waiver.

The application is available at the Town Office and on the town website for review. Participation in this proceeding is a prerequisite to the right to make any subsequent appeal.

Use the following login information to attend the hearing by video conference or by phone:

URL: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88644202488?pwd=YiLDnMoCS1Qkxau3SwC3MRcDk0pSTX.1>
Meeting ID: 886 4420 2488
Passcode: 077868
Phone: 301-715-8592

John Kiernan, Chair

Applicant: William Sharron
PO Box 27
Randolph, VT 05060

TOWN OF SHOREHAM NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Development Review Board will hold a public hearing on 8/19/2025 at 7:00:00 PM at Town Office (297 Main St) to consider application #25-017 submitted by Joe & Kathleen Hescocock for a conditional use in accordance with Shoreham's Unified Development Regulations.

The location of the proposed project is 702 Watch Point Road and involves constructing a one-story farm labor house on the former Willey Farm on Watch Point Road.

The application is available at the Town Office and on the town website for review. Participation in this proceeding is a prerequisite to the right to make any subsequent appeal.

Use the following login information to attend the hearing by videoconference or by phone:

URL: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88644202488?pwd=YiLDnMoCS1Qkxau3SwC3MRcDk0pSTX.1>
Meeting ID: 886 4420 2488
Passcode: 077868
Phone: 301-715-8592

John Kiernan, Chair

Applicant: Joe & Kathleen Hescocock
3658 Route 74 West
Shoreham, VT 05770

HEARING NOTICE TOWN OF ORWELL DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD

The Orwell Development Review Board will meet in person on Wednesday, August 20th, 2025 at 7:00pm at the Orwell Town Clerk's Office located at 436 Main Street, Orwell, VT.

By Zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88129886127> or phone 1-646-558-8656, use meeting ID: #881 2988 6127 to conduct the following business:

1. Permit #3-11-25: Timothy G. LaDuc/Mary & Steven Barnes for a 2-lot Subdivision Final Plat Review located at 372 Fisher Road, Orwell, VT.

Information pertaining to this matter may be viewed Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday 9:00-12:00 & 1:00-4:00, Wednesday 9:00-12:00 & 1:00-3:30, & Friday 9:00-12:00 & 1:00-6:00 at the Orwell Town Clerk's Office located at 436 Main Street, Orwell, VT.

Daniel Redondo, Vice Chair
Orwell Development Review Board

TOWN OF LEICESTER NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING LEICESTER DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD

The Leicester Development Review Board will hold a public hearing on Monday, August 11, 2025, at the Leicester Town Office at 6:00 p.m. to consider the following applications:

(15-25 DRB), Application 15-25 DRB of Kelly & Ben Small, 231 Winding Way, Leicester, VT 05733, Parcel #202010 for a Section 3.7 Waiver of Setback for the construction and installation of an 8' x 4' storage shed adjacent to the north property line.

Applications are available for inspection at the Town Clerk's Office, 44 Schoolhouse Rd., Leicester, VT during regularly scheduled hours.

Participation in this proceeding is a prerequisite to the right to take any subsequent appeal.

Jeff McDonough
DRB Chairman
July 21, 2025

ADDISON COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS YEAR-END AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS Issue Date: August 1, 2025

The Addison County Solid Waste Management District is seeking the services of a qualified FINANCIAL AUDITOR to perform the year-end audit of financial statements for calendar years ending 12/31/25, 12/31/26 and 12/31/27. Interested parties are requested to submit proposals for this service. The objective of this RFP is to review proposals from qualified Consultants who are interested in providing this service and who will effectively execute all aspects of the contract in a timely and accurate manner; and to select a Consultant who has the staff, municipal financial audit experience and expertise to plan, organize and successfully complete the audits.

If you are interested in submitting a proposal, the complete RFP and all addenda may be obtained by calling the District office at (802) 388-2333, or from the District website at www.AddisonCountyRecycles.org.

The deadline for receiving proposals is **Friday, August 29, 2025 by 4:00 PM. Mail, fax or e-mail all proposals to:**

Addison County Solid Waste Management District
ATTN: Drew Pettis, CPA - Business Manager
1223 Route 7 South
Middlebury, Vermont 05753
Phone: (802) 388-2333
Fax: (802) 388-0271
E-Mail: drew@acswwd.org

Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE), Minority Business Enterprises (MBE) and Women Business Enterprises (WBE) are encouraged to participate.

In print or online, find your dream job with help from the *Addy Indy*.



addisonindependent.com/help-wanted

ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT

Help Wanted ads can be found on Pages 10B and 11B.



**CITY OF VERGENNES
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

Notice is hereby given that the Development Review Board will hold a Public Hearing on August 18, 2025, at 7 pm as the first order of new business, for the following purpose:

To consider Site Plan Review for Application #2025-23 by Bixby Memorial Free Library to construct a 14' x 14' Gazebo on the Property located at 258 Main St. Reviews will consider Article VII, Article XV Section 1501, and Article XVI Section 1608.

Please note that the hearing will be held as a "hybrid meeting", with participation either in person, by ZOOM, or by phone. The in-person meeting will be held in the One Credit Union Conference Room located at 48 Green Street, Vergennes Vermont.

**Meetings are accessible via Zoom;
Meeting ID: 828 0065 2431
Meeting password: 5CKEsb**

**Join by phone: Dial 1 (929) 205-6099; For participants joining by phone:
To raise your hand during the meeting, press *9.
To mute/unmute during the meeting, press *6**

If you experience any difficulty in accessing this meeting, contact the City of Vergennes Zoning Administrator at 802-989-6315.

Persons seeking eligibility to Appeal must establish status as an Interested Person as defined in Article VI Section 603 of the City of Vergennes Zoning and Subdivision Regulations AND participate in the Public Hearing either in person or in writing in order to take any subsequent Appeal. The City of Vergennes is an "on the record" Appeal municipality with regard to Appeals to the Environmental Court from Development Review Board Decisions. This means that the Environmental Court shall only consider Testimony and Evidence provided during Public Hearings on the Application. Interested Persons should therefore assure that their participation in the Public Hearing proceedings is complete and represents the totality of their Testimony and Evidence.

A copy of the application is available for public review at City Hall or by contacting David Austin at zoning@vergennes.org.

July 28, 2025
David Austin
Zoning Administrator

**TOWN OF STARKSBORO
PLANNING COMMISSION
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

July 25, 2025

The Starksboro Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on August 21, 2025 at 6:30pm at Robinson Elementary School to receive further public comment on proposed changes to Starksboro's Land Use and Development Regulations. The purpose of the proposed changes are to comply with recent changes to State law, and to balance individual property rights with the needs of residents and the whole community.

This second public hearing comes after changes were made to certain sections, listed below, based on input received at the February 6, 2025 public hearing.

Copies of the proposed revisions, as well as a report on how the proposed changes comply with State Statute and the Town Plan, are available on the Town website (www.starksborovt.org) and/or by contacting Amanda Vincent (Town Administrator) at the Town Office or townadmin@starksborovt.org or 802-453-2639. Certain terms were updated simply for clarity throughout the entire document – i.e., non-substantive changes. A list of the section headings with substantive changes follows, as required pursuant to Title 24, Chapter 117 V.S.A. Section 4444 (b).

Sections warned for the February 6, 2025 hearing:

1. Chapter 210. Use, Density & Dimensional Standards
 - a. 210.A - Use table changes to uses
 - b. 211.A - Density and Dimensional Standards lot size and setback adjustments
2. Section 223 Special District Standards - removal of language
 - a. 223.A - Architectural Standards
3. Section 233 - Special District Standards - removal of language
 - a. 233.D - Architectural Standards
4. Section 243.C - Special District Standards - removal of language
 - a. 243.C - Architectural Standards
5. Section 280. Flood Hazard Overlay District - removal of existing section
 - a. Replace 280 with VT stand alone flood hazard bylaw
6. Chapter 290 Recreational Opportunity District - Creation of overlay district
 - a. 290 - Purpose
 - b. 291 - Density and Dimensional Standards
 - c. 292 - Allowed Uses
 - d. 293.A - Special District Standards
 - e. 293.B - Modifications
7. Section 314 Application Requirements - removal of language and Brightness Comparison Chart
 - a. 314. C - Application Requirements
 - b. Figure 13 - removal of chart
 - c. 314. D - Design Standards - adjustment of language
 - d. 314.H - Pre-Existing Lighting - removal of language
8. Chapter 320 Performance Standards - clarifying edits and adjustment of language
 - a. 321.A - Noise removal of Noise Standards Table & adjustment of language
 - b. 323 Dust, Odors and Air Pollution - clarifying language
 - c. 326 Traffic - removal
9. Section 331 Stormwater Management - addition of language
 - a. 331.A (1) - addition of language
10. Section 342.A Home-Based and On-Farm Businesses - removal of language
 - a. 342.A&B - removal of language
11. Section 343 Cannabis Establishments - Added use
 - a. 342.A-H - addition of section
 - b. 342 - Additional conditions
12. Section 344 B&Bs and Inns - removal of language
 - a. 344.A - Removal of language 2&3
13. Section 347 Recreation Facilities - New language & removal of language
 - a. 347.A - adjustments of language
14. Section 412 Inspections - clarifying edits
 - a. 412.A - clarifying edits
 - b. 412.B - clarifying edits
15. Section 415 Minor Modifications to Approved Plans - removal of language
 - a. 416 - removal of language
 - b. 417 - removal of language
16. Section 428 Material Changes to Approved Plans - removal of language
 - a. 428.A - removal of language
17. Chapter 510 Terms - addition of terms, clarifying language
 - a. 510.C - 2-13
 - b. 510.P - addition of term
 - c. 510.R - addition of term
 - d. 510.S - clarifying language
18. Sections with further changes based on initial feedback:
 - a. Section 210 (Use table)
 - b. Section 280 (River Corridor Bylaw added)
 - c. Section 290 (Further information added to Recreation Opportunity District Purpose)
 - d. Section 421 Noise - adjustment of language
 - e. Section 447 - addition of section covering Private Landing Areas
19. Chapter 510 Terms
 - a. 510.C - addition of term

Notice Date – July 31, 2025

Vermont State Police Log

ADDISON COUNTY — The Vermont State Police were busy this past week issuing citations for impaired driving. Troopers operating out of the New Haven barracks cited four different people from driving under the influence, or DUI.

The first was Trevor W. Hallock, 22, of Ferrisburgh. Police said they stopped a vehicle on Little Chicago Road in Ferrisburgh on July 22 a little before 9:30 p.m. and discovered that the driver, identified as Hallock, didn't have a valid driver's license. In speaking with him, the trooper observed indicators of impairment and ultimately cited him for DUI.

Vergennes police assisted state police.

Then on July 25 just before 11:30 p.m., a trooper stopped a vehicle on Lake Dunmore Road near Route 7

in Salisbury and noted that driver Anahlyna M. Cintron, 22, of Brandon appeared to be impaired. The officer arrested her, took her to the New Haven barracks, and cited Cintron for driving under the influence of alcohol, drugs or both. Police also issued her a ticket for driving more than 21 mph over the speed limit, which carries a fine of \$259 and two points on her license.

Separately, on July 26 at about 10 minutes before 5 p.m., state police stopped a vehicle on Route 7 near Lime Kiln Road in New Haven and identified the driver as David A. Ouellette, 59, of Waltham. Ultimately, state police cited Ouellette for driving under the influence, fourth offense or subsequent, as well as for driving without the required interlock device on his car.

Police also issued tickets for not using his signals, poor condition of his vehicle and open container of alcohol in his car, which together could carry fines of \$204 and four points on his license.

Finally, on July 27 state police cited Jamey Pattison, 37, of Middlebury for DUI, second offense, as well as for driving with a suspended license and negligent driving. A little after 6 p.m. that day police received a report of a motor vehicle striking a parked vehicle on Route 116 in Bristol. Police investigated, and the citations followed.

In other recent activity, troopers:

- On July 20 at 11:20 p.m. were notified of a potential abuse prevention order violation in Salisbury. Police allege that Dominic Fleming, 23, of Salisbury violated an

active court order via email. On July 22, troopers located Fleming and cited him for violation of an abuse prevention order.

- On July 26 at around 2:22 p.m. looked into a reported vandalism on North Street in New Haven. Investigation led police to the conclusion that Tina Galante, 35, of Bristol had intentionally damaged property belonging to a Benson man. The next day, state police cited Galante for unlawful mischief.

- At around 2:15 a.m. on July 27 responded to a Shellhouse Mountain Road home in Ferrisburgh for a reported disturbance. Police looked into it and decided that Amanda Stearns, 39, of Middlebury had caused a family member physical harm. They cited Stearns for domestic assault.

**CITY OF VERGENNES
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

Notice is hereby given that the Development Review Board will hold a Public Hearing on August 18, 2025, at 7 pm as the second order of new business, for the following purpose:

To consider Site Plan Review and Conditional Use Review for Application #2025-22 by The Hill LLC dba Vergennes Laundry for a Change of Use from Office to Restaurant and Retail within a portion of the principal structure located at 205 Main St. Reviews will consider Article VII, Article VIII, and Article XVI Section 1608.

Please note that the hearing will be held as a "hybrid meeting", with participation either in person, by ZOOM, or by phone. The in-person meeting will be held in the One Credit Union Conference Room located at 48 Green Street, Vergennes, Vermont.

**Meetings are accessible via Zoom;
Meeting ID: 828 0065 2431
Meeting password: 5CKEsb**

**Join by phone: Dial 1 (929) 205-6099; For participants joining by phone:
To raise your hand during the meeting, press *9.
To mute/unmute during the meeting, press *6**

If you experience any difficulty in accessing this meeting, contact the City of Vergennes Zoning Administrator at 802-989-6315.

Persons seeking eligibility to Appeal must establish status as an Interested Person as defined in Article VI Section 603 of the City of Vergennes Zoning and Subdivision Regulations AND participate in the Public Hearing either in person or in writing in order to take any subsequent Appeal. The City of Vergennes is an "on the record" Appeal municipality with regard to Appeals to the Environmental Court from Development Review Board Decisions. This means that the Environmental Court shall only consider Testimony and Evidence provided during Public Hearings on the Application. Interested Persons should therefore assure that their participation in the Public Hearing proceedings is complete and represents the totality of their Testimony and Evidence.

A copy of the application is available for public review at City Hall or by contacting David Austin at zoning@vergennes.org.

July 28, 2025
David Austin
Zoning Administrator

**TOWN OF FERRISBURGH
NOTICE OF HEARING**

The Ferrisburgh Planning Commission will hold the following public hearing on **Wednesday, August 20, 2025** at the Ferrisburgh Town Hall at 3279 US Route 7, beginning at **6PM**. The hearing 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 25-072: Transfer 1.02 acres from lot with existing house to lot with existing camp; Applicants: Glen & Donna Macri; 242 Spencer Farm Road, Parcel ID number 12/01/09, Shoreland District (SD-2) and 136 Spencer Farm Road, Parcel ID number 12/01/10, Shoreland District (SD-2) / Rural Agricultural District (RA-5) / Rural Residential District (RR-2); Boundary Line Adjustment.

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

can be found in this
ADDISON INDEPENDENT on Pages 11B and 12B.

**CITY OF VERGENNES
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

Notice is hereby given that the Development Review Board will hold a Public Hearing on August 18, 2025, at 7 pm as the third order of new business, for the following purpose:

To consider Site Plan Review and Conditional Use Review for Application #2025-24 by Charles Ouellette to construct a Two-Family Dwelling on the property located at 2 Comfort Hill. Reviews will consider Article VII, Article VIII, Article XII Section 1205, Article XVI Section 1608, and Section 1615.

Please note that the hearing will be held as a "hybrid meeting", with participation either in person, by ZOOM, or by phone. The in-person meeting will be held in the One Credit Union Conference Room located at 48 Green Street, Vergennes, Vermont.

**Meetings are accessible via Zoom;
Meeting ID: 828 0065 2431
Meeting password: 5CKEsb**

**Join by phone: Dial 1 (929) 205-6099; For participants joining by phone:
To raise your hand during the meeting, press *9.
To mute/unmute during the meeting, press *6**

If you experience any difficulty in accessing this meeting, contact the City of Vergennes Zoning Administrator at 802-989-6315.

Persons seeking eligibility to Appeal must establish status as an Interested Person as defined in Article VI Section 603 of the City of Vergennes Zoning and Subdivision Regulations AND participate in the Public Hearing either in person or in writing in order to take any subsequent Appeal. The City of Vergennes is an "on the record" Appeal municipality with regard to Appeals to the Environmental Court from Development Review Board Decisions. This means that the Environmental Court shall only consider Testimony and Evidence provided during Public Hearings on the Application. Interested Persons should therefore assure that their participation in the Public Hearing proceedings is complete and represents the totality of their Testimony and Evidence.

A copy of the application is available for public review at City Hall or by contacting David Austin at zoning@vergennes.org.

July 28, 2025
David Austin
Zoning Administrator

**NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND
NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS
STATE OF VERMONT**

July 31, 2025

Town of Salisbury, Pat Dunn, Selectboard Chair
Town of Salisbury, 25 Schoolhouse Rd, P.O. Box: 66, Salisbury, VT 05769
(p) (802)352-4228 | (f) (802)352-9832

Request for Release of Funds

On or about August 8, the Town of Salisbury will submit a request to the Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development (the Agency) to release the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (PL 93-383), the National Affordable Housing Act, as amended, to undertake the project known as the Salisbury Town Hall and Salisbury Free Public Library for the purpose of building renovations. The project is located at 918 Maple St, Salisbury, VT 05769. The total estimated cost of the project is \$1,530,425; approximately \$1,380,425 from various grant funding sources, and \$150,000 in anticipated CDBG funding. The scope of work includes renovations to make the building physically accessible for people with disabilities under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

The activities proposed are categorically excluded under HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58 from National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements. An Environmental Review Record (ERR) that documents environmental determinations for this project is on file at the municipal office of the Town of Salisbury, 25 Schoolhouse Rd, Salisbury, VT 05769 as of the date of this Notice, and may be examined or copied during Town office hours Tuesdays: 9:00 - 3:00, Thursdays: 11:00 - 6:00, and by appointment, or otherwise as posted on the website: www.townofsalisbury.org.

Public Comments

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the Town of Salisbury, Selectboard Chair Pat Dunn at the following email address: vermontadvisor@gmail.com. All comments received by August 8, 2025 will be considered by the Town of Salisbury prior to authorizing the submission of a request for release of funds.

Environmental Certification

The Town of Salisbury is certifying to the Agency that Pat Dunn, in his official capacity as Selectboard Chair, consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. The Agency's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows the Town of Salisbury to use the CDBG funds.

Objections to Release of Funds

The Agency will accept objections to its release of funds and the Town of Salisbury's certification for a period of fifteen days following the anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if they are on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer, Pat Dunn; (b) the Town has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR part 58; (c) the grant recipient or other participants in the development process have committed funds, incurred costs or undertaken activities not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by the Agency; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality.

Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58, Sec. 58.76) and shall be addressed to the Attn: Environmental Officer, Agency of Commerce and Community Development, One National Life Drive, Davis Building, 6th Floor, Montpelier, Vermont 05620. Potential objectors should contact the Agency to verify the actual last date of the objection period.

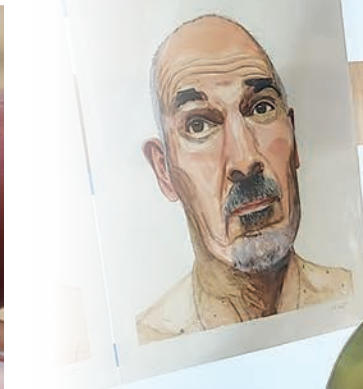
LETTERS?

Email it to:
news@addisonindependent.com

ARTS + LEISURE

The Addison Independent

July 31, 2025



Orwell
Art
Festival



A growing group of artists who call Orwell home will share their work with the broader community at the 3rd annual Orwell Art Festival next month. It will feature pieces by the likes of, clockwise from top left, Alyce Foster and her painted rocks, Peter R Root and his 3-D sculpture paintings, and Stacey Stanhope Dundon and her pottery.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF ORWELL ARTISTS

Orwell launches its third annual art festival on the green Aug. 9

Who would have known that an Addison County town of only 1,200 people would have so many talented artists? The Orwell Artists group was founded in 2016 to provide an opportunity for local artists to meet, share their work and develop a community.

BY PAIGE
HESCOCK

Now, they have an opportunity to showcase their artwork to the public at large. The Orwell Artists will host its 3rd annual art festival on Saturday, Aug. 9, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., on the town green.

There will be a variety of artists, including potters, painters, fiber artists, collage artists, sculptors and photographers. The artwork will range from pottery and needle felted animals to oil pastel and tole paintings, with more than 30 artists signed up as of last week. While there will be plenty of artwork to admire and purchase, there will also be live music from a local musician in town and a local food vendor.

The Orwell Art Festival began in 2023 when the group of local artists decided they wanted to arrange an event where they could present their creations to the public.

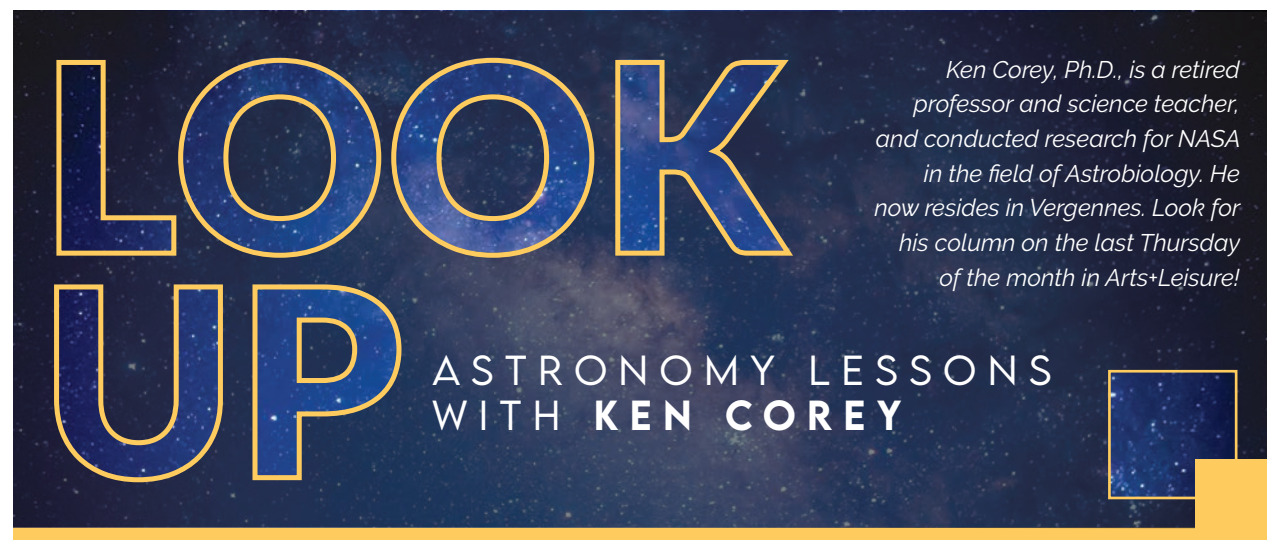
"We had been meeting up for 10 years, talking

about our artwork, so we decided we really wanted to do something for the village that was nice and kept things happening in the downtown park area. It truly creates a sense of community," said Stacey Stanhope Dundon, a potter who lives in Orwell.

There has been a newfound appreciation for the art festival ever since the closing of Orwell's beloved country store, Buxton's Store, last fall.

"Everyone used to run into one another down at the store, but now it's closed. The art festival is a wonderful way to connect with others," Dundon said.

SEE ARTISTS ON PAGE 3



Ken Corey, Ph.D., is a retired professor and science teacher, and conducted research for NASA in the field of Astrobiology. He now resides in Vergennes. Look for his column on the last Thursday of the month in Arts+Leisure!

Learn how much debris is in our atmosphere

August is the month when the Earth passes through a cometary debris field that produces one of the most prolific of meteor showers, the Perseids. This annual event led me to think about the orbital decay of the Soviet era spacecraft, Kosmos 482 (Venera program) after more than 50 years in space. Kosmos 482 landed in the Indian Ocean west of Jakarta, Indonesia on May 10 of this year. Unlike natural debris from extraterrestrial sources, human generated debris, or space junk, has become yet another in the myriads of pollution issues people have created.

NATURAL DEBRIS

Debris from the remnants of the formation of our solar system enter our atmosphere on a routine basis as meteors. Numerous meteors come from the Earth passing through a debris cloud left by periodic comets and enter our atmosphere as showers, which mostly radiate from a particular region of the sky called the radiant (e.g. Perseus). Ancient debris enters the atmosphere mostly as tiny sand to pea size meteors that burn up from the heat of friction during their journey toward the surface. Some

larger chunks burst into flames and even explode in the atmosphere, becoming fireballs and bolides. Annual shower events occur on a relatively regular basis such as the Perseids happening now. On a long-term scale, there is a chance visitor by a large asteroid or comet that enters the atmosphere and reaches the Earth's surface. Those impactors have caused effects such as titanic explosions, large craters, and in extreme cases, mass extinction events.

Occasionally, the meteor may be large enough to reach the surface of the earth and become a meteorite, such as the large one recovered from an island off the northwest coast of Greenland. The largest fragment named the Cape York or Ahnighito meteorite weighed in at 34 tons and is on display at the Natural History Museum in New York City. Meteors are a page out of the history of solar system formation. They visit and then burn out or impact the surface. Those natural extraterrestrial visitors do not remain in our atmosphere.

SPACE JUNK

A growing issue with human-generated debris, or space junk in the atmosphere, is the mounting quantity of satellites, spent rocket stages, nuts, bolts, paint flecks, and other materials from launches, collisions, and human operations on space stations. Materials burning and off-gassing in the atmosphere also contribute to air pollution.

Since 1957, when the first satellite, Sputnik, was launched by the Soviet Union, there have been about 10,000 satellites launched into orbit, 80% of which are from the United States. The number of satellites still in orbit that are defunct or decommissioned has been reported to be in excess of 3,500. In addition, estimates made from statistical models by NASA and ESA show that the number of objects greater than 10 cm is about 13,000 with those in the 1 to 10 cm category at about 100,000. Small objects in the 1 mm-1 cm range number in the tens of millions.

Estimates have been based upon samples of impacts from shuttle missions, ISS missions, and captured satellites. In April of 1984, NASA launched a long duration exposure facility (LDEF) and placed it into low Earth orbit (LEO). The satellite was captured five years later after more than 32,000 orbits. The number of impacts were counted and then extrapolated to the volume of space encountered over a five-year period. In May of 2023, the Federation of American Scientists reported an estimated 170 million pieces of space junk!

What types of threats are posed by all this space junk? NASA scientist Donald Kessler first spoke of the space junk issue, describing a cascading effect where collision frequency is multiplicative and erosion of surfaces in orbit result in hundreds of millions of particles as small as microns. This cascading effect is referred to as the Kessler syndrome.

Consider: Pieces of space junk and naturally occurring micrometeoroids are travelling at hyper velocities of 17,000 mph in low Earth orbit (LEO) and up to 22,000 miles per hour at higher altitudes. For comparison, a rifle bullet travels at 1 to 4 thousand mph. An impact by a tiny piece of debris moving at hyper velocities can cause significant damage. In 2016, an impact of a 7-mm paint fleck was enough to crack a window on the ISS. Shields of the ISS can be penetrated by a 1-cm piece of material possibly disabling a spacecraft and posing threats to astronauts and space travelers. In orbit maneuvers to "dodge" debris that might hit ISS occurred twice in one month. Since 1999, over 30 recorded evasive maneuvers have been made. Examples of space junk falling back to Earth and causing damage is a rare event. There have been no reported fatalities, a case of damage to a structure, and multiple cases of landing on property.

When the orbits of space junk decays and the materials fall to Earth, most will burn up from frictional drag, but many will contribute to air pollution from release of volatiles. Orbits that are lower than about 370 miles from the surface generally burn up within a few years. However, orbits greater than 620 miles can remain there for more than a century.

The atmosphere has become a dangerous junkyard of debris. What is being done to address this problem? In 1979, NASA opened the office of Orbital Debris to monitor orbital debris and develop strategies to curtail its growth. For more info visit orbitaldebris.jsc.nasa.gov.

Both NASA and ESA are tracking, cataloguing, and monitoring the location and movements of space debris to evaluate potential hazards. Technologies and cost-benefit analyses of them is being developed with an initial



An illustration of debris orbiting Earth.

ARTISTS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The organizers of the festival include George Macedo, a watercolor painter, designer for Maple Landmark Woodcraft and leader of the Orwell Artists; Andy Snyder, the owner of Mud

Puppy Pottery; Lynn Austin, an acrylic and pastel painter and a board member of the Brandon Artists Guild; and Peter Root, a sculptor and painter and another member of the BAG board.

Despite the name of the festival, artists are drawn not only from Orwell but also from Shoreham, Bomoseen, Benson and Hubbardton.

"Artists come from everywhere. It's open and anyone can show up and showcase their art at the festival," Dundon said.

The genesis for the Orwell Art Festival emerged from a discussion among the Orwell Artists. The group meets at the Orwell Free Library on the first Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m.

"We started with four people, but now we've grown to around 16. We just talk about our art, show others what we have going on and give others critiques if they're having trouble with something."

"In a very small town with nothing really going on, it's a great way for people to meet up with each other," Dundon said.

The increase in artists over the years has not only caught the attention of locals but also individuals who come from Brandon, Middlebury, Rutland and West Haven to appreciate others' creations.

"HAVING AN ART FESTIVAL PUTS THE ARTWORK OUT THERE, ALLOWING PEOPLE TO LOOK, TOUCH AND FEEL AND MEET FELLOW ARTISTS."

— Stacey Stanhope

"There aren't a lot of art festivals around anymore; a lot have died down over the years, and people just order artwork online. Having an art festival puts the artwork out there, allowing people to look, touch and feel and meet fellow artists," Dundon said.

Macedo, one of the main organizers of the annual event, explained how he would like the festival to expand in the future.

"I'd like to see the festival grow and eventually become like the Woodstock Art Festival, with such a great group of fine, local artists," Macedo said.


Although the town of Orwell may be small in numbers, it is big on talent. That will aid in the growth of the Orwell Art Festival.

"We want people to support local art, especially in a small town like Orwell, because we have such a unique collection of fine artists and a wide variety of artwork for people to come out and see," Macedo said.

If you are an artist and want to show at the Orwell Art Festival, head online to facebook.com/events/703359465774559 to sign up for a display space. A 10-foot-by-10-foot spot is \$50. For more info contact Jennifer Terri at jenniferterri654@gmail.com.




A scene from the 2024 Orwell Art Festival.



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UPCOMING MUSIC

MORE TUNES



40th annual Carillon Series kicks off, Aug. 1

EIGHT FREE CONCERTS ON FRIDAYS IN AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER

Summer has arrived in Middlebury, and soon the campus and surrounding neighborhoods will ring with the sound of carillon bells. The 40th annual Middlebury College Carillon Series kicks off Aug. 1, with a series of eight free concerts on Friday evenings at 6 p.m., at the Middlebury Chapel.

Each year, musicians from around the world come to Middlebury to perform in Middlebury Chapel's bell tower, soaring high above the College campus. The Carillon Series has been directed since its inception by George Matthew Jr., Carillonist for both Middlebury College and Norwich University. He not only marks his 40th anniversary leading the carillon program this year — he also celebrates his own 90th birthday! He has taught generations of students at both schools the art of the carillon, including Middlebury alumna Amy Heebner '93, who performs on Sept. 12. This season's concerts will include music that runs the gamut from classical and international folk songs to pop and Broadway favorites. Visit go.middlebury.edu/carillon for more information on each performer and the works they'll play.

All Carillon Series performances are free

and open to the public and can be enjoyed from the chapel steps or on the surrounding lawns. Audiences are encouraged to bring lawn chairs or blankets. Picnics are optional, but a great idea.

2025 CARILLON SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, AUG. 1, 6 p.m.: Elena Sadina, Instructor, Kathryn Wasserman Davis School of Russian; featuring Nikita and Daniel Gratchev

FRIDAY, AUG. 8, 3 p.m.*: George Matthew Jr. Carillonist, Middlebury College and Norwich University.

Language Schools Commencement prelude. *Please note 3:00 P.M. start time for this concert only.

FRIDAY, AUG. 15, 6 p.m.: Austin Ferguson, Carillonist of the Mayo Clinic

FRIDAY, AUG. 22, 6 p.m.: George Matthew Jr.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 5, 6 p.m.: Joseph Min, winner of the 2024 Queen Fabiola International Carillon Competition

FRIDAY, SEPT. 12, 6 p.m.: Amy Heebner '93, City Carillonist, Albany, N.Y.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 19, 6 p.m.: Charles Semowich, Carillonist Emeritus, Riverside Church, NYC

FRIDAY, SEPT. 26, 6 p.m.: George Matthew Jr. Featuring music from the Middlebury carillon's first playing, at Commencement 1985.

Sarah King sings Aug. 2

Known for her powerhouse voice and "fiery, vulnerable songs," Sarah King's genuine stories draw on classic folk-blues themes. King has earned recognition as the New England Music Awards songwriter of the year. Hear this Ripton musician perform on **Saturday, Aug. 2, from 5:30-7 p.m., on the Town Hall Theater's Outdoor Maloney Plaza.** The concert is free and part of the THT's Summer Sounds Concert Series. Register at townhalltheater.org/summer-sounds. **Bring a chair.**

PERFORMANCE DETAILS

All Carillon Series performances are free and will take place at the Middlebury Chapel, located on the campus of Middlebury College at 75 Hepburn Road. Free parking is available on Route 125/College Street, and on Old Chapel Road. Concerts will go on rain or shine. In the case of inclement weather, audiences are welcome to listen from the chapel steps and front landing. For more information on the artists and each concert's program, visit go.middlebury.edu/carillon.

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Middlebury College celebrates the 40th anniversary of the annual Carillon Series this summer, with free performances by George Matthew Jr. and six esteemed guest artists.

COURTESY PHOTO

ART ON EXHIBIT

BRANDON ARTISTS GUILD

7 Center St, Brandon. For more info visit brandonartistsguild.org or call 802-247-4956.

"Artist of the Month: Bonny Dutton." Brandon Artist Guild will feature Bonny Dutton, from North Chittenden, in a public reception. Doors open at 6 p.m., for a reception followed by the artist talk from 7-8:30. Dutton will discuss her fiber art and how she takes raw fibers and processes them into whole cloth. On view through August.

EDGEWATER AT THE FALLS

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

"Space & Place," a group show featuring works by Tracy Everly, Philip Frey and Rachel Wilcox, brings together landscapes and floral still lifes, exploring the intersection of the natural and composed. A reception and panel talk will be held August. 15, from 5:30-7 p.m. On view Aug. 2-Sept. 7.

EDGEWATER ON THE GREEN

6 Merchants Row, Middlebury
For more info visit edgewatergallery.com, call 802-989-7419 or email info@edgewatergallery-vt.com.

"Unspoken" offers a compelling exploration of the modern feminine experience through Tracy Burtz's large-scale portraits. In this latest body of work, Burtz captures the quiet power of expression and gesture, revealing the inner lives of her subjects with emotional depth and subtlety. On view through Aug. 10.

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. 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.

"Travel: People, Places, Things," an exhibition that
SEE EXHIBITS ON PAGE 15



ARIES: March 21/April 20. Aries, if you long to take your romantic relationship to the next level, this might be the week to focus on your feelings. Your partner may be waiting for you to make a move.

TAURUS: April 21/May 21. Tranquility you have been feeling of late enables you to listen more attentively to your inner self, Taurus. Take advantage of slow times to evaluate events and make important decisions.

GEMINI: May 22/June 21. You can look forward to an enjoyable week, Gemini. Career issues or family matters are nothing to worry about right now, as everything seems to be moving along smoothly.

CANCER: June 22/July 22. This week you may find satisfaction that will put a smile on your face and boost morale. You also may find yourself embracing some of the core values that have been a part of your life.

LEO: July 23/Aug. 23. Leo, others may have been asking questions of you since you've uncharacteristically been out of the limelight. Reveal what you want to share. Even you are allowed your secrets.

VIRGO: Aug. 24/Sept. 22. You have a tendency to avoid conflict instead of facing things head on, Virgo. If you've been circumventing something that needs attention, it is time to see it through.

LIBRA: Sept. 23/Oct. 23. Libra, if you feel that your power has increased, it may be time to take on some more responsibility right now.

Embrace your new role and remain confident in your ability to handle it.

SCORPIO: Oct. 24/Nov. 22. Scorpio, right now you are going through a period where circumstances are trying to shed light on your hidden motivations. But you're not ready to show everyone your cards just yet.

SAGITTARIUS: Nov. 23/Dec. 21. Sagittarius, your ego may take a hit this week, but you'll need to roll with the punches. You are finally understanding that simply willing something to happen won't always work.

CAPRICORN: Dec. 22/Jan. 20. Your actions lately have been going against your nature to want to please others, Capricorn. It will be difficult for you to get back on target, but not impossible.

AQUARIUS: Jan. 21/Feb. 18. It is becoming evident that you might need to bring in a little extra help on a situation that has been brewing for some time, Aquarius.

Figure out who you can trust and go from there.

PISCES: Feb. 19/March 20. Your powers of concentration and self-discipline are impressive, Pisces. There are lessons that others can learn about these admirable traits if you're willing to share.

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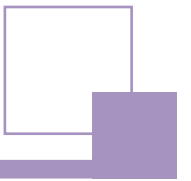
FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

AUG. 1 — Jason Momoa, actor (46)
AUG. 2 — Isabel Allende, novelist (83)
AUG. 3 — P.D. James, writer (d)

AUG. 4 — Barak Obama, president (64)
AUG. 5 — Wendell Berry, novelist and poet (91)
AUG. 6 — Michelle Yeoh, actor (63)
AUG. 7 — Caetano Veloso, singer and composer (83)

CALENDAR

JULY 31-AUG. 10
2025



THURSDAY, JULY 31

SHIPWRECK TOUR IN FERRISBURGH. Thursday, July 31, 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.

THE TAP SAPPERS (WITH FREEMAN COREY) IN HANCOCK. Thursday, July 31, 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. Audiences are encouraged to bring a chair and to enter their names in a weekly free raffle for gift certificates from Heart of Hancock and Hubbard's Store. Rain site: Hancock Town Hall.

LTD (LIVING THE DREAM) IN NEW HAVEN. Thursday, July 31, 7 p.m., bandstand, Addison County Fair and Field Days, Field Days Rd.

FRIDAY, AUG. 1

PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBIT OPENING IN MIDDLEBURY.

Friday, Aug. 1, 4-7 p.m., Photoplace Gallery, 3 Park St. Opening for "Travel: People, Places, Things," a juried photography exhibition exploring the spirit of discovery through images that capture movement, culture and curiosity. Tastings provided by Golden Rule Mead. On view Aug. 1-29.

ELENA SADINA, CARILLONNEUR, IN MIDDLEBURY. Friday, Aug. 1, 6 p.m., the lawns around Middlebury Chapel. In the 40th annual Middlebury College Carillon Series, musicians from around the world come to Middlebury to perform in the Middlebury Chapel's bell tower, soaring high above the college campus. Bring a lawn chair or a blanket to enjoy the music from the lawns surrounding the chapel. Rain or shine. Free and open to all.

ATOM & THE ORBITS IN NEW HAVEN. Friday, Aug. 1, 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.

BLUES & BEYOND IN NEW HAVEN. Friday, Aug. 1, 7 p.m., Addison County Fair and Field Days, Field Days Rd. An electrifying blend of blues, jazz and soul, driven by deep grooves and dynamic live energy. The band features Timothy James (guitar, vocals), Danny Roda (bass, vocals) and Taylor Starbird (drums). Their sets combine classic sounds with bold improvisation — bringing vibrant rhythm and raw intensity to every performance.

SATURDAY, AUG. 2

GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB OUTING AND PICNIC IN FERRISBURGH. Saturday, Aug. 2, Kingsland Bay State Park, 787 Kingsland Bay State Park Rd. A late morning to mid-afternoon gathering to share food and conversation, with options for hikes, bike rides, paddling and swimming. Bring your own food and any equipment needed. For details and to register, contact leader David Andrews at 802-388-4894 or vtrevda@yahoo.com. A park fee or senior passport is needed for admission to the park. Information about the park and facilities, go to VT State Parks-Kingsland Bay. (Rain date: Aug 3). More at gmcbreadloaf.org.

SARAH KING IN MIDDLEBURY. Saturday, Aug. 2, 5:30-7 p.m., Maloney Performance Plaza, Town Hall Theater, 72-76 Merchants Row. Known for her powerhouse voice and "fiery, vulnerable songs," Sarah King's genuine stories draw on classic folk-blues themes. King has earned recognition as the New England Music Awards songwriter of the year. Free. More info at townhalltheater.org.

IRON SIGHTS IN NEW HAVEN. Saturday, Aug. 2, 7 p.m., show tent, Addison County Fair and Field Days, Field Days Rd. Vermont's own 40th Army rock band.

SUNDAY, AUG. 3

SUNDAY SESSIONS IN MIDDLEBURY. Sunday, Aug. 3, 1 p.m., Ralph Myhre Golf Course, 317 Golf Course Rd. Join a special edition of Sunday Sessions to welcome Granville Daze to the patio at the Tavern on the Tee. This performance coincides with the annual Hawaiian Open. Free and open to the public.

HIKE INTO HISTORY IN ORWELL. Sunday, Aug. 3, 1-4 p.m., Mount Independence State Historic Site, 472 Mt. Independence Rd. Walk in the footsteps of

Revolutionary War soldiers. Mount Independence Coalition president and guide Stephen Zeoli will tell you about some events leading up to the Revolution, as you look at traces reflecting the importance of Mount Independence in 1776 and 1777. Wear walking shoes and dress for the weather.

FOODAROO 10 IN MIDDLEBURY. Sunday, Aug. 3, 4-8 p.m., River Front Park, Marble Works. Middlebury's Foodaroo festival will celebrate 10 years with a world of cuisines, Zach Nugent's Dead Set, an adult beverage garden, street performers and two King Arthur Flour baking competitions starring birthday cupcakes. Cover \$5 (cash). Kids 12 and under FREE. Food and beverages available for purchase. A portion of proceeds go to The Giving Fridge.

MONDAY, AUG. 4

PETE SEEGER MEMORIAL CONCERT WITH CAMP KILLOOLEET IN HANCOCK. Monday, Aug. 4, 6:30-8 p.m., on the town green. At all outdoor concerts, food will be available from the Hancock Volunteer Fire Department and the

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, August 1 6:30 a.m. Democracy Now 7:30 a.m. Congregational Church Service 9 a.m. All Things LGBTQ 10 a.m. Selectboard 11:30 a.m. Press Conferences 4 p.m. Memorial Baptist Church Service 5:30 p.m. Energy Week 6:30 p.m. Democracy Now Saturday, August 2 5 a.m. Democracy Now 6 a.m. Press Conferences 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 10 p.m. Democracy Now 11 p.m. Energy Week Sunday, August 3 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 7:30 p.m. Press Conferences 9 p.m. Democracy Now Monday, August 4 4:30 a.m. Energy Week 5:30 a.m. Eckankar 6 a.m. Press Conferences 10 a.m. Selectboard 12 p.m. Democracy Now 1 p.m. Public Affairs 7:30 p.m. Democracy Now 10 p.m. Selectboard Tuesday, August 5 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 10 p.m. Democracy Now	Wednesday, August 6 6:30 a.m. Democracy Now 7:30 a.m. Memorial Baptist Service 9:30 a.m. Catholic Mass 10 a.m. Selectboard 12 p.m. Press Conferences 4 p.m. Energy Week 7 p.m. Selectboard 10 p.m. Energy Week Thursday, August 7 5 a.m. Press Conferences 8 a.m. Congregational Service 11 a.m. Democracy Now 12 p.m. Selectboard 8 p.m. Energy Week 9:30 p.m. Eckankar 10 p.m. Selectboard Channel 1091 Friday, August 1 5:30 a.m. Tai Chi 6 a.m. Yoga 7:30 a.m. Festival On the Green 2025 12 p.m. Phantom Theater Anniversary Show 6 p.m. A Midsummer Night's Dream 7 p.m. Swim Team Trials	8 p.m. Festival On the Green Saturday, August 2 4:30 a.m. Tai Chi 5 a.m. Chair Yoga 6:30 a.m. Vt. Master Naturalist 7:30 a.m. Festival On the Green 11 a.m. A Midsummer Night's Dream 12 p.m. Swim Team Trials 4 a.m. Vt. Master Naturalist 5 p.m. Swim Team Trials 7 p.m. A Midsummer Night's Dream 9 p.m. Festival On the Green Sunday, August 3 5 a.m. Vt. Master Naturalist 6:15 a.m. Yoga for Kids 6:30 a.m. Swim Team Trials 7:30 a.m. Phantom Theater 9:15 p.m. Vt. Master Naturalist 12 p.m. Swim Team Trials 4 p.m. A Midsummer Night's Dream 5 p.m. Vt. Master Naturalist 6 p.m. State Board of Education 10 p.m. Festival On the Green Monday, August 4 5 a.m. Poets and Authors 7 a.m. Chair Yoga 12 p.m. Tai Chi	12:30 p.m. Chair Yoga 5 p.m. Swim Team Trials 7 p.m. Festival On the Green 2025 8:25 p.m. Phantom Theater 10 p.m. Vt. Master Naturalist Tuesday, August 5 5:30 a.m. Tai Chi 6 a.m. Yoga 12 p.m. Authors and Poets 5 p.m. Tai Chi 5:30 p.m. Festival On the Green 8 p.m. Vt. Master Naturalist 9 p.m. Poets and Authors Wednesday, August 6 5 a.m. Tai Chi 6 a.m. Chair Yoga 7:30 a.m. Festival On the Green 12 p.m. State Board of Education 4 p.m. Poets and Authors 6 p.m. Festival On the Green Thursday, August 7 6 a.m. Tai Chi 6:30 a.m. Chair Yoga 7:30 a.m. State Board of Education 4 p.m. Poets and Authors 6 p.m. Festival On the Green 8 p.m. Kindergarten Orientation	

Hancock Recreational Committee. Audiences are encouraged to bring a chair and to enter their names in a weekly free raffle for gift certificates from Heart of Hancock and Hubbard's Store. Rain site will be at the Hancock Town Hall.

VERGENNES CITY BAND CONCERT IN VERGENNES. Monday, Aug. 4, 7 p.m., City Green. A staple of Vergennes summer. Relax on the green and listen to live band music.

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 6

SUNDAY MORNING IN BRISTOL. Wednesday, Aug. 6, 5-8 p.m., The Tillerman, 1868 North 116 Rd. A group of friends who celebrate life by attempting to make pretty sounds. Songs about the ins and outs of life focused on melodic harmonies, with an air of celebration. ranges from softer piano-jazz cocktail lounge songs to louder banjo driven country with an occasional Latin twist. Music if Free. Food and beverages available for purchase.

BREANNA & THE BOYS IN BRANDON. Wednesday, Aug. 6, 6 p.m., behind the Brandon Inn. Local folk rock power quartet. Rain Location Brandon Town Hall.

BRISTOL TOWN BAND IN BRISTOL. Wednesday, Aug. 6, 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, AUG 7

SHIPWRECK TOUR IN FERRISBURGH. Thursday, Aug 7, 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.

BIRDING WITH KIDS AND VERMONT AUDUBON IN STARKSBORO. Thursday, Aug. 7, 11 a.m., Starksboro Public Library, Route 116. An Audubon educator will visit the library for a morning of birds, crafts and science. This is a drop-in program for

kids of all ages. Join us for a second date (can do just one or the other or both!) August 7 at 11am. All towns welcome.

THE MORNING DUDES IN MIDDLEBURY. Thursday, Aug. 7, 7-9 p.m., American Flatbread pavilion, Marble Works. Come to the Flatbread Beer Garden and celebrate Jerry Garcia & the Grateful Dead.

FRIDAY, AUG. 8

SOLARFEST IN BRANDON. Friday, Aug. 8, Steinberg Rd. A 30-year tradition of bringing together generations of friends and family from Vermont, New York, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and 22 other states, plus Canada for a fun solar-powered summer festival with live music, great food and exciting activities for all ages. SolarFest presents top-quality regional and national musical performers along with the ever-popular Singer Songwriter Showcase. Workshops across eight subject tracks include scores of hands-on presentations by experts and practitioners on important topics that offer practical solutions to real-world concerns. More info at solarfest.org.

GEORGE MATTHEW JR., carillonneur, in Middlebury. Friday, Aug. 8, 3 p.m., the lawns around Middlebury Chapel. In the 40th annual Middlebury College Carillon Series, musicians from around the world come to Middlebury to perform in the Middlebury Chapel's bell tower, soaring high above the College campus. Bring a lawn chair or a blanket to enjoy the music from the lawns surrounding the chapel. Rain or shine. Free and open to all.

THE GRIFT IN NEW HAVEN. Friday, Aug. 8, 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.

ARTIST'S RECEPTION IN BRANDON. Friday, Aug. 8 7-8:30 p.m., Brandon Artists Guild, 7 Center St. Meet artist Bonny Dutton and view her work. Refreshments served.

POINT COUNTERPOINT FACULTY CONCERT IN

SALISBURY. Friday, Aug. 8, 7:30 p.m., Salisbury Congregational Church, 853 Maple St, Salisbury. Admission is free; goodwill donations are gratefully accepted.

SATURDAY, AUG. 9

WILDLIFE WALK IN MIDDLEBURY. Saturday, Aug. 9, 7 a.m., Weybridge St. and Pulp Mill Bridge Rd. Otter Creek Audubon and the Middlebury Area Land Trust invite community members to help us survey birds and other wildlife at Otter View Park and the Hurd Grassland. Meet at the parking area of Otter View Park. Birders of all ages and abilities welcome. For more information, call 802-388-6019.

GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB HIKE IN RIPTON. Saturday, Aug. 9, Skylight Pond. Easy to moderate ascent from the Skylight Pond trail into the Breadloaf Wilderness. Beautiful Skylight Pond and shelter are a short hike past the intersection with the Long Trail. Also includes a short walk to an overlook with a view over the Champlain valley and to the Adirondacks. Hike is about 5 miles, with about 1,500 feet of elevation gain. Poles and bug repellent are recommended. Contact Dwight at dgriesman@hotmail.com for more information and to sign up for the hike. More at gmcbreadloaf.org.

SOLARFEST IN BRANDON. Saturday, Aug. 9, Steinberg Rd. See Aug. 8 listing.

MORGAN HORSE FARM VERMONT DAY IN WEYBRIDGE. Saturday, Aug. 9, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., UVM Morgan Horse Farm, Battell Dr. Come see horse presentations from 10 a.m.-noon and picnic on the lawn with the mares and foals from 12:30-2 p.m. Free admission, rain or shine.

ZACH NEVINS QUINTET IN MIDDLEBURY. Saturday, Aug. 9, 5:30-7 p.m., Maloney Performance Plaza, Town Hall Theater, 72-76 Merchants Row. Teenage trombonist and composer Zachary Nevins is establishing himself as an innovative up-and-comer in both the East and West Coast music scenes. Nevins is a Middlebury local, back in town premiering his latest quintet project in anticipation for his first jazz album as a leader. Free. More info at townhalltheater.org.

SUNDAY, AUG. 10

GREEN MOUNTAIN BICYCLE CLUB RIDE IN WASHINGTON AND ADDISON COUNTIES., meet at 9:15 a.m., Waitsfield Elementary School, Route 100. Waitsfield and Waterfalls. Enjoy a scenic tour through the countryside of Waitsfield and Warren

with a visit to Moss Glen Falls in Granville. Turn around at the falls for a 35-mile ride or continue up Middlebury Gap with a stop at Texas Falls for a 60-mile ride. A visit to the Warren Store is always popular and the general store in Hancock provides an additional respite for those on the long ride. More info contact leader Allan Kunigis at 802-324-9958 / akunigis@gmail.com or co-leader Mark Dupuis at 802-318-6492 / mdd514902@yahoo.com.

SOLARFEST IN BRANDON. Sunday, Aug. 10, Steinberg Rd. See Aug. 8 listing.

ZIG ZAG LIT MAG CHAPBOOK RELEASE PARTY IN NEW HAVEN. Sunday, Aug 10, 2 p.m., Tourterelle, 3629 Ethan Allen Hwy. This special event marks the release of chapbooks by four Addison County writers: William A. Nelson, Heidi Schulman Greenwald, Phineas Knowles and Beth Christian. Part reading, part cocktail hour and all community spirit — a chance to hear fresh work from voices rooted in Vermont soil. All are welcome. Free and open to the public.

SEE MORE CALENDAR LISTINGS ONLINE!

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OLD TOWN, FLORIDA



EPISODE 3 WINTER ADVENTURES IN AN AIRSTREAM

TRAVEL

Lincoln resident Steve Harris gazing at the Santa Fe River near High Springs, Fla., quietly disappearing.

PHOTOS / STEVE & JUDITH HARRIS

Encouraged by our first five nights inboard of Florida's coastlines, we were pleased to finally discover O'Leno State Park, 60 miles deeper into the central region of northern Florida. This 6,000-acre park, built by the CCC, features the Santa Fe River, which vanishes and reappears, then eventually joins the Suwannee River 35 miles further west. The Santa Fe is a commonly visited canoe destination with a mean average flow rate of 61 million gallons of water per day (USGS). It takes some effort to imagine how much water that represents.

BY **STEVE HARRIS**

A more easily understood illustration of such a massive flow rate follows:

A very productive well drilled for water in New England will yield 150 gallons/minute and come to the surface under pressure, making it "artesian." This well would satisfy the needs of a dairy farm with 1,500 head of cattle. Such a gusher, if allowed to run free, would produce 216,000 gallons in a day, requiring almost 282 such wells to compete with the flow of the Santa Fe River.

What might you call such a unique disappearing act?

How about "River Sink?" All right then, we could



Steve and Judith's perch along the bank, 14 miles upstream of the outfall and 14 feet above sea level at Yellowjacket RV "Resort" in Old Town, Fla.

PHOTO / STEVE & JUDITH HARRIS

therefore surmise that when all this water reappears, it sputters back to life in a series of contributing springs and finally recreates this full-grown water course with somewhat less water than it used to have. That would be wrong! It reappears as suddenly as it vanished, three miles away, reduces its tannin-based turbidity to crystal clear and emerges slightly larger than when it disappeared.

And what might we call such a miraculous reappearance, "Captain Obvious?"

How about "River Rise?" We had heard tell of this two years ago and have since felt drawn to see

how much of this yarn could possibly be true. I had been holding in my mind images of badly dressed tourists standing in line, complete with an enormous parking lot and whining, fidgeting children in a gift shop full of cheap souvenirs. Wrong again!

As one of Florida's original state parks, O'Leno was brought back to life from an abandoned Town by the CCC in the 1930s. The original village settlement was bypassed by the railroad and then struck with a multi-year occurrence of freezing temperatures which put an end to its survival ambitions. With over twenty miles of hiking trails and extensive group camping sites, the park offers an outdoor classroom for groups of any size.

The sites of both the "sink" and "rising" were far less developed than I had imagined, each of them requiring significant hikes to approach. At the sink, a single viewing platform had been built showing signs of many years of flooding and repairs. At the rising, only storm damage and downed trees surrounded the quiet spectacle, requiring some bushwhacking to acquire a complete appreciation for such a unique natural conjuring.

Both the disappearance and reappearance of the Santa Fe River are abrupt, full of vigorous fish

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

and turtles and executed in complete silence with nary a ripple at the surface nor a single gurgle of sound. The conduits and caves in the three miles that separate them have been explored and mapped to the limits of human capability, but the wonder remains obvious. We were left with questions of "how" and "why" more firmly embedded in our imaginations after spending an hour at each location, with only snapshots left as proof of what gravity, hydraulics and geology can create on their own.

It is currently difficult to remember a time when the federal government was not feared and/or held in contempt in this country. It took three previous administrations of ultra conservative presidents, Harding, Coolidge and Hoover, to prove that tariffs, lack of regulation and tax cuts for the wealthy would make the economic calamity of 1929 inevitable.

The Civilian Conservation Corps was established in 1933 by FDR at the high-water mark of the Great Depression. It would prove to be the most popular government program of the New Deal era. In the nine years of its existence the Corps engaged over 3 million jobless young men between the ages of 17-28 for up to a maximum of two years each. The men were single, volunteered for at least six months of engagement, and were paid \$30/month (about \$750 in today's dollars). They were provided with a place to live (initially tents), reliable food, clothing, medical care and education. At the time of entry, 70% of enrollees were malnourished and poorly clothed. Only a few had work experiences beyond occasional odd jobs.

Organized into camps run by active military personnel, barrack teams of 30 men were put to work forty-hours per week providing manual labor building roads, installing flood and erosion control measures, creating parks, campgrounds and public facilities on Government land. When the CCC was disbanded nine years later as the need for soldiers supplanted domestic programs, they had worked out of 4,500 camps, planted 2.5 billion trees, constructed 800 parks, restored almost 4,000 historical sites and had spent 6 million days fighting wildfires. Their motto became, "We Can Take it!" The program was designed to preserve two natural resources, land and youth. It succeeded in redeeming both.

Our next destination, Yellowjacket RV "Resort" in Old Town, Fla., took us downstream to near the outfall of the more renowned Suwannee River. She is one of only three "free" rivers east of the Mississippi, meaning there are no dams over her full (250-mile) length. She is also rural, from her source in the Okefenokee wetlands of Georgia to her delta in the "big bend" of Florida. Her discharge into the Gulf of Mexico is broad and mostly all public land, meaning almost entirely free of human settlement. She is a unicorn amongst American rivers, and an ardent



The "river of gold" (Suwannee River) in Old Town, Fla.

PHOTO / STEVE & JUDITH HARRIS

supporter of wildlife.

While enjoying a week in her company this year, we had an evening by our campfire when the clouds were still offering a solid deck of gray overhead, but the early sunset was painting the tops of the trees along the banks with slanting shafts of orange. While sipping our evening beverages with gloves on, Judi noticed that a whole flock of black vultures was fixing to roost above our heads, something neither of us had ever witnessed. Soon we had a dome-shaped cloud of over one hundred huge, silent birds wheeling at various altitudes and different directions descending through a series of impossibly skillful maneuvers. Each was perfectly silhouetted against the soft grey velvet background of a jeweler's display case, only viewed from below. And as they approached a limb, frequently already occupied by two or three others, they would suddenly catch the low-angled light and burst out of the monochromatic into the full technicolor of sunset. As nature's waste control professionals, vultures go about their business without the social gabbling of ducks or geese and certainly make less noise than human sanitation workers bashing through neighborhoods clinging to the back of their diesel packer-trucks.

Just when they had all alighted, a moving cloud of white ibis came chugging downstream in tight formation within 10 feet of the water's surface, and at quite impressive speed. Unlike their gliding vulturine cousins, these birds had an objective and were determined to get there quickly. Hundreds of them powered by our seats on the bank, and at some invisible signal, they all turned toward the far shore and quickly melted under the green canopy of an enormous live oak tree. Again, this evening roosting was executed

without a sound.

The final act of this evening's presentation unfolded when our attention was drawn back to the much closer vulture flock on our side of the river. They had moved on as quietly as they had arrived. Not a single hanger-on remained, they were all simply no longer there. The last light of the sunset show was fading to black on the treetops and the cold began to seep into our bones as another rare freezing night was making its unpleasantness impossible to ignore.

At 5:30 the following morning, Stella and I noticed shimmering white stars and a silver moon against a deep black sky, and a blanket of mist hugging the water of the river. Since the sun had been obscured for the previous week, the prospect of an actual sunrise put me on alert. While preparing our breakfast, I made numerous trips to the bank with my camera and was provided with a show I had likewise never seen before. This time, the golden yellow of dawn's unfolding light slid slowly down toward the ground from the treetops, and when it caught the lingering mist, the river's whole surface became a molten, flowing carpet of liquid precious metal stirred gently by a light breeze. The dawn chorus of songbirds seemed to applaud this demonstration of awe-inspiring riverine magic.

Central Florida is not disappointing. It is home to many natural wonders among a light population of humans going quietly about the work and play of their lives — the perfect combination to gain a more balanced picture of a state with a much-distorted reputation.

— 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 two pieces on Jan. 20 and 25, 2025. They have been edited and abridged to fit.

TRAVEL

ARTS+LEISURE

LOOK FOR WEEKLY TRAVEL STORIES NOW THROUGH AUG. 14

WITH JUDITH & STEVE HARRIS

WINTER ADVENTURES IN AN AIRSTREAM

ASK A MASTER GARDENER

ALL ABOUT BLUEBERRIES

Blueberries, which originated in North America, are one of the healthiest fruits you can eat. They have a unique and delicious flavor, are low in calories and are packed with antioxidants. They hold up well in the freezer or fridge, so you can enjoy them long after harvest.

BY **VERN GRUBINGER**

This year, the blueberry crop is plentiful on Vermont farms.

For centuries, Native Americans ate wild, or low-bush, blueberries. These grow naturally on acid soils, producing fruit that is rather small on plants that only grow about a foot tall. The domesticated, or highbush blueberry, produces much bigger berries and more of them on a plant that grows many times taller than its wild cousin.

The domestication of the blueberry started in 1908 when a researcher at the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Dr. Frederick Coville, began seeking out superior wild plants for breeding in New Hampshire. In 1911, he lucked out when Elizabeth White, a commercial cranberry grower in New Jersey, learned of his work and perceived its potential. She offered her assistance and for the next two decades enlisted her pickers to search for exceptionally fine bushes in the wilds of the pine barrens.

Dr. Coville developed the first 15 commercial blueberry varieties of blueberries. In 1937, a Vermonter took over the USDA blueberry breeding program. Dr. George Darrow initiated cooperation with state agricultural experiment stations and private growers so new varieties could be tested in different growing areas.

Between 1946 and 1962, he provided over 200,000 seedling plants to cooperators in 13 states. Two of these cooperators were Green Mountain Orchards and Harlow's Sugarhouse, both of which had apple orchards in Putney.

Over time, the highbush blueberry crop really took off. The 2022 U.S. Census of Agriculture counted 286 farms with 404 acres of blueberries in Vermont. The typical yield is almost 2,000 pounds per acre, so about 800,000 pounds of Vermont blueberries must be picked, sold and eaten in a relatively short time. Almost all these berries are sold directly to customers or to local stores and distributors.

Nationally, 795 million pounds of blueberries were harvested in 2024. About half the crop comes from Washington and Oregon, which have a combined 32,000 acres in production, mostly on specialized



Dr. Vern Grubinger is the University of Vermont Extension vegetable and berry specialist.

farms that ship to stores and processors.

Blueberries are unusual in that they require an acidic soil to grow well. In many locations, sulfur should be added to lower the soil pH before the crop is planted. Then, the plants must be mulched, pruned and irrigated to produce the highest yields.

Fruit buds form on the second year of cane growth, so removal of old canes is important to allow room for new canes, which maintain production over time. And it can be quite some time! Blueberry bushes, if well-tended, live for many decades.

One of the antioxidants in blueberries is anthocyanin, a type of flavonoid responsible for the blue pigment. Antioxidants protect your body from free radicals, which are unstable molecules that can damage cells and contribute to diseases. Research also suggests that blueberries are beneficial to maintaining memory and cognitive function.

To find a farm where you can pick your own fresh, delicious local blueberries, visit vermontpickyourown.org.



Highbush blueberries produce large, sweet berries that ripen beginning in early to mid-July with peak season typically occurring in early August.

PHOTO / VERN GRUBINGER/UVM EXTENSION

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Pet of the Week



Purr-fect Pika!

Pika enjoys The Addison Independent on a hot day.

COURTESY PHOTO

Pika came to us from Homeward Bound as a 1-year-old in December 2023. I dropped by to “visit” the cats and this little gray sweetie named Rose peered out at me from her kitty condo with a quiet look that said: I really need to come home with you.

We renamed her Pika for the small, round, gray mammal of the high mountains of the west. The name fit her perfectly physically and — as we learned over time — her perky personality as well.

After settling in, we discovered we had adopted the Simone Biles of cats. Pika leapt great heights, executing twists, making 360 degree turns and doing actual back flips and somersaults, bouncing off everything like a furry pin ball. Every day was Slopestyle with Pika.

When she wasn't training for the cat Olympics, she spent her time nibbling and scattering all of the baked goods fresh out of the oven: cupcakes, pies, cookies, rolls, biscuits, anything that smelled like butter! She was briefly —

and not always affectionately — called Butter Butt.

Fun and entertaining, but doesn't everyone want some cozy with their cat?

After a madcap first year, Pika evolved into the sweetest lap kitty, one who loves reading time and movies and curling up in bed. She even knows how to ask you to light a fire for her in the winter.

She is our first indoor cat. We no longer felt comfortable contributing to the decimation of songbird populations, so weather permitting, we leave all the windows open for her to experience the outside world. However, when it gets too hot in the window, it's time to chill out on the floor with the paper.

With so many individuals now challenged to keep their pets, we recognize how fortunate we are to have Pika and how important it is to continue to support Homeward Bound.

Cheryl Ryder
West Cornwall

Pet of the week

Pssst... It's free!



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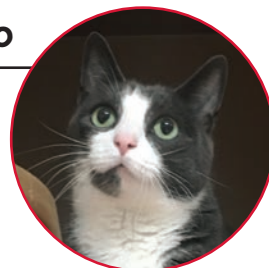
Pets In Need

HOMeward BOUND

Addison County's Humane Society

Loco

Sweet **Loco** came in with her sister, Poco. She is affectionate and talkative. She gets along with other cats but has no experience with dogs.



Poco



Loco's sister, **Poco**, is also a sweet and loving gal. She gets along with other cats but has no experience with dogs.

Syrena

Syrena is a sweet girl who recently raised her kittens. She is now ready for a new life and is looking for a home to spoil her like she did her babies. Syrena is very affectionate and vocal. She gets along with other cats, but we are unsure about dogs.



Willow



Willow is a 2-year-old girl who is affectionate and independent. Her previous owner describes her as playful, food-motivated, and sweet. She is indoor only and does not get along with other cats.

Abileen

I'm **Abileen** 6-year-old, 64-pound girl with a happy smile. If you're looking for a smart pup, you will be amazed at what I can do. I am an excellent puzzle toy solver and will find ways to play fetch by myself in the yard. I'm in search of a family that will give me lots of mental stimulation and wants to interact with me during play and training. I love to learn new things and would like you to be the one to teach me! I've previously lived with children, but need to be in a pet-free home. Balls and being near my people are my favorite things in the world. I'm crate-trained and housebroken. A fenced-in yard is preferred!



Homeward Bound
Addison County's Humane Society



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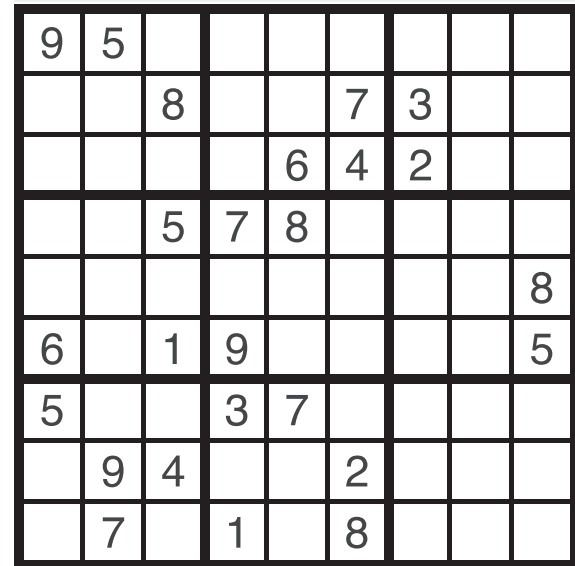
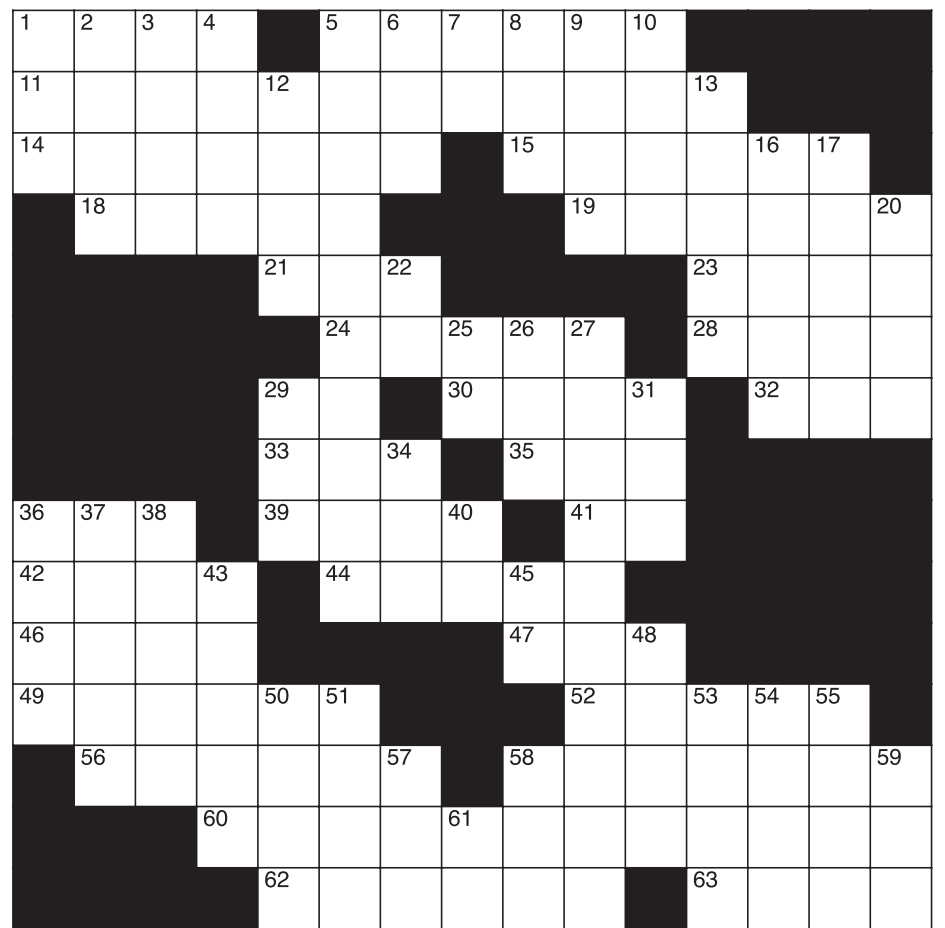
- 1. Popular potato snack
- 5. Guards the Pyramids
- 11. Furnish anew
- 14. Herb
- 15. Preoccupy the mind continually
- 18. The lowest adult male singing voice
- 19. NATO commander (abbr.)
- 21. A major division of geological time
- 23. New Zealand parrot
- 24. Notions
- 28. Lump in yarn

- 29. Indicates position
- 30. Lose hold of
- 32. Hindu honorific
- 33. Former OSS
- 35. Electronic data processing
- 36. Cost per mile
- 39. Snake-like fish
- 41. They start the alphabet
- 42. Taylor Swift's tour
- 44. Intermediate ecological stage
- 46. Scarlett's home
- 47. Of he
- 49. Ohio city
- 52. Breakfast item
- 56. An evening party
- 58. __ Falls

- 60. Linked together
- 62. Mythological spirits
- 63. Small Eurasian deer

DOWN

- 1. Earliest human form: __-Magnon man
- 2. Flavoring
- 3. Notion
- 4. Bundy and Fenwick are two
- 5. Qualities of sound
- 6. One who gets paid
- 7. Expresses surprise
- 8. O.J. trial judge
- 9. Pointed ends of pens



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

- 10. Shield bugs genus
- 12. Container for shipping
- 13. Upper body parts
- 16. Closes tightly
- 17. Nigerian World Heritage Site
- 20. Volcanic island in Fiji
- 22. Commercial
- 25. -__ : denotes past
- 26. They __
- 27. Confraternities
- 29. A way to gain a point
- 31. Parts per billion (abbr.)
- 34. Brew
- 36. Badgers group
- 37. Sailing boat
- 38. __ Polo, explorer
- 40. Elder citizen (abbr.)
- 43. Frankish law code
- 45. Exclamation of surprise
- 48. Groan
- 50. It presses clothing
- 51. Do not allow
- 53. Gelatinous substance
- 54. Common Japanese surname
- 55. Present in nature
- 57. Electronic countermeasures
- 58. Last or greatest in an indefinitely large series
- 59. Commercials
- 61. News agency

This week's puzzle solutions can be found on Page 14.



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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

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MIDDLEBURY **NEW LISTING!** 573 SOUTH MUNGER STREET

MLS #5053639 | \$749,000
4 BD | 4 BA | 3357 SF | 6.37 AC

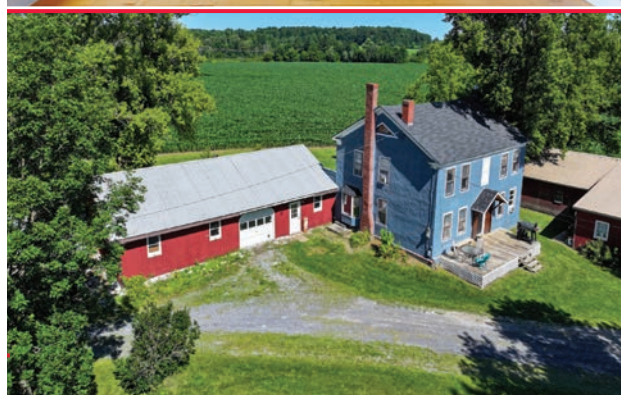
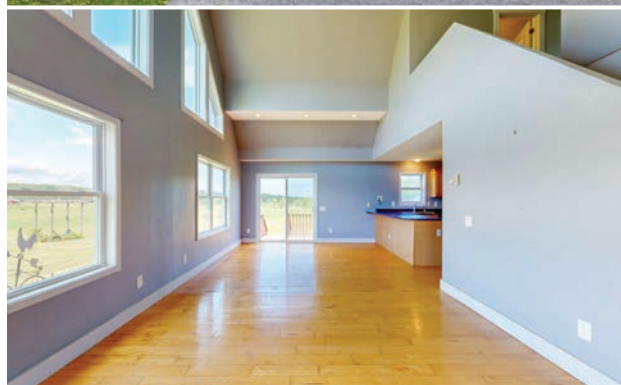
Enjoy the privacy of a dead end road while being just three miles to town and with Green Mountain views out your back door! Move-in ready with a renovated eat-in kitchen and custom baths. Third level offers wide-open attic space inviting any number of uses. Lower level provides a one bedroom apartment with a private entrance (host family and friends, or rent it out!). Large deck, screened porch, extensive stone landscaping, blooming perennials, an inviting entrance, and a handsome three-car garage with 2nd-level storage. Space to live, work, garden, and play with downtown Middlebury just minutes away!



BRIDPORT **NEW LISTING!** 1180 SWINTON ROAD

MLS #5053377 | \$399,000
3 BD | 2 BA | 1857 SF | 2.00 ACRES

Light and bright Cape/Saltbox in bucolic Bridport! Vaulted ceilings and plenty of windows in the large living room. First floor primary suite with a private bath and adjacent walk-in closet. Finished space in the basement could be a rec room or exercise room. Basement also houses storage shelving, a pantry space, and a laundry room. Use the garden shed to house the tools and equipment to care for your large level lawn; oversee it from the back deck just off the dining room. Middlebury is only a 15-minute drive while the Bridport Green is "just around the corner" bringing events, ball games, and picnics to your home town.



MIDDLEBURY **NEW LISTING!** 118 THREE MILE BRIDGE ROAD

MLS #5053529 | \$389,000
3 BD | 2 BA | 2232 SF | 1.10 ACRES

Classic 1820 Colonial offers an expansive and flexible living space with historic charm, an oversized attached garage and insulated workshop, with an additional large barn (once a thriving antique shop).



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418 E. Main Street, Middlebury

This 3 bedroom, 2 bath, East Middlebury Village home was tastefully renovated from the studs up in 2016, retaining much of the original charm while benefitting from the convenience and peace of mind that comes with all new systems.

MLS No. 5047066 | \$ 495,000



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



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

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LOOK UP

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

satellites). Examples of technologies are ground and space laser nudges, tugging for controlled and uncontrolled reentries, physical 'sweeping', and recycling of debris for various applications. Work is also being directed to developing just in time collision avoidance with rapid response rockets.

Humans have littered the land, the oceans, and now our atmosphere. What lessons will we learn from our treatment of Earth's vital and protective envelope of gases? Since we are destined to inhabit places other than Earth, how will we take the understanding of the human impact on Biosphere I to any other life-sustaining biosphere environments we create? Perhaps there are technologies that will revolutionize our ability to remediate and change the way we do business on Earth. Learning how to create space environments with the ability to minimize resources used, maximize material recycled, and maximize the capture and use of incoming energy will have applications that help us sustain a healthier Biosphere I.

Can we become backpackers in space,

target of remediation of the 50 largest items (e.g. spent rocket boosters, defunct



Orbital debris illustrated.

leaving no trace?

*"The Universe is infinite
But space has its limits
Rockets a launching
Sat'lites are orbiting
Explosions in Space
Oh what a waste
Fragments go flying
And we go crying "Space junk we've got"
Man-made or not
Then comes Kessler Who knows the better
When things collide
Their debris do multiply
Thanks to partnering
And NASA's gathering
We look for ways
To manage the spray"*

— S. Thuy Nguyen-Onstott

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS
JULY 31, 2025



9	5	2	8	3	1	4	6	7
4	6	8	2	9	7	3	5	1
1	3	7	5	6	4	2	8	9
3	4	5	7	8	6	9	1	2
7	2	9	4	1	5	6	3	8
6	8	1	9	2	3	7	4	5
5	1	6	3	7	9	8	2	4
8	9	4	6	5	2	1	7	3
2	7	3	1	4	8	5	9	6

SKY WATCH EVENTS FOR AUGUST

Aug. 3 – Waxing gibbous Moon is 1 degree below reddish Antares, brightest star in Scorpius in evening

Aug. 11 – Rising waning gibbous Moon 5 degrees of Saturn in evening

Aug. 12 – Brilliant Venus and Jupiter 1 degree apart rising ENE in morning

Aug. 12, 13 – Perseid meteor shower peaks, but waning gibbous Moon interferes, may see brighter ones at rate of a few to a dozen per hour

Aug. 19 – Morning show: ENE horizon, waning crescent Moon, Jupiter and Venus in vertical arc 14 degrees tall and near bright stars Castor and Pollux in Gemini

Aug. 20 – Morning lunar crescent, Venus, Pollux, and Jupiter are in close proximity

Aug. 26 – Dusk lunar crescent and bright star Spica in Virgo a few degrees apart

Aug. 30 – First quarter Moon near bright star Antares in Scorpius

EXHIBITS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

captures the spirit of discovery and exploration. Juror Laura Moya has selected photographs that go beyond beautiful portraits or

landscapes to convey the feeling of stepping into the unfamiliar — images that spark curiosity and invite viewers to experience the world from new perspectives. An opening reception will be held Friday, Aug. 1, from 4-7 p.m., to celebrate the selected artists along with mead tastings provided by Golden Rule Mead from Middlebury. On view in the Middlebury gallery and online. On view Aug. 1-29.

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.

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.



"Masha, Nenets Lady in the Russian Arctic" is on view at PhotoPlace Gallery for the month of August.

PHOTO / MARK MUSCAT DE CELIS / MARKSTRAVELPHOTOGRAPHY.COM

"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.

"Material Narratives: Ornament & Identity,"

Organized by students of Professor Erin Sassin's course at Middlebury College, this mini exhibition is the result of meticulous research and thoughtful curation, showcasing many unique treasures in the Sheldon Museum's collection. On view

May 21-Oct. 31.

"Slow Seeing: A Close Observation Room."

In this room, you're invited to sit and really look. This is a space for immersive attention, close looking, and paying attention to the details. Take a seat, use the magnifying tools at hand and take the time to look. You are invited to draw, to dream, to write, to read, to think. On view May 21-Oct. 31.

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44 Main St., Middlebury

For more info visit sparrowartsupply.com

"Spotlight @ Sparrow: Zarabeth Duell."

August's exhibit will feature Zarabeth of MTN GRL Studio. She blends layered paper watercolor, relief prints, and delicate craftwork to celebrate the natural world. Her newest collection is a love letter to the garden in high summer — when blooms burst, vegetables ripen, and color and texture abound. These pieces capture a fleeting moment of fullness, honoring the abundance of the season before it slips away. On view through August

Brandon Village Opportunities



FRESHLY PAINTED & READY TO MOVE IN. Charming cape-style home located in the village. Features include hardwood and softwood flooring, a wood burning fireplace in the living room, a 22'x11' deck with a 11.5'x13' foot patio area adjacent. The spacious backyard offers ample gardening space, while the oversized one-car garage provides plenty of storage. Ideally situated in the village center, close to shopping, the library, restaurants, & churches. \$330,000

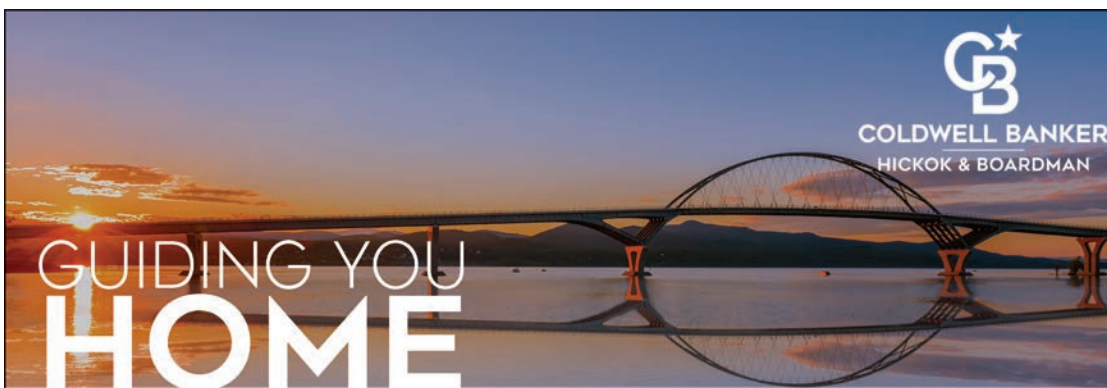


House at the Bend: Spacious 1,576 sq. ft. home features 3 BRs and 2 Bs. A sunny, bright eat-in kitchen with pantry. Additionally, there is an 1,000 sq. ft. barn incl. 500± sq. ft. on each floor. The barn offers workshop, storage, & studio areas, all equipped w/hot water baseboard heating. Separate entrance to the studio area from the parking area. Barn connects to the house through a heated breezeway/storage area. Enjoy outdoors from open side & front porches. \$250,000



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Zig Zag Lit Mag to host Chapbook release party at Tourterelle

Zig Zag Lit Mag invites the community to a celebration of local literature on Sunday, Aug. 10, at 2 p.m., at Tourterelle Restaurant & Inn in New Haven. This special event marks the release of chapbooks by four Addison County writers: William A. Nelson, Heidi Schulman Greenwald, Phineas Knowles and Beth Christian.

Part reading, part cocktail hour, and all community spirit — this free event offers a chance to hear fresh work from voices rooted in Vermont soil. Enjoy an afternoon of live readings, literary conversation and

cocktails in the beautiful setting of Tourterelle.

BOOKS:
"The Inscrutable Meanwhile," a collection of poems by retired attorney William A. Nelson of Middlebury.

"Home Where I've Never Been," a collection of poems by Middlebury College program coordinator Heidi Schulman Greenwald of Salisbury.

"Me, Mothself, & I," a collection of short personal essays by editor and harpist Phineas Knowles of Bristol.

"I Have to Start Killing Again," a collection of poems by retired educator

Beth Christian of Weybridge.

Zig Zag Lit Mag is a hyperlocal arts and literature magazine created for and by those who live,

labor, or loiter in Addison County. With this chapbook series, Zig Zag continues its mission to showcase the vibrant creative voices of our region.

Read Local. Write Local. All are welcome. This event is free and open to the public. For more information, contact info@zigzaglitmag.org

COUNTRY HOMES CLOSE TO CITY/TOWN CENTERS



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



54 Forest Ridge Dr, Bristol

This large sun-filled home is perfect for anyone that needs space to home school or who work from home. The primary suite with spa-like bathroom sits a level above the great room for privacy. The additional three bedrooms are on the main level with a full walk-in laundry room with storage. The open floorplan is perfect for entertaining and expands out onto the deck with incredible views. The house is located in a small wooded neighborhood on a private road with 4 other homes. Within minutes to Bristol, Middlebury and New Haven. This is a must see!

MLS# 5039281

\$575,000

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200 BUTTERNUT RIDGE DR., MIDDLEBURY
MLS #5053422 - \$495,000

This lovely home is really only about 4 years old. The current owner purchased the property after a major fire and ripped down much of the old structure. The electrical, plumbing, heating, bathrooms, kitchen, floors, windows, sheetrock, roof, siding, etc. were all replaced. The oversized one car garage is insulated and heated. There is also a very nice storage shed which will have a new 1-car garage door on it in the next couple of weeks. This beautiful home is located in a very nice older neighborhood with established trees giving the back yard and porch a sense of privacy that is rare to find in a neighborhood.



Champlain Valley Properties

70 Court Street, Middlebury, VT

802-989-7522

ChamplainValleyProperty.net



This three bedroom, two full bath home offers 2,514 square feet of comfortable living space on just over 5 private acres 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 countertop 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 - \$435,000

This cozy, two bedroom, one bath house sits on a one acre level lot with a large back yard. Inside you will find the eat-in kitchen, living room, bedrooms and bathroom all on one level. If you like to entertain, half of the basement has been finished off with a custom made bar. Outside you will find a large garage, perfect for storage or a workshop. This home is close to Brandon, Fern Lake, Lake Dunmore and Neshobe golf course!



818 NORTH ST., BRANDON
MLS #5053175 - \$255,000