

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK FROM AREA HIGH SCHOOLS

Vergennes Union High School

Phoebe Raphael

Vergennes Union High School is proud to recognize Phoebe Raphael as this week's Student of the Week. Phoebe lives in Vergennes with her parents, younger brother, dog, and three cats. One of her favorite things about her hometown is how walkable it is, and she especially enjoys strolling down Main Street and thrifting at Your Turn.

At VUHS, Phoebe enjoys the strong sense of community and spending time with her friends. This semester she is especially excited about Law & Justice, AP Psychology, and Music Theory. Her favorite class so far has been Statistics, and she gives a special shoutout to Mr. Schechter for fostering a learning environment built on conversation and curiosity.

Music is a major part of her high school experience. Phoebe has been a member of Band and Chorus for all four years, calling it an anchor in her day-to-day life. She's also active in the school's performing arts scene. Each spring, she performs in the school musical, with roles including Judy in "9 to 5," Sophie in "Mamma Mia," Race in "Newsies," and Belinda in "Dido & Aeneas." This winter marks her third year performing in Middlebury Acting Company's production of "A Christmas Carol." As a junior, she also participated in the A.R.T. program at the Hannaford Career Center. Phoebe is a member of Commodore Singers, Jazz Band, Green Team, and Math Team. Phoebe also enjoys sports and has spent three years on the softball team and plans to join Track & Field this spring.

Beyond school, Phoebe is committed to giving back. She volunteers with The Better Tomorrow Projects, a student-run nonprofit that raises money for causes important to Vermont teens. She also works on Main Street at Malabar, a job she has held for four years.

When she's not studying or performing, Phoebe loves to play the ukulele, record and share singing videos on social media, craft, read, ski, and play pickleball with her dad.

Her advice to other students is simple, "Do everything. Join every club, class, or activity you want to. Don't limit yourself!"

Phoebe is currently applying to colleges and plans to major in sociology, with definite plans to study abroad in the future. Congratulations, Phoebe!



Phoebe Raphael
VUHS

Middlebury Union High School

Marolyn Bingham

Middlebury Union High School is proud to recognize Marolyn Bingham as its latest Student of the Week. She is the daughter of Nathan and Bethany Bingham and has one older brother. Marolyn grew up in Weybridge before moving to Cornwall. Having been raised on a farm, she has spent countless hours with cows and has owned livestock since she was nine years old.

Marolyn says she has always loved learning and being in the classroom. English and math are among her favorite subjects, and she has long enjoyed her core classes. She credits her elementary school teacher, Maggie, with helping her grow both academically and personally. Throughout her years at MUHS, Marolyn has made the honor roll several times and has earned IB honors in Individuals and Societies as well as English.

A dedicated athlete and musician, Marolyn played field hockey all four years of high school. She is also an active member of the marching and concert bands, where she plays percussion — most often the timpani. Her father works at Monument Farm, and over the years, Marolyn has helped him with various tasks.

In the winter, Marolyn skis at the Middlebury Snowbowl at least once a week. She enjoys field hockey year-round and participates in an adult league. In her free time, she loves writing and is currently working on a book. She also enjoys writing poetry and crafting; friends can often spot her embroidered designs on jeans she sews herself.

When asked about influential people in her life, Marolyn shared, "I think being in class with Ms. Billings in 7th grade and hearing how she struggled with math and went on to teach math was inspiring." That experience helped spark Marolyn's goal of becoming a middle school English teacher.

Her advice for younger students is simple but heartfelt: "It is OK to not have things figured out. As long as you do the work and keep moving forward, things will get figured out even when things are scary."

Looking ahead, Marolyn plans to apply to Saint Michael's College, where she hopes to continue playing field hockey. She intends to double major in English and education.

MUHS congratulates Marolyn on her many accomplishments and wishes her continued success throughout her senior year and beyond.



Marolyn Bingham
MUHS

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Students of the Week are chosen by school teachers and administration.

Congratulations, Phoebe and Marolyn

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