



### Block party

See two live bands, a decorated bike parade and food trucks outside THT. Read Arts + Leisure.



### Top tier

A Middlebury College athlete is up for a national prize for her lac accomplishments. See Page 1B.



### New face

The Unitarians are welcoming a new pastor with an interesting background. See Page 2A.

# ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT



### Testing the water

MIDDLEBURY MARLINS SWIM team member Marigold Prentice casually tests the water temperature as she chats with a timekeeper prior to her race at a June 18 intersquad meet at the Middlebury town pool. The Marlins and the Vergennes Swim Team started their competitive seasons this week. See story on Page 1B.

Photo by Caleb Kenna

## Area schools prep for education reform

**By JOHN FLOWERS**

MIDDLEBURY — Area school board members are getting ready to join students for a summer break of their own, but not before bringing their districts into early conformance with a new public education reform bill that Gov. Phil Scott signed into law last Thursday.

Passed by both the Vermont House and Senate this past legislative session, H.955 establishes what Addison Northwest School District Superintendent Sheila Soule described as a “formal, facilitated process for the state’s school districts to study the advisability of forming new unified union school districts, while also creating Cooperative Educational Service (See Education reform, Page 9A)

## Addiction recovery is entering a new chapter

**Turning Point celebrates new name and HQ**

**By JOHN FLOWERS**

MIDDLEBURY — From throughout the county, they converged on Middlebury’s Town Hall Theater for an evening of drama, camaraderie and empathy.

But the scene that unfolded on THT’s Main Stage last Thursday wasn’t about entertainment.

And it certainly wasn’t scripted. Just real people telling real stories of battling addiction, achieving sobriety — one day and one friend at a time.

The June 18 gathering, titled “Supporting Recovery, Strengthening Community,” was (See Addiction, Page 11A)

## Tutors are restoring school for Afghan girls

**By JING WILLIAMS**

VERGENNES — Taniya Noori and Sodaba Faizi were among a very few girls to evacuate Afghanistan when the Taliban gained control in 2021; the two started at Middlebury College a few months later.

More than 6,000 miles from their native soil, Noori and Faizi couldn’t stop thinking about their sisters back home.

Their sisters and friends who weren’t as lucky, who were banned from school, from public spaces, from speaking outside of the house. The girls who would never get a chance to have an education like Noori, Faizi and their classmates were receiving at Middlebury. So in 2022, Noori started the Afghan Tutoring Network, where tutors teach girls in Afghanistan over the phone on a broad range of subjects.

“We had survival guilt,” Noori said at an event about the Afghan Tutoring Network last week at Bixby Memorial Library. “Why do I deserve to have so



TANIYA NOORI

many opportunities when at the same time, Afghan girls back home, they don’t have any of any kind of opportunities. They can’t go to schools, they can’t (See Afghan girls, Page 14A)

## Research shows use of AI is nuanced

Technology can aid student learning if used right

*2nd in a series*

**By JING WILLIAMS**

MIDDLEBURY — Artificial intelligence is a powerful force in education today. It can accurately summarize novels, write essays, solve math problems and code — in seconds.

And a popular narrative online now is that most college students use AI to automate their work and to cheat, Middlebury College Assistant Economics Professor Germán Reyes said. Yet in their research, Reyes and colleague Zara Contractor discovered a more nuanced story about student AI use.

They found that some uses of artificial intelligence only helped in the short term to boost grades, but using AI in a different way actually improved learning in the long term.

Contractor and Reyes conducted a two-part research study to understand how students are using AI, what they think they’re learning from it and what they’re actually learning from it. The first part of their research was surveying Middlebury students from December 2024 to February 2025 about their AI use at school.

They found 80% of Middlebury students use AI for academic work, but contradicting the common narrative, the majority use it as an augmentation tool rather than automation. Reyes describes augmentation as working with the tool to enhance learning, versus automation, where AI does the work for you. To verify their data was truthful and applicable in other educational scenarios, the research team asked Anthropic, the company that developed the AI software called Claude, for data about how students with the college’s email addresses were using the technology. Anthropic confirmed: most students were using AI for “technical explanations,” to clarify concepts rather than automate work.

Comparison to global data from over 50

countries also verified that college students aren’t, for the most part, using AI to just do their work for them. What the survey results revealed to Reyes is that higher education institutions need to understand how AI is being used by students before they create policies about its use.

“If some students are using it to learn more and you decide to ban AI because you think it has no room in college to help students learn, then you’re inadvertently going to be harming students who benefit from the tool,” Reyes said. “So I think it’s important to have a good understanding of ground level facts to make policy decisions that are consistent with how students are using the tools.”

Going deeper than just how students were using AI, Reyes and Contractor wanted to understand how AI impacts learning in the second part of their research, conducted in spring of 2025. They thought AI would (See Artificial intelligence, Page 12A)



GERMÁN REYES



## Wilson sets sights on Add-2 seat

**By JOHN FLOWERS**

CORNWALL — After 34 years as a physical education teacher for some of Northern Addison County’s youngest children, Annie Wilson knows her way around both a gymnasium and a playground.

Now she’s hoping to become very familiar with the Vermont Statehouse. The Cornwall Republican on Nov. 3 will face Tanya Byker, a Cornwall Democrat, for the right to become the new representative of the Addison-2 House district.

Wilson, 68, taught K-6 physical education in the Addison Northwest School District, primarily at Ferrisburgh Central School. She retired five years ago but has remained very active.

First and foremost, Wilson is devoted to her wondrous, small collection of animals — including four Morgan horses — at her 75-acre farm off Route 30 where she was raised. Her ongoing devotion to agricultural issues is (See Wilson, Page 13A)

## Public readings to spotlight America 250

Hear the Declaration of Independence

**By RACHELLE TALBERT**

ADDISON COUNTY — On July 8, 1776, the Declaration of Independence was read to the public for the first time. Now, 250 years later, locations across the country are hosting public readings aloud once again.

America’s founding document will be in four places in Addison County, including three times at Mount Independence State Historic Site in Orwell, as both an annual tradition and part of a larger celebration of the Semi quincentennial.

Retired U.S. Army Gen. Brian Carpenter of Middlebury is excited about these celebrations of American independence.

“It established the United States under a principle that wasn’t vastly used at the time,” said Carpenter, who served in the regular Army and Vermont National Guard for 31 years. “It was for the people and governed by the people, as opposed to having an allegiance to a royal family. It was really a

high calling.”

The readings will happen at these locations:

- Chimney Point State Historic Site, Addison, July 4, 11:30 a.m.
- Mount Independence State Historic Site, Orwell, July 4, 11:30 a.m.
- Samson Memorial, Cornwall, July 4, 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m.
- Town green gazebo, Orwell, July 8, 6 p.m.
- Mount Independence during daylong activities on July 25 and Sept. 5.

If a straight reading of the Declaration is too dry for you, the Town Hall Theater Young Company will perform “1776: The Musical” three times at the end of July. In shows at the Middlebury theater on July 24, 25 and 26, actors between the ages 12–17 will depict the founding

fathers’ struggle to produce the Declaration of Independence.

Noted opera singer Amber Naramore of Orwell will perform “America the Beautiful” at the July 8 reading hosted by The Orwell Historical Society (OHS) on the Orwell town green.

“As we celebrate this significant year in our nation’s history, I feel incredibly grateful for the freedoms I enjoy,” Naramore told

the *Independent*. “Having lived in countries where women lack access to education and the professional opportunities I have had, I value the independence and liberties available to us here.

“Since moving here, I have truly appreciated the welcoming community of this small town,” (See Readings, Page 10A)



### Index

|                         |                |
|-------------------------|----------------|
| Obituaries.....         | 6A             |
| Classifieds.....        | 9B             |
| Service Directory.....  | 7B-8B          |
| Entertainment.....      | Arts + Leisure |
| Community Calendar..... | 5B             |
| Arts Calendar.....      | Arts + Leisure |
| Sports.....             | 1B-3B          |



7 18122 07300 9





CHILDREN AND ADULTS learn to prevent bullying, abuse and other harm during a recent workshop put on by Kidpower Vermont, one of the Addison County nonprofits to receive a grant award from the Vermont Women's Fund.

# \$25K in grants go to local nonprofits

## Vermont Women's Fund grants open doors to women, others

By ELOISE CHRISTY

From youth cheerleading to outdoor workforce training and safety education, three Addison County nonprofits will be able to reach greater circles of the community after receiving new funding.

The Vermont Women's Fund recently awarded \$411,650 in grants to 46 nonprofit organizations across Vermont. Among the recipients were three groups working in Addison County: the Vermont Outdoor Business Alliance (VOBA), Kidpower Vermont of Ferrisburgh, and Champlain Valley Stars of Monkton. The grants awarded support programs in these nonprofits that are focused on workforce development, safety education, and increasing access to opportunities in Vermont.

The Vermont Women's Fund is a state resource dedicated to advancing gender equity and justice in Vermont. The fund directs grants to nonprofits and programs that are working to create systemic change.

For the Vermont Outdoor Business Alliance, which works out of Middlebury, the goal is to make careers in the outdoor industry more accessible to people who have historically lacked representation. The nonprofit received an \$11,250

grant to support its ongoing Vermont Outdoors Women at Work project, known as VOW(W). It works to strengthen Vermont's outdoor recreation economy by increasing opportunities for underrepresented communities.

"The Vermont Outdoor Business Alliance, as a statewide nonprofit organization of outdoor businesses, has identified a gap in workforce development in the technical occupations of the outdoor sector," VOBA Executive Director Kelly Ault said. "We don't have enough representation of women, members of BIPOC, as well as the LGBTQ community."

The organization developed the VOW(W) project over the last three years to support professional development and the job advancement and placement for these communities in this occupation, according to Ault.

As to their specific plans, Ault stated that they were aiming to administer three training blocks encompassing six multi-day workshops between May 2026 and May 2027. This would be specifically for trail builders, snow sports technicians and bicycle mechanics.

"By offering these trainings and providing high-quality instruction,

we're able to position the graduates of the certificates to be hired for the seasonal cycle or to be advanced within their job," Ault said. "So there is more responsibility, hopefully more year-round work, higher pay, and it is a wonderful opportunity for those who are generally excluded from those kinds of jobs in our traditional pathways."

Ault said that funding will help change the picture some people have of outdoor activities in Vermont.

"It will help us attract professionals to the outdoor sector, help grow the number of women, BIPOC, and LGBTQ people in these technical occupations," Ault said.

Another nonprofit that was excited to receive a grant of \$7,500 from the Vermont Women's Fund was Kidpower Vermont. This Ferrisburgh nonprofit works to teach people of all ages how to prevent bullying, sexual abuse and other harm by practicing what to say and do in real-life situations.

The goal, according to Kidpower Director Laura Slesar, is to help people build confidence and develop skills they can use in everyday life.

"This was a general operating grant," Slesar explained, "meaning that it helps strengthen the

(See Local grants, Page 7A)

# Lincoln program boosts local access to food

By MARIN HOWELL

LINCOLN — Walking into the Lincoln General Store these days, visitors will find pink heart stickers on anything from milk to chicken. The stickers are a way of letting community members know those items have been paid for by another resident and are now free for anyone to bring home, no questions asked.

The "Pink Heart Program," as it's become known, is part of a larger initiative in Lincoln that aims to bring people together around food and bolster residents' access to it. That effort is called "We Feed Each Other" and is being organized by a group of community members.

"Food is something that we all share, so it's a great place for people to come together and connect," said Erin Wheeler, one of the community members behind the effort. "It ties us to place, and so it just feels like a good way to tap into the idea of strengthening resiliency in a community and finding joy with each other."

Wheeler noted that while food is treated as a commodity in our society, it's something we all need to live.

"So, in that way it's a human right," she said. "It seems so obvious when you say it out loud, but it really isn't how we live our lives."

We Feed Each Other seeks to help change that. One of the group's guiding principles is that "food is a basic human right." Some of the other ideas guiding the group's work are that the community becomes healthier and more resilient when we take care of each other and that investing in local food systems is

(See Food access, Page 2A)



good all around.

The initiative came out of Wheeler and Lincoln General Store General Manager Jennifer Smith brainstorming ways to help their community experience joy and unity. Those explorations brought up ideas about community events centered around food and existing initiatives in town that help residents access food.

The group is looking to add to those efforts, in part through the Pink Heart Program. That program kicked off on June 10, and residents have already started to get involved.

Those interested in supporting the effort can purchase items at the

general store for a future shopper. The items are marked with a pink heart sticker and can be picked up for free. All are welcome to take part in the program.

"There's no questions, no judgment, it's just for everybody," Wheeler said. "It's not a charity, anybody can take a (pink heart item)."

Smith said the first customers to make use of the program were three fifth-graders on their way to school. The group grabbed an item with a pink heart sticker and asked Smith what it meant.

"I told them about it, and their eyes got super big, and they were like, 'That is so cool,'" she recalled. "So, they were receiving free drinks, and they turned around and



ITEMS AT THE Lincoln General Store that feature pink heart stickers, such as the pretzels pictured here, are available for any shopper to take home for free. The new offering is part of We Feed Each Other, an initiative in town aimed at bringing people together around food and boosting residents' access to the nourishment we all need.

Independent photo/Marin Howell

# New pastor takes the helm at CVUUS

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — After a yearlong search, Middlebury's Champlain Valley Unitarian Universalist Society (CVUUS) has found its new pastor.

Michael DeSantis, a nonbinary pastor currently serving as Ministerial Resident at the First Unitarian Society of Denver, will join CVUUS on Aug. 2 and is expected to deliver their first sermon on Sunday, Sept. 13.

"I'm thrilled to be joining this particular congregation," DeSantis said of their new position during a recent phone interview. "From the beginning, when I read their (informational) packet, it felt exactly like the congregation I wanted to serve — especially for my first solo ministry."

Brett Millier, chair of the CVUUS Board of Trustees, believes DeSantis will provide a new spark to the flock, which currently counts 250 active members.

"With the calling of Michael DeSantis as our new settled minister, CVUUS is embracing the opportunity for real change," Millier said. "Like most churches today, our congregation skews elderly. Yet we voted to call a 30-something, non-binary (they/them) minister because of their obvious gifts as a spiritual leader and speaker, and their instant rapport with congregants of all ages.



MIDDLEBURY'S CHAMPLAIN VALLEY Unitarian Universalist Society has found its new pastor: Michael DeSantis. Photo courtesy of Michael DeSantis

their twin to Catholic School and instilled in both a passion for social justice and community building.

After graduating from the College of Holy Cross in Worcester, Mass., DeSantis worked as a mentor to Indigenous teens and as a public policy advocate for houseless youth.

"For a long time, I wanted to do something where 'community' was a big part of it, and some kind of justice-making, and to work to build a better world and fight for those on the margins," they said. "I really wanted to be a pastor, to be with people, accompany them through all the ups and downs of life. It's a privilege to do that work, and an honor to be invited into people's lives."

DeSantis went on to attend Union Theological Seminary in New York City, where they would meet their partner, Pearl Vercruysse, who's currently on the ordination path with the United Church of Christ.

"Union had a similar commitment to 'faith doing justice,'" DeSantis said. "We got involved in some activism in NYC, then moved out to Denver, Colo."

That's where Michael found their way to the First Unitarian Church of Portland, Ore., where they were inspired by Rev. Bill Sinkford's ministry and "the way it combined powerful prophetic witness

(See Pastor, Page 7A)

**BOATING SEASON IS HERE - HOP ON IN!**

**HARE AND THE DOG**  
Legendary WINE • BEER • SPIRITS

**Middlebury • Vergennes**  
[www.Hare.dog](http://www.Hare.dog)

## ANWSD seaks new head

By SOPHIA KESHMIRI

VERGENNES — Addison Northwest School District Superintendent Sheila Soule says the upcoming school year will be her last serving in the role. With the end of her tenure 12 months out, the school board has begun forming a search committee to hire her successor.

"Ideally we would like to have somebody selected like January, February. Try and get them before everybody else is looking," ANWSD Board Chair Mark Koenig said.

"That person, maybe if we can time it right, they could shadow Sheila for a while before she leaves. It'd be an easier transition. They would take responsibility come July 1 of next year."

Since the school board learned in May of Soule's departure, they formed the beginnings of a search committee on June 8. So far, it is composed of four school board members, including Koenig, who said that number will grow.

As the district will be searching for a new superintendent, it will

(See ANWSD, Page 7A)

**MIDDLEBURY NATURAL FOODS CO-OP**

**\$3.00 OFF**

**ANY LOCAL PRODUCT**

(excludes alcohol)  
(minimum purchase \$3.00)  
(Expires Wednesday, 8/1/26)

9 Washington St | 802.388.7276  
[middlebury.coop](http://middlebury.coop)

## Introduce Your Business to 7,000+ Engaged Co-op Member-Owners

Applications are now open for the 2026–2028 Co-op Connection Program.

Join a curated group of local businesses recommended and promoted by the Co-op to its Members. Don't wait — applications won't reopen until 2028.

Application Deadline: **July 10, 2026**

Learn more and apply: [middlebury.coop/join/co-op-connection/partner](http://middlebury.coop/join/co-op-connection/partner)

**CO-OP MEMBER DEALS**

**Members Take an Extra 20% Off**

**VON TRAPP FARMSTEAD**

Cheese only - discount excludes alcohol

**June 24 - June 30**



12TH ANNUAL MIDDLEBURY  
NEW FILMMAKERS  
FESTIVAL



AUGUST 26-30, 2026  
MIDDFILMFEST.ORG

MIDDLEBURY VERMONT | @MIDDFILMFEST  
PRESENTING SPONSOR IPJ REAL ESTATE



# Guest Editorial

## Vermont’s Education Transformation Law is only the first step toward reform

By Flor Diaz Smith

On June 18, Gov. Phil Scott signed into law an Education Transformation Bill that aims to strengthen Vermont public schools and districts, make efficient use of public funding, and ultimately, ensure the success of all students and graduates.

The final bill approved by the General Assembly and signed by the Governor represents the culmination of several years of deliberation, debate, advocacy and compromise among all involved. The Vermont School Boards Association (VSBA) has participated in the process every step of the way, amplifying the voices, ideas, questions and concerns of our members, the more than 850 individuals who serve on local school boards across the state.

Last November, VSBA released a position paper outlining some of the principles and priorities that we believe are essential for any new statewide law related to the structure and funding of school districts. We are encouraged that the new law incorporates some of our strongest recommendations. It prioritizes voluntary and incentivized district mergers over mandated consolidation, preserves an important role for local governance and community engagement, and recommends district size parameters intended to balance efficiency with strong community connection. The law also advances regional collaboration through Cooperative Education Service Areas and merger committees aimed at improving long-term sustainability and educational opportunity. These strategies have the potential to support needed change in the delivery of educational programming, including special education, professional development and increasing the quality and efficiency of services.

There is no question that Vermont needs thoughtful educational transformation. School districts across the state face significant financial pressures driven by declining enrollment and rising costs in healthcare, aging facilities, transportation and student mental health services. These challenges require long-term solutions that bolster public confidence in our schools.

However, structural changes alone will never affect meaningful improvements in public education. While it is important for Vermont to settle on the most advantageous number, size and geography of our school districts, those issues will always be secondary to our investments in great teaching and learning. While elected officials negotiate consolidations and mergers, we are fortunate to have educators focused on innovative reforms at the classroom and school level. Teachers and administrators all across Vermont are creating student-centered schools that prioritize personalization, proficiency-based learning, and an accessible and inclusive education for all.

Let’s agree then to move beyond debates about governance and structure, toward a more robust discussion about a long-term educational vision that addresses the hopes, dreams, needs and expectations of students and adults from every corner of the state. That vision should build upon the principles outlined in our Progressive Education Policy, personalized learning, proficiency-based education and an accessible, inclusive system of support for every student through a strong Multi-Tiered System of Supports. Development of that vision requires true collaboration among residents, students, families, educators, district leaders, locally elected school boards and state officials.

The school board members we represent stand ready to do their part, particularly by creating opportunities for authentic community input and engagement. VSBA will continue advocating for creative approaches to state policy and funding to ensure that our collective vision can someday become reality. As we prepare for the new education law to take effect, VSBA also recognizes that school boards across the state need flexibility, resources, guidance and support to implement it effectively. We look forward to working closely with the legislature and the Agency of Education (AOE) to ensure a smooth and successful transition.

This significant milestone in the history of public education in Vermont presents a rare and valuable opportunity. Together, let’s seize this moment to celebrate and invest in public education as the foundation of our democracy, workforce, communities and future. The people of Vermont – especially our children – deserve a system designed for long-term stability, endless possibilities and an unwavering commitment to equity and excellence.

*Editor’s note: Flor Diaz Smith is the president of the Vermont School Boards Association and a school board member for the Washington Central Unified Union School District.*



### Floral sunshine

SEEING A FIELD of lacquered yellow buttercups like this one in Middlebury is a treat in Vermont during the late spring and early summer.

Independent photo/John S. McCright

## Considering the creemee...

Summer seemed to arrive suddenly this year, and the sticky heat makes a visit to the creemee stand the perfect way to end a hot day. If you live in Vermont, you are familiar with creemee stands. They are only open once the weather starts to warm up. They are usually small, cute (one might even say quaint) and unique to Vermont.

Nowhere else are these sweet frozen treats called creemees. Other places sell soft serve in cones, which doesn’t seem to be as popular. Perhaps this is because a creemee usually has a higher butterfat content and more air whipped into it, making it richer and creamier. Or it could simply be because “soft serve” just doesn’t garner the same reaction as the word creemee. A creemee evokes the whole experience, the sweltering summer weather, the cute stand, and an extra creamy treat with which simple soft serve could never compete.

The term creemee comes from the machines originally used to make them. Back in the 1950s, the company Freez King from Chicago sold a Cree-Mee soft serve freezer that you could buy, either by itself or as part of the Tastee Freez franchise. The name of the machine became synonymous with the treat here in Vermont, and creemee stands have been a staple ever since they were introduced.

The first creemee stand in Vermont opened in June 1951 in Vergennes, owned and run by Dorian Brown and Howard Gladding. A creemee stand in Bristol opened in the 1960s. However, the location where it sits a little precariously on the bank overlooking the

sawmill on West Street has a longer history.

Back in the early 1900s, a large creamery was located at this site, perhaps foreshadowing that creamy summer treats would one day be found here. In the 1930s the creamery building was torn down, and by 1937 the building that is now the Bristol Village Creemee stand was built as a Sunoco and Tydol gas station, with pumps out front. The gas station was eventually moved across the street, and its former building was sold to the Phelps family in 1960. The Phelps ran it as a creemee stand. My father, Doug Corkins, who grew up in Bristol, remembers getting creemees there as a kid. He especially remembers the lemon creemees. (By the way, this sounds like a fantastic creemee flavor I would love to see revived.)

After the Phelps sold the stand, it was vacant for 8 - 10 years until sometime in the mid-1970s when Doug Corkins along with his brothers bought the gas station and the creemee stand. The first year they just used the space as overflow parking for the gas station, but the following year they re-opened it as a creemee stand.

The sign has always said “Village Creeme Stand” with only one “e.” My dad can’t remember exactly why they went with this unique spelling when they built the sign, but he supposes it was because they ran out of space or “E”s. My mom ran it that first year with my older sister in a bassinet while she worked. They started out with just creemees, floats and milkshakes — chocolate, vanilla or mixed.

Later on, they hired high school students to help

(See Ways of Seeing, Page 5A)

### Ways of Seeing

By Claire Corkins



## We were kids in a candy store

Growing up in upstate New York, I have fond memories of walking into Lake George candy shops with my grandfather Pa while my mother was at work. The waft of chocolate and sugar that hit you as soon as you opened the door. The bright, colorful displays of candy paired with the earth tones of chocolate-filled cases. The pure delight, not just in the endless selection of sweet treats, but in the full sensory experience of being a kid in a candy store.

The smells! The colors! The excitement of being with someone you love in a place that feels full of possibilities. I generally gravitated toward what I now consider some dubious choices: candy buttons and gummy raspberries. My grandfather always picked fruit slices, and we’d choose a few chocolate turtles to bring home to my grandmother.

Those memories had faded over time until I learned that the Vermont Nut Free Chocolate storefront was closing its doors. My 5-year-old daughter, Ruby, has nut allergies, so we tend to steer clear of food-focused shops. It’s something so ingrained in our family life that none of us really felt like we were missing out on anything. My husband and I had always planned to bring her to Vermont Nut Free someday. We figured there would be time. The closure announcement sparked a deep-rooted need to get there before the doors closed for good.

I wanted Ruby, who doesn’t yet realize how different

certain things are for kids without food allergies, to have that experience I so fondly remembered. I *needed* her to have it. I needed to have it.

I checked the store hours and teared up as I made our plan. When I told Ruby, she squealed and then immediately made a card for the person who worked there to show her gratitude and excitement. (We unfortunately misplaced it in our rush out the door,

but we plan to mail it to the factory, which will remain open even after the storefront is shuttered. It’s great.)

We made the last-minute trek from Ripton to Colchester and arrived at the storefront 30 minutes before closing. My husband had barely parked the car before he was urging us toward the door, determined to maximize our candy store time. The moment we walked in, that familiar yet long forgotten smell of chocolate confections hit me, and suddenly I was transported back to those childhood visits with Pa.

But this time, I was seeing it through my daughter’s eyes.

Being able to tell her she could choose whatever she wanted was a gift. Not having to check every label before adding something to our basket was welcomingly foreign, although I still caught myself checking a few. We nearly cleared out the remaining stock and headed home with a giant bag full of safe candy. Along

(See Clippings, Page 5A)

## Letters to the Editor

### Lack of justice makes us worst

Is it yet the time to quote Aristotle? “At his best, man is the noblest of all animals; separated from law and justice he is the worst.”

Christy Alger Orwell

### In praise of our farm helpers

Acorn Food Hub

Our driving force... community connection and cohesion. What binds us... the bounty of nature. Our medium... the air, water, and soil of Addison County. Our energy... the commerce and generosity of the farmers, orchardists, and gardeners in our community. Our sustenance... the support of community members who help fund our enterprise and help us feed our neighbors in need. You are us and we are you... good food, good health, wellbeing.

Bill Schubart Hinesburg

### Stroup merits voter support

As a lifelong resident of Vergennes and a young person looking to pursue a future career in public service, I’m confident that John Stroup is an excellent candidate to represent Addison-3 as a house representative in Montpelier.

I’ve known John for many years as a father and community member, but when I joined the ANWSD School Board as a Student Representative in May of my freshman year, I got to experience firsthand John’s incredible leadership and care for his constituents. Over our two years serving together on the board, John, as the Chair, consistently showed up as an advocate for youth voices, responsible spending and sustainable planning for Vermont’s educational future. Both on and off the school board, I’m continually astonished at the way John deeply engages in every conversation he enters. His integrity and ability to communicate with a diverse range of individuals will serve him well in the legislature as a representative for our community.

Candidates like John who are people first and politicians second give me hope for our small state. I look forward to casting my first ever vote for John in the August 11 primary.

Quincy Sabick Vergennes

### Stroup already a proven leader

I am writing to express my support for John Stroup as a candidate to represent us in the Vermont House as one of the Representatives of Addison-3.

Many are familiar with John because he has been in the pages of this paper many times as a member of the Addison Northwest School District Board from 2016 to 2025, the last of which John served as the Board Chair.

I had the pleasure and honor of serving with John on the board from 2016 to 2022. More importantly, I had the opportunity to watch and experience John’s leadership style firsthand, for three years as a member of the Policy Committee chaired by John, and then as Vice Chair of the board the first year that John was chair. In this time, I learned a few things about John and the way he works when conducting the public’s business.

John is collaborative, but he uses that collaboration to make decisions, not stall them. This may seem silly to say, but John runs a good meeting. He puts the work in ahead of time to recognize what decisions need to be addressed and resolved and he often has a desired outcome. But he also opens up the space for other members to provide meaningful input. He listens carefully to what

(See Borchert letter, Page 5A)

ADDISON COUNTY

INDEPENDENT

Periodicals Postage Paid at Middlebury, Vt. 05753

Postmaster, send address change to Addison Independent, 58 Maple St., Middlebury, Vt. • 802-388-4944 • Web: [www.addisonindependent.com](http://www.addisonindependent.com) E-Mail: [news@addisonindependent.com](mailto:news@addisonindependent.com) • E-Mail Advertising: [advertising@addisonindependent.com](mailto:advertising@addisonindependent.com) Editor/Publisher: Angelo S. Lynn

Assistant Editor: John S. McCright

Reporters: John Flowers

Marin Howell

Sophia Keshmiri

Photographer: Steve James

Front Office: Vicki Nolette

Circulation: Sean Dougherty

Driver: Dennis Smith

Advertising Managers:

Christine Lynn

Jenna Hunsinger

Advertising Representatives:

Tom Van Sant

Katy Foote

Digital Sales & Marketing

Ryan Gabbert

Digital & Calendar Editor

Kelsey Wood

Business Manager:

Elsie Lynn Parini

Graphic Designers:

Susan Leggett

Sarah Pope

Shannon Hart

Christine Lynn

Jenna Hunsinger

Tom Van Sant

Katy Foote

Ryan Gabbert

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 digital access. 1 Month \$10.00, 1 Year \$120.00. Discounted rate for Senior Citizens and students call for details. 802-388-4944.

Online Only – 1 Week \$3.00, 1 Month \$8.00, 1 Year \$75.00

The Independent assumes no financial responsibility for typographical errors in advertisements but will reprint that part of an advertisement in which the typographical error occurred. Advertiser will please notify the management immediately of any errors that may occur.

The Addison Independent USPS 005-380



# Borchert letter

(Continued from Page 4A)

people are saying and brings them into the discussion and decision-making process. He understands that the best decisions come from the body — committee, board, community — working towards a solution together.

John doesn't shy away from hard issues and decisions, but he also recognizes that it may take time to find good solutions. Many of the actions taken by school boards are fairly routine, but they may have profound impacts on a community. In the first year on the then-new ANWSD board, the Policy Committee had to put together an entire policy manual in a transition year between the old supervisory union and the establishment of the unified board. This was a lot of work, especially for John as chair, but most of it was straightforward. There were several policies we struggled over that affected how we would organize our elementary grades. These were not easy discussions, and they went across several tension-filled months. John did not rush us, but he ultimately led us to a compromise that would provide the board and the public more

time for better options to emerge.

John is motivated by a profound sense of ethics and responsibility. The nine years that John was on the ANWSD Board were not particularly easy, complicated by national politics and Covid and its consequences. Prior to becoming chair, John was perhaps the clearest voice for articulating the values that informed our decisions. When it was appropriate, John pushed us to make our values clear to the public. In doing so, John understood that students come to our schools with different backgrounds, resources and opportunities. It was our responsibility to ensure that all of the students received the education they deserved in a safe space.

I feel fortunate to count John a friend, but I support his candidacy not because of that. Rather it is because of the qualities that I saw him display on the ANWSD school board. He is the kind of person we need in Montpelier working on our behalf.

Thomas Borchert  
Waltham

# Ways of Seeing

(Continued from Page 4A)

run the stand, and at the end of the school year they gave free creemees to all the elementary school students. They also added a grill for burgers and hotdogs.

The creemee mix was purchased from Hood, but my dad doesn't remember if the machine was an actual Cree-Mee machine, the namesake of the creemee. They didn't have enough refrigerated space to store a lot of creemee mix, so on busy weekends they had to drive up to Burlington to buy more.

A few years into running the creemee stand, a guy in a truck painted with cows came by and asked if they were interested in selling hard ice cream. The creemees were popular and business was good, so he was told they weren't interested. Doug isn't sure if it was Ben or Jerry.

In the early 1980s, the Corkins brothers sold the creemee stand to the Wallaces, who have been running it ever since. The little white and yellow building has become an iconic landmark and a summer staple in Bristol. At the end of a hot day, I can walk down the street and enjoy a delicious cold creemee, and it is so good — much

better than soft serve.

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



VILLAGE CREEMEE STAND in Bristol, notably spelled with just three "E"s instead of four, is a summer staple that has been around since the 1970s.

Photo from Village Creemee Stand

# Clippings

(Continued from Page 4A)

the way, we stuffed our faces with a variety of chocolates and jellybeans and balanced things out with a few vegetables I had packed for the ride.

Even though the candy to veggie

ratio left a lot to be desired from a health standpoint and the sugar crash later that evening was gnarly, I wouldn't change it for the world.

That day, Ruby got to be a kid in a candy store.

And so did I.

**WE'RE EXPERTS IN COOL!**

**HARE AND THE DOG**

MIDDLEBURY, VT  
VERGENNES, VT  
[WWW.HARE.DOG](http://WWW.HARE.DOG)

**VBS**  
Vermont Book Shop

**UPCOMING EVENT**

**WEDNESDAY JULY 1**  
BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF *BLIND DESCENT*  
**JAMES M. TABOR**  
TOWN HALL THEATER    ANDERSON STUDIO  
6:30 PM

**TOWN HALL THEATER**  
middlebury-vermont

"engrossing"  
"captivating"  
"propulsive"  
"epic"

**Letters to the editor**

The Addison Independent encourages readers to write letters to the editor. We believe a newspaper should be a community forum for people to debate issues of the day. Because we believe that accountability makes for responsible debate, we will print signed letters only. Be sure to include an address and telephone number, too, so we can call to clear up any questions.

If you have something to say, send it to: Letters to the Editor, Addison Independent, 58 Maple St., Middlebury, VT 05753. Or email to [news@addisonindependent.com](mailto:news@addisonindependent.com).

**Experience MIDDLEBURY**  
VERMONT

**TOWN HALL THEATER**  
[townhalltheater.org](http://townhalltheater.org)

Proudly sponsored by  
**National Bank of Middlebury**

**FIRST FRIDAYS GOES BIG ON JULY 3RD!**

**Timed with this month's First Friday event in Middlebury, Town Hall Theater is hosting a special July 3 Block Party celebrating America's 250th anniversary with an afternoon and evening packed with music, community, and summer fun!**

**Add a festive bike parade, food trucks, Good Times Co. charcuterie and drinks, downtown shops, pop ups, galleries, restaurants, and all the energy of First Fridays, and you have the perfect way to kick off the holiday weekend!**

**Join us in downtown Middlebury, Friday, July 3, 2026 3-8pm**

Scan for details and participating businesses

You're invited to  
**THE SUMMER PARTY**  
July 17, 2026 | 5-8 PM

featuring  
**Dinner | Drinks | Music | Games | Raffle | Exhibit Tours**

presented by  
**LAKE CHAMPLAIN MARITIME MUSEUM**

Tickets and details at [www.lcmm.org/SummerParty](http://www.lcmm.org/SummerParty)



ADDISON  
COUNTY

Obituaries

Elaine Marie McLaren, 74, of Salisbury

SALISBURY — Elaine Marie McLaren, age 74, passed peacefully June 16, 2026, at Porter Nursing Home in Middlebury.

Elaine was born in Middlebury on May 30, 1952. She was the daughter of Leonard and Lena (Clark) Dukette. She grew up in Salisbury, where she received her early education and attended Middlebury Union High School. Elaine worked as an aide at Brandon Training School. She enjoyed playing cards and going to Project Independence. She was an avid bird watcher and loved music.

She is survived by her very important nephew, Bobby Cameron

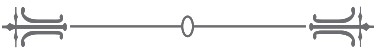
and his wife Jan of Worcester, Vt.; and a sister, Diane Euber of Rutland. Several nieces, nephews, cousins and godchildren also survive her. She was predeceased by her parents; a brother, Kenneth Dukette; and two sisters, Barbara Delahant and Bertha Counter.

A graveside committal service and burial will take place, July 11, 2026, at 11:30 a.m., in the family lot at Holman Cemetery in Salisbury. Following the ceremony the family will receive friends at the home of Ray and Candy Counter for a time of remembrance.

Arrangements by Miller & Ketcham of Brandon. ♦



ELAINE MARIE MCLAREN



June Linda Torrey Obst, 77, of Shoreham

SHOREHAM — June Linda Torrey Obst passed away peacefully June 18, 2026, just a few days shy of her 78th birthday. June was born June 22, 1948, to Forrest and Iola (Howe) Torrey.

She graduated high school in 1966. She met the love of her life Thomas Obst at their Plattsburgh

Air Force base in 1971 around Thanksgiving time. They married on March 25, 1972. They had two daughters, Michelle and Victoria. Throughout the years she worked on her family farm in Shoreham, Vt., and also took care of her many nieces and nephews.

June is predeceased by her husband, Thomas; her daughter Michelle; and her two brothers, Duane and James.

She is survived by her daughter Victoria and Jamie Mack; her son-in-law Todd Wright (Tracey); her five grandchildren, Kayla and John Hoadley, Maria and Troy Provencher, Serena Welch, Ryan Wright, and Kasi Wendell; as well as her four great-grandchildren, Alaina, Iola, Luke, and Richard.

In honor of June's love for farming, we are asking for only donations to go to Middlebury



JUNE LINDA TORREY OBST

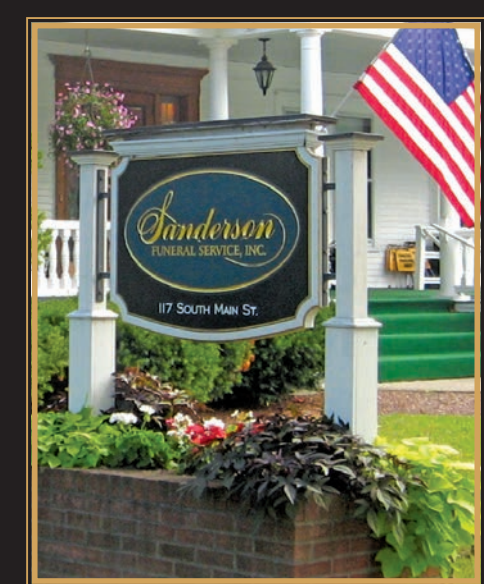
Future Farmers of America (FFA) at 51 Charles Avenue, Middlebury, Vermont 05753.

There will be a celebration of life at a later date. ♦

FUNERAL  
MEMORIAL  
SERVICE  
CREMATION  
PRE-PLANNING  
SERVICES

**BROWN-McCLAY  
FUNERAL HOMES**

**BRISTOL      VERGENNES**  
802-453-2301    802-877-3321  
brownmcclayfuneralhomes.com



**TRADITION**

*Where Our Roots Are Planted*

From humble beginnings based on affordable, trustworthy services, we have grown into a reliable resource your family can depend on. Rooted in our traditions, we stay firmly connected to the families we serve and the care we provide. We continue serving all faiths and all families in the only way we know how — by staying true to our heritage.

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

**MiniBury**  
BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE ADDISON INDEPENDENT

Subscribe to the MiniBury email newsletter to get local, kid-friendly events delivered straight to your inbox every week!

MiniBury.com

Harold Peter DeGraaf, 67, Pantan native

COLCHESTER — Harold Peter DeGraaf passed away in the early morning hours of June 16, 2026, at the McClure Miller Respite House in Colchester, Vt. After years of living with the effects of heart failure and months of debilitating pain, he was finally able to rest and be welcomed into the loving arms of his Savior Jesus Christ.

He was born on May 4, 1959, in Middlebury, Vt., the only one of his siblings to be born in the United States. He grew up in Pantan on the family farm. After high school he bought his father's share of the farm and farmed many years in partnership with his brother Bob.

In 2004 he bought his brother's share and finally ended up buying and moving to his parents-in-law's farm in Richmond. This he now leaves to his children to work and manage.

He married Anje DeGraaf (b.



HAROLD PETER DEGRAAF

Verburg) in 1992 and together they raised four children, Nicholas, Michael, Tristan, and Renae.

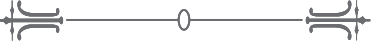
Besides his immediate family, he leaves behind five siblings and their spouses, John and Elisabeth, Robert and Joan, Charles and

Victoria, Gerrit and June, and Martha and Bert; and, his brother-in-law, Ted. He is also survived by in-law siblings Adriaan and Shari, Sjabbo and Joann, Wynie and Lou, Elisabeth and Mark, and Case and Betty; and many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his sister Agnes and predeceased by his brother-in-law Sander.

He was a lifetime member of the Champlain Valley Christian Reformed Church.

Visiting hours will be held from 3 to 5 p.m., Sunday, June 21, at Brown-McClay Funeral Home in Vergennes. Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. on Friday, June 26, at Champlain Valley Christian Reformed Church in Vergennes.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to McClure Miller Respite House in Colchester, Vt., or the Champlain Valley Christian Reformed Church in Vergennes, Vt. ♦



Russell John Leng, 88, of Middlebury

MIDDLEBURY — Russell John Leng, a longtime Middlebury resident, died on June 14, 2026. He was 88 years old.

Russ was born in New York City May 21, 1938, to Percival King Leng and Judith Tennyson Leng. He grew up in Packanack Lake, N.J., and graduated from Wayne High School, before attending and graduating from Middlebury College in 1960. Russ then served two years of active duty as an ROTC officer in the U.S. Army Reserve, stationed on Taiwan.

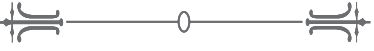
Following his tour of active service, he began graduate studies at American University's School of International Service, from which he received his Ph.D. in 1967. During his time in Washington at American, Russ also worked as a Foreign Policy Analyst for the Congressional Research Service at the Library of Congress. In the fall of 1966 he returned to Middlebury to join the faculty in political science.

During his time on the Middlebury faculty, Russ was active in empirical research on international crises and the causes



RUSSELL JOHN LENG

of war, with many publications in scholarly journals and in monographs, and several research grants from the National Science Foundation. He also served terms as chair of the Department of Political Science, chair of the Social Science Division, and as Dean of Sciences. He directed Middlebury's Alumni College for a dozen years, and he helped pioneer Middlebury's move into on-line learning for alumni.



Glenn Telgen, 46, Shoreham native

WEARE, N.H. — On the evening of June 18, Glenn Telgen of Weare, N.H., passed away after a courageous battle with occupational pancreatic cancer.

Glenn was born in 1979 to William and Carleen (Jackman) Telgen and was later joined by his siblings Carie, Neal (Krista), and Robert (Amanda). Growing up on a farm in rural Vermont gave Glenn endless opportunities to explore the outdoors, nurturing his love of nature, wildlife, and adventure — along with plenty of mischief shared with siblings, cousins, and friends.

He graduated from Middlebury Union High School (Vt.) in 1997 and moved to New Hampshire to attend New Hampshire Community Technical College in Laconia, where he earned a degree in Fire Science. Glenn proudly joined the brotherhood of professional firefighters, first serving in Hudson before joining Nashua Fire Rescue in 2002. Deeply committed to leadership and service, he dedicated himself to advancing within the department, earning promotions to Lieutenant in 2011, Captain in 2020, and Deputy Chief in October of 2023.

Beyond the firehouse, Glenn's love of the outdoors continued



GLENN TELGEN

to grow. He became a registered hunting guide in both New Hampshire and Maine, sharing his knowledge, skills, and appreciation for wildlife with others.

Glenn and Ashley (Adams) were married in August of 2004. Three years later, 2007, Glenn became the proud and doting father of Ryann. In 2010, Baker arrived to complete their family and provide a number 1 son. Glenn was a devoted father who found his greatest joy in sharing his passions with his children. Whether waking them early for quiet mornings in the

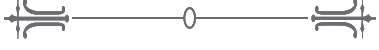
woods, teaching them along the riverside, or spending time together on snowy slopes, he passed down not only his love of the outdoors, but also invaluable life skills — from changing tires and welding, to setting up camp. There was no prouder dad than Glenn.

A celebration of Glenn's life will be held June 30, 2026, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Sky Meadow Country Club in Nashua, N.H.

In lieu of flowers the family kindly requests that donations be made in Glenn's honor to the Nashua Firemen's Relief Association or the Hunt of a Lifetime Foundation.

The family extends their deepest gratitude to Nashua Fire Rescue and the surrounding New Hampshire fire departments for their unwavering support and assistance. The strength of this brotherhood is real and enduring, and it has meant more than words can express.

The Telgen family also wishes to thank the many friends and loved ones who have helped carry them through Glenn's diagnosis, treatment, and transition into the arms of his Creator. Their hearts are filled with profound love and gratitude. ♦



**READ MORE Online!**  
ADDISONINDEPENDENT.COM

**ADDISON COUNTY  
HOME HEALTH  
& HOSPICE**  
Your nonprofit VITA since 1968

Want to be part of the solution to the local housing crisis?

A donation to Addison County Home Health & Hospice's **Addison Home Fund** would help us complete renovations on a new housing project in East Middlebury. This new residential care home will accommodate up to eight medically frail adults and ensure their comfort and safety as they age.

**Our goal is to raise \$500,000 from private donations to help fund this project. Thanks to the generosity of our community members, we are more than halfway there!**



Will you join us?

*To make a donation, please mail a check to:*  
Addison Home Fund  
c/o Addison County Home Health & Hospice  
PO Box 754, Middlebury, VT 05753  
*Or visit us online at [achhh.org](http://achhh.org)*

*Uniform Disclosure is available upon request*



CRAIG S. DISORDA

Craig S. Disorda, 50, of Leicester

LEICESTER — Craig S. Disorda, age 50, died June 16, 2026. To read the full obituary go to [www.millerandketchamfuneralhome.com](http://www.millerandketchamfuneralhome.com). ♦



# Local grants

*(Continued from Page 2A)*  
organization as a whole. The funding will help us expand access to keep our programs, strengthen outreach and overall build our capacity to bring prevention education to more people in Addison County and Vermont.”

This is the first time that Kidpower has received a grant from the Vermont Women’s Fund, making its impact that much more meaningful. This type of flexible funding is very valuable to nonprofits like Kidpower because it allows them to invest where they can have the greatest impact and respond to opportunities as they arise.

“I’m particularly interested in expanding our reach in Addison County, where I live,” Slesar said. “We’re always working to make sure that people can access our programs regardless of their financial circumstances, and this grant helps make that possible by supporting scholarships and discounted programming where it’s needed.”

“I think the Vermont Women’s Fund was interested in helping support this work because girls and women experience disproportionately high rates of sexual violence and harassment,” Slesar said. “Creating safer communities requires everyone to have these skills. I’m so grateful to the Vermont Women’s Fund for their support and for helping spread this work.”

Based about 10 minutes east of Kidpower Vermont, Champlain Valley Stars in Monkton is celebrating a grant award as well. Starting their practices this month, this new all-star program in Addison County was awarded \$7,500 to continue broadening its access and leadership for cheerleaders.

Program Director Abbey Gendreau explained that after considering starting up this nonprofit and receiving over 50 interest forms from athletes in Addison County, Champlain Valley Stars decided to move forward.

“We knew we needed to pull

together quite a bit of funding,” she said. “We also knew that starting a program like this would bring big costs to families, and we didn’t want cost to be a barrier.”

After applying for as many grants as they could, the organization received an award from the Vermont Women’s Fund specifically for financial aid applications. CV Stars ended up awarding 10 applications that accepted the financial aid.

“We’re trying to make sure that there is access to youth sports,” Gendreau added. “One of the big barriers in the past years is that for teams like Vergennes Union High School, nobody outside the district could participate. So people were left out. That’s why we created the all-star team so that everybody could be included.”



**MEMBERS OF THE Champlain Valley Stars Glitter Team demonstrate some of the stunts they learned. CV Stars recently received a grant to further its mission of expanding cheerleading activities for Addison County youngsters.**

With a team of 26 for the season, divided into the Glitter Team (ages 7, 8, 9) and a senior team (ages 10-18), the nonprofit will be competing in two competitions this year.

“The Vermont Women’s Fund grant was huge for us,” Gendreau said. “The whole grant goes to financial assistance. We are currently in the Monkton Community School, but sometime in the future we hope to get a permanent space.”

With the help of the grants awarded by the Vermont Women’s Fund, nonprofits in Addison County are able to continue to grow and help the community.

“I want to share my love for the sport,” Gendreau said. “I want to see it continue to grow in Vermont and it’s an opportunity that I’m not willing to let go of yet.”

# ANWSD

*(Continued from Page 2A)*  
also be seeking a new Vergennes Union Elementary School principal. Around the same time Soule announced her plans, ANWSD ended its search for somebody to succeed retiring principal Matthew DeBlois, who has been with the district for 26 years. Though a finalist was offered the job, they turned it down, leading the school board to approve ANWSD Coordinator of Learning Access and Support April Wortmann as interim VUES principal for the upcoming year, according to Soule.

“After evaluating our options, we determined that the most appropriate next step is to make an interim appointment. At this stage in the year, launching a new search would be unlikely to produce a meaningfully different outcome,”

Just prior, in August, is when Koenig hopes to be able to “hit the search hard” for a new superintendent.

Joining him on the search committee so far are fellow board members Nicole Bearor, Carole McBride and Nial Rele. He suspects the final group will include a superintendent search firm. The foursome is currently considering three options — Human Capital Enterprises, McPherson & Jacobson, and the Vermont School Boards Association.

“So just seeing what they can offer and what it would cost, that kind of thing,” Koenig explained of where the committee is at in the process of possibly selecting one.

The committee will eventually expand to include teachers, principals, community members and students, he said.

Soule, who is not sure whether stepping away will mean retirement or another venture, said, “I let the board know now so they would have time to plan accordingly.”

“At one point I contemplated staying on a bit longer — particularly if H.955 ended with a firm merger plan and short timeline. But that was not the case and it seems districts will remain intact for the foreseeable future.”

Soule added, “There is a lot of good work ahead in the coming year.”

Reflecting on her nine years at ANWSD, she noted several initiatives that have defined her tenure as superintendent, including merging the sixth grade and middle school in 2024.

“This to me is the highlight during my tenure,” Soule said. “And something I feel especially proud of and passionate about.”

She added the “Portrait of a Graduate” initiative and the school board’s equity policy as highlights.

Also defining her time with the district has been “navigating the myriad challenges associated with the steep decline in student enrollment and the impact of that in the region,” she said.

“Through it all, what I continue to find most exceptional about



**SHEILA SOULE**

our district is the kindness of our students. In 2016, the board and community came together around a shared vision for our schools: ‘We envision a kind, collaborative, and creative community for all that nurtures a diverse and accessible learning environment. Students will flourish as critical thinkers and productive citizens, cultivating resilience in an ever-changing world.’”

The sentiment has been with her since her start at ANWSD nine years ago, and one that she never abandoned, she said.

“I believe it is visible in our schools today. Our students are genuinely kind, and that kindness sets them apart.”

Koenig commended Soule’s work.

“It’s been brilliant,” he said. “I’ve been really happy with the work she’s done.”

Among her successes, he noted guiding the school through the Covid-19 pandemic. “She helped us weather Covid quite well,” he said.

Overall, Koenig said it’s been a job well done by Soule.

“I’ve been really pleased with the work she’s done, the professionalism,” he said. “And her love of the kids.”

## OTHER ANWSD DEPARTURES

In addition to VUES Principal DeBlois, the 2025-2026 school year was also the last for these faculty members at ANWSD:

- Susan Oliveira, VUHS Counselor, 30 years
- Janet Kepes, VUHS German, 19 years
- Brianne Wells, School Psychologist, 11 years
- Gwen Zwickel, VUES Reading Specialist, 11 years
- Jeremy Brooks, VUMHS Special Educator, 7 years
- David Grabin, VUHS Social Studies, 4 years
- Randi Barry, Ferrisburgh Central School Teacher, 3 years
- Laura Cavazos, VUES Teacher, 3 years
- Irena Pavlin, VUHS Mathematics, 3 years
- Susan Rakowski, Speech Language Pathologist, 2 years
- Alison DaBica, Ferrisburgh Central School Teacher, 1 year

# Pastor

*(Continued from Page 2A)*  
with deep spiritual grounding,” according to DeSantis’s online UU biography.

They served as Intern Minister at Jefferson Unitarian Church in Golden, Colo., and then as a Summer Minister in Residence at the UU Church of Boulder. DeSantis was ordained on April 18 at the Jefferson church, and — at the still-tender age of 30 — was ready to lead their own congregation.

“Michael seeks to make good on the promises of Unitarian Universalism by nurturing communities that are radically committed to collective care and justice making. Michael is especially passionate about pastoral care, faith-based activism, anti-oppression work, and creating opportunities for congregants to deepen their spiritual lives,” reads their bio.

CVUUS emerged as a suitor for DeSantis’s pastoral leadership. The congregation’s last settled minister, the Rev. Barnaby Feder, stepped down in 2023. The society’s search

team began to mobilize in earnest last spring, collecting feedback from members and guidance from UU officials.

The seven-member search panel interviewed six candidates via Zoom, of which three were invited to Middlebury for a weekend visit. DeSantis emerged as the search committee’s top choice, and the CVUUS membership on May 3 overwhelmingly endorsed them to serve as their next settled minister.

DeSantis will lead one of the most vigorous religious institutions in Addison County. It currently counts 250 active members, at a time when several area places of worship have been transitioning to community centers due to a lack of parishioners.

Now in its 40th year, the CVUUS congregation describes itself as “brave, curious, and compassionate thinkers and doers. We are diverse in faith, ethnicity, history and spirituality, but aligned in our desire to make a difference for the good. We have a track record of standing on the side of love, justice, and

peace.”

In addition to regular Sunday services, its current calendar of events includes such offerings as Tai Chi, interfaith peace vigils, rug hooking, “writers’ group,” and social justice ministry. The CVUUS has also been at the forefront of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer inclusion for more than 40 years, according to its website.

DeSantis applauded CVUUS’s ethos of welcoming all.

“I think CVUUS understands it is part of a larger community and they do have a lot of partnerships and a lot of things going on in the building,” they said. “There’s a real vibrancy to CVUUS for the size of its congregation. There’s so much life there.”

And DeSantis is looking forward to becoming part of the CVUUS family.

“When they decide to do something, they get it done,” they said.

John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.

# Food access

*(Continued from Page 2A)*  
up chips to buy for someone else.”

The group has other ideas for We Feed Each Other, including the creation of a food pantry outside the general store that could include a freezer or fridge for meals. Wheeler said the team is looking to model the pantry after those in nearby towns and is also open to how plans may evolve if they find ongoing efforts are enough to support local needs.

Helping out with the food pantry is one way residents can support We Feed Each Other. Other ways to get involved include spreading the word about the initiative, paying for someone’s tab at the general store and coming to the group’s meetings at Burnham Hall on Wednesdays at 6 p.m. Tax-deductible donations can also be made to the Lincoln Community Trust and brought to the general store.

“You can do your part just by receiving, just by taking the care and accepting it, because that is actually really difficult for people,” Wheeler added.

Accepting that care can take

work, she noted.

“We’re all kind of taught that we have to do everything alone and individually,” she said. “We’re trying to say that we don’t; we can do it together.”

Smith noted the Pink Heart Program is part of the first phase

of We Feed Each Other’s work. Visions for future efforts include events and meal deliveries.

“Really seeing how it goes,” she said. “We just want to connect people and have people experience supportive community and joy. That’s our goal really.”



**Golden Russet Farm**

VERMONT CERTIFIED ORGANIC



**Summer hours start this week!**

Open Wednesdays  
10am to 5pm

**Visit us for hardy perennials and seasonal produce!**

**1329 Lapham Bay Rd. | Shoreham, VT  
802-897-7031 | GoldenRussetFarm.com**



**CONTACT GOV. SCOTT**

**Governor Phil Scott**  
1-800-649-6825 (Vt. only)  
802-828-3333



109 State Street, Pavillion  
Montpelier, Vermont 05609-0101  
www.vermont.gov/governor

## Elderly Services Inc. ESI College



### A Review of 2026 Supreme Court Cases

Tuesday, July 7 and  
Tuesday, July 14  
10:00-11:30 AM  
Addison County VFW  
530 Exchange Street, Middlebury

Join U.S. District Court Judge Bill Sessions for a timely review of key 2026 Supreme Court cases and their broader legal and societal implications. Gain insight into the Court’s decisions from a seasoned federal judge with decades of experience on the bench.

A Middlebury College graduate, **Bill Sessions** received his law degree from George Washington University Law School. He has worked as an Addison County public defender, taught at Vermont Law School, and had a private law practice. He is currently a U.S. District Court Judge and a Visiting Judge for the U.S. Court of Appeals. His expertise is in sentencing policy, and he was chair of the U.S. Sentencing Commission.

**Register Now!**  
<https://elderlyservices.org/esi-college-summer-2026/>  
or call 802.388-3983





# ATM thieves strike again in Middlebury

MIDDLEBURY — Middlebury police were informed of the theft of an ATM machine from the A&W Restaurant on Route 7 South on June 19. Police said the ATM was a wall-mounted unit, affixed to the exterior of the A&W building. Police said the culprit(s) forced the machine off the wall.

In a related development, police took into evidence a stolen ATM machine that found in Bristol — near the intersection of Route 116 and Mehan Road — on June 17.

Thieves have been targeting ATMs in Middlebury since this past spring. In March, thieves stole ATM machines from three separate Middlebury stores within the space of 10 days. Those three thefts occurred during the early morning hours and the culprit(s) followed a similar method of smashing their way into the buildings for quick access and escape.

The thieves in March stole one ATM each from Kinney Drugs at 40 Court St., the Maplefields store at 3201 Route 7 south, and the Champlain Farms store at 25 Court St.

On June 13, thieves tried to steal an ATM from the Vermont Federal Credit Union (VFCU) on Court Street.

Middlebury Police Sgt. Nathan Hayes said the thefts remain under investigation. Police have identified some suspects, according to Hayes.

Anyone with information on any or all of these cases is asked to contact Middlebury police at 802-388-3191.

And the ATM theft spree seems to have spread to Bristol, where thieves reportedly took such a device on June 19 (see Bristol police log in this section).

In other action last week, Middlebury police:

- Responded to a trespassing complaint in the Boardman Street area on June 15.
- Responded to a report of a man stumbling in North Pleasant Street on June 15.
- Were informed that a feral cat had scratched a worker in Catamount

## Middlebury Police Log

- Park on June 15.
- Checked on the welfare of a man found sleeping at the Amtrak passenger rail platform on June 15.
  - Responded to a report of a “menacing” man at the Amtrak platform on Middle Seymour Street on June 16.
  - Assisted a local resident with a harassment complaint on June 16.
  - Arrested Timothy D. Tracey II, 20, of Middlebury after he allegedly violated a relief from abuse order and his court-ordered conditions of release in the Jackson Lane area on June 16.
  - Provided traffic control while crews cleared a downed tree from near the intersection of Route 7 and Happy Valley Road on June 16.
  - Responded to a dispute between some Gambrel Court neighbors about “uncontrolled animals” on June 16.
  - Returned a found cell phone to its owner on June 17.
  - Helped a man whose vehicle had been locked behind a gate on Springside Drive on June 17.
  - Helped locate a person who had been reported missing “somewhere between Middlebury and Monkton” on June 17.
  - Cited Joshua H. Santos, 34, a transient in the Middlebury area, for disorderly conduct and criminal threatening, following a complaint in the Court Street area on June 18.
  - Helped Department for Children & Families officials carry out an emergency custody order in the Case Street area on June 18.
  - Investigated a report of a possibly impaired driver on Shannon Street on June 18.
  - Closed flooded roads and helped with traffic control downtown during a severe rainstorm on June 18.
  - Received a report of a possible theft from a Duane Court home on June 18.

- Responded to a reported dispute between some unhoused individuals in the Merchants Row area on June 18.
- Assisted Middlebury Regional EMS with a medical call at an Exchange Street address on June 19.
- Offered resources to an unhoused person on Rogers Road on June 19.
- Cited Kyle J. Hamilton, 26, of Middlebury for violating his conditions of release and unlawful trespass, following an incident at a Court Street business on June 19.
- Launched an investigation into an alleged assault in the Court Street area on June 19.
- Assisted Middlebury Regional EMS on a medical call to the Bakery Lane area on June 19.
- Responded to a report of a runaway juvenile in the area of Court and Monroe streets on June 19.
- Conducted a downtown foot patrol on June 19.
- Investigated a report of a person threatening another person in the Cross Street area on June 20.
- Responded to a report of a verbal argument between two people in the town green gazebo on June 20.
- Arrested Kristopher J. Gunn, 34, on an outstanding warrant after stopping him for a speeding violation near the intersection of Court Street and Creek Road on June 20.
- Cited Stephanie Barbagallo, 48, for retail theft; and Christopher Bridgmon, 40, for retail theft and violation of conditions of release, following an incident at a Washington Street business on June 20.
- Helped emergency response officials move a patient to an ambulance in the Cedar Court neighborhood on June 20.
- Responded to a report on June 21 of a mental health patient trying to leave Porter Hospital prior to receiving permission to do so.
- Arrested Brandy Wills, 42, of Springfield, Vt., on an outstanding warrant at the Charter House Emergency Shelter on June 21.
- Responded to an allegation of a sex offense at a Sugarwood Court residence on June 21.

# Local women named in drug gang

BURLINGTON — Two Addison County residents were among 10 people sentenced by a federal court for their participation in a drug trafficking organization.

The U.S. Attorney’s Office for Vermont last week announced that the drug trafficking organization was led by Hussein Iman, 22, of Springfield, Mass., who managed an organization that distributed ounces of fentanyl and cocaine base throughout Vermont beginning in October 2023 and continuing even after Iman’s July 2024 arrest.

Many of the 10 were sentenced by Chief U.S. District Judge Christina Reiss for drug trafficking and money laundering offenses last fall; but the last was sentenced just last week.

Authorities said Iman initially ran the organization using a social media account, and continued to direct its activities while in jail. The U.S. Attorney’s Office said that Iman and other members of the organization possessed firearms and used violence to further their drug trafficking activities. In social media messages, Iman bragged about directing violence against individuals to further his drug trafficking business.

Law enforcement conducted five controlled purchases from Iman’s organization through the social media account between April and July 2024. Feds said that Iman had other people, including juveniles, transport drugs to Vermont for distribution from multiple locations in Orange and Washington counties. When police raided a 14-acre property in Williamstown that prosecutors said Iman used as a drug distribution hub, law enforcement found a juvenile who had been reported missing, six firearms, ammunition, fentanyl, cocaine base, and a large amount of U.S. currency.

Iman pleaded guilty to conspiracy to use a place for the purpose of distributing and using a controlled substance, conspiracy to distribute fentanyl, conspiracy to launder money, and conspiracy to distribute

fentanyl and cocaine base. Last fall he was sentenced to 10 years in prison.

The two Addison County people that police said were part of this gang were Amanda Delisle, 39, of Leicester and Christina Byrd, 43, of Granville. According to court records, Delisle pleaded guilty to conspiracy to launder money and on Nov. 21, 2025, she was sentenced to 20 months in prison and three years of supervised release. Byrd pleaded guilty to conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute and distribution of fentanyl and cocaine base. On Nov. 25, 2025, she was sentenced to 30 months in jail and three years of supervised release.

“This armed and violent drug trafficking organization, which distributed fentanyl and cocaine base throughout central Vermont, was dismantled thanks to the diligent and thorough investigation spearheaded by Homeland Security Investigations,” said First Assistant U.S. Attorney Ophardt, in a press release.

# City police find person who left scene of crash

## Vergennes Police Log

- VERGENNES — The Vergennes Police Department identified a person who they said left the scene of a crash where property damage was reported.
- The driver, who was suspected to be intoxicated according to police, was picked up by a family member before officers arrived. They didn’t release the name of the drive because they said charges are still pending.
- Between June 15 and June 21, Vergennes police also conducted seven traffic stops and four directed patrols, and took fingerprints three times.
- In other recent activity, city police:
- On June 15 assisted a New York resident with a citizen dispute in Vergennes.
  - On June 15 took a report of some suspicious people and activity in the area, but found no issues.
  - On June 15 dealt with a non-investigated, minor two-car crash. There were no injuries or hazards.
  - On June 15 assisted a person who was struggling with a mental health crisis.
  - On June 15 took a late report of a road rage incident on Monkton Road. It was documented in case

- On June 18 investigated a complaint of a suspicious person walking onto properties and taking returnable cans and bottles from trash. The person was identified and taken home.
- On June 18 took a report of a car that drives by a residence with loud exhaust and appears to be speeding.
- On June 19 took a call about door-to-door sales representing Fox Pest Control. The police department requested Fox Pest Control advise when they are in town doing door-to-door sales.
- On June 19 took a report of hearing a child cry in a nearby apartment. It turned out it was two siblings in a disagreement.
- On June 19 took a report of a knock on a resident’s home. Police patrolled the area and there did not appear to be anyone around. The complainant was planning to install security cameras.
- On June 20 were notified of a theft of two bicycles from a garage in Vergennes. The investigation was ongoing as of Monday, June 22.
- On June 21 assisted Vermont State Police with a domestic disturbance in New Haven. Possible charges are pending.

# History program brings 1777 decisions to life

ORWELL — The Mount Independence State Historic Site presents on Sunday, June 28 at 1 p.m. another in its series of programs “Inquiry into the Revolutionary Mind.” This time the topic is “What Were You Thinking Philip Schuyler, Benedict Arnold, and John Trumbull?”

Modern day historian and site interpreter Paul Andrisin turns on the time machine to interview Maj. Gen. Philip Schuyler, Gen. Benedict Arnold, and Lt. Col. John Trumbull about the decision 250 years ago on July 7, 1777, to build a new American defense on the “strong ground” opposite Ticonderoga on what would be called Mount

Independence. Why did they think this location would best protect New England from the British enemy to the north? What was taking place on Lake Champlain before this decision? Site interpreters Michael Blakeslee, Adam Kemp and Mark Brownell portray Schuyler, Arnold, and Trumbull.

The program is included in the regular site admission—\$8 for adults, \$1 ages 6-16, under 6 free and free for Green Mountain Passport holders and members of the Mount Independence Coalition. This is one of many programs at Mount Independence this year honoring the 250th anniversary of Mount Independence and the

Declaration of Independence, for which it is named.

Mount Independence is located at 497 Mount Independence Rd. It is open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.. The season is extended through October 28 to salute the day in 1776 when the strong forces on both sides of the lake helped the British decide to return to Canada for the winter. It is a National Historic Landmark for its significance in the American Revolution. For questions, call 802-948-2000.

For information about Vermont’s State-Owned Historic Sites, visit [historicsites.vermont.gov](https://historicsites.vermont.gov)

Join the Vermont State Historic Sites conversation on Facebook.

### 225 Viscido Drive, Ferrisburgh

## \$1,995,000

New Construction, custom timber-framed home. 4,400 sf, 4 bed, 4 bath, 3 levels on 25 prime acres. Quality finishes, energy efficiency, and maintenance-free living. Stunning views, apartment above garage, imported granite & tile, radiant floor heat, custom stone fireplace, cathedral ceilings. Secluded location is just moments from Vergennes, Lake Champlain, easy commute to Middlebury or Burlington.



**Open House:**  
**Sunday, June 28,**  
**1:00-3:00 PM**



**Michael O'Dowd, Realtor®KW Vermont**  
Cell: 802-598-7169  
Office: 802-654-8500  
[michaelodowd@kw.com](mailto:michaelodowd@kw.com)  
<https://michaelodowd.kw.com/>  
**KELLER WILLIAMS REALTY**



## Affordable 2-Bedroom Apartments Available in Vergennes & Middlebury

Addison Housing Works is accepting applications for select two-bedroom apartments. Income limits apply (60%–80% Area Median Income):

| 80% AMI                            | 60% AMI                            |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 2-person household: up to \$73,750 | 2-person household: up to \$55,320 |
| 3-person household: up to \$82,950 | 3-person household: up to \$62,220 |

- Income and assets must be verified
- Basic utilities are included at all properties
- Some properties include all utilities

Apply online today!



Scan the QR code or visit [www.addisonhousingworks.org/rental-apartment-application-process.html](http://www.addisonhousingworks.org/rental-apartment-application-process.html) for pre-applications

# SUMMER DEALS AT WIMETT'S



**2016 TOYOTA TACOMA EXT CAB**  
TRD-Sport, V6, Auto, 4x4, 136k Miles  
**\$21,995**



**2016 KIA SOUL**  
4-Cyl, Auto, Super Clean, Only 59k Miles  
**\$10,995**



**2020 KIA SPORTAGE SX TURBO**  
4-Cyl, Auto, AWD, Only 61k Miles  
**\$19,995**



**2016 JEEP CHEROKEE TRAILHAWK**  
V6, Auto, 4x4 Only 49k Miles  
**\$17,995**



**WIMETT TRADING COMPANY**  
USED CARS AND TRUCKS  
**802 465 4688**



**2018 NISSAN FRONTIER CREW CAB**  
V6, Auto, 4x4, 103k Miles  
**\$17,995**

**AFFORDABLE, SAFE & RELIABLE USED CARS AND TRUCKS**  
We also buy cars, locate specialty orders & consider consignments  
Call Dave for an appointment

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

**802-465-4688**  
2668 Route 7 • Leicester, VT 05733 • [wimetttradingco@gmail.com](mailto:wimetttradingco@gmail.com)





# Education reform

*(Continued from Page 1A)*

Areas, or CESAs, as regional structures for shared services.”

The Addison Central (ACSD), Addison Northwest (ANWSD), Mount Abraham (MAUSD), Lincoln (LSD), Champlain Valley (CVSD) and Mt. Mansfield (MMSD) school districts are to be combined in a “Champlain Valley South” CESA charged with identifying common services that might be consolidated and shared.

“These conversations are really operational,” ACSD Superintendent Wendy Baker said, saying CESA committee members are likely to pose questions like, “What are we all doing? What is it costing us? Are there things we could do together that would feel reasonable and result in some savings or better service or more bandwidth that would allow us to cover something else well?”

The ACSD and ANWSD boards on June 8 appointed their respective superintendents — Baker and Soule — to represent them on the Champlain Valley South CESA board, which must hold its first meeting with 45 days of the bill becoming law. Adam Bunting, superintendent of CVSD, will call the first Champlain Valley South CESA board meeting. The MAUSD board at its June 23 meeting also appointed its superintendent, Patrick Reen, as representative to the CESA board and discussed potentially having a school board member attend those meetings, too.

While the state’s seven CESA boards are exploring economies of scale, a separate and more high-profile effort will explore potential voluntary mergers among some Vermont school districts. Locally, H.955 specifies a merger study grouping that includes the ACSD, ANWSD, MAUSD and LSD. The Patricia A. Hannaford Career Center will also be part of the discussion.

“Merger committees are expected to study the feasibility of forming unified union school districts and must examine structures that could include

local elementary schools, centralized middle schools, comprehensive regional high schools, and universal access to career and technical education,” Soule told the ANWSD board on June. 8. “The committees must consider operational efficiency, transparency, accountability, educational opportunity, Career & Technical Education access, special education delivery, and the ability of districts to function under the future foundation formula.”

School districts have until Sept. 15 to pick members to participate in merger study committee meetings that will begin Oct. 15, according to H.955.

Merger study committees must submit their reports to the Agency of Education by Sept. 1, 2027. Based on those reports, the secretary of education must send its merger recommendations to the State Board of Education by Dec. 1, 2027. The state board must then sign off on any merger proposals, which would be decided by affected residents on Town Meeting Day (March 7), 2028.

In July 2029, a new foundation formula will replace the current education funding system that will be predicated on student enrollment, according to Otter Valley Unified Union School District Superintendent Rene Sanchez.

“The analogy people use is a ‘backpack’ of money: each student carries a base amount of funding, with extra added for students who need more support (for example, English language learners),” Sanchez stated in his final newsletter of the 2025-26 school year.

A series of additional steps — some requiring legislative approval — would lead to the creation of Regional Assessment

Districts to establish financing and other rules in any voter-approved merged school districts by 2031.

The current pathway to voluntary mergers seemed unlikely only a year ago.

State lawmakers had considered proposing forced school mergers and expanded school districts as part of a more sweeping public education reform process though Act 73. But legislators — after receiving testimony from individuals, school officials and other stakeholders — significantly softened their education reform push in a way that maintains local control over the fate of shrinking public schools. A demographic shift in Vermont has seen student enrollment decline by around 32,000 students (25%) during the past 30 years.

“The (weightier discussion) is going to be the voluntary mergers,” Baker said, while “the CESAs are something we might make some hay out of.”

She said the Champlain Valley South CESA members might, for example, consider collaborating on the processing of criminal background checks for all of their employees. Currently, each district takes on that chore unilaterally using its own resources. Collaborating on this chore could save money that could be passed along to taxpayers or redeployed to other mandated school services, Baker noted.

**OTHER ADDISON TOWNS**

In the southern part of the county, the Slate Valley Unified Union School District (SVUUSD) — which includes the Addison County town of Orwell — and Otter Valley Unified Union School

District (which includes Whiting, Leicester and Goshen in Addison County) have been placed in a merger study group that includes Barstow Unified School District, Ira School District, Mill River Unified Union School District, Quarry Valley Unified Union School District, and the Rutland City School District, Rutland Town School District.

SVUUSD is also starting a discussion about the future of its elementary schools, according to district Superintendent Brooke Olsen-Farrell. A new Elementary School Reconfiguration Committee will review enrollment trends, educational programs, facilities, finances and seek community feedback.

“The committee may consider topics such as grade-level configurations, school programming and the potential future use of school buildings,” she stated in a recent newsletter to SVUUSD stakeholders.

The Orwell Village School falls under the Slate Valley umbrella.

“Like many school districts across Vermont, we are seeing changes in student enrollment and increasing financial pressures. We believe it is important to proactively examine how our schools, programs, and facilities are organized to ensure we can continue providing high-quality educational opportunities for all students,” Olsen-Farrell said.

But she stressed: “No decisions have been made. This committee’s work is intended to gather information, explore possibilities, and provide recommendations for future consideration.”

Any SVUUSD residents interested in serving on the Elementary School Reconfiguration Committee should email Olsen-Farrell at bfarrell@svuvt.org.

*Additional reporting by Marin Howell.*

*Reporter John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.*



**Black and white thumb**

BRIDPORT’S CRAIG DUDDLES, seen this spring outside the Henry Sheldon Museum where the Middlebury Garden Club was tidying up the beds, is the editor of the club’s newsletter, “Garden Thymes.” At its annual meeting in St. Albans earlier this month, the Federated Garden Clubs of Vermont (FGCV) awarded first place in the statewide newsletter competition to “Garden Thymes,” which is published quarterly. The FGCV assists the 16 member garden clubs in Vermont, encourages educational programs in horticulture, landscape design, and related fields and promotes natural resource conservation.

## ALL PLANTS ON SALE!

Fri. June 26 - Thur. July 2

|                        | Just Reduced | Reg.    | Sale   |
|------------------------|--------------|---------|--------|
| 4 ½" torenia           |              | \$5.49  | \$1.49 |
| 6-pak tomato           |              | \$4.49  | \$2.49 |
| 4" verbena + coleus    |              | \$4.99  | \$2.99 |
| 6-pak morning glory    |              | \$4.99  | \$1.99 |
| 6-pak marigolds        |              | \$4.99  | \$2.99 |
| 4" herbs               |              | \$4.99  | \$2.99 |
| 1 gal pw sedum popstar |              | \$16.99 | \$8.99 |
| 6" campanula - blue    |              | \$10.99 | \$6.99 |

Our 57th season of growing plants for Vermont gardens!

### First Season Greenhouses

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

# VUHS honor roll

VERGENNES — Vergennes Union High School has released its honor roll for the second semester of the 2025-2026 academic year.

**12th Grade High Honors**

Ava Francis  
Amelia Giroux  
Skadi Haerter  
Scout Jacobson  
Carter McGuire  
Phoebe Raphael  
Quincy Sabick  
Ashtin Stearns  
Hunter West  
Eleanor Wilkinson-Sachs

**12th Grade Honors**

Kyan Barcomb  
Allegra de Boer  
Nilah Fitzgerald  
Abigail Flint  
Alfredo Hernandez-Baltazar  
Gina LeBeau  
Isabella Pratt  
Mya Provencher  
Logan Thibeault  
Ryan Wright

**11th Grade High Honors**

Kelsey Becher  
Jude Bragg  
William Clark  
Cole Gagnon  
Isabella Romond  
Adrienne Smits  
Noah Smits  
Madeleine Stroup  
Isabelle Van Voorst  
Acasia Visser  
Ryenn Wisell

**11th Grade Honors**

Trinity Angle  
Eva Borah  
Juan De La Cruz  
Eloise Eckels  
Benjamin Hale  
Willow Hotchkiss  
Connor Houghton  
Stephen Kittredge  
Georgia Krause  
Autumn Loven  
Liam McGuire  
Khanlen Ouimette  
Jayden Ploof  
Colton Reed  
Asa Root-Pratt  
Benjamin Shugart  
Holland VanderWey  
Megan Willis

**10th Grade High Honors**

Eleanor Brooks  
Petra Fearon

Jude Grant  
Lauren Hill  
Marek Jablonski  
Abigail LaFlam  
Joseph Maneen  
Emerson Morrill  
Rowan Neffinger  
Jackson Scribner  
Kalder Steen  
Magdalene Wittmeyer

**10th Grade Honors**

Laci Almeida  
Ella Bearor  
Cyrus Clair  
David Coburn  
Simon Diehl-Noble  
Sophia James  
Georgia Kunkel  
Marwan Liebhaber  
Thomas Mentzer  
Serenity Moehringer  
Pearce Mosehauer  
Liam Paquette  
Grace Petersen  
Hazel Rakowski  
Jillian Reichert

**9th Grade High Honors**

Abigail Balon  
Ila Borah  
Casey Clark  
Tucker Couture  
Quin Dubois  
Bella Emerson  
Ava Foster  
Amyrah Hekkers  
Sagan Holm  
Jordan Hutchins  
Ayla Kittredge  
Selma Liebhaber  
Ella Maneen  
Reese Muzzy  
Madeline Shugart  
Henry Stroup  
Alexandra Visser

**9th Grade Honors**

Keira Brunell  
Collin Chamberlin  
Maddox Davis  
Adelyn Gaudette  
Reinah Gutierrez  
Andrew Houghton  
Kayla Kilburn  
George Kittredge  
Adrien Provencher  
Tatum Raphael  
Madison Raymond  
Zachary Rollins  
Kylee Shepard  
Zaria Smith  
Erik White  
Cole Wigle



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



**www.woodwarevt.com**

**802-388-6297**

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

**FINE  
FURNITURE**





VERMONT HAS BEEN hit by an above-average number tornadoes this year — three so far — including an EF-1 twister that touched down near York Hill Road in Lincoln this past Thursday, June 18. With winds of 105 mph, the tornado uprooted some trees and snapped others in two.

Photos by Jonathan Blake

# Lincoln tornado causes destruction

By ELOISE CHRISTY

LINCOLN — South Lincoln was under a severe weather watch this past Thursday, June 18, after a tornado touched down in the area around 1:30 p.m. that afternoon. The EF-1 tornado started in the woods approaching York Hill Road with gusting winds up to 105 mph and a maximum path width of

200 yards, according to a public information statement issued by the National Weather Services in Burlington. The tornado was brief and eventually crossed into the nearby ravine, where damage started to trail off. Although no injuries or fatalities were reported, the damage was

considerable. Uprooted and broken trees could be seen in the wake of the tornado, some with their tops sheared completely off. Fallen trees and residual debris were scattered along the road in the aftermath. “From what I’ve seen, no houses were damaged (from the tornado), but driveways and roads were blocked,” Lincoln Town Clerk Sally Ober said. “Trees were snapped at the tops and uprooted, in such a small area.”

The tornado in Lincoln was accompanied by another brief tornado in Woodstock on June 18 that also caused substantial damage, mainly to surrounding wooded areas. That storm saw winds of around 100 mph and was a bit wider than the one in Lincoln, with a path width of 550 yards. The tornadoes this past Thursday were two out of three that have hit the state this year, making 2026 already an above-average year for tornadoes in Vermont, as confirmed in a statement from the NWS in Burlington. Looking at the damage left behind in Lincoln from above, the impact is significant. To see that much damage in such an isolated area, you realize “how powerful the wind had to be,” Ober said.



## Four local students on Champlain College President’s List

BURLINGTON — The following students have been named to the Champlain College President’s List for achieving a grade point average of 4.0 or higher in the Spring 2026 semester.

- Tyler Chasse of Bristol

- Kenneth Moran of Starksboro
- Akiva Nugent of Starksboro
- Penelope Stein of East Middlebury

## By the way

(Continued from Page 1A) 20,755, according to the DOL. The county jobless rate in May was three-tenths of a percentage point lower than it was in April. Meanwhile, the DOL announced the May jobless rate for Vermont was 2.6% — the same as in April. The May unemployment rates for Vermont’s 14 counties ranged from 2.1% in Addison and Chittenden counties to 3.3% in Orleans County, according to the DOL. The comparable United States rate in May was 4.3%, no change from the April estimate.

Help shape your commuter bus Service. Tri-Valley Transit (TVT) is evaluating commuter bus service between Middlebury and Burlington. Take the rider survey at [tinyurl.com/6mmz3krf](https://tinyurl.com/6mmz3krf). TVT currently offers the “116 Commuter,” connecting Middlebury, Bristol, Starksboro, Hinesburg, South Burlington and Burlington along Route 116; the Middlebury/Burlington LINK, connecting Middlebury, Vergennes, Ferrisburgh, Shelburne, South Burlington and Burlington along Route 7. Whether you currently ride the bus or drive to work, your feedback will help determine future service improvements. Survey responses are confidential and will only be reported in summary form.

Estimated completion time is 5 to 7 minutes.

St. Stephen’s Episcopal Church in Middlebury gives all profits from its annual Peasant Market to local non-profits. You can help stock this year’s market (to be held July 11, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.) by donating clean, dry, usable goods in great condition at the church, 3 Main St. in Middlebury, on the town green. Here are intake dates and times for your donated goods in the next week: 10 a.m.-1 p.m. on Saturday; 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Sunday; and 4-6 p.m. on Tuesday, and Wednesday. Organizers would love to have your antiques, linens and fabrics, kitchenware, dishes, toys (but not guns or swords), jewelry, small furniture, sporting goods, handicrafts and white elephant items. Organizers can’t accept anything broken or dirty, clothing, books, cassettes, stuffed animals, TVs, computers or electronics, helmets, luggage, car seats or highchairs, tins or plastic containers, or furniture one person can’t carry. Please bring materials to the church *only* at the specified times.

The Rotary Club of Middlebury has an extensive community garden space (around 100 feet squared) and a team of volunteers who are willing

to grow food as an offering to food security organizations this summer and fall. Please be in touch directly with Jason Larocque, at [larocque@otterck.com](mailto:larocque@otterck.com), if you represent a local nonprofit organization that has specific crops/veggies needs for summer nutrition programs. A big “thank you” to the Middlebury Rotarians for this generous offer.

Vermont Secretary of Administration Sarah Clark announced this week the state’s General, Transportation and Education Fund receipts in May totaled \$222 million — narrowly missing the \$222.7 million in revenues that had been forecasted. Total General Fund revenues were \$134.5 million, which is \$2.9 million (2 .1%) less than the cash flow target. State Transportation Fund revenues totaled \$27.3 million for May, missing the \$28.5 million monthly consensus target by 4.1%. But the monthly Education Fund revenues of \$60.1 million were \$3.2 million (5.7%) above the May cash flow target of \$56.9 million. According to Secretary Clark: “While some key sources of receipts underperformed this month, revenues continue to hold up well with the three major funds tracking within around 1% of their cumulative consensus forecast.”

## Readings

(Continued from Page 1A) Naramore said.

The Declaration readings will be both a local community event for Vermonters and a global event across U.S. states and territories. Orwell Historical Society is participating in “Share the Spirit of America,” a program hosted by 461 different towns, each of which will read the Declaration of Independence at exactly the same time. The July 8 timing was chosen to reflect the anniversary of the document’s first reading from Independence Hall in Philadelphia. Church bells will ring, calling the town together for the reading done by four different volunteers. After the event, the historical society encourages attendees to stop by the exhibit “Connections” in the Orwell Museum, featuring student-selected artifacts and personal statements based on their research. It will also include refreshments and a display of historic museum flags, available specifically for the July 8 event.

“I have a long interest in Vermont and American history, and my family extends all the way back to the time of the Mayflower,” event organizer Jim Rowe told the *Independent*. “The simultaneous reading all across the country at the same hour would be acknowledging what the importance of the Declaration really is.”

To commemorate the 250th, many sites are reading the Declaration on Independence Day.

The July 4 Cornwall Declaration reading will feature an ice cream social, as well as the ringing of freedom bells. Participants are encouraged to bring their own bells to ring along at noon.

Additionally, all sites of the Vermont Historical Society will host a reading that Saturday. The state historical society doesn’t only find the Declaration meaningful in the freedoms it represents — it speaks to history built on Vermont’s own soil.

“It’s meaningful everywhere of course, and especially at Mount Independence,” Historical Sites Regional Administrator Elsa Gilbertson said.

Originally called Rattlesnake Hill, American soldiers renamed the Vermont site after hearing the Declaration of Independence during the Revolutionary War. On July 28, 1776, the Declaration was read to soldiers stationed at Mount Independence — the first in the area to hear it.

“It made such a difference. I mean, the soldiers were already here. They were already fighting since 1775,” historical reenactor Michael Blakeslee of Starksboro said. “The reading of the Declaration of Independence made it so instead of just them working against the English tyranny, (there) was something they could actually fight for and feel for.”

With newly lifted spirits, many of those soldiers spread the news. “The soldiers were so pleased by

it, it meant so much to them, that they decided to call their defense Mount Independence,” Gilbertson explained.

After the readings on the morning of the 4th, each Vermont Historical Site will ring a bell 13 times for each of the 13 colonies.

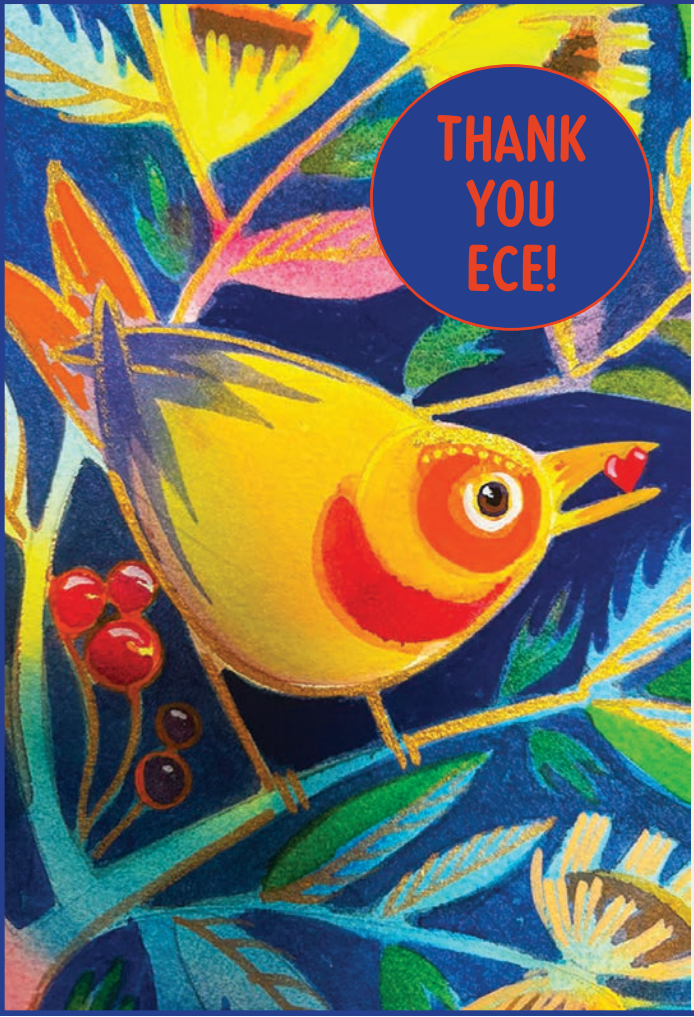
Three weeks later, Mount Independence will host a reading once again on July 25, commemorating the anniversary of its name day. In addition to a Declaration reading, a roll call of regiments that served in Mount Independence in 1776 will happen. Visiting historical societies from the hometowns of Mount Independence soldiers will respond to the call.

“It’s sort of like a homecoming for them,” Gilbertson said. “That’s going to be pretty special.”

The event will feature period-skill demonstrations, music, food and more.

“It’s just meant to be a fun day,” Gilbertson said, “We hope there’s going to be music, and maybe some short guided tours and some history programs.”

Soon afterwards, on the weekend of Sept. 5, Mount Independence will once again host their annual Living History weekend — this time, celebrating 250. In addition to a reading of the Declaration, historic reenactors will perform the 1776 building and garrisoning of Mount Independence. The weekend will provide food, demos and interactive trails, suited for all ages.



**Thanks**  
and appreciation  
to our local  
Early Childhood  
Educators!

**Have a great  
summer!**

Thank you for  
all you do for  
our communities,  
children and  
families.

*Sponsored by Building Bright  
Futures and the Addison County  
Early Childhood Networks*

*Artwork by Ashley Wolff*

ADDISON COUNTY  
**INDEPENDENT**  
Serving Addison County, Vt., Since 1946

**THE ADDY INDY WILL BE  
CLOSED  
FRIDAY, JULY 3RD  
IN OBSERVANCE OF  
INDEPENDENCE DAY**



# Addiction

*(Continued from Page 1A)*  
part of the renaissance of the nonprofit Turning Point Center — which will henceforth be known as the Peer Recovery Center of Addison County or PRCAC. The evening’s highlights included a short documentary film featuring local folks who’ve found success in overcoming substance use disorder, along with a panel discussion featuring a variety of people who are actively helping those seeking to conquer addiction.

Among those present was Trevor Burton, who just a handful of years ago was well known as a defendant at Middlebury’s Frank Mahady Courthouse, answering to charges rooted in substance use disorder. He’s now better known in that building as a peer support specialist with PRCAC, working with folks needing help with recovery.

“It’s cool walking into the courthouse and not seeing my name on the wall on the docket sheet,” said Burton, one of the documentary interviewees.

Now two years sober, Burton tries to help those, like him, looking to walk the road to recovery.

“If you haven’t lived it, you won’t get it. But with the support and help from people who’ve been through it — that’s the key,” he said. “I should definitely be dead, many times over. It’s a gift that I think is important to share. This place saved my life.”

Last Thursday’s “Supporting Recovery” was in part a celebration of Burton and the many others who’ve found sobriety with the help of PRCAC — which is seeing big changes of its own in 2026.

“We have a new building (at 79 Court St.), a new headquarters that we’re proud to be in, and that really brings dignity to the people we’re serving,” PRCAC Executive Director Danielle Wallace told a crowd of more than 140 people who turned out for the “Supporting Recovery” event.

“We also want to make sure that our name really brings dignity to

the people we’re serving.”

PRCAC offers what it describes as “confidential, judgment-free recovery services at no cost to people living with, impacted by, or exploring concerns about harmful behaviors.”

It’s one of 12 peer recovery centers in the state assisting individuals and their families seeking recovery from substance use disorder and other addictions.

Part of the PRCAC’s winning formula is that most of its staff and volunteer base knows what it’s like to be in recovery. That was a selling point when Wallace, herself, needed help more than a decade ago. With great candor, Wallace shared her own experience asking for help when she had hit rock bottom.

For Wallace, it was the loss of a child to state custody, periodic incarceration, the inability to keep a job and being a prisoner to substances — despite having supportive parents, a college education and other advantages.

Her turning point came with an invitation.

“I moved to Vermont because two people with lived experience gave me a shot,” she said, fighting back tears in her THT presentation. “When I got here, they surrounded me with recovery. That came through TPC in the beginning, and that’s where I found people who understood me.”

Also featured in PRCAC’s documentary film is Sen. Ruth Hardy, D-Middlebury, who sadly noted the high levels of illicit drug use in Vermont despite its small population. While heroin use remains under 1% for people 12 and older (as it does for all states), Vermonters in the 18- to 25-year-old age group have among the highest use rates in the country, according to the Vermont Department of Health.

“We’re a rural state and there are lots of places in our state that are very poor and isolated,” Hardy said.



**THE PEER RECOVERY Center of Addison County on June 18 hosted a community conversation on local efforts to address substance use disorder while strengthening the community. The panel, moderated by Jane Lindholm, featured people helping recovery efforts in many different ways.**

Independent photo/John Flowers

Bristol Police Chief Bruce Nason said most calls to which his department responds “involve some type of substance use. It has a big impact on our community.”

It’s not a problem that can be eliminated by incarceration, according to Nason.

“Addiction is a disease and it’s not something we can arrest our way out of,” he said.

## PANEL DISCUSSION

Wallace and other PRCAC stakeholders further explained the intricacies of addiction recovery during a panel discussion led by Vermont Public’s Jane Lindholm. Panelists included Addison County Deputy Sheriff Mark Gutel; PRCAC Youth Outreach Coordinator Fable Hawthorne; Carolyn Gillis, coordinator of the Counseling Service of Addison County’s Adult Outpatient and Substance Use Disorder program; Dr. Will Porter, now a PRCAC recovery coach; and Susan Fielden, a community member whose family has been affected by substance use disorder.

Hawthorne networks with kids at area teen centers and has a good sense about stressors and substance use indicators. He said marijuana, alcohol and nicotine seem to be the dugs of choice.

“It’s starting young. I see 18-year-olds in the emergency department, but I know it’s happening much sooner than that,” Hawthorne said of substance use trends.

Why are youths using?

“The root of it all is stress and not being listened to or heard,” Hawthorne said. “Coping with it through vaping, drinking, stealing something out of the liquor cabinet... On top of that, they’ve got these predatory companies that are trying to get them hooked on this stuff.”

Gillis, who joined CSAC in 2003, said she quickly learned that depression and substance were often intertwined.

“You can’t treat one without the other,” she said.

Gutel pivoted to his law enforcement career at age 50. He’s drawn special praise from PRCAC

for his work getting help, including counseling, for folks running afoul of the law.

He acknowledged that he, too had also fought his demons and had been in the backseat of a police car.

“The ultimate goal is to get them on a better path,” Gutel said.

## BARRIERS TO SUCCESS

So, are things getting better for those fighting substance use disorder?

While ongoing outreach and wellness efforts have helped draw folks into recovery, officials who spoke at the PRCAC event said the lack of basic support services — particularly housing and food — is impeding more success stories.

“Housing is massively important and we’re struggling with it,” Gutel said, referencing an individual he deals with who sadly goes through a regular cycle of substance use treatment, followed by release into a society that can’t find him a home, which leads to a relapse.

“The addiction comes directly from coping with their living situation,” Gutel said.

It’s a cycle that Wallace likened to a washing machine. Wash, Rinse. Repeat.

It’s heartbreaking to have to not be able to find housing for folks in recovery, Wallace has found.

“People are staying at our emergency shelters for years — and they’re employed full-time. They can’t afford housing,” she said. “We never give people an opportunity to lay the foundation that so important to (recovery) longevity.”

Bringing addiction into the light is important, according to Wallace, so that it can be addressed. So the June 18 “Supporting Recovery” conversation won’t be the last.

“The response from attendees has been overwhelmingly positive, and we are encouraged by the momentum and community engagement that emerged from the event,” she said.

*John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.*



# The Official Radio Station of SUMMER

## DOWNLOAD the WVTK App Today

Streaming | On-Demand | Contests | and more  
Android Auto and Apple CarPlay Compatible





### 92.1 WVTK

Addison County's Radio Station

921WVTK.COM

# 98.9%

## of Vermonters have their health data available to their doctors for better care and outcomes.



# VITL

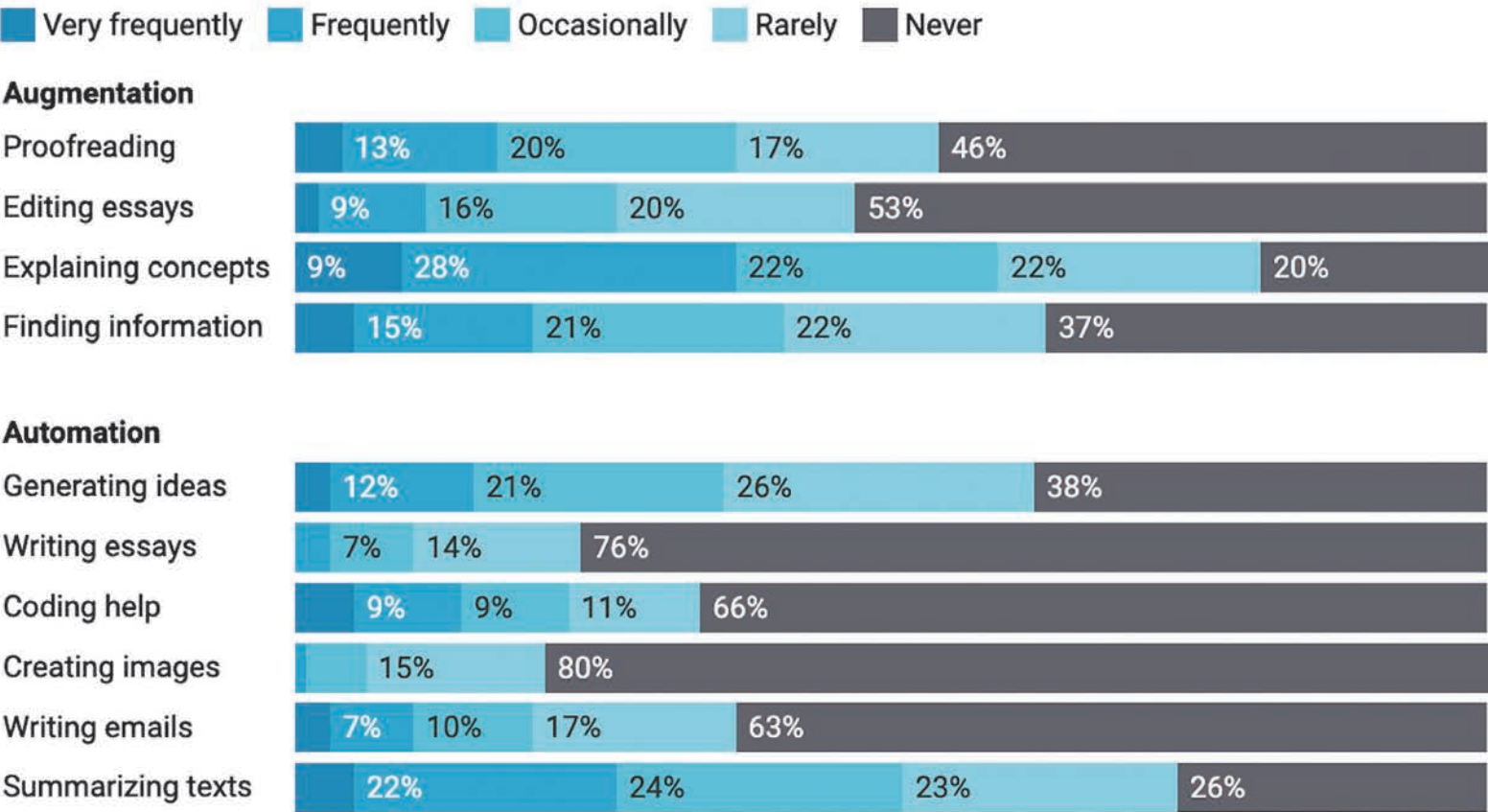
VITL is an independent nonprofit

Learn your options  
[vitl.net/sharing](https://vitl.net/sharing)



## How college students use chatbots for academics

A survey of Middlebury College students broke tasks into two categories – augmentation for tasks that enhance learning, or automation for that required minimal effort.



Survey conducted from December 2024 to February 2025.

Chart: The Conversation, CC-BY-ND • Source: Germán Reyes and Zara Contractor • Get the data • Embed • Download image • Created with Datawrapper

## Artificial intelligence

(Continued from Page 1A)

have a negative impact on learning, a hypothesis supported by other papers published at the time. So Reyes was surprised again when the findings revealed a different story.

Participants were randomly split into two groups: one with access to only online tools and one with online tools and AI. Then they researched a topic such as CRISPR gene-editing technology and wrote an essay on it. Around 70% of participants in the AI group adopted the tool and could use it however they wished. Participants came back a week later to write a second essay on the same topic and complete a test on it, this time with no tools. What the researchers found surprised them — those who had used AI to learn about the topic generally performed better on both essays, assessed by online graders, with a small difference on the first essay and a larger one on the second.

But it wasn’t simply using AI that determined how students did — it was how they used it; a factor Reyes and his colleagues hadn’t even considered. Those who automated AI to write their essays

did much better than the others on the first essay, but much worse on the second one. Reyes said he and his colleagues went through the conversations students had with the AI to classify prompts as augmentation or automation.

“Augmentation users had a much smaller effect on the essay in week one, but a much larger effect in week two, so one interpretation is, when you have access to the tool and use it to do the work for you, that provides large, short-term gains,” Reyes said. “But that comes at the cost of lower learning in the long run.”

Although automation users did worse in the second essay, augmentation users did better on average than those who didn’t use AI tools at all. Reyes said an important lesson from the experiment is the effects of AI largely depend on how students use the tools, explaining why similar studies can have such different outcomes. It also confirmed AI usage in higher education is more complicated than people might think.

“I think many people tend to be a bit pessimistic about how students use the tool, but when we talk to students, they have a very



ZARA CONTRACTOR

nuanced and sophisticated view of the ways in which it can help or hurt.”

There is no perfect policy that addresses all the concerns of the ever-adapting technology, Reyes said, but having data to back up policy decisions is extremely important. Conversations about AI often consider it in isolation, but Reyes believes the technology is deeply connected to students’ value of their education and factors like grade inflation.

For example, if there is high grade inflation at an institution, “there is less value to augmentation because you need to differentiate

yourself from all other students who also have a very high GPA. But how do you do that? Well presumably by doing more activities ... and how do you find the time for those other activities? Perhaps by using AI to automate some of the academic work.”

Reyes said that he and Contractor are finishing their paper on the experimentation portion of their study right now, but the research won’t stop there. He secured funding to conduct the survey again this coming year, planning to keep many questions the same, while adding new ones for 2026, such as if students are paying for premium versions of AI.

An economics expert by training, Reyes is involved in many projects about AI, from employing it as a personalized tutor in Peruvian high schools to studying how the technology effects the labor market. He said all the research he’s conducting overlaps in some way.

“There’s all these interesting questions that everyone is interested in and there’s so much to do, so it’s a very exciting area,” Reyes said. “At the same time, it all feels a little bit urgent. There’s an inclination to join as many projects as possible, so it can be overwhelming, but it is certainly the case that a lot of my research agenda has been shifted to AI, partly because it has some of the most exciting questions of today.”

## ACSD board seeks Shoreham delegate

By JOHN FLOWERS

SHOREHAM — The Addison Central School District is looking for Shoreham residents interested in filling the town’s soon-to-be-vacant seat on the ACSD board.

Shoreham’s current Shoreham delegate to the school board, Barb Wilson, will step down effective June 30. She and her spouse, George Gross, are moving to the Provence-Alpes-Côte d’Azur region of Southeastern France, to be closer to their son and his family.

“With the closing on our Shoreham residence scheduled for July 7, I will be unable to complete my current term, which was set to conclude in March 2027,” Wilson explained in her June 1 resignation letter.

Wilson joined the 13-member ACSD board in March 2021 and served as its chair for three years. Ripton’s Steve Cash succeeded her as chair this past March. She has also served as Shoreham town moderator.

The couple’s property in Shoreham includes the Solar Haven Farm, where they’ve grown organic fruit and berries to make jams and sorbet products.

Wilson has served during some turbulent times within ACSD, including during a portion of the



BARB WILSON

COVID pandemic and closure of both the Ripton and Shoreham K-5 schools.

The ACSD board governs K-12 public education for children in the towns of Bridport, Cornwall, Middlebury, Ripton, Salisbury, Shoreham and Weybridge.

“It has been a profound honor to serve as a member of the ACSD board of directors,” Wilson stated in her resignation letter. “I have deeply valued the opportunity to collaborate with such a dedicated group of professionals who are so clearly committed to the educational success of every student in our district. I take great pride in our collective achievements and will follow the long-term impact of our work with keen interest.”

The ACSD board has 30 days from Wilson’s resignation date to appoint a Shoreham resident to fill the balance of her term, which expires next March. The appointee can then choose to run on Town Meeting Day for the spot as a three-year term. The board is tentatively slated to meet on July 20 to consider Wilson’s replacement.

Shoreham residents interested in serving should contact the ACSD central office at 802-382-1274.

## Peasant Market accepting donations for July 11 event

MIDDLEBURY — Clear your clutter and support your community. St. Stephen’s Episcopal Church in Middlebury is accepting donations for its annual Peasant Market, where every item sold helps fund local nonprofits. The much-anticipated event runs from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, July 11.

Donation drop-off times at the church on the Middlebury Town Green are:

- 4-6 p.m. Tuesday, June 23 and Wednesday, June 24
- 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, June 27
- 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Sunday, June 28
- 4-6 p.m. Tuesday, June 30 and Wednesday, July 1

Items must be clean and in good condition and working order. Here is what is accepted: antiques,

jewelry, linens, fabric and sewing supplies, kitchenware, toys and games, vinyl records and CDs, white elephant items, sporting goods, home improvement goods and tools, garden plants and tools, handmade arts and crafts, and furniture one person can carry.

Here is what is not accepted: books, clothing, shoes, anything with a safety buckle (helmets, car seats, etc.), gun safes or weapons, cleaning products or chemicals, electronics, stuffed animals, appliances, luggage, large furniture, DVDs, VHS or cassette tapes.

“There’s no better way to let go of things you don’t need while making a difference in your community,” said 2026 co-chair Tom Klemmer.

## Protect nesting loons and chicks

VERMONT — Few birding experiences rival hearing the haunting call of the loon or seeing them glide by in protected coves on a lake. However, for the birds’ protection, Vermont Fish and Wildlife is asking boaters and anglers to enjoy loons from a safe distance this summer and take precautions to keep them healthy.

“Loons were removed from Vermont’s endangered species list in 2005, but they continue to face threats from human disturbance during the breeding season and mortality from the ingestion of fishing gear,” said Jillian Kilborn, wildlife biologist with Vermont Fish and Wildlife.

“Fortunately,” says Kilborn, “there is a lot people can do to help keep loons safe.”

Many areas where loons nest on Vermont’s lakes are surrounded by signs reminding people to give loons the space they need, but not all nesting areas are marked. “We’re asking people to enjoy loons from a distance,” says Kilborn. “If a curious loon approaches you, just enjoy it, but if a loon is constantly swimming away from you, they can become stressed and may even abandon their young.”

Bringing all fishing lines home helps prevent loons from becoming entangled, which can lead to death for loons. Eric Hanson, biologist with the Vermont Loon Conservation Project and Vermont Center for Ecostudies (VCE), asks anglers to reel in for a few minutes if loons are diving nearby. “Loons will take live bait and lures, killing a few each year,” notes Hanson. “A few loons have even learned that anglers are a source of easy food, and just like bears, it is very important that loons do not learn this problem habit.”

VCE coordinates loon conservation efforts in partnership



with the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department, and they remind people to avoid using lead fishing tackle. Every year Vermont loons die from lead poisoning after swallowing lead tackle. Lead sinkers weighing one-half ounce or less are prohibited in Vermont, but larger tackle — still has the capacity to slough off lead into the environment over time.

To give anglers a place to discard their lead tackle and fishing line, VCE is placing collection tubes at over 30 popular boat access areas around the state. Hanson adds, “These collection tubes make it easy and convenient for anglers to get the lead out of those tackle boxes.”

Hanson says most people are respectful of nesting loons and give them space, but people sometimes inadvertently harm loons without meaning to. “Loon chicks can be difficult to see, so we ask motorboaters to note where loon families are and to avoid those areas,” said Hanson. “We also ask that motorboaters obey ‘no wake’ laws within 200 feet of shorelines because boat wakes can flood and destroy shoreline loon nests.”

Shoreline property owners have an opportunity to maintain appropriate habitat for loons, including shrubby and forested areas along the shore, where loons can nest or feed their young. Having shrubs and trees instead of lawns along shorelines also improves water quality, which is essential for healthy lakes, aquatic insects, fish eggs, fish and loons.

Volunteers interested in monitoring loons for the Loon Conservation Project should go to the VCE website loon participate page. Volunteers can sign up with the new online LoonWeb platform for both LoonMonitor and LoonCount.

Stop by any of these **50+ locations** for your copy of Addison County’s **award-winning** community newspaper!

Interested in selling the *Addison Independent* at your business?  
Call Sean at 802.388.4944 or email [frontdesk@addisonindependent.com](mailto:frontdesk@addisonindependent.com).



### ADDISON:

- West Addison General Store

### BRANDON:

- Brandon Discount Beverage
- Champlain Farms
- Hannaford
- Green Mountain Market
- Junction Store & Deli
- Morningside Bakery
- Union Street Grocery
- Walgreen’s

### BRIDPORT:

- Broughton’s Big Country Hardware
- Pratt’s Store

### BRISTOL:

- Bristol Country Store
- Bristol Discount Beverage
- Champlain Farms
- Maplefields

- Shaw’s
- Walgreen’s

### EAST MIDDLEBURY:

- Goodro Lumber
- Green Mountain Market
- Maplefields

### FERRISBURGH:

- Green Mountain Market

### LEICESTER:

- Leicester General Store

### LINCOLN:

- Lincoln General Store

### MIDDLEBURY:

- Addison Independent Office
- Champlain Farms
- Costello’s Market
- Greg’s Market
- Hannaford
- Hare and the Dog
- Kinney Drugs
- Maplefields
- Middlebury Discount Beverage

- Middlebury Natural Foods Co-op
- Otter Creek Bakery
- Rosie’s
- Shaw’s
- Stewart’s Shop
- Stone Mill Public Market
- Vermont Book Shop
- Vermont’s Own
- Village Depot
- Walgreen’s

### NEW HAVEN:

- Village Green Market
- Rivers Bend Campground (seasonal)

### N. FERRISBURGH:

- Stewart’s Shop
- Russell Memorial Library

### ORWELL:

- Orwell Free Library

### RIPTON:

- Ripton Country Store

### SALISBURY:

- Kampersville Store (seasonal)

### SHOREHAM:

- Shoreham Service Center

### STARKSBORO:

- Jerusalem 4-Corners Store

### VERGENNES:

- BJ’s Farm Supply
- Champlain Farms
- Hare and the Dog
- Kinney Drugs
- Shaw’s
- Maplefields Vergennes

### WHITING

- Whiting General Store

### ALSO AVAILABLE AT:

- Eastview at Middlebury
- Porter Hospital/Rehab

ADDISON COUNTY  
**INDEPENDENT**  
Serving Addison County, Vt., Since 1946



# Wilson

*(Continued from Page 1A)*

the main reason for her quest for the Addison-2 House seat, which represents the communities of Cornwall, Goshen, Leicester, Ripton and Salisbury.

Wilson hasn't been shy about speaking her mind on politics, whether it be through testimony delivered in Montpelier or comments offered at Addison County legislative breakfasts.

"I dragged my heels for a while. I wasn't sure if I wanted to be in the forefront or continue to be the 'voice in the background,'" she said during a Monday interview at her farm, while her Pyrenees dog Poppie offered occasional rejoinders.

"No (other Republican) was running and I thought, 'Someone else has got to speak up and do the work.' I guess when you're called to do it, you have to step up," Wilson said of her decision to run.

Interest in the Addison-2 House seat is particularly high this year, as incumbent Rep. Peter Conlon, D-Cornwall, has decided not to seek reelection after a 10-year run.

It wouldn't be the first time a member of Wilson's family has served in the Vermont Legislature. Her late great-uncle, William Ringey, served in the House.

As a lifelong Cornwall resident, Wilson is very familiar with the turf and folks she's seeking to represent.

She grew up doing chores on one of what used to be a tapestry of small family dairy farms spread throughout the county. But sagging milk prices sadly made survival untenable for many of those small dairies — including the Wilson Farm, which sold its herd of milkers in 1979. Annie Wilson would briefly reinstall a small herd at her farm during the 1990s, but economics forced her to capitulate.

"I loved doing it; it's in my blood," she said of dairy farming.

Wilson is content right now to hay a portion of her farm, producing around 2,300 bales a year. She sells what she doesn't use for her own animals.

But farming until 2021 had to take a backseat to her main job — teaching. Wilson had always been athletic, and it was her late mom who steered her into the gym.

"She said, 'You like to play, why don't you be a phys ed teacher?'" Wilson recalled with a smile.

It sounded good to her, and she got the necessary credentials during studies at Lyndon State College and the University of Vermont, after graduating from Middlebury Union High School in 1976.

Wilson developed a particular love for soccer and she became really good at it — despite the fact that the sport wasn't offered to girls as a varsity high school sport during the mid-1970s. She played on her Lyndon State team and was instrumental in developing soccer playing opportunities for girls and women throughout Vermont.

She became a soccer mentor, returning to MUHS to coach the girls' varsity team for four years and then helmed the Vergennes Union High School JV team for more than 20 years.

"I love the sport," Wilson said in



**CORNWALL REPUBLICAN ANNIE Wilson, a former phys ed teacher and longtime farmer, is seeking to represent the Addison-2 district in the Vermont House.**

Independent photo/John Flowers

one of the biggest understatements of the year. She was careful to schedule the *Independent's* Monday interview comfortably before the Argentina-Austria World Cup soccer match, which saw her favorite player — Argentina's Lionel Messi — net two goals.

**COMMUNITY SERVICE**

Even with plenty of soccer distractions, Wilson has found time to serve her community.

She currently chairs the Cornwall Recreation Committee. Wilson has previously served on the town's planning commission, zoning board, development review board, and fire department. She's also a justice of the peace and a Cornwall fence viewer.

Should Addison-2 district voters send her to Montpelier, she vowed to:

- Support policies that would make Vermont more affordable to young families.
- Reduce what she believes are mounting regulatory pressures on farmers.

"I believe farmers are over-regulated and over-mandated," Wilson said. "They have to do these water quality plans, a manure ban, and nobody enforces them. And they still get blamed for things. They suffer substantial costs for doing (these plans) every year, and what's it for?"

Wilson noted public pushback this past winter to provisions of Vermont's Act 181 that would have triggered an Act 250 review of driveways over 2,000 feet and imposed greater development restrictions in ecologically sensitive areas. Lawmakers this session repealed those two provisions after hearing widespread public opposition.

"Generational farmers," Wilson continued, "are the best stewards of the land. If we want Vermont to

stay a farming state, they've got to stop regulating and mandating farmers."

- Promote more cooperation between political parties in the Statehouse.

"We're Vermonters; we're supposed to be able to work together and collaborate on issues like health care, housing and education," she said.

Wilson believes the Legislature's top priority should be to reduce the cost of living to make the state more affordable. That means reducing the tax burden, she said.

"People are moving away from Vermont because they can't afford to live here," she said. "Taxes are driving people away."

State officials have been studying ways to reduce school taxes. Gov. Phil School just signed H.955 into law (see related story), a bill that promotes voluntary school mergers and the creation of Cooperative Educational Service Areas to achieve economies of scale among multiple school districts.

Wilson said she favors the notion of merging school districts' central offices as a way of saving money, as opposed to closing small schools. That said, she acknowledged some schools might have to close simply because they've become too small to function effectively. She also believes that enrollment shouldn't be the only criteria for judging a school's future.

"We should keep the ones that are producing the (student) outcomes we need to have," Wilson said.

She acknowledged the state needs to get a handle on rising health care costs. Wilson said she wants more time to study potential solutions to the problem, though she believes introducing more competition into the health care marketplace might be the way to go.

Whatever the solution, it will take working together, according to Wilson.

"We achieve more when we collaborate, rather than when we divide," she said.

*John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.*

# Middlebury seeks charter changes

**By JOHN FLOWERS**

MIDDLEBURY — The Middlebury selectboard will soon ask for public feedback on an assortment of proposed changes to the town charter, including tweaks that could pave the way for the community to allow any person — rather than just a local resident — to apply for committee and an increase in the ceiling for municipal fines.

Middlebury's first charter was granted in 1761 — before the U.S. was granted independence. The charter is a foundational legal document — essentially a local constitution — that establishes a municipality, defining its government structure, powers, and procedures, according to the Middlebury Charter Review Committee.

Shire town residents and the Legislature have amended Middlebury's charter many times during the past 265 years. But the document hasn't had a comprehensive revision since 1972, during which the Legislature has granted Middlebury four special changes — to allow for creation of a downtown improvement district, a local option tax, and the right to appoint (rather than elect) the town auditor and treasurer.

"The 1972 Charter is out of

date, throughout, with respect to several other things — we are now in the age of the internet and town government has grown and the functions have evolved to be more professional," reads the charter committee's call to action.

It was in May of 2025 that the selectboard created the charter committee to consider and propose a comprehensive update of the governing document to reflect current practices. The panel has approached this review with the goals of maintaining the rights of town voters; preserving town meeting, transparency and community engagement; and maintaining municipal operations intact.

The charter committee has met 10 times since being established and recently proposed a panoply of charter changes, which the selectboard have endorsed for the public to review and decide by Australian ballot — either on Oct. 6 or the Nov. 3 general election.

A full summary of the proposed charter changes can be found at [tinyurl.com/ymk7wydn](https://tinyurl.com/ymk7wydn). They fall into seven categories, including:

- Transparency and public information: shifting from printed notices and library posting to online access through the town website.
- Ordinance authority and

enforcement: clarifying what the town has authority to regulate and updating how ordinances are adopted and enforced.

- Town manager roles and responsibilities: defining the town manager's employment terms more clearly and adjusting the balance of authority between the manager and the selectboard to reflect current practices.
- Town officials, boards and appointments: updating how key town positions are filled and eligibility to serve on town boards and committees.
- Selectboard governance and operations: clarifying and updating how the selectboard carries out its responsibilities.
- Citizen participation and town meeting: updating the processes by which residents participate in town governance (no substantive policy changes are intended); and
- Modernization and housekeeping: updating outdated language, removing provisions that no longer reflect current practice and including more recently enacted state legal requirements.

Plans call for the proposed charter changes to be presented — and open for comments/changes — at selectboard hearings on July 14 and Aug. 11. The selectboard on Aug. 25 would then OK the final charter changes for the townwide vote.

If town voters endorse the charter changes, they'd still need final approval from the Legislature and governor in order to take effect during the spring/summer of 2027.

## ADDISON COUNTY School Briefs

The following students have been named to the Champlain College Online Trustees' List for the Spring 2026 semester. Students on the Trustees' List have achieved a 4.0 grade point average for two or more consecutive semesters.

- **Maegan Conrad** of Bristol
- **Laura Gurdak** of Ferrisburgh
- **Nicole Haury** of New Haven

# SUBSCRIBE



## Subscribe Online

[addisonindependent.com](https://addisonindependent.com)

Fill out this form and mail it in with payment

|                       |                                                                                                                        |
|-----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Subscriber Name _____ | Card # _____                                                                                                           |
| Mailing Address _____ | CCV _____ Exp. Date _____                                                                                              |
| Phone Number _____    | NAME, EMAIL & CREDIT CARD INFO REQUIRED.                                                                               |
| Email Address _____   | We will never share your information, we promise. Credit card info is encrypted and destroyed after the first payment. |

**PRINT + DIGITAL SUBSCRIPTION**  
PICK A PAYMENT SCHEDULE THAT WORKS FOR YOU!

☐ **MONTHLY**  
\$10/month

☐ **SENIOR**  
\$9/month

☐ **YEARLY**  
\$120/year

☐ **SENIOR**  
\$108/year

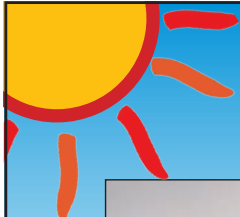
THANK YOU!

ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT

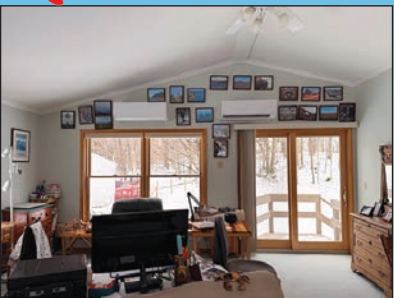


58 Maple St., Middlebury, VT 05753  
802-388-4944 ext 104

ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT



## Middlebury, VT Homeowner Recommends Bristol Electronics



"Bristol Electronics installed heat pumps in our home, and we had a great experience working with them. They first came to evaluate our home and explained everything we would need. When they returned with the quote, they took the time to go over it thoroughly and answered all of our questions. Everyone was very professional and friendly throughout the entire process. Once we decided to move forward, they handled everything, including applying for all of the rebates, which made the process much easier for us.

The installation crew was respectful of our home and cleaned up at the end of each day before leaving. The work was done very well, and everything is working great. We have hardly run the furnace at all. It was truly a pleasure working with all of them."

Rick & Judy Cole, Middlebury VT



this year, we hope to donate

# 1,500

heads of cabbage



[www.foodforhope.farm](https://www.foodforhope.farm)



# Afghan girls

(Continued from Page 1A)  
go to universities, and all kind of educational institutions are banned for girls right now, so no opportunities. So that's why in 2022, I was a sophomore when I started this initiative, and we called it Afghan Tutoring Network."

Noori, Faizi and co-director of the network Ann Straub all spoke at the June 17 talk sponsored by the Bixby Speakers Bureau and Amigas del Pueblo, a group of women in the area who are highlighting immigration stories by sponsoring a collection of books and speaker events at the Vergennes library. This was the first of their events and others can be viewed online at [bixbylibrary.org/events](http://bixbylibrary.org/events).

Around 35 people attended the talk, including women from Amigas del Pueblo, five tutors for the network, and various community members.

**'LIFELINE TO LEARNING'**

The Taliban, an extremely conservative Islamist group, controlled Afghanistan from 1996-2001. Then the authoritarian organization regained control of the South Asian nation on Aug. 15, 2021, destroying the gains in women's rights achieved during the 20 years before.

Noori and Faizi were attending the first and only all-girls boarding school in Afghanistan, School of Leadership Afghanistan (SOLA), started by Middlebury College graduate Shabana Basij-Rasikh '11. When the Taliban took control, it became clear the girls needed to leave to continue their education.

In a harrowing journey covered by "60 Minutes," around 250 girls and staff associated with SOLA evacuated Afghanistan late that August, first to Qatar and then Rwanda, where the school relocated. Classes resumed four days later. Noori, Faizi, and other classmates were encouraged by Basij-Rasikh to apply to Middlebury, and by January 2022, they made it to Vermont, shocked by the cold.

Although the Afghan Tutoring Network isn't associated with SOLA, many current tutees are relatives or friends of girls who attended SOLA. Faizi's younger

sister is one of them. The sister was 16 years old when she was forced to stop going to school, Faizi said at the event.

After Faizi and Noori, who both just graduated from Middlebury, introduced themselves and the network, co-director Ann Straub shared details about the program, stories of students and challenges faced. Straub, who now resides in Middlebury, previously worked at the Council for International Schools based in the Netherlands and the International School Bangkok in Thailand. When Noori asked Straub to help with the Afghan Tutoring Network, she got to work, finding tutors, training them and matching them with students.

Now the network has been going for three years. Straub explained that it started with only a few people and has expanded to 63 tutors (mostly American) and 39 students, who range in age from 13 to 32. Students live primarily in Afghanistan, but there are others in Pakistan, Russia and Rwanda.

None of the girls have laptop computers, Straub said, so the network has purchased internet for 17 students and phones for 19. Tutors and students meet for one hour weekly over WhatsApp, an end-to-end encrypted app, and students submit pictures of their work there. Tutors teach a variety of subjects, but mainly "literacy, meaning, writing, speaking and listening," Straub said.

Although it may seem pointless to teach when the girls on the other end of the connection face serious obstacles accessing higher education, Straub said there are many reasons this work is important.

"Women are the change makers in their families so when women are educated, they will perpetuate the education and make sure their children are educated," Straub said. "And education is something that's in here [in your brain]. Nobody, nobody can take that from you. No matter what happens in your family, no matter what's banned or what's taken away from you, nobody can take that away. It's always there."

Straub also highlighted that most



CO-DIRECTOR OF the Afghan Tutoring Network Ann Straub explains the restrictions on women in Afghanistan put in place by the Taliban at a June 17 Bixby Library talk. Around 35 people attended the event that was sponsored by the Bixby Speakers Bureau and Amigas del Pueblo. Independent photo/Jing Williams



MARY SULLIVAN, A former Mount Abe teacher, speaks about the joy of working with her student Aisha and what she has learned from the experience of being a tutor for the Afghan Tutoring Network. Sullivan is a former teacher at Mt. Abraham Union High School and professor at the University of Vermont.

Courtesy of Afghan Tutoring Network

communicate by texting in English, so for girls and women to keep learning on their own, knowing English opens opportunities. The tutoring is vital for them, Straub said.

"It's their lifeline to learning, right?"

**PRICELESS RELATIONSHIPS**

Although learning is the primary goal, the relationships formed between tutors and students are just as important, Straub said.

"The relationships established with our students are just priceless, and you kind of forget everything

in the world when you're working with that hour, with your student," she said. It can be challenging to make students comfortable and navigate cultural communication differences, Straub acknowledged, but the bonds established cross cultural divides.

Tutor Mary Sullivan, a former teacher at Mt. Abraham Union High School and UVM professor, highlighted the meaningful relationships established at the event, sharing about her student Aisha.

"I think that one of the things

she misses from her days in school, she was very young, was that sense of belonging, and I think that we have been able to build that in this tutoring network with our students," Sullivan said. "And I see that, I see how she has blossomed and how she laughs, and we just have such a wonderful, wonderful time, and like I said, it's truly a gift."

Sullivan also noted the strong bonds she's observed within Aisha's large family. Aisha didn't have a phone when they started, Sullivan said, but her four brothers took turns running home from work so she could use their phones for tutoring.

Each student's father and brothers must approve of tutoring for safety reasons, Straub said. If members of the Taliban were to learn about the tutoring, it would be very dangerous for the girls and the program. Straub said they've only had to cut connection with one student when they learned her brother was in the Taliban. It was heartbreaking, she said, but it had to be done to protect the program and girls.

One student, who was just 13 when she started being tutored, recently had a book of poetry published called "Where the Light Enters" and also wrote the poem "A Girl Cries," that was published in the *Washington Post* in an editorial by Basij-Rasikh. Straub read the poem aloud at the event. She also spoke about her student who started a secret school at her

home in Afghanistan for 15 girls, teaching them reading, writing, sewing and connecting them with a psychological counselor.

"Most of all, she teaches them that they're worthy, that they can learn and that they have value in their lives," Straub said. "What she's doing is pretty amazing. She is very interested in human rights and is trying desperately to get out of Afghanistan, go to college."

**GETTING INVOLVED**

The only qualifications for becoming a tutor, Straub said, are being able to write, speak and listen in English, committing to an hour meeting weekly, and wanting to establish a relationship with the student. Straub said anyone interested can email her at [annstraubvt@gmail.com](mailto:annstraubvt@gmail.com) or Noori at [Taniya.noori.13@gmail.com](mailto:Taniya.noori.13@gmail.com).

The group also has a GoFundMe that helps cover the cost of internet and phones purchased, which can be found at [gofundme.com/f/support-for-afghan-tutoring-network](https://gofundme.com/f/support-for-afghan-tutoring-network).

One student, Bahara, wrote the following about the Afghan Tutoring Network, which Straub read aloud at the talk:

"I will be grateful for this opportunity and the teacher who supported me for the rest of my life. I am now giving back by tutoring a 13-year-old Afghan girl. Every success I have achieved and every goal I have reached is because of this class since I have no other way to learn. This opportunity is so important for Afghan girls, so please choose to support us."

## ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT

### FAIR-TIME COLORING AND DECORATING CONTEST

Bring this Sappy Bucket® scene to life!

Two winners from each age group will get two passes to Addison County Fair & Field Days and a gift certificate to the fairgrounds sugarhouse, which can be picked up from the Addy Indy office July 28-August 3. All submissions will be displayed in the sugarhouse during the fair.

**SUBMIT YOUR ENTRIES BY SUNDAY, JULY 26TH**

Email: [contests@addisonindependent.com](mailto:contests@addisonindependent.com)

Mail/In Person: Addison Independent, 58 Maple Street, Middlebury, VT 05753

Online: [addisonindependent.com/contests](http://addisonindependent.com/contests)

Feel free to tear out this coloring page or go to [addisonindependent.com/contests](http://addisonindependent.com/contests) for a printable version.

Winners will be notified by email on July 28th

Don't miss Addison County Fair & Field Days! August 4-8

**SPONSORED BY:**



Little Pressroom

Thank you to the Little Pressroom for providing this sweet custom image to color! Sappy and Sappy Bucket are trademarks of Addison County Promotions / Little Pressroom. For Sappy Bucket® products, visit [sappybucket.com](http://sappybucket.com)



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Town/City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Age Group: Under 5 ☐ 5-6 ☐ 7-8 ☐ 9-11 ☐ 12-15 ☐ 16-Adult ☐



- School News
- Classifieds
- Legal Notices
- Police Logs

Locals chosen for senior softball classic

By SOPHIA KESHMIRI  
ADDISON COUNTY — Five locals made the cut to play in the 38th annual Vermont Softball Coaches Association North vs. South Senior All-Star Softball Classic this Friday. Representing Mount Abraham Union High School are Genevieve Forand, Morgan Larocque and Brooklyn Ryersbach. Joining those three on the South team will be Otter Valley players Leann Thomas and Hannah Desabrais. All were selected to the 18-player roster from over 70 hopefuls who participated in a two-day tryout last month, according to a press release. Among the four coaches leading the South team is Kelly Trayah, who heads the Otter Valley program, which finished with a record of 10-5 and made it to the Division II quarterfinals. The six locals will head to Vermont State University's Castleton Campus on Friday, June 26, for a pair of seven-inning games. They'll round out the three game series with a single nine-inning contest the following day.



ADDISON COUNTY LEGION Baseball shortstop Calvin Peck, who plays for Mount Abraham during the high school season, races into right field after a fly ball during the nightcap of Sunday's doubleheader vs. Essex Junction at Middlebury College. AC fell to Post 91 twice that day — 14-2 and 8-2 — after starting the season with a win over Montpelier.

Independent photo/John S. McCright

American Legion baseball starts season with 1-2 record

By SOPHIA KESHMIRI  
ADDISON COUNTY — The American Legion baseball season is underway, and the Addison County team started the year with a 10-2 home win against Montpelier on June 16. More recently, the team dropped a pair of home games on Sunday, June 21, to Essex. The first game ended 14-2 and the second ended 8-2. Here's the roster:  
• Owen Butterfield  
(See Baseball, Page 2B)



PANTHER SENIOR CAROLINE Adams wins a draw during Middlebury's NCAA quarterfinal game on the Peter Kohn Field last month. Adams, the all-time leader in draw controls for Middlebury women's lacrosse, is up for the Honda Athlete of the Year Award.

Independent file photo/Steve James

Excelling at draw, Adams up for national award

By SOPHIA KESHMIRI  
MIDDLEBURY — While Middlebury College women's lacrosse captain Caroline Adams finished the spring season leading her team in goals and assists at the offensive end of the field, her performance in the center circle has defined the attacker's career. "Caroline stepped into a huge role in her first-year season when she really started to dominate the draw," Coach Alice Livesay said. Since 2023, her first year on the team, Adams's name has been added again and again in the sections dedicated to draw control metrics. And with 473 in her four years at the college, the 2026 graduate holds the most of any Panther women's lacrosse player. The alum in second place, Hollis Perticone ('18), doesn't come within 150 of the new record. Adams surpassed Perticone's 310 by her junior year, which Adams closed with 349. It was some of these numbers that helped Adams get nominated for the Division III Honda Athlete of the Year Award. She will join fellow Panther Audrey MacLean, a cross country running national champion going into her senior season this fall, during the live telecast on CBS Sports in New York City in July. At that time the 11 finalists, each from a different sport, will learn who earned the accolade. "I'm feeling very grateful that I had the experience to play for

Middlebury and to learn from all of our amazing coaches and to be in a place where I'm even a finalist for this award," Adams said when asked how she's feeling about being up for the honor. "I had incredible coaches throughout my life — Sarah Martin, who was my high school coach and a Middlebury women's lacrosse alum herself ... and then all my coaches at Middlebury, I think they've really set me up for success here." As for what got Adams the lacrosse nomination, head coach Kate Livesay said the choice was clear: "Caroline represents the best of D-III women's lacrosse." "She was on a dominant undefeated team but also impacted that team in very tangible ways. Her draw control ability is elite and her point production, whether it was goals or assists, was truly spectacular. This award is meant to recognize special contributions at the highest level and none is more deserving than Caroline in that regard." Just to name a few of Adams's achievements on the field while on the team, she is a four-time national champion, three-time NESCAC champion and has only lost a single

game as a Panther. Additionally, she was dubbed the 2026 NCAA tournament Most Outstanding Player, the NESCAC Offensive Player of the Year, the Intercollegiate Women's Lacrosse Coaches Association (IWLCA) Attacker and Player of the Year. "What makes Caroline great is how she elevates the performance of those around her," Livesay said. "She insists that everyone is celebrated and appreciated for what they give and then when we need them to step up they are confident and feel empowered to do so. Caroline is uniquely great at fostering such a positive environment on our team." LEARNING LACROSSE Adams found lacrosse as a fifth-grader in her hometown of Norwich, Vt. "I didn't have a spring sport, and my family was a big athletic family. My dad played sports in college, my mom played sports in college, and my brother always had a ball on his feet, and so I was like, I need something to do in the spring, and it has to be a sport," she said. Until college, she split her time evenly with basketball and soccer. "I played for some sort of smaller club teams, I guess you could call them, or like summer teams that you could go to tournaments with, but really tried to balance playing

(See Adams, Page 3B)

*"A lot of our mindsets are just like working as hard as we can and being grateful for any time that we have on the team on the field. That's a really special thing about our team."*  
— Caroline Adams

*"What makes Caroline great is how she elevates the performance of those around her."*  
— Coach Kate Livesay

Players named to Twin State baseball team

By SOPHIA KESHMIRI  
ADDISON COUNTY — One player from the Division II State Champion Mount Abraham Union High School baseball team and two from Otter Valley were selected for the roster of 18 graduating seniors who will represent Vermont during this weekend's Twin State Baseball Classic. Evan Corrigan, the Eagles' winning pitcher during the D-II title game, and Otters Jackson Howe and Jacob Warrell, will all take the Maxfield Complex diamond in White River Junction on Saturday, June 27. The doubleheader will begin at 4 p.m.; admission is free. The trio will be joined in White River Junction by seniors from Champlain Valley, Colchester, Essex, Lyndon, Mount Anthony, Mount Mansfield, St. Johnsbury, North Country, Thetford and U-32. Baseball players from New Hampshire high schools will make up the opposing team. Additionally, Otter Valley head coach, Michael Howe, was selected to be one of four to lead the Green Mountain State squad. "Originally held from 1983 to

2004, the Twin State Baseball Classic returned to its current double-header format in 2015. A year ago, Vermont swept a pair from New Hampshire, including a 10-inning, 10-8 thriller in the nightcap at Forbes Field in Middlebury, Vt.," according to a news release announcing the Vermont roster. "It was the third Vermont sweep in the 10 classics since it resumed, with 11 games settled by one run or in the last at bat. A single nine-inning contest was played in 2023."

Marlins kick off swimming season

By SOPHIA KESHMIRI  
MIDDLEBURY — The Middlebury Marlins swim season is underway. The team got started with a mock meet on June 18. "Swimmers took part in both individual and relay races. For many swimmers, especially those new to the team, it marked their first experience racing in front of cheering teammates, coaches, and family members," Coach Carinna Bellmann said. "More than just races and results, the first home meet was a celebration of summer traditions. Throughout the evening, the sounds of cheering echoed around the pool as swimmers and families met new friends while reconnecting with familiar faces and longtime summer swim buddies." The Vergennes Swim Team, called the Champs, held their first meet of the season on Tuesday, when they hosted the Burlington Country Club team in the city pool; results were not available by press



TEN-YEAR-OLD Rose Phinney catches her breath after competing in a mock meet that the Middlebury Marlins staged last week. On Tuesday, she competed in a real meet vs. BTC, when she won the 25-yard breaststroke.

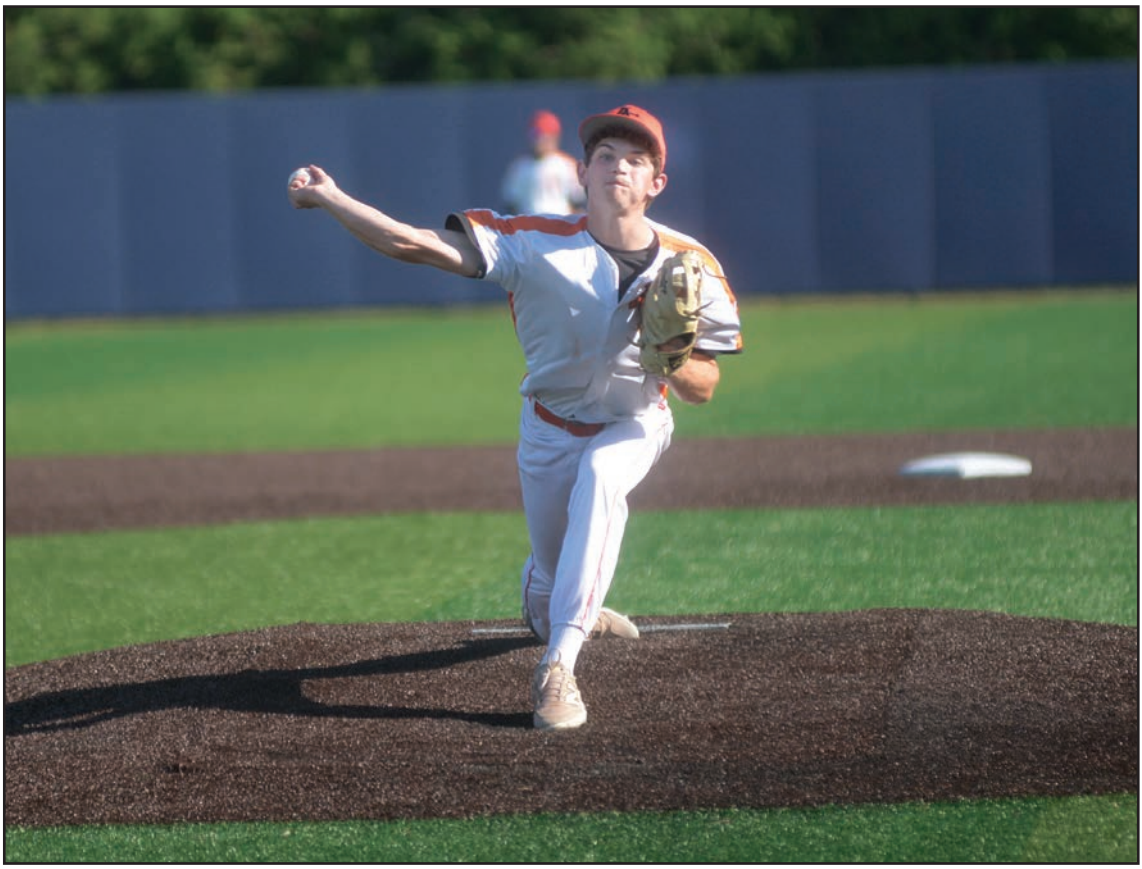
Photo by Caleb Kenna



MIDDLEBURY SWIM TEAM member Dottie Wilson churns through a freestyle race in the town pool this past Thursday, June 18. The Marlins kicked off their competitive season by hosting the Burlington Tennis Club on Tuesday. Middlebury will swim at Vergennes on July 16.

Photo by Caleb Kenna

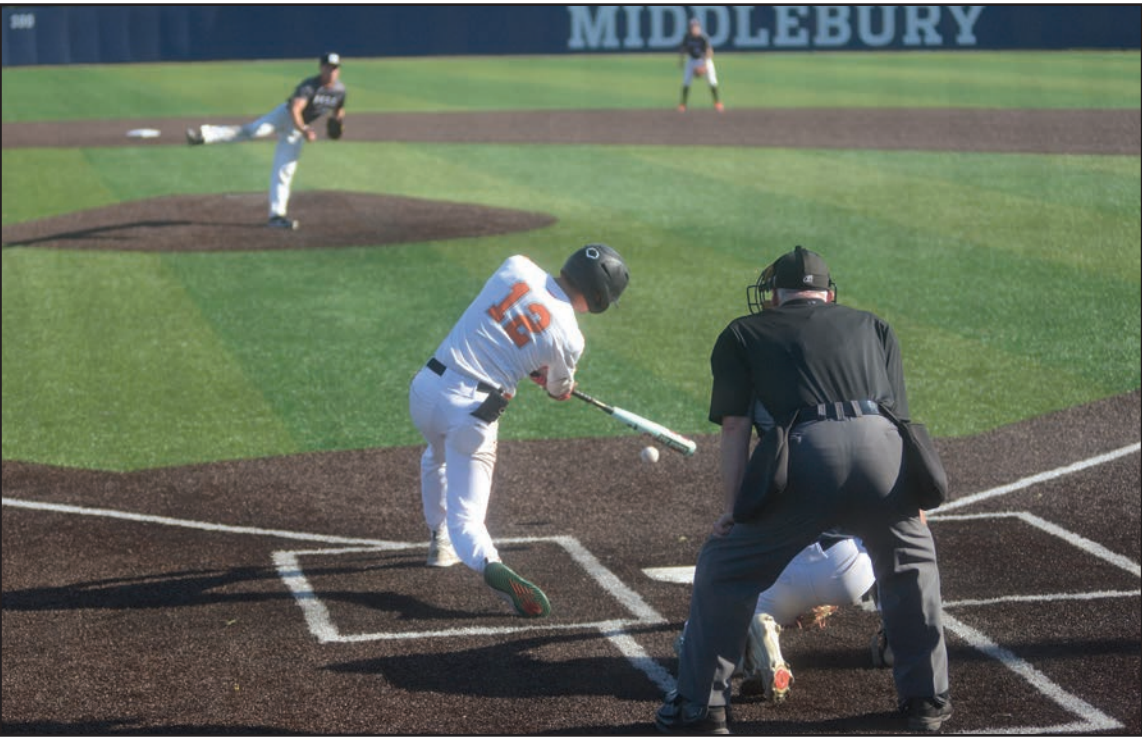




The boys of summer are back

THE SUMMER SEASON has begun for the American Legion baseball team made up of Addison County teens. After posting a win over Montpelier last week, AC hosted Essex Junction's Post 91 on Sunday. Above, Jackson Jennings fires a pitch during game two in Sunday's doubleheader. Left, second baseman Tucker Wright fields a ball in the infield of the Middlebury College ballpark off South Street. Below, Brody Barnard makes contact off a delivery from the Post 91 pitcher during the bottom of the sixth inning and advances a teammate as he scampers for a single.

Independent photos/ John S. McCright



Baseball

(Continued from Page 1B)

- Gabriel Velez
- Tucker Wright
- Clark Crary
- Jackson Jennings
- Trevor Wright
- Kaiden LeCompte

- Aricin Griffin
- Andrew Trudo
- Aiden Fuller
- Timmy Wright
- Luke Wing
- Brody Barnard

- Calvin Peck
- Ryan Brouillard
- Calvin Trudo

The team is coached by Tim Paquette. Assisting him is Eric Jennings.

Marlins

(Continued from Page 1B)

time. Their next competitive meet of the summer is scheduled for Thursday, June 25, at 6 p.m., when the Champs will host the Burlington Tennis Club Barracudas.

For their part, the Marlins swimmers on Tuesday participated in their first competitive meet. Here are the Marlins who took first place against the Burlington Barracudas in Middlebury that day:

- Caroline Dietrich (age 7), Winter Benjamin (6), Alula Remaniak (8) and Ellie Butler (7), first place, girls' 8U 100-yard medley relay (1:52.20)
- Alula Remaniak (8), girls' 8U 25-yard butterfly (31.25)
- Keegan Landon (10), boys' 9-10 25-yard butterfly (19.59)
- Ellie Butler (7), girls' 8U 25-yard backstroke (24.93); girls' 8U 25-yard freestyle (21.50)

- Caroline Dietrich (7), 8U girls' 25-yard breaststroke (31.26)
- Caroline Dietrich (7), Amelia Danyow (8), Alula Remaniak (8) and Ellie Butler (7), girls' 8U 100-yard freestyle relay (1:36.94)
- Rose Phinney (10), girls' 9-10 25-yard breaststroke (20.02)
- Cassandra Bellmann (12), girls' 11-12 50-yard butterfly (30.46); girls' 11-12 50-yard backstroke (34.83); girls' 11-12 50-yard breaststroke (37.57)
- Vela Remaniak (11), girls' 11-12 50-yard freestyle (29.78)
- Cassandra Bellmann (12), Harper Nelson (11), Cecily O'Leary (12) and Vela Remaniak (11), girls' 12U 200-yard freestyle relay (2:14.91)
- Felix Poduschnick (12), boys' 11-12 50-yard butterfly (30.57); boys' 11-12 50-yard breaststroke (36.58); boys' 11-12 50-yard

- freestyle (27.95)
- Ben Phinney (13), George Martin (14), Henry Cadoret (14) and Weston Wright (13), boys' 14U, 200-yard medley relay (2:23.81)
- Henry Cadoret (14), boys' 13-14 50-yard butterfly (29.57); boys' 13-14 50-yard breaststroke (37.91); boys' 13-14 50-yard freestyle (26.96)
- Ben Phinney (13), boys' 13-14 50-yard backstroke (35.35)
- George Martin (14), Ben Phinney (13), Henry Schmitt (14) and Henry Cadoret (14), boys' 14U 200-yard freestyle relay
- Abigail Hamilton (16), Selma Citarella (16), Lara Martinez (15) and Emma Main (18), girls' 19U 200-yard medley relay (2:05.04)
- Selma Citarella (16), girls' 15-19 breaststroke (33.68)



SWIMMER JAMES FOLEY gulps a breath of air during his freestyle race in the Middlebury Marlins' mock meet at the town pool on June 18.

Photo by Caleb Kenna



LAST THURSDAY, THE Middlebury Marlins swim team held an intersquad meet when Jonas Hill, right, and the entire squad got a chance to tune up for the season.

Photos by Caleb Kenna



The Turning Point Center  
of Addison County

is now the

Peer Recovery  
Center of Addison  
County

To Learn  
More:

Peer Recovery Center  
OF ADDISON COUNTY

REGISTER  
NOW!

MIDDLEBURY AREA LAND TRUST  
23rd Annual

TAM TREK

Sept 20 2026

A benefit event for the  
Middlebury Area  
Land Trust.

19-mile, 10k, 5k or  
2 mile fun run options

All races start/end at Wright Park

[www.maltvt.org/tam-trek](http://www.maltvt.org/tam-trek)

CHEERS TO LAKE LIFE!

HARE AND THE DOG

Legendary  
WINE · BEER · SPIRITS

VERGENNES, VT  
MIDDLEBURY, VT

WWW.HARE.DOG

Contact Your U.S. Senators

Sen. Bernie Sanders  
1-800-339-9834  
SRC-2 United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510  
[www.sanders.senate.gov](http://www.sanders.senate.gov)

Sen. Peter Welch  
1-800-642-3193  
124 Russell Senate Office  
Bldg.  
Washington, D.C. 20510  
<https://www.welch.senate.gov/email-peter/>

Contact Your  
U.S. Congressman

Rep. Becca Balint  
1-888-293-9874  
1510 Longworth House  
Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515  
(202) 225-4115  
[BalintPress@mail.house.gov](mailto:BalintPress@mail.house.gov)









DAKIN FARMS OWNER Sam Cutting, left, moves up to CEO of the Ferrisburgh specialty foods purveyor as Katie Langrock, right, was named this week as company president.

## Dakin Farm names Langrock president

FERRISBURGH — Dakin Farm, the family-owned Vermont specialty food company based in Ferrisburgh, this week announced the appointment of Katie Langrock as president. She takes over from Sam Cutting, a member of the founding family and the owner of the business. He became Dakin Farm’s chief executive officer and chairman, where he will continue to guide the company’s vision, new product development, and growing roster of Vermont artisan partnerships.

Company officials said the leadership additions reflect a firm investing in its future. Langrock will lead Dakin Farm’s day-to-day operations, while Cutting focuses on the creative and strategic work that has defined the brand for more than six decades, sourcing the best of Vermont, developing new products, and protecting the hands-on nature of the business.

“Dakin Farm has been my family’s work for 66 years, and I am as committed to it today as I’ve

ever been,” Cutting said in a press release. “Bringing Katie on as president lets me pour my energy into what I love most — dreaming up new products, deepening our partnerships with Vermont’s finest makers, and making sure that when someone opens a box from Dakin Farm, they taste exactly what Vermont is all about. Katie is an extraordinary leader, and this company is in wonderful hands.”

Langrock joins Dakin Farm following her tenure at Vermont Teddy Bear Company, Vermont Flannel, where she served as a senior leader in both operations and business strategy. She steps into the role energized by both the brand’s heritage and its room to grow.

Langrock said she was honored to lead the company and sees a lot of potential.

“What drew me here is that Dakin Farm is both deeply rooted and genuinely forward-looking,” she said. “We’re hand-waxing cheese and spiral-cutting hams the way we have for decades, while

building new gift collections, welcoming more Vermont artisan partners, and meeting customers wherever they shop.”

Under its “What Vermont Tastes Like” philosophy, Dakin Farm has expanded well beyond its signature smoked meats, cheddar, and maple. The company now curates artisan cheeses, charcuterie, and gift collections featuring fellow Vermont makers — from small-batch preserves and old-fashioned cider jelly to a growing selection of Vermont craft beverages — available through its retail stores in Ferrisburgh and South Burlington, its catalog, online at [dakinfarm.com](http://dakinfarm.com), and a robust corporate gifting program.

Carolyn Cutting, Sam’s daughter, joined the company five years ago upon graduation from the UVM Grossman School of Business in a marketing role, helping carry Dakin Farm’s story to a new generation of customers.

“We’re not going anywhere,” Sam Cutting said in the release. “We’re just getting started.”

## In memory of a friend, Three Squares Cafe launches Guestwich charity series

By KELSEY WOOD

VERGENNES — Starting July 1 at Three Squares Café, a new sandwich series called Guestwich is turning food into a force for good in honor of a friend lost too soon.

At the top of each month, the popular downtown breakfast and lunch spot will partner with a notable name from the food industry to create a special sandwich, with proceeds benefiting a cause chosen by each guest.

The first charity will be the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention – Vermont.

After losing their friend Nolan Streeter, 22, of Barre to suicide last month, owners Scott Collins and Jody Hayes were left looking for a way to alchemize their grief into something positive that could honor the bright young man.



CHEF FRANK PACE and Three Squares Cafe owner Scott Collins test run “The Streeter,” the inaugural Guestwich sandwich named after the friend whose death inspired the charitable series. Photo by Cade Ray

Reflecting on Streeter’s passing, Collins said he was struck by the outpouring of love at his funeral, where hundreds gathered to remember him. “It’s often the people who think they have no support who actually have the most support,” Collins said, speaking to the deceptive feelings that mental health struggles can create.

That observation helped shape Guestwich. Collins turned to his own community — chefs, restaurateurs and other food industry friends he has met over the years — to create something that could raise money and bring

people together.

The concept itself was even inspired by someone within the food community. Restaurateur Rick Gencarelli, who first launched a similar series at his award-winning restaurant Lardo in Portland, Ore., will be one of the farthest-flung guests — though he does have Vermont ties, having once been the chef at Shelburne Farms.

The series’ first sandwich, “The Streeter,” was created by Burlington chef Frank Pace,

owner of August First and The Great Northern Catering. It features crispy fried chicken thigh, whipped ricotta, local honey, Mama Lil’s Peppers and arugula on a house-made brioche.

Additional guests in the Guestwich lineup are being kept a surprise, with Collins and Hayes planning to reveal each partnership on social media throughout the summer.

Mark your calendars for the first Guestwich, which will take place on July 1.

## Addison-3 lawmaker wraps up the session

The end of our 2026 legislative session was a last-second thriller. While we waited for the final Education Transformation bill,

a Budget or Tax bill, and the “Yield bill” that determines our property tax rate, we were able to amend and pass several other bills to make them beneficial for Vermonters:

- The bipartisan “forensic facility” was included in bill S.193.
- Bill S.313, focusing on our Career Technical Education schools.
- The Transportation bill H.944 and Miscellaneous Tax bill H.933 extended vehicle inspections to every two years; swapped electric vehicle registration fees for mileage-based user fees; and shifted more Rooms & Meals tax toward our Transportation fund for badly needed road and bridge repair.
- A disputed Stowe charter



Legislative Review by Rep. Rob North, R-Ferrisburgh

change, H.954, allows a 2% local option tax in that town.

- Also disputed, S.64 gives optometrists a broadened scope of practice, thus improving affordable access to eye care for Vermonters.

We also minimized the impact of or prevented some bad bills from passing. The Cannabis bill S.278 was heavily amended to reduce adverse consequences. The governor’s veto of the AI Data Center bill, H.727, was sustained. And two bills were allowed to expire without passing: H.740, which would have instituted a registry for all fossil fuel dealers; and S.208, which was amended with unconstitutional requirements on

(See Rep. North, Page 6B)



### CELEBRATING 1 year IN DOWNTOWN VERGENNES



At Vergennes Grand, every day brings something to enjoy.





Come see what makes life here so special!  
(802) 877-3562 | [www.VergennesGrand.com](http://www.VergennesGrand.com)  
34 North Street, Vergennes VT 05491  
Independent Living | Assisted Living | Memory Care

# Comfort starts with smarter energy use.

[vgsvt.com/efficiency](http://vgsvt.com/efficiency)



## VERGENNES Service Directory

### Plumbing & Heating



Timothy C. Ryan P.E.  
Serving the Champlain Valley Since 1887  
802-877-3118 • Main St., Vergennes

### Siding

#### CLOVER STATE

Window & Siding Co., Inc.

Replacement Windows  
Vinyl siding  
Garages • Roofs • Additions  
802-877-2102 • Toll Free: 888-433-0962



To advertise in the  
**Addy Indy Vergennes Service Directory**  
call 802-388-4944 or email [advertising@addisonindependent.com](mailto:advertising@addisonindependent.com)

ADDISON COUNTY  
**INDEPENDENT**





**jun 25 THURSDAY**

**Valley of the Giants in Cornwall.** Thursday, June 25, 9 a.m.- 4 p.m., 654 Peet Rd. All radio-controlled aircraft welcomed. Full scale runway. Camping is allowed, but we don't have hookups. Come fly in this beautiful setting in the Champlain Valley or spectate some incredible flying.

**Community storytelling night in New Haven.** Thursday, June 25, 6 p.m., New Haven Town Hall. Gather to share and listen to true, first-person stories, and connect through the power of storytelling. First time storytellers encouraged. Interested in telling a story? Email Samara Anderson at anderson\_samara@yahoo.com.

**jun 26 FRIDAY**

**Grand Bingo Party & Happy Hour in Vergennes.** Friday, June 26, 2:30 p.m., Vergennes Grand Senior Living. Community members, families and friends can enjoy an afternoon of Bingo, refreshments, laughter and great company. Free. To RSVP contact: Spinto@vergennesgrand.com.

**jun 27 SATURDAY**

**Collections Corner: Paint & Sip in Ferrisburgh.** Saturday, June 27, 10 a.m. - noon, Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, 4472 Basin Harbor Rd. A relaxing morning of painting, warm beverages and connecting with friends. The museum's Collections Team will provide a "still life" of inspiration from the permanent collections, which you can paint in any style (even paint by numbers!) on a small canvas to take home. Free. For more info visit Registration required: cognitoforms.com/LakeChamplainMaritimeMuseum/CollectionsCornerPaintSip.

**Peasant Market Donation Drop-off in Middlebury.** Saturday, June 27, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. Clear your clutter and support your community. Items must be clean and in good condition. Accepting antiques, jewelry, linens, fabric and sewing supplies, kitchenware, toys and games, vinyl and CDs, sporting goods, home goods and tools, garden plants, arts and crafts, NOT accepting books, clothing, shoes, helmets, car seats, gun safes, weapons, cleaning products, electronics, stuffed animals, appliances, luggage, large furniture, DVDs, VHS or cassette tapes. Peasant Market as an Addison County tradition, where people get great deals on a variety of goods while helping their community. Every penny donated to local non-profits. For more info visit ststephensmidd.org.

**Blood drive in Vergennes.** Saturday, June 27, 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Victory Baptist Church, 862 US-7. Donors of all blood types and those giving platelets are needed. All who give June 1-28 will receive a \$15 e-gift card to a merchant of their choice, plus automatic entry for a chance to win one of two \$7,500 gift cards. For more info visit RedCrossBlood.org/June.

**Biodiversity Builders: Creating and Implementing Your Plan in Vergennes.** Saturday, June 27, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Bixby Library, 258 Main St. Second in a series of hands-on workshops demonstrating how to bring native plants into outdoor spaces. Native plants boost biodiversity, support pollinators and birds, and reduce maintenance, fertilizer use, and runoff. Learn why native plants matter, how to assess and prepare your site, choose the right plants, convert your lawn step-by-step, and maintain long-term success. Presented by Lisa Sausville and Ashley Robinson. For more information email Ashley at arobinsonld@gmail.com.

**Big Pride in the Little City in Vergennes.** Saturday, June 27, noon- 4:30 p.m., on the city green. An afternoon of community, celebration, pride, and connection.

**SPARK Talks: Psychedelics in Vergennes.** Saturday, June 27, noon, Bixby Library, 258 Main St. The Society for Psychedelic Advocacy, Research & Knowledge is hosting a free community conversation about psychedelics and how Vermonters want the psychedelic ecosystem in the state to unfold after the recent executive order that will prioritize research and advance access to psychedelics as medicine. Free. For more info visit bit.ly/4eJYEJT.

**Nature Sketching in Ferrisburgh.** Saturday, June 27, 1:30 - 3:30 p.m., Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, 4472 Basin Harbor Rd. Practice the basics of observational sketching in a relaxed atmosphere. Walk around the campus and practice sketching various buildings, boats, plants and whatever else catches our eye. Sketching materials will be available, but you are strongly encouraged to bring your own as well. Free.

**Summerfest on the Green in New Haven.** Saturday, June 27, 4-7 p.m., the town green. Bring your Volunteer Fireman's Chicken BBQ dinner over to the green and join your neighbors for an evening of fun. Live music, face painting and games for the kids, a birthday cake to celebrate 125 years for the New Haven Library, free Historical Society giveaways and lots more. Parking is behind the church.

**LGBTQ+ Trivia in Vergennes.** Saturday, June 27, 6:30 p.m., Big Heart Social, 55 School St. Vergennes Pride after party at the newly opened Big Heart Social, featuring queer trivia and prizes. Free.

**New Haven Neighbors music & family event in New Haven.** Saturday, June 27, New Haven Town Green. A family-friendly music and community event will take place during the Fireman's BBQ dinner, featuring entertainment and activities for all ages. Save the date; more details to be announced.

**Green Mountain Club hike: Mt. Abe in Lincoln.** Saturday, June 27. Hike to Mt. Abe via the Battell and Long trails. Strenuous hike of about 6 miles with 2,600 feet elevation gain. Dog friendly as there will be a therapy dog on the hike. Limited to only 6 hikers. Contact Samara Anderson at Anderson\_samara@yahoo.com for more information. For more info visit gmcbreadloaf.org.

**jun 28 SUNDAY**

**Strawberry Festival and Book Sale in Monkton.** Sunday, June 28, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Russell Memorial Library. The strawberry festival and book sale benefitting the Russell Memorial Library. Games



**Radical rainbows**

**COME OUT FOR the fourth annual Big Pride in the Little City on Saturday, June 27, in Vergennes for a fabulous, family-friendly celebration of community, resilience and love. Don't forget to put on your most colorful outfit, just like Baby Amalie Rule did for Pride in 2023. The march starts at the high school at noon and heads to the city green for live music, games, speakers, drag storytime for kids, face painting and more.**

Independent file photo/Steve James

and crafts for kids and yummy strawberry treats for all.

**Recovery in Color: Mocktail Paint & Sip in Middlebury.** Sunday, June 28, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., Turning Point Center of Addison County, 79 Court St. Alcohol-free paint & sip with guided art, mocktails, and community, open to all in recovery. Free.

**Peasant Market Donation Drop-off in Middlebury.** Sunday, June 28, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m., St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. Clear your clutter and support your community. Items must be clean and in good condition. Accepting antiques, jewelry, linens, fabric and sewing supplies, kitchenware, toys and games, vinyl and CDs, sporting goods, home goods and tools, garden plants, arts and crafts, NOT accepting books, clothing, shoes, helmets, car seats, gun safes, weapons, cleaning products, electronics, stuffed animals, appliances, luggage, large furniture, DVDs, VHS or cassette tapes. Peasant Market as an Addison County tradition, where people get great deals on a variety of goods while helping their community. Every penny donated to local non-profits. For more info visit ststephensmidd.org.

**Recovery in color: mocktail paint & sip in Middlebury.** Sunday, June 28, 11-1 p.m., Turning Point Center, 79 Court St. Alcohol-free paint & sip with guided art, mocktails and community. Open to all in recovery. Supplies provided. Free.

**Ice Cream Social in Shoreham.** Sunday, June 28, noon - 2 p.m., Shoreham Congregational Church. Come get your take-out ice cream and celebrate the Shoreham community in conjunction with the Car Show on the Town Green. Enjoy vanilla and/or chocolate ice cream. Toppings include chocolate, caramel, maple, strawberries, homemade whipped cream. Rain date is Sunday, July 12. \$4 - \$7.

**Champlain Valley Fiddler's Club Jam in Brandon.** Sunday, June 28, noon - 4 p.m., American Legion. Listen to people sing and play instruments. If you or a friend play fiddle or another instrument, join in. Refreshments available. 50/50 raffle. Door prize. Come with your dancing boots on. Free.

**Presentation: Inquiry into the Revolutionary Mind: What Were You Thinking Philip Schuyler, Benedict Arnold, and John Trumbull? in Orwell.** Sunday, June 28, 2-3:30 p.m., Mount Independence State Historic Site, 497 Mount Independence Rd. Historian Paul Andrisic turns on the time machine to interview Maj. Gen. Philip Schuyler, Gen. Benedict Arnold, and Lt. Col. John Trumbull about the decision 250 years ago to build a new American defense on the "strong ground" of Mount Independence.

**Strawberry Bluegrass Festival in Cornwall.** Sunday, June 28, 3:30 - 7 p.m., The Meeting House at Cornwall. The strawberry fest is back! Enjoy strawberry shortcake featuring local organic strawberries from Purple Barn Farm. Get out your lawn chair, your blanket or your dancing shoes, and enjoy the music of Sap Line (3:30 p.m.) and Otter Creek (5:30 p.m.) Free; donations welcome.

**Magicians Without Borders Presentation & Performance in Shoreham.** Sunday, June 28, 4 - 6 p.m., The Red Studio, 1078 Doolittle Rd. Tom Verner and Janet Fredericks present an entertaining, informative opportunity to learn about their organization and the work they have been doing for 25 years in 47 countries around the world.

**jun 29 MONDAY**

**African Drumming for Beginners in Middlebury.** Monday, June 29, 2 - 3 p.m., 17 Court St. Learn West African drum rhythms with Fode and Shelly. Some drums are available for use during gatherings or bring your own. Free. Questions? Contact Zylpha, 802-388-3093 or Mary, 802-989-3074.

**Presentation: "Vermont's Medical Aid in Dying Law (Act 39)" in Middlebury.** Monday, June 29, 3 p.m., EastView at Middlebury. Presentation on Act 39 with Diana Barnard, MD, and Jennifer Carlo, PhD. In person or via Zoom. Call 802-989-7501 for the Zoom link.

**Monday Night Bingo in Middlebury.** Monday, June 29, 4:30 p.m., Addison County VFW 7823, 530 Exchange St. \$1,000 Jackpot. Quickies start at 6 p.m., regular bingo starts at 7 p.m. Kitchen is open from 5-6:30 p.m. Open to the

public. Benefits Veterans Programs.

**Vergennes City Band concert in Vergennes.** Monday, June 29, 7-8 p.m., city green. Relax on the green and listen to some great free summer music.

**Cribbage Night in Bristol.** Monday, June 29, 7-8:15 p.m., Bristol Masons Lodge, corner of North and Elm Streets. Semi-monthly cribbage night welcomes community players for an evening of cards. Free.

**jun 30 TUESDAY**

**Summer Reading Kick-Off Party in Brandon.** Tuesday, June 30, 10:30 a.m. - noon, Brandon Free Public Library, 4 Franklin St. Decorate cookies and embellish tote bags to carry all of your Summer Reading books while Mr. Ethan serenades partygoers.

**June Evening Book Group in Bristol.** Tuesday, June 30, 6-7 p.m., 74 Munsill Ave., Suite 100. This month's book is "Woodworking" by Emily St. James. Set in a small South Dakota town, a closeted trans teacher and her openly trans student strike up a friendship in this contemporary novel exploring identity, trans visibility and community. Stop by the new pop-up library location to pick up your copy. Free.

**july 1 WEDNESDAY**

**Tie-Dye at the Library in Brandon.** Wednesday, July 1, 10:30 a.m. - noon, Brandon Free Public Library, 4 Franklin St. BYO item to tie-dye (we will also have some available). Wear clothes that can get messy This activity will take place outdoors.

**Author talk: "Lightning Beneath the Sea" in Middlebury.** Wednesday, July 1, Cocktails: 5:30-6:30 p.m.; book talk: 6:30-7:30 p.m., Town Hall Theater. Best-selling author James M. Tabor will speak about his new book about the man who laid the first transatlantic telegraph cable. The talk will be followed by Q&A. Books available for purchase and signing. \$8.

**Deep Dives: Battle of Valcour Bay – Day 2 in Ferrisburgh.** Wednesday, July 1, 6 - 7 p.m., Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, 4472 Basin Harbor Rd. Devyn Cabral (they/them), the museum's Collections Assistant, will tell the story the second day of the Battle of Lake Champlain. Devyn will explain their frantic retreat from the perspective of sailors like John Fulton. They will also discuss how the attack the day prior affected the loved ones of soldiers through the eyes of Susanna Leech. A complimentary drink from Shacksbury Cider is included with your free registration. Free. For more info visit Registration required: cognitoforms.com/LakeChamplainMaritimeMuseum/\_2026DeepDivesSeries.

**Bristol Town Band Summer Concerts on the Park in Bristol.** Wednesday, July 1, 7 p.m., Town Green. The Bristol Town Band is back for its 156th year of weekly evening concerts. Each Wednesday from June 17 to August 26 the Town Green will be filled with music and events. Bring a picnic and chair to enjoy the music with family and friends. We welcome new members. Call 802-281-2315 for more information about joining the band.

**july 3 FRIDAY**

**Block Party with Vermont National Guard Band plus Redd & The Paper Flowers in Middlebury.** Friday, July 3, 3-8 p.m., Town Hall Theater, Maloney Plaza, 68 South Pleasant St. A community block party celebrating America's 250th anniversary featuring chamber music from Vermont's Own 40th Army Band and Appalachian folk-grass group Redd & The Paper Flowers, along with a festive bike parade. Food trucks and bar offerings available on site. Free. For more info visit townhalltheater.org.

**CALENDAR ONLINE**  
addisonindependent.com



**Six county students named to Champlain College dean's list**

**BURLINGTON** — The following students have been named to the Champlain College Dean's List for achieving a grade point average of 3.5 or higher in the Spring 2026 semester.

- Lili Boe of Middlebury
- Layne Chant of Middlebury

**ADDISON COUNTY School Briefs**

- Collin Clair of Vergennes
- Wu Dong of Middlebury
- John Duke of Ferrisburgh
- Rowan Zeno of Starksboro



**Addison County Parent/Child Center**  
info@addisoncountypcc.org • addisoncountypcc.org 388-3171

- Community Playgroups
- Parent Education Classes
- Home Visits
- Pregnancy Prevention Programs
- Parent Training & Child Center

*Helping Young Families  
Get The Right Start*

**\$24,000 Donated to Local Charities in 2025**

**PEASANT MARKET**  
ON THE GREEN IN MIDDLEBURY

**CLEAN YOUR HOME AND HELP YOUR COMMUNITY! DROP OFF CLEAN, DRY, USABLE GOODS FOR PEASANT MARKET AT ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH:**

|                                  |                            |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Saturday, June 27 10 a.m.-1 p.m. | Tuesday, June 30 4-6 p.m.  |
| Sunday, June 28 11 a.m.-2 p.m.   | Wednesday, July 1 4-6 p.m. |

**WE WOULD LOVE TO HAVE**

- Antiques
- Linens
- Fabric and sewing supplies
- Kitchenware, dishes
- Toys
- Jewelry
- Small furniture
- Sporting goods
- Handicrafts
- White elephant items
- Garden plants and decor

*All items must be clean and in good condition.*

**WE DON'T ACCEPT**

- Anything broken or dirty
- Clothing
- Books, cassettes
- Stuffed animals
- TVs, computers, or electronics
- Anything with a safety buckle (helmets, car seats, high chairs)
- Luggage - backpacks/duffle bags are ok
- Toy guns or swords
- Tins or plastic containers
- Furniture one person can't carry

**PEASANT MARKET TAKES PLACE ON SATURDAY, JULY 11 FROM 9AM – 1PM**

**ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
3 Main Street, Middlebury • ststephensmidd.org

Profits benefit local non-profit groups.

**READER comments**

**A local lifeline. Appreciate your fine reporting.**

*- Amy, Middlebury subscriber*

**ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT**  
Serving Addison County, Vt. Since 1946

*Quotes are taken from reader comments submitted with subscription renewals.*





Bristol West

Water line replacement underway

**By MARIN HOWELL**  
BRISTOL — Crews are chipping away at the second phase of a larger effort to replace aging water lines in Bristol.  
The Bristol West project took off this spring and marks the latest phase in an ongoing effort to replace around half of the lines in the town’s aging water distribution system. The project — the second of four phases — will consist of work on some or all of Munsill Avenue and Maple, Pleasant, Church, Elm, Taylor, West, Park and School streets.  
“It is going well,” Bristol Town Administrator Greg Faust said of the project late last week. “The crew is moving street by street installing the new water mains, and we hold a standing weekly construction meeting with the engineer and contractor to keep the work on schedule and coordinate around residents.”  
Bristol residents voted in November 2024 to bond for up to \$3.95 million to support the Bristol West project, which Faust noted is being engineered by VTM Engineering (led by town engineer

Steve Palmer) and built by Munson Earth Moving.  
As of this past Friday, Munson’s crew had “completed main installation on Elm, Taylor, and all the way down Pine,” Faust said. He highlighted what next steps are required after that main installation.  
“After the mains are in, the new system goes through water quality, sampling, and pressure testing before it is tied into the live water supply,” Faust said. “So, a street having the new main in the ground is a major milestone, but it is not the final step, and the crew still has more work ahead this year.”  
Work will continue next year as well, as the project is planned to take place over two construction seasons.  
“Exactly how much carries into 2027 is still being worked out as the schedule firms up, and we will share more as those details settle,” Faust explained.  
He said community members can find project updates and notices posted by the town on Front Porch Forum and Bristol’s website (bristolvt.org).  
“We are also working to improve

our traditional communication methods to provide better and more timely project information,” he added. “Residents with questions about timing on their street are welcome to contact the town administrator’s office directly.”  
Faust pointed to the bigger picture the Bristol West project fits into and what that work means for the community.  
“Bristol West replaces aging water main, parts of the system dating back to 1905, which means more reliable water service, better water quality, and stronger fire protection for this part of town for the next generation,” he said.  
He noted the project is “funded primarily through the State’s Drinking Water State Revolving Fund, and a substantial share of the cost is being covered by state subsidy rather than falling on local ratepayers.”  
“The project also replaces lead service lines, removing lead from the system at no direct cost to the affected property owners,” Faust said. “For a town our size, this is a significant, once-in-a-generation reinvestment in core infrastructure, and the state funding is the reason Bristol can take it on now rather than deferring it.”

Ice Cream Social to be held Sunday

SHOREHAM — The Shoreham Congregational Church will host an Ice Cream Social on Sunday, June 28, 2026, from noon to 2 p.m. in the Church Fellowship Hall on 28 School Rd.  
Come get your take-out ice cream and celebrate the Shoreham

Shoreham

community in conjunction with the Car Show on the Town

Green. The rain date is Sunday, July 12. Enjoy a dish of vanilla or chocolate ice cream for only \$4 or make it a sundae for only \$7. Toppings include chocolate, caramel, maple, strawberries, and homemade whipped cream, adorned with nuts and sprinkles.

Lincoln

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

LINCOLN — The Lincoln Library has changed the schedule for its tech help sessions. Residents looking for assistance navigating their digital devices can now drop in during the newly designated hours on Mondays from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Tuesdays from 10 to 11 a.m.  
Whether you have questions regarding a computer, laptop, smartphone or smart home appliances, local tech guru Paul will be on hand to provide answers and guide you through the process.

He can also assist with navigating tricky apps or software issues. If the new weekly times do not fit your schedule, contact the library and they will do their best to arrange an alternate appointment that works for you.  
Local election officials will begin mailing out early ballots on Friday, June 26 for the upcoming Primary Election on Tuesday, August 11. Unlike the automatic mailings used for the November General Election, voters must request a ballot to participate in the primary by mail.

Residents wishing to vote by mail, as well as military personnel and residents living overseas, can manage their requests online through the Vermont Voter Portal by visiting the website at vote.vermont.gov/public/dashboard. This secure portal allows users to submit a formal absentee ballot request, update their current mailing address and track the real-time status of their ballot from departure to delivery.  
Until next time...Summertime Is Always the Best of What Might Be.



Our pot of gold

A DOUBLE RAINBOW reigns over Vermont’s green landscape just south of Middlebury late on Sunday. It is some consolation for the delayed gardening and rained-out outdoor activities.

Photo by Brian Joslin

Celebration on tap in New Haven

NEW HAVEN — It’s summertime in New Haven and the town will be hopping this Saturday with both the Volunteer Fireman’s chicken BBQ and Summerfest on the Green!  
**NEW HAVEN VOLUNTEER FIREMAN’S CHICKEN BBQ**

It’s time for a community favorite event this Saturday, July 27 at the New Haven Town Hall starting at 5 p.m. Get a half Misty Knoll Farms chicken, homemade baked beans and potato salad from the VG, and a roll all for \$20. Take out only. Pick up your chicken and head over to the town green for Summerfest!  
**SUMMERFEST 2026**

The New Haven Neighbors are hosting a gathering on the town green from 4 - 7 p.m. on Saturday to coincide with the chicken BBQ. Enjoy your dinner on the green while listening to the music of Noah Hahn (of Adam and the Orbits) and friends, visit the Historical Society table for merchandise celebrating our country’s 250th birthday, get a creemee from the Village Green, get a baked good to support the Bee Friends PTO or have a slice of birthday cake for 125 years of the New Haven Community Library. Parking is behind the church and there are activities and games for kids, and community organizations will be there for you to learn about what is happening in town. Come

New Haven

Have a news tip?  
Contact Kim Callahan at kimcallahan99@gmail.com.

NEWS

celebrate our community while supporting our local firefighters.  
**HAPPY BIRTHDAY NEW HAVEN COMMUNITY LIBRARY**

The New Haven Community Library is celebrating its 125th year of service to the community. In celebration, the library will record input from the community about the library to share on their website and include in a time capsule for future generations. Stop by the library table at Summerfest on Saturday, June 27 where the library will start a months-long project (or summer audiovisual project) having you answer a few questions about what the library means to you, share some fun facts, and share what you would like to see the library look like 50 or 100 years from now. There will be a big birthday cake for everyone to enjoy!  
**NEW HAVEN COMMUNITY TRUST**  
The NHCT is finalizing its community engagement effort hearing from local folks on their ideas for the future use of the

Depot building. Thank you to the over 200 people who have taken the time to fill out the survey and to the teens in town who contributed their thoughts and ideas at a pizza party last week. If you haven’t filled out the survey, this is your last opportunity. Go to newhavencommunitytrust.org and click on the survey link and to learn more about the community trust and the Depot project.  
**NEW HAVEN HOUSING TASK FORCE**

The New Haven Housing Taskforce has been making deliberate progress against their goal of increasing housing opportunities in our town. The task force is currently conducting outreach and education to all property owners within the designated Village Center and have met with the Selectboard to engage their support and possible future role in grant applications. The task force is continuing to partner with ACEDC in identifying grants supporting feasibility studies and master plan development including centralized waste-water treatment. If any property owner would like to schedule a visit from an architect within the task force to review specific property and options, please stop by our table at Summerfest or email us at newhavenhousingvt@gmail.com

Monkton

Have a news tip?  
Contact Liz Pecor at lprascal47@gmail.com

NEWS

MONKTON — It’s time for the Russell Memorial Library’s annual Strawberry Festival and Book Sale! Join in on the fun at the library on Sunday, June 28 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. for delicious strawberry shortcake and other goodies, all served with a smile. Browse through

the wonderful selection of books to find just the right ones to take home for a bargain price. The strawberries are locally picked. If you would like to volunteer to help pick strawberries or to sort books this year, call the library at 802-453-4471 during the hours of 3 to 7 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday

evenings or 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Friday and Saturday. Leave a message if there is no answer.  
This annual fundraiser is an important part of the library’s functioning and continuing activities, so your support is greatly appreciated. Thank you in advance for your patronage.

Orwell to join Nation-wide reading of the Declaration of Independence

ORWELL — The first public reading of the Declaration of Independence took place on July 8, 1776, at the Pennsylvania State House (now Independence Hall) in Philadelphia after ringing the Liberty Bell as a call to the people.  
250 years later, at 6 p.m. EST on Wednesday July 8, 2026, in

461 towns across America and even overseas, bells will ring and people will come together to share the “spirit of America” by reading the Declaration of Independence together at the same time.  
The Orwell Historical Society will host a reading from the gazebo on the Town Green and a performance by local singer

Amber Naramore. We invite all attendees to tour the Orwell Museum afterwards to view the current exhibit “Connections,” a selection of Museum artifacts chosen by the students of the Orwell Village School with their research. A sampling of historic Museum flags will also be on display for this occasion.

Rep. North

(Continued from Page 4B)  
federal employees.  
In the “can’t win ’em all” category we lost an amendment to bill H.527 that would have forced the Legislature to fix the cell tower siting process next year instead of waiting three years. Also an amendment to delay implementation of bill H.710, which consumes more agricultural and forest land with solar arrays, failed on the House floor. The governor did, however, just recently save us and veto that bill. Thankfully, the “big bills” passed through both the Senate and House on the final day.  
The House capitulated to the Senate budget in bill H.949 thus enabling Vermonters to take full advantage of the governor’s buy-down offer of \$101 million to

reduce the impending 7% average property tax increase down to about 3.5%. The state budget passed with a modest 2.1% year-over-year increase, aligning with the governor’s proposed budget, and is fully covered by existing revenue sources. The promise of “no new taxes” was achieved!  
The governor’s threat of a veto enabled successful negotiations on the Education Transformation bill, H.955, which then passed with broad bipartisan support and continues the process started with last year’s Act 73. Rather than dictate redistricting, H.955 requires each of 18 Merger Committees to provide a plan by Town Meeting Day 2028 for merging their existing districts/unions into a single district. This does *not* equate

to merging schools, only to merging administration to reduce overhead. Bonus incentives will be provided to those that merge and disincentives to those that don’t. Prior to the July 2029 foundation formula implementation, costs will be contained by double taxing any districts on portions of their school budget above a declining per-pupil “excess spending threshold.”  
In other news, many currently sitting Representatives will not be running in the 2026 elections — a perfect opportunity to bring more balance to Vermont! As my friend John McCormick from Bristol says: “A bi-partisan legislature is the pinnacle of democracy. Competence and sanity generally lie toward the ideological center of politics.”

# The 2026 Addy Indy Garden Game

Grow any of these fruits and veggies anywhere in the greater Addison County area?

Think you've got a colossal cucumber, a whopping watermelon, or a supersized squash? Bring it to the Addy Indy office at 58 Maple Street, Middlebury! We'll measure it, snap a photo, and add it to the leaderboard. If your garden giant stays on top through the end of the growing season, you'll win a prize! So get planting, get growing, and get ready for some friendly garden bragging rights. May the biggest beet, largest leek, and mightiest melon win!

## Categories & Front-Runners:

|                                                                      |                                               |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Asparagus (length x circumference) - Monica Przyperhart, 16" x 4.25" | Onion (circumference)                         |
| Beet (circumference)                                                 | Parsnip (circumference)                       |
| Broccoli (diameter)                                                  | Pepper (circumference x circumference)        |
| Cabbage (circumference)                                              | Potato (length x circumference)               |
| Cantaloupe (circumference)                                           | Pumpkin (circumference x circumference)       |
| Carrot (length x circumference)                                      | Radish (circumference)                        |
| Cauliflower (diameter)                                               | Rhubarb (stalk length) - Dorothy Hayes, 25.5" |
| Corn (length x circumference)                                        | Rutabaga (circumference)                      |
| Cucumber (length x circumference)                                    | Summer Squash (length x circumference)        |
| Edible Leafy Greens (length x width - leaf only)                     | Sunflower (diameter)                          |
| Eggplant (circumference x circumference)                             | *Sweet Potato (length x circumference)        |
| Fennel (length x circumference)                                      | Tomato (circumference)                        |
| Green Bean (length)                                                  | Turnip (circumference)                        |
| Kohlrabi (circumference)                                             | Winter Squash (length x circumference)        |
| Leek (length x circumference)                                        | Zucchini (length x circumference)             |
| Melon (circumference)                                                |                                               |

\*new category

ADDISON COUNTY  
INDEPENDENT

SPONSORED BY:

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



# Thursday & service Business & DIRECTORY

carpentry/contractors  
cleaning services  
computers

construction  
duct work & duct  
cleaning

excavation  
flooring

## CARPENTRY/ CONTRACTORS

**RAYMOND  
RENOVATION  
& NEW CONSTRUCTION, LLC**

Handling all phases of residential and light commercial carpentry since 1992

Mark Raymond, Middlebury, VT  
802-388-0742  
raymondrenovationvt.com  
FULLY INSURED

**Golden Ruler  
Construction**

AFFORDABLE & HONEST  
Residential & Agricultural Construction  
Old Home Renovations  
Custom Homes • Barns  
Interior Painting • General Repairs  
Call Jonathan Hescoc  
649 Harrington Hill Rd., Shoreham  
802-462-3737

**VERMONT CUSTOM MOLDINGS**

www.vermontcustommoldings.com

**Quaker Village  
CARPENTRY**

We have immediate availability!

Siding, Windows, Garages, Decks & Porches,  
New Construction, Renovations and Repairs

Maurice Plouffe • 802-545-2251  
1736 Quaker Village Road | Weybridge, VT 05753

**David Walker Construction**

298 Biddle Road  
Lincoln, Vermont  
05443

cell: 802-989-0320  
email:  
dwconstruction@gmavt.net

Small projects  
Entry doors • Decks • Porches

## CLEANING SERVICES

**Melissa's Quality  
Cleaning Services**

Residential & Commercial  
GREAT RATES • FULLY INSURED  
Reliable & Thorough

**802 345-6257**

## COMPUTERS

**PC MEDIC  
of Vermont**

Is Microsoft hassling you about Windows 11?  
I have a **FREE** alternative for many customers, called Linux.  
Call today to learn more!

For an appointment, call The PC Medic of Vermont  
**802-734-6815**  
www.pcmedicvt.com

Vermont Computer Services & Support LLC

**IT's what we do!**

**Residential IT Services**

- Computer Support
- Home Network/Wi-Fi
- Setup / Installation
- Data Backup
- Troubleshooting
- Technology Consulting
- Senior-Friendly

**Business IT Services**

- Managed IT Services
- Cybersecurity
- Servers / Storage
- Network Infrastructure
- Backup / Recovery
- Business Email
- Remote & Onsite

(802) 349-4653 (802) 458-2777  
www.VTComputerServices.com  
Fully Insured

## CONSTRUCTION

**Vantage Point Homes**

All aspects of home renovations  
Kitchen • Bath • Flooring • Decks • Additions

New construction featuring  
Design/Build Services

**Vantage Point Homes**

Salisbury, VT  
802-989-3974

## DUCT WORK & DUCT CLEANING

**BOOT HILL  
METAL BENDERS**

Specializing in  
Duct Cleaning

And Duct Work  
for Heating, Ventilation  
and Air Conditioning

We use 5,000+ cfm HEPA Vacuum Cleaning Systems  
We can design, fabricate, seal, insulate, clean,  
anything to do with your ducted systems.

**Buy Local! 802.989.0396**

Commercial/Residential • Owner Operated  
Fully Insured • Neat & Clean

**Boost Your Visibility**

Advertise in the B&S  
Directory to launch  
your business to new  
heights.

Affordable pricing,  
stellar placement!

advertising@  
addisonindependent.  
com  
802-388-4944

## EXCAVATION

**GREEN MOUNTAIN  
GROUNDWORKS**

As an owner-operated excavation company based in Vermont, we take pride in our 45+ years of experience. We offer a wide range of services tailored to meet the needs of both homeowners and businesses. Trust us to bring vision to life with quality and expertise!

pbodington0825@gmail.com  
802-989-0825  
greenmountaingroundworks.com

## FLOORING

**Chris Mulliss  
FLOOR & UPHOLSTERY CLEANING**

Stripping - Waxing - Buffing  
Carpet Cleaning &  
Emergency Water Removal

802-759-2706  
phone or fax  
or  
802-349-6050  
cell phone

email: cmulliss@gmavt.net  
1900 Jersey St., S. Addison, VT 05491

**Wales Floors, Inc.**

For a free estimate call 877-8323

Fully insured

Custom & non-toxic finishes

Installation refinishing & restoration of  
residential and commercial wood floors

**Forty Years Experience!**

**CHECK US OUT  
ONLINE AT  
ADDISONINDEPENDENT.COM**

**Make your ad POP!**

Add color to your B&S ad for just \$50\*

Email  
advertising@addisonindependent.com  
or call 802-388-4944 to get started!

\* Per 13-week campaign

**ADDISON COUNTY  
INDEPENDENT**

Serving Addison County, Vt., Since 1946



Thursday & service  
Business DIRECTORY

home organization  
masonry  
painting  
plumbing & heating

real estate appraisers  
renewable energy  
roofing  
septic and water

surveying  
tree service  
water delivery  
window treatments

HOME ORGANIZATION

a tidy place

Embracing the art of letting go.

Downsize • Declutter • Simplify

Based in Waitsfield, VT  
802-496-4944  
info@atidyplacevt.com  
atidyplacevt.com

LANDSCAPING

B.E.W.  
LANDSCAPING, LLC

Looking for reliable, high-quality groundskeeping and property maintenance?

Our Services Include:

- Professional Mowing & String Trimming
- Home Cleanouts
- Free Estimates
- Land Clearing & Brush Removal
- Bush Hogging & Ongoing Maintenance

Contact Blake Emilo-Webb today!  
Call: 802-398-7105 | Fully Insured | Serving Middlebury, Ripton, and Surrounding Areas

MASONRY

FINE DRY STONE MASONRY



JAMIE MASEFIELD  
CERTIFIED BY THE DRY STONE WALLERS ASSOCIATION OF GREAT BRITAIN  
802-233-4670  
jmasefield@gmavt.net

Bruce A. Maheu's  
MASONRY

NEW & REPAIR  
Residential • Lake Camps (Dunmore)  
Brick – Block – Stone  
Chimneys, Fireplaces, Outside Barbecues, Steps, Patios, Stone Walls



35 Years Experience  
Honest & Fair Pricing  
Free Estimates  
Fully Insured

Call Bruce  
Salisbury, VT 802-352-6050

PAINTING



HESCOCK PAINTING  
A friendly, professional, and affordable family business.  
Interior Painting  
462-3737 or 989-9107  
Kim or Jonathan Hescock  
hescock@shoreham.net

PLUMBING & HEATING



Timothy C. Ryan, P.E.  
Serving the Champlain Valley  
Since 1887  
877-3118  
Main St., Vergennes, VT

J.D. FULLER

PLUMBING & HEATING INC.  
MIDDLEBURY  
John Fuller, Master Plumber  
802-388-2019  
Serving Addison County since 1989

REAL ESTATE APPRAISERS



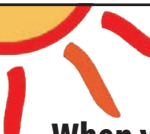
REAL CAPITAL CONSULTING  
INCORPORATED 1989

Real Estate Appraisal  
Project Management & Consulting

Addison, Chittenden and Rutland Counties  
(802) 377-3636 • info@realcapitalconsulting.com

GET RESULTS!  
ADVERTISE HERE  
ADDISONINDEPENDENT.COM

RENEWABLE ENERGY



Soak Up The Sun!  
When you're ready for a solar, heat pump or battery installation, we're here for you!  
Since 1972!



Go Green with us -  
Call for a FREE on-site evaluation



802 • 453 • 2500  
BristolElectronicsVT.com

ROOFING



Michael Doran  
as seen at Addison County Field Days!

• Standing seam  
• Asphalt shingles  
• Slate

Free estimates • Fully Insured  
mpdoransr@gmail.com  
Phone (802) 537-3555

SEPTIC AND WATER



Celebrating 40 Years  
Environmental Consultants – Licensed Designers  
Steve Revell CPG, LD#178 BV  
Jeremy Revell LD#611 BV

• Water Supply - Location, Development and Permitting  
• On-Site Wastewater Design • Single & Multiple Lot Subdivision  
• Property Development & Permitting  
• State and Local Permitting  
• Underground Storage Tank Removal & Assessment

802-453-4384  
Fax: 802-453-5399 • Email: jrevell@lagvt.com  
163 Revell Drive • Lincoln, VT 05443  
www.lagvt.com

SURVEYING



SHORT SURVEYING, INC.  
Serving Addison County Since 1991  
Timothy L. Short, L.S.

Property Line Surveys • Topographical Surveys  
FEMA Elevation Certificates  
135 S. Pleasant St., Middlebury, VT  
802-388-3511  
ShortSurveyingVT@gmail.com

SURVEYING



Philo. Surveying LLC  
Serving all of Vermont!

ALTA Surveys • Full Boundary Surveys and Plat  
Commercial and Residential Subdivisions  
Light Boundary Work and Boundary Line Staking  
Easement Surveys • Elevation Certificates  
LOMA Surveys • Topographic Surveys  
(802) 782-9273 • Philo Surveying LLC • Charlotte, VT  
Philosurveying.com • References available

TREE SERVICE



• Tree Removal  
• Tree Pruning  
• Storm Damage Clean up  
• Stump Grinding  
Serving all of Addison County

Over 30 Years Experience  
Fully Licensed and Insured  
Call for a Free Estimate: 802-349-7459  
sargentstreeservice.com

WATER DELIVERY



Wyman's Water Delivery  
Residential Water delivery for Swimming Pools and Wells  
Also offering: Timber Harvesting • Field Mowing  
Brush Hogging • Driveway Repair  
Power Washing • Sand and Gravel  
Call (802) 353-6846  
Tracy Wyman, Brandon, VT

WINDOW TREATMENTS

Your local source for window treatments from the nation's most popular brands.  
Free in-home consultations!



Vermont Window Treatments LLC  
Over 20 years experience!  
M-F: 8am-5pm  
Hours by appointment only  
Visit our Facebook page or check us out on Instagram!

802-989-1531 | 3333 Case Street, Middlebury  
vermontwindowntreatments.com

YOU DON'T NEED A BIG BUDGET TO MAKE A BIG IMPACT

We know what it's like to wear a lot of hats. You're running your business, serving customers, answering the phone, doing the books...  
who has time to worry about websites and online marketing?



That's where Independent Digital Marketing, the digital services branch of the Addy Indy, comes in.

Let's get your business online!  
Simple. Affordable. Local.

Contact us today!

We offer flexible pricing and local support, so you can grow at your own pace, no tech experience needed. We're real people, right here in Addison County, and we're ready to help you take the next step.

independentdigitalmarketing.com





# CLASSIFIEDS

Public Meetings

**AL-ANON OFFERS HELP** and hope to anyone who has been affected by a loved one's drinking. Middlebury hosts an online meeting Sunday night 7:15pm and a face to face one Wednesday at 1:30pm at CVUUS (2 Duane Court Middlebury near the high school) that you can also access by Zoom. Visit [vermontalananonlateen.org](http://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-freethinkers@gmail.com](mailto:Vergennes-freethinkers@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://aavt.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](http://www.oavermont.org) or call (802)863.2655.

**THE TURNING POINT CENTER** of Addison County is open for in-person services, Monday through Friday, 10am-4pm, 79 Court St, Middlebury. We are available by phone 24/7 at 802-388-4249.

**VERMONT SUPPORT LINE** Are you struggling with a challenging situation? Do you have feelings of sadness, loneliness, isolation, anger, or depression? You don't have to face it alone. Talk with a caring person who understands what you're going through today by calling or texting the free and confidential Pathways Vermont Support Line available 24/7 at (833) VT - TALKS.

Services

**BROWN'S CONSTRUCTION** renovations, interior/exterior painting, drywall, plumbing/electrical services. Fully insured w/ 30+ years of experience covering Northern Addison and Southern Chittenden, references available. Call 802-238-4864

**CONSTRUCTION: ADDITIONS, RENOVATIONS** new construction, drywall, carpentry, painting, flooring, roofing, pressure washing, driveway sealing. All aspects of construction, also property maintenance. Steven Fifield 802-989-0009.

**LAWN CARE** Mow lawns, gardening, and other odd jobs. Low rates. Call John 802-999-2194.

**MELISSA'S QUALITY CLEANING** Services. Residential and commercial. Fully insured. Great rates. Reliable and thorough cleaning. 802-345-6257.

Free

**DIGITAL ACCESS** View obituaries, calendar listings and classifieds online at [addisonindependent.com](http://addisonindependent.com). Don't miss out on events, garage sales, or opportunities- check out our free digital listings. Looking to read more? Become a subscriber!

Garage Sales

**ANNUAL YARD SALE** Sat 6/27, 9-12. East Rd, Middlebury. Something for everyone!

**CORNWALL RESIDENTS** Cornwall Recreation Committee is looking for people to join in a town wide garage/lawn sale. Email [daidy228@gmail.com](mailto:daidy228@gmail.com) for more information

For Sale

**CHIPPER DR** Chipper purchased new in 2007. 13 hp Vanguard engine -pull start. \$1000 -firm cash only. 802-377-5427

Help Wanted

**RESPITE CARE BRANDON** Seeking an individual who would be willing to provide respite support/care in your home. This is a per diem flexible position for an elderly lady. Flexible employer and excellent pay. For more information 802-398-5657 or [respit2022@yahoo.com](mailto:respit2022@yahoo.com)

Our  
Classified  
Ads  
Work!  
Call  
388-4944  
to place  
one!

ADDISON COUNTY  
INDEPENDENT

Help Wanted

**EVENING FRONT DESK/CONCIERGE.** Swift House Inn – Middlebury, Vermont. We're hiring a front desk professional to anchor our evening shift. This position plays a pivotal role: greeting arriving guests, fielding questions, supporting restaurant reservations, and ensuring the property is secure and guest-ready for the next day. If you thrive on creating memorable experiences and want to grow in the hospitality industry, this is for you. Swift House Inn has 20 guest rooms across three historic buildings, and is home to Jessica's at Swift House Inn, one of Vermont's most celebrated fine dining restaurants. Responsibilities: Welcome and check in arriving guests with warmth and professionalism. Answer phones, manage room and restaurant reservations. Provide local recommendations and concierge-style service. Troubleshoot guest concerns and offer proactive solutions. Liaise with Jessica's restaurant team for smooth communication. Keep common areas tidy, cozy, and well-presented. Follow nightly checklists and procedures. Lock up buildings and hand off to the overnight security team. You Are...Deeply interested in the hotel and lodging industry, A natural host who loves creating great guest experiences in Addison County, Communicative, warm, and gracious under pressure, Obsessed with details and good systems, Reliable, punctual, and self-directed. Shift & Compensation. Hours: 3:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m. Schedule: Part-time, includes some weekends and holidays. Pay: \$20-\$22 Hourly, commensurate with experience, bonuses and tips. Apply Today. Email your resume and a short note to owner@[swifthouseinn.com](mailto:swifthouseinn.com). Learn more about us at [swift-houseinn.com](http://swift-houseinn.com)

Help Wanted

sica's restaurant team for smooth communication. Keep common areas tidy, cozy, and well-presented. Follow nightly checklists and procedures. Lock up buildings and hand off to the overnight security team. You Are...Deeply interested in the hotel and lodging industry, A natural host who loves creating great guest experiences in Addison County, Communicative, warm, and gracious under pressure, Obsessed with details and good systems, Reliable, punctual, and self-directed. Shift & Compensation. Hours: 3:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m. Schedule: Part-time, includes some weekends and holidays. Pay: \$20-\$22 Hourly, commensurate with experience, bonuses and tips. Apply Today. Email your resume and a short note to owner@[swifthouseinn.com](mailto:swifthouseinn.com). Learn more about us at [swift-houseinn.com](http://swift-houseinn.com)

Vacation Rentals

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

For Rent

**BRIDPORT:** Share beautiful views of Lake Champlain with senior man interested in farming and rural life. Prepare a few meals/week and help with upkeep of the home in exchange for reduced rent of \$200/month. A pet would be considered! 802-863-5625 or [HomeShareVermont.org](mailto:HomeShareVermont.org) for application. Interview, references, background checks required. EHO.

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

Garage Sales

Garage Sales

Garage Sales



**Clean out your garage  
so you have room  
for the car!**

**Advertise your Garage Sale here!**

**Call 802-388-4944**

For Rent

**ALL REAL ESTATE** advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 as amended which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, national origin, sexual orientation, or persons receiving public assistance or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertisement for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination, call HUD Toll-free at 1-800-424-8590. For the Washington, DC area please call HUD at 426-3500.

**BENSON 1BR/1BA** cottage \$1,500/mo, elec/hot water incl. No smoking. Refs/deposit required. Contact [info@pleasantvalleyrentals.com](mailto:info@pleasantvalleyrentals.com).

**BENSON 3BR/3.5BA** back-of-house apt. elec/heat/hot water included. Chef's kitchen: \$2,750/mo. No smoking. Refs/deposit required. Contact [info@pleasantvalleyrentals.com](mailto:info@pleasantvalleyrentals.com).

**COMMERCIAL/OFFICE SPACE** - 2000 sq ft to 7000 sq ft – Tall ceilings, loading docks, plenty of parking. Middlebury – 802-558-6092

Help Wanted

For Rent

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

**SALISBURY APT** Fully furnished with internet, washer/dryer, one bedroom. No pets, no smoking, and no vaping. Available June 1st, \$1450 a month. 802-238-6497

**VERGENNES DOWNTOWN APARTMENT** 1BR/1BA apartment in quiet downtown Vergennes building. Bright living space with large windows, open concept kitchen, and off-street parking. Walkable to cafés, restaurants, and local businesses. \$1,525/month. Security deposit \$1,525. 1-year lease. Available May 1. No smoking. Pets allowed with landlord permission. Call or text (317) 379-1587 for details or to schedule a showing.

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

**VERGENNES WILLOW APARTMENTS** Is currently taking waitlist applications for 1 and 2 bedroom apartments. No smoking/no pets. Income limits apply- Rent rate based on income. Equal Housing Opportunity 802-247-0165 TTY: 800-253-0191. [www.SummitPMG.com](http://www.SummitPMG.com).

For Rent

**VERGENNES:** Condo to share with professional in his 30s, in walking distance of Main Street. If you are a young professional looking for a friendly, quiet living environment, this is for you! \$650 plus utilities. Shared bath. No pets. 802-863-5625 or [HomeShareVermont.org](mailto:HomeShareVermont.org) for application. Interview, references, background checks required. EHO.

Wood Heat

**DRY OR GREEN** firewood for sale. Delivery available. 802-349-4212.

Att. Farmers

**1ST CUT, SMALL** square, \$3.25. 2nd cut small square, \$4.25. 802-458-1459.

Cars

**77 CORVETTE ZZ4** motor 355HP, rack & pinion, AC, \$15,500 firm. 94 Chevy Silverado ext. cab 350 auto 4WD \$8,000. 802-877-1304. Leave message, ask for Dave.

Wanted

**LIONS CLUB:** needs good items for their annual auction. Please no appliances or electronics. Call for pickup: 802-578-3518 or 802-779-6823. Help us, help others.

Help Wanted



## Warehouse and Yard Worker

### FT Position available

Duties: Loading and Assisting with Customer Orders from the Yard, Warehouse and Store, Stocking Shelves and Filling Propane Tanks. Up to 40 hours per week.

**Weekends and dependability a MUST!**

Qualified Candidate must have a dedicated work ethic, the ability to lift 50lbs repeatedly throughout the day, and work hard in the spring and summer seasons.

**Please stop in to pick up an application or send Resume to:**  
**Middlebury AGWAY Farm & Garden,**  
**Attn: Jennifer Jacobs**  
**338 Exchange St. Middlebury, VT 05753**  
**or by email to [info@middleburyagway.com](mailto:info@middleburyagway.com)**

**Middlebury Agway 338 Exchange St. – Middlebury, VT.**

Opportunities

Opportunities

Opportunities

Opportunities

Opportunities

Opportunities



### Green Mountain Foster Grandparent Program

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

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

**AmeriCorps Seniors**

## Addison Independent CLASSIFIED ORDER FORM

ADDISON INDEPENDENT  
58 Maple Street, Middlebury, VT 05753  
802-388-4944  
[addisonindependent.com](http://addisonindependent.com) • email: [classifieds@addisonindependent.com](mailto:classifieds@addisonindependent.com)

Cash in on our 4-for-3 rates! Pay for 3 issues, get 4th issue free! An ad placed for consecutive issues runs the 4th time for free!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Or, submit your classified ad on our website: [addisonindependent.com](http://addisonindependent.com)

DEADLINE: Monday at 5 p.m.

- 25¢ per word • minimum \$2.50 per ad
- 50¢ internet listing per issue • minimum 2 insertions

• Special 4 for 3 rates not valid for the following categories: Services, Opportunities, Real Estate, Wood heat, Attn. Farmers, For Rent & Help Wanted

- |                                          |                                            |                                             |
|------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Notices         | <input type="checkbox"/> Work Wanted       | <input type="checkbox"/> Att. Farmers       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Card of Thanks  | <input type="checkbox"/> Help Wanted       | <input type="checkbox"/> Motorcycles        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Personals       | <input type="checkbox"/> For Sale          | <input type="checkbox"/> Cars               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Services        | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Meetings** | <input type="checkbox"/> Trucks             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Free**          | <input type="checkbox"/> For Rent          | <input type="checkbox"/> SUVs               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lost 'N Found** | <input type="checkbox"/> Want to Rent      | <input type="checkbox"/> Snowmobiles        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Garage Sales    | <input type="checkbox"/> Wood Heat         | <input type="checkbox"/> Boats              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lawn & Garden   | <input type="checkbox"/> Real Estate       | <input type="checkbox"/> Wanted             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Opportunities   | <input type="checkbox"/> Animals           | <input type="checkbox"/> Real Estate Wanted |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Adoption        |                                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Vacation Rentals   |

\*\* no charge for these ads    Spotlight with large ✓ \$1

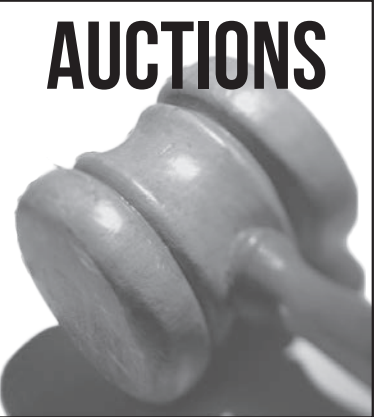
### PLEASE PRINT YOUR AD...

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Number of words: \_\_\_\_\_  
Cost: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
# of runs: \_\_\_\_\_  
Spotlight Charge: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Internet Listing: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
TOTAL: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

The Independent assumes no financial responsibility for errors in ads, but will rerun classified ad in which the error occurred. No refunds will be possible. Advertiser will please notify us of any errors which may occur after first publication.





| MARKET REPORT<br>ADDISON COUNTY<br>COMMISSION SALES                                      |      |      |                    |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|------|--------------------|
| RT. 125 • EAST MIDDLEBURY, VT                                                            |      |      |                    |
| Sales for 6/18/26 & 6/22/26                                                              |      |      |                    |
|                                                                                          | COST |      |                    |
| BEEF                                                                                     | LBS. | /LB  | \$                 |
| Deer Valley                                                                              | 1620 | 1.87 | \$3029.40          |
| Danyon                                                                                   | 1805 | 1.83 | \$3303.15          |
| Blue Spruce                                                                              | 1665 | 1.75 | \$2913.75          |
| Nop Bros                                                                                 | 1500 | 1.70 | \$2550.00          |
| Westminster                                                                              | 1430 | 1.70 | \$2431.00          |
| Correia                                                                                  | 1695 | 1.69 | \$2864.55          |
| J. Fifield                                                                               | 1585 | 1.60 | \$2536.00          |
| CALVES                                                                                   |      |      | \$                 |
| Deer Valley                                                                              |      |      | \$1674.00          |
| Sunderland                                                                               |      |      | \$1664.00          |
| J. Fifield                                                                               |      |      | \$1638.30          |
| H. Degraaf                                                                               |      |      | \$1627.50          |
| R. Forbes                                                                                |      |      | \$1605.00          |
| Barnes                                                                                   |      |      | \$1595.80          |
| Bartholomew                                                                              |      |      | \$1551.48          |
| Total Beef - 101                                                                         |      |      | Total Calves - 193 |
| We value our faithful customers.<br>Sales at 3 pm - Mon. & Thurs.<br>call 1-802-388-2661 |      |      |                    |

## Public Notices Index

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

Addison County Clerk (1)

Addison (1)

Ferrisburgh (1)

Leicester (2)

Orwell (1)

State of Vermont (1)

### FULL PASSPORT SERVICE

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

#### REGULAR HOURS

Monday - 8:30am to 4:00pm

Tuesday - 9:00am to 12:30pm

Wednesday - **Closed**

Thursday - 12:30pm to 4:00pm

Friday - 9:00am to 12:30pm

#### APPOINTMENTS REQUIRED

For appointment, go to [www.addisoncountyclerkvt.com](http://www.addisoncountyclerkvt.com) or call 802-388-1966.

### TOWN OF ORWELL HEARING NOTICE DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD

The Orwell Development Review Board will meet in person on Wednesday, July 15, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. at the Orwell Town Clerk's Office located at 436 Main Street, Orwell, VT.

The meeting will also be available by Zoom at <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88597439199?pwd=eEjNoLqX2s7epF1rcYsq8pEbW8soGY.1>, or by phone at 1-646-558-8656. Use Zoom meeting ID 885 9743 9199, Passcode 281337, to conduct the following business: Margaret Toth, application for Permit #05-19-26 (change of use from camp to residence) and Permit #05-20-26 (variance request for relief from side setbacks), located at 422 Mt. Independence Rd., Orwell, VT. Information pertaining to these matters may be viewed Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m.–3:30 p.m. at the Orwell Town Clerk's Office located at 436 Main Street, Orwell, VT.

Daniel Redondo, Chair  
Orwell Development Review Board

### TOWN OF FERRISBURGH NOTICE OF HEARING

The Ferrisburgh Planning Commission will hold the following public hearing on **Wednesday, July 15, 2026**, beginning at **6PM**, at the Ferrisburgh Town Office at 3279 US Route 7 and remotely via Zoom.

**Application Number 26-031:** 4-lot residential Planned Unit Development; Applicant: Anthony Handy / Iceberg LLC; 192 Bird Haven Lane; Parcel ID number 05/01/42.1; Conservation District (CON-25), Rural Agricultural District (RA-5), & Rural Residential District (RR-2); Final Plan Review.

The files for the above application are available for inspection at the Town Office Monday through Friday from 8am to 4pm. Applications will also be posted to the town website ([ferrisburghvt.org](http://ferrisburghvt.org)) by the Friday before the hearing. Written comments may be submitted before the hearing at the Town Office or by email to [zoning@ferrisburghvt.org](mailto:zoning@ferrisburghvt.org). **NOTE: Participation in this local proceeding is prerequisite to the right to take any subsequent appeal.**

#### Remote access via Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82962746543?pwd=SLiU9wFFWnJTk8KLg2PRhTW1lLawPW.1>

Or go to Zoom.com, select "Meet" from top menu bar, then "Join Meeting;" or call 646-558-8656 to join by phone.

**Meeting ID = 829 6274 6543 / Passcode = 559929**

### STATE OF VERMONT, SUPERIOR COURT PROBATE DIVISION, ADDISON UNIT DOCKET NO. 26-PR-03765 IN RE ESTATE OF: SUSAN A. MANNING

#### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**To the Creditors of: Susan A. Manning**, late of Middlebury, Vermont. I have been appointed to administer this estate. All creditors having claims against the decedent or the estate must present their claims in writing within four (4) months of the first publication of this notice. **The claim must be presented to me at the address listed below with a copy sent to the Court. The claim may be barred forever if it is not presented within the four (4) month period.**

Dated: 06/17/26

Brian Manning & Janelle Manning  
1944 Hopkins Road, Pantton, VT 05491  
802-881-8399  
[bmanning@tgtv.net](mailto:bmanning@tgtv.net)

Publication: Addison Independent

Publication Date: 6/25/26

Name of Probate Court: Vermont Superior Court, Addison Unit, Probate Division  
Address of Court: 7 Mahady Court, Middlebury, VT 05753

### TOWN OF LEICESTER NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING LEICESTER DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD

The Leicester Development Review Board will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, June 30, 2026, at the Leicester Town Office at 6:00 p.m. to consider the following application:

1. (26-13 DRB), Application 26-13 DRB of Isaac Eastman, 1120 Shackett Road, Leicester, VT, Parcel 030015, for Section 3.7 Waiver of Setback variance for the front property boundary of approximately 35' from the district requirement of 75' for the construction of 30' x 32' Accessory Use garage.

The topography of the parcel slopes off steeply on the westerly side and precludes construction of the garage within the district standard.

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. Interested individuals must appear at the hearing or present written testimony to appeal any decision of the DRB. Written documents may be sent to the Leicester Town Office. Attn: Zoning Administrator, 44 Schoolhouse Road, Leicester, VT 05733.

Jeff McDonough  
DRB Chairman  
June 8, 2026

# ATM stolen from Bristol Champlain Farms

BRISTOL — Bristol police are seeking more information about the theft of an ATM at Champlain Farms store in Bristol that took place on June 19 at 4:35 a.m. Police said the unknown person or people behind the incident

## Bristol Police Log

A witness described the vehicle involved in the incident as a blue van, police said. Police stated the vehicle left the scene eastbound on Main Street and that there is damage to the back of the vehicle.

Police ask that those with information about the incident contact the department at 802-453-2533. They are also requesting that anyone with doorbell or security cameras on West, Main or East streets check

smashed the building's side door and removed the ATM.



**BRISTOL POLICE GAVE a shout out to the 2026 Special Olympics Vermont Law Enforcement Torch run runners. Connor, Evan, Seamus, Francis, Joey and Kelsey (not pictured) carried the torch through town on June 4 and they were among more than 40 torch-carrying routes by Vermont police forces that week. Ultimately, they all ended at St. Michael's College in Colchester for the opening ceremonies and Saturday's Special Olympics competitions.**

those recordings for a vehicle traveling east around the time of the incident.

### TOWN OF ADDISON PUBLIC NOTICE

The regular monthly meeting of the Addison Planning Commission will be held on Monday, July 20, 2026 at 6:30PM at the Addison Community Center.

#### Agenda

- Open the meeting.
- Roll call given.
- Public Comment Time. (Beginning & end if deemed necessary.)
- Discussion about next steps for the Planning Commission. This may include partnership with the ZA and/or DRB to review any areas of the current Zoning and Development Regs that may need clarification/amendments. This may include the possibility of working to develop an enhanced energy plan. Will continue to discuss the options, such as Junkyards, who is responsible for supervision, Private Roads, who is responsible for carrying out the follow up.
- Discussion about ways to support the implementation of the revised Town Plan.
- Approve the meeting minutes for June 15, 2026.
- Discuss any remaining miscellaneous Planning Commission business or concerns.

Michael Hollis, Chair  
Starr Phillips, Secretary  
Addison Planning Commission

### PROPOSED STATE RULES

By law, public notice of proposed rules must be given by publication in newspapers of record. The purpose of these notices is to give the public a chance to respond to the proposals. The public notices for administrative rules are now also available online at <https://secure.vermont.gov/SOS/rules/>. The law requires an agency to hold a public hearing on a proposed rule, if requested to do so in writing by 25 persons or an association having at least 25 members.

To make special arrangements for individuals with disabilities or special needs please call or write the contact person listed below as soon as possible.

To obtain further information concerning any scheduled hearing(s), obtain copies of proposed rule(s) or submit comments regarding proposed rule(s), please call or write the contact person listed below. You may also submit comments in writing to the Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules, State House, Montpelier, Vermont 05602 (802-828-2231).

**NOTE:** The two rules below have been promulgated by the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Board, who has requested the notices be combined to facilitate savings for the agency. When contacting the agency about these rules please note the title and rule number of the proposed rule(s) you are interested in.

- 10 V.S.A. Appendix § 2, Report, Big Game  
Vermont Proposed Rule: **26P014**
- 10 V.S.A. Appendix § 2a, Big Game; Tagging  
Vermont Proposed Rule: **26P015**

**AGENCY:** Vermont Fish and Wildlife Board

**CONCISE SUMMARY:** These proposed rule amendments both relate to the specific requirements that all hunters must comply with immediately upon taking a big game animal, regardless of species. Tagging and reporting are both critical elements of identifying and tracking a big game animal taken by a hunter. The amendments to rules 10 V.S.A. Appendix § 2, Report, Big Game; and 10 V.S.A. Appendix § 2a Big Game; Tagging strengthen reporting and tagging rules for big game. They explicitly prohibit false statements in reporting of wild game taken, update citations, and authorize the Fish and Wildlife Commissioner to pay at least \$1 per report to reporting stations—with flexibility to increase this long-standing reimbursement to sustain and incentivize station operations. They also clarify tagging requirements by mandating that all big game carcasses are tagged with a tag containing the hunter's name and applicable tag or permit number, and by specifying rules for game taken on one's own land and tagging requirements for transporting animal parts. Additionally, the two rules impact the same group of stakeholders: any and all big game hunters in the state of Vermont.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT:** Hannah Smith, Dept. of Fish and Wildlife, 1 National Life Drive, Davis 2 Montpelier, Vermont 05620-3208 Tel: 802-461-8187 Fax: 802-828-1250 E- Mail: [hannah.smith@vermont.gov](mailto:hannah.smith@vermont.gov) URL: <https://vtfishandwildlife.com/about-us/fish-and-wildlife-board/board-rules>.

**FOR COPIES:** John Austin, Dept. of Fish and Wildlife, 1 National Life Drive, Montpelier, Vermont 05620-3208 Tel: 802-371-9895 Fax: 802-828-1250 E-Mail: [john.austin@vermont.gov](mailto:john.austin@vermont.gov).

10 App. V.S.A. § 5, Bow and arrow and crossbow standards.

Vermont Proposed Rule: **26P016**

**AGENCY:** Vermont Fish and Wildlife Board

**CONCISE SUMMARY:** The proposed amendments continue to require the same arrowhead width and cutting edges, but apply the standards to broadheads used with crossbows as well.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT:** Hannah Smith, Dept. of Fish and Wildlife, 1 National Life Drive, Davis 2 Montpelier, Vermont 05620-3208 Tel: 802-461-8187 Fax: 802-828-1250 E- Mail: [hannah.smith@vermont.gov](mailto:hannah.smith@vermont.gov) URL: <https://vtfishandwildlife.com/about-us/fish-and-wildlife-board/board-rules>.

**FOR COPIES:** John Austin, Dept. of Fish and Wildlife, 1 National Life Drive, Montpelier, Vermont 05620-3208 Tel: 802-371-9895 Fax: 802-828-1250 E-Mail: [john.austin@vermont.gov](mailto:john.austin@vermont.gov).

10 App. V.S.A. § 12. Leashed tracking dogs.

Vermont Proposed Rule: **26P017**

**AGENCY:** Vermont Fish and Wildlife Board

**CONCISE SUMMARY:** The proposed rule amendments make two changes to the existing leashed tracking dog rule: it amends the definition of "big game animal" to be consistent with the definition in 10 V.S.A. § 4001, to include all big game animals including moose. This will allow hunters to employ leashed tracking dogs to legally track dead or wounded moose. And the proposed amendment strikes the language limiting tracking to big game seasons and the 24-hour period immediately following. This will allow for the use of tracking dogs to locate animals injured or killed outside the legal hunting seasons.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT:** Hannah Smith, Dept. of Fish and Wildlife, 1 National Life Drive, Davis 2 Montpelier, Vermont 05620-3208 Tel: 802-461-8187 Fax: 802-828-1250 E- Mail: [hannah.smith@vermont.gov](mailto:hannah.smith@vermont.gov) URL: <https://vtfishandwildlife.com/about-us/fish-and-wildlife-board/board-rules>.

**FOR COPIES:** John Austin, Dept. of Fish and Wildlife, 1 National Life Drive, Montpelier, Vermont 05620-3208 Tel: 802-371-9895 Fax: 802-828-1250 E-Mail: [john.austin@vermont.gov](mailto:john.austin@vermont.gov).

In other recent activity, Bristol police on cited Travis Huestis, 46, of Bristol for disorderly conduct. The citation followed an investigation into a June 1 citizen dispute on Sugar Maple Lane.

In a separate incident, police referred a juvenile to Addison County Restorative Justice Services after investigating a theft.

With summer underway and community members more often headed out to local waterways, including Bartlett Falls, police reminded the public that there is no parking on the pavement on Lincoln Road.

Between June 7 and 13 Bristol police completed 25 foot patrols and one car patrol, conducted 13

traffic stops and checked security at local schools 13 times and at area businesses six times.

Police also processed 15 fingerprint requests, conducted one welfare check, attended one school event and dealt with two parking problems. Throughout the week, police responded to three incidents involving suspicious activity, two juvenile problems, one theft, one report of unlawful mischief, one report of disorderly conduct/noise and one incident regarding a phone problem/harassment.

Bristol police also assisted local businesses in five instances, as well as two citizen and two agency assists.

### TOWN OF LEICESTER, VERMONT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING PROPOSED LEICESTER TOWN PLAN 2026–2034 AND ENHANCED ENERGY PLAN 2026–2034

Pursuant to 24 V.S.A. §4384, the Leicester Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on the proposed **Leicester Town Plan 2026–2034 and Leicester Enhanced Energy Plan 2026–2034**.

**Date:** Tuesday, July 14, 2026

**Time:** 6:00 PM

**Location:** Leicester Town Office, 44 Schoolhouse Road,  
Leicester, Vermont 05733

#### PURPOSE

The purpose of this hearing is to receive public comment on the proposed Leicester Town Plan and Enhanced Energy Plan prior to consideration by the Planning Commission and transmittal to the Leicester Selectboard for adoption.

The proposed plans establish goals, policies, and implementation strategies to guide future land use, housing, economic development, transportation, municipal facilities and services, natural resource protection, flood resilience, and energy planning within the Town of Leicester.

#### Geographic Area Affected

The proposed plans apply to all lands and waters within the Town of Leicester, Vermont.

#### PLAN CONTENTS

##### Leicester Town Plan 2026–2034

The proposed Town Plan includes the following sections:

- Introduction
- Leicester's Past, Present, and Future
- Natural Resources
  - Earth Resources
  - Forest Resources
  - Water Resources
  - Wildlife Habitat Resources
  - Agricultural Resources
  - Air Resources
- Human Resources
  - Population and Housing
  - Economy and Economic Development
  - Educational & Childcare
  - Historic Resources
  - Municipal Facilities, Services, & Utilities
  - Transportation
- Flood Resilience
- Land Use Planning Areas
- Village District
  - Lake District 1
  - Lake District 2
  - Residential Agricultural Commercial District
  - Industrial District
  - Conservation District
  - Residential Agricultural District
- Energy Plan
- Implementation
- Regional Coordination
- Appendix A – Adopted Maps

##### Leicester Enhanced Energy Plan 2026–2034

The proposed Energy Plan includes the following sections:

- Introduction
- Community Context
- Thermal Use Analysis
- LEAP Targets for Leicester's Residences
- LEAP Targets for Leicester's Commerce
- LEAP Targets for Leicester's Industry
- Electrical Use Analysis
- Transportation Use Analysis
- Land Use, Generation, and Transmission Analysis
- Mapping Constraints
- Renewable Energy Mapping
- Community Standards for Siting and Decommissioning Energy Projects
- Energy and Climate Pollution Reduction
- Land Use, Renewable Generation and Transmission Goals, Policies, and Actions
- Implementation – Cross-Cutting Actions
- Concluding Remarks
- Data Reliability Statement

#### AVAILABILITY OF DOCUMENTS

Copies of the proposed Town Plan, Enhanced Energy Plan, maps, and Planning Commission report are available for public review:

- At the Leicester Town Office, 44 Schoolhouse Road, Leicester, Vermont, during regular business hours;
- On the Town of Leicester website at: [www.leicestervt.org](http://www.leicestervt.org);
- By contacting the Town Clerk's Office at (802) 247-5961.

Written comments may be submitted to the Leicester Planning Commission prior to the hearing or presented at the hearing.

Dated: June 12, 2026

LEICESTER PLANNING COMMISSION



# ARTS + LEISURE

The Addison Independent

June 25, 2026

## THT CELEBRATES AMERICA'S 250<sup>TH</sup> WITH A BLOCK PARTY

*Redd & The Paper Flowers, an Appalachian folk-grass group from Knoxville, Tenn., will take the outdoor stage at Town Hall Theater in Middlebury on July 3 at 5:30 p.m., to help celebrate the USA's 250th.*

**G**et ready to celebrate the USA's 250th in downtown Middlebury on Friday, July 3. Yes, it's a day early — technically — but the party Friday night is gonna slay.

By **ELSIE  
LYNN PARINI**

Town Hall Theater will host a full block party with free live music (part of the Five Fridays Concert Series) on the Tilly Stage in the Maloney Plaza featuring the Vermont National Guard Band, and Redd & The Paper Flowers.

The evening will kick off at 3 p.m. with 5 Above, a woodwind ensemble from Vermont's Own 40th Army Band, playing a full spectrum of chamber music tied to the theme "Heroes: A Musical Journey of Courage."

"To me, freedom means having the chance to live a purposeful life," shared Sgt. Emily

Wiggett, who has played flute for 25 years and been part of the 5 Above band for five years. "I choose to pursue my goals and to help strengthen opportunities for current and future generations to do the same."

The celebration will be complemented by a festive bike parade at 4:30 p.m., so bring your spokes folks! There will be prizes for the best-decorated bike — a perfect way to get the whole family into the patriotic spirit before the evening's main musical act.

At 5:30 p.m., Redd & The Paper Flowers, an Appalachian folk-grass group from Knoxville, Tenn., will take the Tilly Stage. It features upright bass, cello, mandolin, guitar and stunning vocals.

"We are so humbled and excited to share our little corner of Appalachia with our sweet Vermont buddies," Redd Daugherty

said. "There couldn't be a better time than America's 250th birthday to share our music — so much of what makes up Appalachian Folk and Bluegrass comes from Irish and Scottish ballads and fiddle tunes and African American banjo influences — generations of our ancestors, immigrants and settlers carrying tunes from one place to the other. What a special way to honor how America came together through music."

Of course there will be food, too. Good Times Co. charcuterie and Joe's Chili Hut will be serving bites, and bar offerings will also be available for purchase.

The event will also share brief readings of original student poetry on the theme "What Does Freedom Mean to Me?" — part of the **"America 250: Expressions of Liberty Poetry"**

*See 250<sup>th</sup> on page 3*



# LOOK UP

## ASTRONOMY LESSONS WITH KEN COREY

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!

## Burn bright and die young – the lives of stars

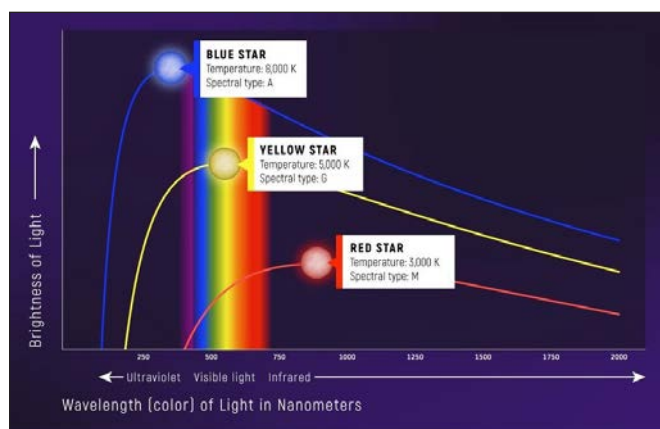
In the classic science fiction movie "Blade Runner," the creator of the replicant named Roy said the following to him as the most prized of his replicants was near his death. "The light that burns twice as bright burns half as long. And you have burned so very, very brightly Roy." That line from a huge sci fi favorite also brings to mind the host of rock stars who all burned very brightly and died way too young.

A parallel to burning bright and dying young in astronomical terms relates to the stars. In this column, I will provide a brief introduction to the lives of stars in their variety of sizes, colors, luminosities and fates.

### Star Birth

One of the early images released by the James Webb Space Telescope was the "Cosmic Cliffs" in the constellation Carina (see image). Located only 7,600 ly away, the "Cosmic Cliffs" is a massive cloud of gas and dust with dense regions of star formation. With great sensitivity and resolution, the Webb telescope imaged regions of very early star formation (50,000 to 100,000 years). Dense pockets of hydrogen gas are found in many stellar nurseries as EGGs (Evaporating Gaseous Globules) where embryonic stars are incubated in nebulae like the one in Carina.

The process of stellar birth from a nebula



Curves of continuous spectra that relate wavelength to the temperature of an object. A star with a temperature of 8,000 Kelvins (about 14,000°F) is brighter and looks bluer than a star that is 3,000 K (5,000°F) which is dimmer and redder. Spectra can be used to calculate the temperature of an object.

IMAGE COURTESY OF NASA, ESA, L. HUSTAK AND A. JAMES (STSCI).

begins with a nudge from an outside force such as a passing star, supernova shock waves or other local disturbance. The nudge is like a gravitational push enabling gravity to pull material inward from the nebula which then begins rotating and flattening into a disc. Further contraction leads to faster rotation much like the figure skater who spins faster as the arms are drawn inward (conservation of angular momentum). Flattened, rotating discs of gas and dust called circumstellar discs, serve as fuel for a protostar in the dense central region, as well as for the formation of planets, asteroids and comets. When the pressure and temperature of the central portion of the protostar is sufficient for nuclear fusion, the star is born.

Stars are factories where elements are forged through nuclear fusion reactions and cycles, where lighter elements are building blocks for higher atomic number elements. The simplest of all elements, hydrogen, with its single proton comprises about 74% of the material universe by mass, with helium, element number 2, making up about 24%. While the remainder of the elements such as nitrogen, phosphorus, calcium, and iron are just a small proportion of the total, that small amount is essential to countless forms of life. High temperatures and pressures are required to overcome the repulsive forces of the positively charged nuclei of hydrogen atoms to come together and form a new nucleus with 2 protons and two neutrons, the element helium (helium-4). Fusion releases enormous amounts of energy, some of which radiates outward from the core and makes its way through the traffic jam in the dense core of the star to the surface where photons are emitted. Relatively low mass stars can synthesize the elements carbon, nitrogen, and oxygen, but only very high mass stars can synthesize iron (at. #26) which requires more energy than is released. Synthesis of higher atomic number elements such as zinc, copper, gold, platinum, and uranium require the enormous energy released in supernova explosions.

### Types and Fates of Stars

In general, the type of star that forms depends on the mass of the clump of dust and gas from



"Cosmic Cliffs," a nursery for young stars in the Carina Nebula (NGC 3324) taken by NASA's James Webb Space Telescope's Near-Infrared Camera (NIRCam). This nebula lies 7500 ly distant and contains many stars several times the size of the Sun.

IMAGE COURTESY OF NASA, ESA, CSA, STSCI

which it forms within the nebula. Stars radiate energy across a broad spectrum of wavelengths, including those outside the visible range (largely ultraviolet and infrared). The color of the star is determined by the methods of spectroscopy and application of Wien's law. Think about the end of a glass blower's blowpipe (punty) turning red hot as it is heated to a couple thousand degrees Fahrenheit. Wien's law states that the wavelength where the most energy is radiated is inversely proportional to temperature. The higher the temperature of the star, the greater the amount of short wavelength, high energy radiation it emits. Stars radiating more blue light are much hotter than those on the red end of the spectrum. Our sun radiates its maximum energy in the yellow region, hotter than red dwarf stars, but cooler than blue giant stars (see diagram).

When the star ignites, it enters what is called the main sequence where a star spends most of its life burning hydrogen. The main sequence was discovered independently by astronomers Ejnar Hertzsprung (Denmark) and Henry Russell (U.S.) early in the 20th century. Graphing luminosity versus temperature (H-R diagrams) reveals a trend showing hot blue giants on one end and small, cool stars called red dwarfs on the other. Where a star enters the main sequence depends upon mass, resulting in a wide range of colors and sizes. Using the information from the spectrum of a star, its temperature can be calculated from Wien's law. Astronomer Annie Jump Cannon developed the temperature-based sequence O, B, A, F, G, K, M that is widely used by astronomers (pneumonic is Oh Be A Fine Girl/Guy Kiss Me). The hottest and brightest stars burn their fuel quickly, die young, and explode into brilliant supernovae that may outshine all the stars in a galaxy!

The luminosity of a star is given by the Stefan-Boltzmann equation which expresses the total energy radiated per unit surface of the star,

$$L = 4 \pi r^2 T^4, \text{ where}$$

$L$  is luminosity in Watts,  $4 \pi r^2$  is the surface area of a sphere in meters<sup>2</sup>;  $r$  is the radius of the star,

See LOOK UP on page 14



**250<sup>TH</sup>***continued from page 1*

**& Art"** contest sponsored by the Vermont Arts Council. Kids and teens are also invited to make art at the event on

this theme and enter the contest.

"When we were awarded a \$10,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Arts," explained THT Executive and Artistic Director Lisa Mitchell, "it really allowed us to take this celebration to the next level."

The event is part of THT's "America 250: Expressions of Liberty" initiative and is supported by the National Endowment for the Arts grant, the Vermont Arts Council, and a generous grant from anonymous donors. What a gift! Happy Independence Day, USA!

The event is free and open to all and coincides with Middlebury's popular First Friday downtown series, when local businesses stay open late. Registration is appreciated but not required. Find more at [townhalltheater.org](http://townhalltheater.org).



*The July 3 Block Party in the Maloney Plaza at Town Hall Theater is part of THT's 5 Fridays Concert Series, a free, grant-funded outdoor music series. It coincides with Middlebury's popular First Friday downtown series, when local businesses stay open late and the town comes alive. The Block Party is free and open to the public — registration is appreciated, but not required.*

## VERMONT'S OWN



*5 Above, a woodwind ensemble from Vermont's 40th Army Band, consists of, from left, Sgt. Kyrsten Paroline (sax), Staff Sgt. Emily Eckel (bassoon), Sgt. Emily Wiggett (flute), Sgt. 1st Class Kristina Andrea (clarinet), and Staff Sgt. Jennel Tatro (clarinet). They will perform on Friday, July 3, at 3 p.m., at Town Hall Theater's outdoor plaza in Middlebury.*

unit's premier wind ensemble provides a variety of musical styles and is always excited to showcase the talents and skills of the 40th Army Band.

The 40th Army Band has vacancies for many traditional concert band instruments as well as guitar, bass, piano, vocals, and even sound/lighting technicians. They frequently host open rehearsals for anyone interested in learning more about what we do, so follow them on Facebook and Instagram for more information.

The 40th Army Band, known as "Vermont's Own," has served the Vermont National Guard and the state for more than a century. Organized in 1907 in Brattleboro as the Band, 1st Infantry, the unit was redesignated as the 40th Army Band in 1947 and is now based at Camp Johnson in Colchester. Today, the band supports military ceremonies, parades, concerts, patriotic events, and community outreach across Vermont while also serving the state during emergency response missions. One of the many ensembles that comprise the unit is 5 Above. The



**Thursday, July 23**

**Town Hall Theater, Middlebury**

Point CounterPoint Foundation Benefit Concert featuring PCP faculty and pianist Diana Fanning. Tickets available at THT Box Office

**And join us for these free Chamber Music concerts featuring the Point CounterPoint Summer faculty:**

**July 3:** Salisbury Congregational Church

**July 31:** Salisbury Congregational Church

**Aug. 14:** Salisbury Congregational Church

**Aug. 27:** Salisbury Congregational Church

**Sep 5:** CVUUS, 2 Duane Court, Middlebury

Each faculty concert differs in repertoire, instrumentation, and performers.

**All concerts start at 7:30 p.m. • Admission is FREE. All are welcome!**

Goodwill donations are gratefully accepted.

**POINTCP.COM**

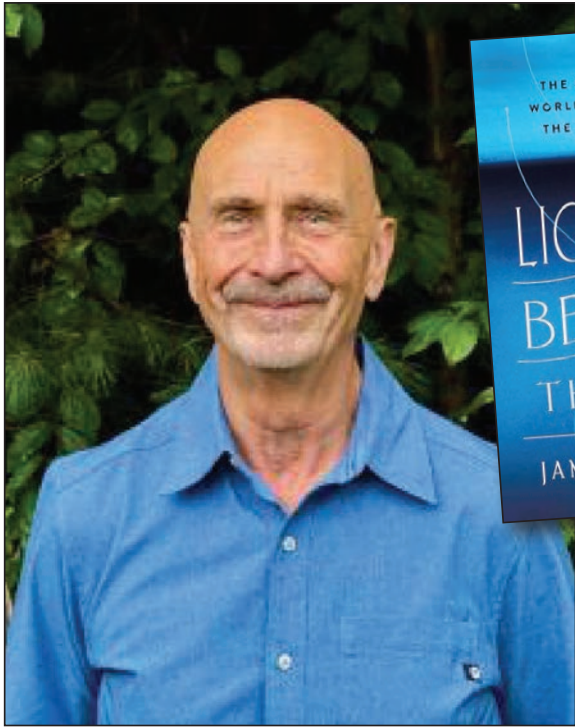


# Bestselling author James Tabor gives talk on latest book ‘Lightning Beneath the Sea’

Vermont Book Shop and Town Hall Theater will present James M. Tabor and his new book, "Lightning Beneath the Sea: The Race to Wire the World and the Dawn of the Information Age," on Wednesday, July 1, at 6:30 p.m., at Town Hall Theater's Anderson Studio in Middlebury.

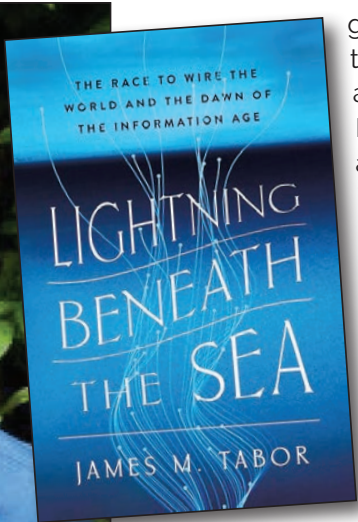
Set against the dramatic backdrop of 19th-century ambition and innovation, Tabor's latest work follows an epic undertaking with consequences that echo directly into the modern world. Readers of adventure, exploration and history alike will be drawn to the story of a visionary businessman's high-stakes campaign to lay the first transatlantic telegraph cable — a feat that helped lay the groundwork for today's global communications.

The evening begins with a cocktail hour from 5:30-6:30 p.m., followed by a book talk from 6:30-7:30 p.m. The program will be followed by a question-and-answer session,



Waitsfield resident and bestselling author James Tabor will present his newest book "Lightning Beneath the Sea" on July 1 at Town Hall Theater in Middlebury.

PHOTO SUBMITTED



giving attendees the chance to engage directly with the author. Copies of "Lightning Beneath the Sea" will be available for purchase, and Tabor will sign books after the event.

Tickets for the event are \$8 and are available at [townhalltheater.org](http://townhalltheater.org) or by calling 802-382-9222.

**ABOUT THE AUTHOR**  
James M. Tabor is a New York Times bestselling author and longtime Waitsfield resident. He is the author of six books, including the award-winning "Forever on the Mountain" and the best-selling "Blind Descent." Tabor is also the creator of the History Channel series "Journey to the Center of the World" and has written for Time, Smithsonian, The Wall Street Journal, The Washington Post, and other major publications.

# Letterpress demo with John Vincent to be held at Bristol gallery Saturday, June 27

Art On Main in Bristol will host a demonstration by New Haven letterpress artist John Vincent, founder of A Revolutionary Press, on Saturday, June 27, from 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

The demo will highlight a month-long exhibit of Vincent's work through July 11 to coincide with Bristol's iconic Fourth of July festivities. To get the public involved, Art On Main solicited writing submissions. One work will be selected by a three-

person jury and given to Vincent, who will create an artistic interpretation, then use it to demonstrate the art of letterpress (hand set type). All attending the demo will receive a free, large-format postcard.

The chosen writer will receive two — one to mail and one to keep. The work will also join Vincent's prints on the exhibit wall after the demo. For more information, contact Holly Smith-Berry at 802-453-4032 or [artonmainvt.com](http://artonmainvt.com).



Art On Main in Bristol will host a demonstration by New Haven letterpress artist John Vincent, founder of A Revolutionary Press, on Saturday, June 27, from 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

## THIS WEEK AT JESSICA'S



**JESSICA'S**  
AT  
SWIFT HOUSE INN



### SUNDAY SUPPERS

Our invitation to the community: a relaxed 3-course prix fixe dinner at an approachable price. Chef Rob changes the menu each week, testing new dishes and seasonal ingredients. Regular menu also available.

### FANCY FRIDAYS

It's all about the mix: Laura crafting cocktails, DJ Serena mixing music, and the crowd mingling on the first Friday of every month. The next FF: July 3, Independence Day Edition!

802-388-9925

[SWIFTHOUSEINN.COM/DINE](http://SWIFTHOUSEINN.COM/DINE)

[@SWIFTHOUSEINN](https://www.instagram.com/SWIFTHOUSEINN)



# ART ON EXHIBIT

## BRANDON ARTISTS GUILD

7 Center St, Brandon. For more info visit [brandonartistsguild.org](http://brandonartistsguild.org) or call 802-247-4956.

**Artist of the Month Series: Emily Joeckel Smith.** Emily Joeckel Smith is a stained-glass artist and traditional glass painter, whose work transforms light and color into striking visual narratives. On view through June.

## EDGEWATER AT THE FALLS

1 Mill Street, Middlebury.

For more info visit [edgewatergallery.com](http://edgewatergallery.com), call 802-458-0098 or email [info@edgewatergallery-vt.com](mailto:info@edgewatergallery-vt.com).

**"Homer Wells: A Retrospective."** The work of Monkton artist Homer Wells will include both wall-based works and sculptural pieces, tracing the evolution of his practice and highlighting the innovation that has defined his career. On view through July 5.

## EDGEWATER ON THE GREEN

6 Merchants Row, Middlebury

For more info visit [edgewatergallery.com](http://edgewatergallery.com), call 802-989-7419 or email [info@edgewatergallery-vt.com](mailto:info@edgewatergallery-vt.com).

**"Where We Find Ourselves."** Helen Shulman and Julia Jensen use gesture, color, texture and movement to explore the emotional terrain that exists beneath the surface of everyday life. Join in the conversation on abstract art-making with these two artists during an opening reception on Saturday, June 27, from 3-5 p.m. On view through July 26.

## JACKSON GALLERY

68 S Pleasant Street, Middlebury

Visit [townhalltheater.org/jackson-gallery](http://townhalltheater.org/jackson-gallery) or call 802-382-9222 for more info.

**"Abstractions."** Created over decades, this exhibit shows award-winning Burlington architect Tom Cullins's art in tandem with his prolific career. Shape and shadow, negative space, and carefully chosen color palettes are distilled into abstractions that illustrate the essence of the place and time that inspired him. The exhibition will include works in watercolor and mixed media, photographs and wooden assemblages. On view through Aug. 8.

## JOHNSON EXHIBITION GALLERY

78 Chateau Road, Middlebury

For hours and info visit [middlebury.edu/events](http://middlebury.edu/events)

**"Spring Reunion."** This second annual Middlebury College alumni art exhibition showcases recent work by Middlebury class of 1986 alumni John Aicher, Monica Carroll, Cynthia Kirkwood, John Moyers, Elizabeth Needham and Phoebe Twichell Peterson. The Johnson Exhibition Gallery and the Studio Art Department proudly support this exhibition, 40 years in the making! On view through Aug. 5.

## LAKE CHAMPLAIN MARITIME MUSEUM

4472 Basin Harbor Road, Vergennes

See EXHIBITS on page 12

# Cosmic Forecast

**ARIES:** March 21/April 20. Strange things are happening, Aries. It may be better to go with the flow right now. You might like the change that ensues, and the change in pace could be a positive.

**TAURUS:** April 21/May 21. Better days are ahead, Taurus. It's just a matter of having a little patience and waiting a little longer for things to settle down. Start a new project to take your mind off things.

**GEMINI:** May 22/June 21. Make the most of time spent with friends and family this week, Gemini. You may need to step away for a little while, so cherish this time you get to spend with those you love.

**CANCER:** June 22/July 22. Cancer, someone special is able to take a peek into your inner thoughts this week. Their ability to see you so personally could reinforce your outlook.

**LEO:** July 23/Aug. 23. You might feel a bit melancholic as the holiday season nears its end, Leo. It's understandable based on how much has been going on. Maintain a strong social calendar.

**VIRGO:** Aug. 24/Sept. 22. Virgo, generosity is an admirable trait, and now is a good time to indulge your love of helping others. Make a concerted effort to pitch in where your assistance is necessary.

**LIBRA:** Sept. 23/Oct. 23. When one door closes, another door opens, Libra. Look at all of the positive things in your life and embrace the great changes that are coming your way. This is an exciting time for you.

**SCORPIO:** Oct. 24/Nov. 22. Scorpio, there are so many things going on right now but you can still function effectively. The pace might be hectic right now, but things will calm down soon enough.

**SAGITTARIUS:** Nov. 23/Dec. 21. A relationship is blooming, Sagittarius, and you're not sure how you feel about it just yet. Take a few more weeks to work through all of your feelings.

**CAPRICORN:** Dec. 22/Jan. 20. You have an eye for deals, Capricorn. Even though you have been spending a lot this past month, you can't resist a discount on some post-holiday sales.

**AQUARIUS:** Jan. 21/Feb. 18. Take a firm hold of your finances for the next few weeks, Aquarius. Overspending could complicate an important relationship if you're not careful. Curb any purchases for a few days.

**PISCES:** Feb. 19/March

20. You are not sure how to harness your artistic energy this week, Pisces. You might take a class or engage in a hobby that interests you. Redesigning a room in a home also might be an idea.



**Adagio Chocolates**

**THE STARS HAVE SPOKEN.**

The forecast calls for exceptional chocolate

Tue-Sat 11-6 • 52 Main Street Middlebury, VT  
[www.adagiochocolates.com](http://www.adagiochocolates.com) • 802-382-4000



**Middlebury FLORAL & GIFTS**

**Support Your Local Florist!**

Flowers, Gifts, Cards, and More

M-F 9-5:30, Sat. 10-2 • Rt. 7 South, Middlebury  
 802-388-2800 • [www.middleburyfloralandgifts.com](http://www.middleburyfloralandgifts.com)



**QUILTERS' CORNER**  
 MIDDLEBURY SEW-N-VAC

**SEMI-ANNUAL CLEARANCE SALE**

UP TO 75% OFF

260 Court Street, Middlebury, Vt. 05753  
 (802)388-3559

Shop Early for Best Selection!  
 Starts 7/6

OPEN: M-F 10-5 and Saturday 9:30-4

**JUNE 27** — Grace Lee Boggs, author and activist (d)  
**JUNE 28** — Peter Paul Rubens, artist (d)  
**JUNE 29** — Colin Jost, comedian, writer (44)  
**JUNE 30** — Michael Phelps, swimmer (41)  
**JULY 1** — Missy Elliot, rapper (55)

## FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

**JULY 2** — Thurgood Marshall, Supreme Court justice (d)  
**JULY 3** — Tom Stoppard, playwright (89)



# CALENDAR

June 25-July 5

2026

## THURSDAY, JUNE 25

**PIZZA BY THE POND: BLOODROOT GAP PLAYS LIVE IN GOSHEN.** Thursday, June 25, 5-8 p.m., Blueberry Hill Inn, 1245 Goshen Ripton Rd. Enjoy all-you-can-eat wood-fired pizza made with Vermont flour, lemonade and a beautiful atmosphere. Bloodroot Gap plays traditional and progressive bluegrass with a unique and captivating sound. Pizza starts at 5, music at 6 p.m. BYOB. Local ice cream and Blueberry Hill cookies also available. Well-behaved leashed dogs welcome. \$34 for adults; \$23 kids 7-11; free for kids 6 and under. Reservations open the Saturday before and are strongly suggested.

## FRIDAY, JUNE 26

**FRESHIE FRIDAYS CONCERT: SUNDAY EVENING IN BRISTOL.** Friday, June 26, 5-8 p.m., BCC Botanicals, 140 North St. An evening of good food, live music, and joyful gathering around the greenhouses. Sunday Evening plays vocal-driven feel-good string music. For more info visit [bristolcollaborativecampus.com](http://bristolcollaborativecampus.com).

**FRIDAY NIGHT MUSIC IN NEW HAVEN.** Friday, June 26, 6-8 p.m., Lincoln Peak Vineyard, 142 River Rd. Enjoy live music by Atom & the Orbits, food from La Chapina

and Vermont wines. Bring a blanket and relax at the vineyard. Free.

**DISCO FEVER CLUB NIGHT IN VERGENNES.** Friday, June 26, 8 p.m.-midnight, 10 Green Street Wine Bar. Two DJ sets, one night: Disco Extravaganza. \$5.

## SATURDAY, JUNE 27

**R-EVOLUTION LETTERPRESS DEMO IN BRISTOL.** Saturday, June 27, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Art on Main. A demonstration by John Vincent, founder of A Revolutionary Press, will highlight a month-long exhibit of John's work. Free postcard for attendees. One piece of writing submitted by the public will be selected by a 3-person jury and given to John, who will create an artistic interpretation and use it to demonstrate the art of letterpress. For more info visit [SubmitbySunday.com](http://SubmitbySunday.com).

**BIODIVERSITY BUILDERS: CREATING AND IMPLEMENTING YOUR PLAN IN VERGENNES.** Saturday, June 27, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Bixby Library, 258 Main St. Second in a series of hands-on workshops demonstrating how to bring native plants into outdoor spaces. Presented by Lisa Sausville and Ashley Robinson. For more information email to Ashley

at [arobinsonld@gmail.com](mailto:arobinsonld@gmail.com). For more info visit [tinyurl.com/BuildyBioAtBixby](http://tinyurl.com/BuildyBioAtBixby).

**GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB HIKE: MT. ABE IN LINCOLN.** Saturday, June 27. Hike to Mt. Abe via the Battell and Long trails. Strenuous hike of about 6 miles with 2,600 feet elevation gain. Dog friendly as there will be a therapy dog on the hike. Limited to only 6 hikers. Contact Samara Anderson at [samara@yahoo.com](mailto:samara@yahoo.com) for more information. For more info visit [gmcbreadloaf.org](http://gmcbreadloaf.org).

## SUNDAY, JUNE 28

**CHAMPLAIN VALLEY FIDDLER'S CLUB JAM IN BRANDON.** Sunday, June 28, noon-4 p.m., American Legion. Listen to people sing and play instruments. If you or a friend play fiddle or another instrument, join in. Refreshments available. 50/50 raffle. Door prize. Come with your dancing boots on. Free.

**MIDDLEBURY ACTING COMPANY PRESENTS: "DARWIN IN MALIBU" IN MIDDLEBURY.** Sunday, June 28, 4 p.m., Town Hall Theater, Merchants Row. Part of the Cutting Edge series, this performance will be presented as a staged reading of Crispin Whittell's play, where actors bring the script to life with minimal staging and props. Post-show conversation with the

cast and director. Tickets: \$15. For more info visit [townhalltheater.org](http://townhalltheater.org).

**SUNDAY SESSIONS: BOBBY SHEEHAN LIVE IN MIDDLEBURY.** Sunday, June 28, 4-7 p.m., The Ralph Myhre Golf Course, 317 Golf Course Rd. (Patio at the Tavern on the Tee). Singer-songwriter Bobby Sheehan's music is steeped in the folk traditions of New England and shaped by a life surrounded by melody and storytelling. Free.

## MONDAY, JUNE 29

**VERGENNES CITY BAND CONCERT IN VERGENNES.** Monday, June 29, 7-8 p.m., city green. Relax on the green and listen to some great free summer music.

## WEDNESDAY, JULY 1

**AUTHOR TALK: "LIGHTNING BENEATH THE SEA" IN MIDDLEBURY.** Wednesday, July 1, Cocktails: 5:30-6:30 p.m.; book talk: 6:30-7:30 p.m., Town Hall Theater. Best-selling author James M. Tabor will speak about his new book about the man who laid the first transatlantic telegraph cable. The talk will be followed by Q&A. Books available for purchase and signing. \$8.

**SUMMER LIVE MUSIC: ALBANY SOUND IN BRISTOL.** Wednesday, July 1, 6-8 p.m., Tillerman, 1868 Rt 116 Rd., Bristol. Enjoy live music and

tacos, creative cocktails and mocktails, snacks, and paletas. You are welcome to bring your own blankets & chairs for the lawn. We also set up some tables and chairs. For more info visit [thetillermanvt.com/live-music](http://thetillermanvt.com/live-music).

## FRIDAY, JULY 3

**BLOCK PARTY WITH VERMONT NATIONAL GUARD BAND PLUS REDD & THE PAPER FLOWERS IN MIDDLEBURY.** Friday, July 3, 3-8 p.m., Town Hall Theater, Maloney Plaza, 68 South Pleasant St. A community block party celebrating America's 250th anniversary featuring chamber music from Vermont's Own 40th Army Band and Appalachian folk-grass group Redd & The Paper Flowers, along with a festive bike parade. Food trucks and bar offerings available on site. Free. For more info visit [townhalltheater.org](http://townhalltheater.org).

**FRIDAY NIGHT MUSIC IN NEW HAVEN.** Friday, July 3, 6-8 p.m., Lincoln Peak Vineyard, 142 River Rd. Enjoy live music by Nick Cassarino and The Family Band, food from Monti Verdi Salumi and Vermont wines. Bring a blanket and relax at the vineyard. Free.

**GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB HIKE: CLARK BROOK AND MT. WILSON IN GRANVILLE.** Friday, July 3. Stay away

*Continued on next page*



View Middlebury Community Television's Schedule Online!



Programs to Look Out For:

- All Things LGTBQ - 06/31 - 5PM
- Governor's Press Conference - 07/02 - 5PM
- THT Block Party - 07/03 - Live! - All Day
- MCTV Late Night Lofi - All Night - 10PM
- Democracy Now! - Weekdays - 8AM
- Church Services - Sunday - 7AM

This ad is sponsored by the Addison County Independent  
[middleburycommunitytv.org](http://middleburycommunitytv.org)



from the crowds and enjoy a cool walk up Clark Brook trail to a great eastern view with an option to climb Mt. Wilson. Strenuous hike of 6-8 miles with more than 2000 ft elevation gain. Leashed dogs allowed. Contact Ellen Cronan to register and for more information, 908-595-2926. For more info visit [gmcbreadloaf.org](http://gmcbreadloaf.org).

## SATURDAY, JULY 4

**GREEN MOUNTAIN BICYCLE CLUB ICE CREAM SOCIAL RIDE IN MIDDLEBURY AND SALISBURY.** Saturday, July 4, 1 p.m., Three-mile bridge, Middlebury. 27.5-mile bike ride around Lake Dunmore and Salisbury. It's a scenic ride with nice views of the lake and a stop at the Salisbury ice cream social. All riders must wear helmets and obey the rules of the Rd. Register and see details: [thegmbc.com/events](http://thegmbc.com/events).

## SUNDAY, JULY 5

**GREEN MOUNTAIN BICYCLE CLUB: BOUND FOR BRISTOL RIDE.** Sunday, July 5, 8:30 a.m., Monkton Central School, 1036 Monkton Rd. This 44-mile bike ride takes low-traffic roads from Hinesburg to Bristol. Those doing the 33-mile loop can stop at the MiniFactory Café/Bakery, but those on the longer loop will add a loop through New Haven and Bristol before earning their pastries. All riders must wear helmets and obey the rules of the Rd. Register and see details: [thegmbc.com/events](http://thegmbc.com/events).

### SUNDAY SESSIONS:

**BREANNA ELAINE LIVE IN MIDDLEBURY.** Sunday, July 5, 4-7 p.m., The Ralph Myhre Golf Course, 317 Golf Course Rd. (Patio at the Tavern on the Tee). Breanna's music blends earthy folk, indie and singer-songwriter influences, but her sound goes well beyond easy labels. Performing a mix of original songs and thoughtfully chosen covers on vocals and guitar, she brings a warmth and depth that pulls listeners in and keeps them there. Free.

### FIRST SUNDAY FILM

**CLUB: "MOONSTRUCK" IN BRANDON.** Sunday, July 5, 5 p.m., Aleshire Gallery, 29 Union St. A raucous romantic comedy starring Cher as a widowed Italian-American woman who falls in love with the hot-tempered brother of her fiancé (Nicholas Cage), whose hand was cut off in a bread-slicer accident. Run time: 102 min. Rated PG. Gallery opens an hour before for snacks and refreshments. Suggested donation: \$10.

## MONDAY, JULY 6

**VERGENNES CITY BAND CONCERT IN VERGENNES.** Monday, July 6, 7-8 p.m., City green. Relax on the green and listen to some great free summer music.

## WEDNESDAY, JULY 8

**SUMMER LIVE MUSIC: CONNOR YOUNG & FRIENDS IN BRISTOL.** Wednesday, July 8, 6-8 p.m., Tillerman, 1868 Rt 116 Rd., Bristol. Enjoy live music and tacos, creative

cocktails and mocktails, snacks, and paletas. You are welcome to bring your own blankets & chairs for the lawn. We also set up some tables and chairs. For more info visit [thetillermanvt.com/live-music](http://thetillermanvt.com/live-music).

## THURSDAY, JULY 9

**PIZZA BY THE POND: THE MORNING DUDES PLAY LIVE IN GOSHEN.** Thursday, July 9, 5-8 p.m., Blueberry Hill Inn, 1245 Goshen Ripton Rd. Enjoy all-you-can-eat wood-fired pizza made with Vermont flour, lemonade and a beautiful atmosphere. The Morning Dudes play songs from the repertoire of Jerry Garcia, Bob Weir and the Grateful Dead, including folk, blues, country, bluegrass and improv rock. Pizza starts at 5, music at 6 p.m. BYOB. Local ice cream and Blueberry Hill cookies also available. Well-behaved leashed dogs welcome. \$34 for adults; \$23 kids 7-11; free for kids 6 and under. Reservations open the Saturday before and are strongly suggested.

## FRIDAY, JULY 10

**FRIDAY NIGHT MUSIC IN NEW HAVEN.** Friday, July 10, 6-8 p.m., Lincoln Peak Vineyard, 142 River Rd. Enjoy live music by Electric Bear, food from Gene's Chili Hut and Vermont wines. Bring a blanket and relax at the vineyard. Free.

## JULY 11

**MONTHLY WILDLIFE WALK IN MIDDLEBURY.** Saturday, July 11, 7-9 a.m., Otter View Park. 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 at the intersection of Weybridge St. and Pulp Mill Bridge Rd. Birders of all ages and abilities welcome. For more information, call 388-6019.

**GREEN MOUNTAIN BICYCLE CLUB GRAVEL RIDE IN HINESBURG.** Saturday, July 11, 9:15 a.m., Allen Brook Nature Trail. 32 miles on paved and gravel Rd.s heading through Hinesburg. Register and see details: [thegmbc.com/events](http://thegmbc.com/events).

## SUNDAY, JULY 12

**SUNDAY SESSIONS: NICK BREDICE LIVE IN MIDDLEBURY.** Sunday, July 12, 4-7 p.m., The Ralph Myhre Golf Course, 317 Golf Course Rd. (Patio at the Tavern on the Tee). An evening of live music with Vermont singer-songwriter Nick Bredice. Known for his raw, indie-folk sound and improvisational style, Nick brings a mix of heartfelt originals and familiar influences—from Bob Dylan and John Prine to John Butler and Mihali Savoulidis. Free.

### FESTIVAL ON THE GREEN BEGINS IN MIDDLEBURY.

Sunday, July 12, 7-10 p.m., Town green. Award-winning music festival featuring six days of performances by local musicians. Perfect for family picnics and relaxed viewing. Free. For more info

visit [See lineup and schedule at festivalonthe.green.org](http://festivalonthe.green.org).

## MONDAY, JULY 13

**FESTIVAL ON THE GREEN IN MIDDLEBURY.** Monday, July 13, noon-10 p.m., Town green. See July 12 listing. Free. For more info visit [See lineup and schedule at festivalonthe.green.org](http://festivalonthe.green.org).

### VERGENNES CITY BAND CONCERT IN VERGENNES.

Monday, July 13, 7-8 p.m., City green. Relax on the green and listen to some great free summer music.

## TUESDAY, JULY 14

**FESTIVAL ON THE GREEN IN MIDDLEBURY.** Tuesday, July 14, noon-10 p.m., Town green. See July 12 listing. Free. For more info visit [See lineup and schedule at festivalonthe.green.org](http://festivalonthe.green.org).

## WEDNESDAY, JULY 15

**FESTIVAL ON THE GREEN IN MIDDLEBURY.** Wednesday, July 15, noon-10 p.m., Town green. See July 12 listing. Free. See lineup and schedule at [festivalonthe.green.org](http://festivalonthe.green.org).

### SUMMER LIVE MUSIC: ALBANY SOUND IN BRISTOL.

Wednesday, July 15, 6-8 p.m., Tillerman, 1868 Rt 116 Rd., Bristol. Enjoy live music and tacos, creative cocktails and mocktails, snacks, and paletas. You are welcome to bring your own blankets & chairs for the lawn. We also set up some tables and chairs. For more info visit [thetillermanvt.com/live-music](http://thetillermanvt.com/live-music).

# ARTS+LEISURE

The Addison Independent

## Link up with us!

Be part of the Arts + Leisure section.  
Share your thoughts. Advertise. Contribute.

802-388-4944

ADVERTISING@ADDISONINDEPENDENT.COM



BRISTOL CORE Presents!

# POCOCK ROCKS

MAIN STREET



BRISTOL, VT

MAIN  
STREET  
BRISTOL  
VT

SAT.  
AUG.  
15<sup>TH</sup>

FROM  
2:00<sup>PM</sup>  
UNTIL  
7:00<sup>PM</sup>

## MUSICAL GUESTS

FREE  
ENTRY

### WEST STAGE

|                          |      |
|--------------------------|------|
| Tom Bisson & The Rustics | 3:00 |
| Eclipse                  | 4:15 |
| Hudost                   | 6:00 |

### EAST STAGE

|                |      |
|----------------|------|
| Remember Baker | 2:30 |
| Jacob Green    | 3:45 |
| Red Admiral    | 5:15 |

**BIG PICK** AFTER PARTY SOUTH MTN TAVERN - 8:00 PM

Thanks to our amazing sponsors



Scan to  
learn more





# PUZZLES

Sponsored by SPARROW ART SUPPLY

## ACROSS

- 1. Nocturnal S. American rodent
- 5. Requesting
- 11. Give temporarily
- 12. Excitedness
- 16. Armed Forces branch
- 17. Actor Harris
- 18. Middle Eastern capital
- 19. Air hostesses
- 24. Partner to "Pa"
- 25. Percussion instrument
- 26. Popular computers
- 27. Reduce light
- 28. Asian mountain range
- 29. Every one of two or more
- 30. Absence of difficulty
- 31. A public announcement of a proposed marriage
- 33. Whittles
- 34. Impact
- 38. Serviceman
- 39. A French river
- 40. Prehistoric people
- 43. Messenger ribonucleic acid
- 44. \_\_ Clapton, musician
- 45. Ancient Greek sophist
- 49. Largest English dictionary (abbr.)
- 50. Singer Hansard
- 51. A way to disentangle
- 53. Atomic #93
- 54. Manifesting approval
- 56. Indigo bush
- 58. Former AL MVP

Vaughn

- 59. Off-Broadway theater award
- 60. Fencers
- 63. Small Eurasian deer (pl.)
- 64. Relating to passerine birds
- 65. Arrange systematically

## DOWN

- 1. Colorless fluid
- 2. Of a main artery
- 3. Photographer's tool
- 4. Blues Traveler hit "But \_\_"
- 5. Grew older
- 6. Not the leader
- 7. \_\_ Lang (country singer)
- 8. A driver's license is one

|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  |    |    | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 |    |    |    |    |
| 11 |    |    |    |    |    | 12 |    |    |    |    |    | 13 | 14 | 15 |    |
| 16 |    |    |    |    |    | 17 |    |    |    | 18 |    |    |    |    |    |
| 19 |    |    |    |    | 20 | 21 |    |    | 22 | 23 |    |    |    | 24 |    |
| 25 |    |    |    |    |    |    | 26 |    |    |    |    |    | 27 |    |    |
| 28 |    |    |    |    |    |    | 29 |    |    |    |    | 30 |    |    |    |
|    |    |    |    |    | 31 | 32 |    |    |    |    | 33 |    |    |    |    |
| 34 | 35 | 36 | 37 |    |    |    |    |    | 38 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| 39 |    |    |    |    |    |    | 40 | 41 | 42 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| 43 |    |    |    |    |    | 44 |    |    |    |    |    | 45 | 46 | 47 | 48 |
| 49 |    |    |    |    | 50 |    |    |    |    | 51 | 52 |    |    |    |    |
| 53 |    |    |    | 54 |    |    |    |    | 55 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| 56 |    |    | 57 |    |    |    |    | 58 |    |    |    | 59 |    |    |    |
| 60 |    |    |    |    |    | 61 | 62 |    |    |    |    | 63 |    |    |    |
|    |    |    |    | 64 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | 65 |    |    |    |

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|   | 5 |   |   |   |   |   | 2 | 9 |
| 2 |   |   |   | 4 |   |   |   |   |
|   |   | 3 |   |   | 2 | 5 |   |   |
| 9 | 1 |   |   | 8 |   | 4 |   | 2 |
| 4 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 3 |   |   | 6 |   |   |   |   | 1 |
|   | 6 |   |   |   |   | 3 | 5 |   |
|   |   |   | 9 |   |   |   |   |   |
| 5 |   |   | 3 |   |   |   | 7 |   |

## 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

- 9. Nests of pheasants
- 10. Wildebeests
- 13. Equal to one quintillion bytes
- 14. Japanese three-stringed lute
- 15. Type of cat
- 20. It cools your home
- 21. The ancient Egyptian sun god
- 22. Pouches
- 23. German trigraph
- 27. Form of Persian
- 29. Measurement unit
- 30. Body part
- 31. Bridge building
- degree
- 32. Indicates position
- 33. Political action committee
- 34. Snack food
- 35. Front part of a quadruped
- 36. Locate
- 37. Pitching statistic
- 38. \_\_, myself and I
- 40. City in Utah
- 41. They play in the trenches
- 42. "Can't Touch This" rapper \_\_ Hammer
- 44. Type of tree
- 45. Performers
- 46. Slang for mistake
- 47. More open
- 48. Most slick
- 50. Needles
- 51. University of Dayton
- 52. Atomic #11
- 54. Large fish of the mackerel family
- 55. Not any
- 57. \_\_ and behold
- 61. Popular sports highlight show (abbr.)
- 62. "The Great Lakes State"

This week's puzzle solutions can be found on Page 14.



44 Main St,  
Middlebury, VT  
Open Daily  
sparrowartsupply.com



## FRESH OFF THE EASEL

### Check out our Wet Paint Exhibit & Sale!

See original paintings, drawings, and pottery created during Sparrow Plein Air Festival, created outdoors throughout Middlebury by artists of all ages.

On view through July 5



# UPCOMING MUSIC

## Cornwall Strawberry Festival returns with a bluegrass twist

The Meeting House at Cornwall, an evolution of the First Congregational Church of Cornwall centered around arts and community, has been hard at work presenting monthly events since March. The new program director Benjamin Adam Weiss has happened upon heartwarming photos and stories of Cornwall's strawberry festivals. So, it seemed only natural for The Meeting House's experimental opening season to include a revival of the Cornwall Strawberry Festival, but now with a strong focus on supporting local musicians.

On Sunday, June 28, The Meeting House will present the newly named Cornwall Strawberry Bluegrass Festival, featuring two rising local bluegrass and traditional bands.

Sap Line will kick off the evening at 3:30 p.m. With their sound rooted in the music of New England and Maritime Canada, Scotland, Ireland, and Appalachia, Sap Line blends these connected traditions to explore a rich



palette of harmonic possibilities. The trio adds a fresh and youthful flavor to their arrangements of energetic jigs and reels, lyrical three-part harmony singing, and foot-stomping Old Time favorites. Together, Sap Line taps into the legacy of musicians who have mentored and inspired them, sharing the joy of traditional music in dynamic, high-spirited performances.

Sap Line is Old Time fiddler Fiona Stowell, singer-songwriter, guitar, and mandolin player Grace Martin, and New England piano and clawhammer banjo player Emmett Stowell. Sap Line has performed across New England and Canada, notably at Catamount Arts' First Night and Cabot Arts' Twelfth Night, Burlington City Arts, Sutton Traditional Fiddle Festival in Québec, and Club Passim's Campfire Festival in Boston. Sap Line is hot off their performance at the Acadia Festival of Traditional Music and Dance and excited to come back home to Vermont.



*Sap Line featuring Grace Martin, Fiona Stowell and Emmett Stowell will play at Cornwall's new Strawberry Bluegrass Festival on Sunday, June 28, at 3:30 p.m.*

PHOTO SUBMITTED

Otter Creek will follow Sap Line at 5:30 p.m. Otter Creek was founded in 2021 by a group of friends who share a love of bluegrass and folk music. While all members share a deep respect for tradition, they don't get too caught up with labels. Bassist Finn Lester-Niles, long immersed in bluegrass music while growing up in North Carolina, draws upon grooves from his experience in jazz ensembles. Mandolinist Asa Skinder brings to the group hard-nosed, Monroe-style mandolin breaks, and an uncanny ability to find cool old recordings. Katie Loomis-Adams leans heavily into the Old-Time tradition.

Otter Creek perform regularly at Burlington's Radio Bean, and have been featured in the Rattling Brook Bluegrass Festival in Belvidere Center.

Cornwall's own Purple Barn Farm will supply the strawberries for the festival. Kerianne and Nate Severy have been working hard over the last few years to turn a beautiful hill next to their dairy farm into a pick-your-own strawberry patch.

If you want to help, come to the farm on Friday morning, June 26, to pick strawberries for the festival Saturday. Volunteers will pick and prepare the strawberries then bake some delicious shortcakes. If you would like to join the strawberry picking event on Friday, email [benjamin@themeetinghousevt.org](mailto:benjamin@themeetinghousevt.org).

Technical support will be provided by the newly established Vermont Roots Music Collective.

Friday's strawberry picking and prepping, and Sunday's musical events are free and all are welcome. The Meeting House is testing out a pay-it-forward model, so if you do feel moved to toss some money in a hat or make an online donation, that will go towards supporting future community events and performances. Similarly, a



*Otter Creek will play at 5:30 p.m. on Sunday, June 28 in Cornwall, featuring Katie Loomis-Adams, Asa Skinder and Finn Lester-Niles. Former band member Will Behm is also in this photo with guitar.*

PHOTO SUBMITTED

See **STRAWBERRY** on page 11



# Free professional development for artists in July and August

Join the nearly 200 Vermont artists who took advantage of Assets for Artists workshops last year and register today. All workshops are completely free and open to artists of all disciplines. Workshops are recorded unless otherwise noted, and all approved registrants will receive access to the recordings.

## Thursday, July 9

"Power of Websites" with Jessica Burko, 6-8 p.m.

## Thursday, July 16

"Basic Taxes for Creatives" with Akeem Davis, 6-8 p.m.

## Thursday, Aug. 6

"Staying Authentic While Marketing Your Work" with Daniel Callahan, 5:45-7:45 p.m.

## Wednesday, Aug. 12

"Art of Licensing" with Allison Cole, 12:15-1:45 p.m.

## Friday, Aug. 14

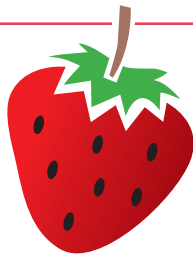
"Driving Web Traffic That Matters: Using Search, Ads & Analytics to Market Your Work" with Francesca Olsen, 12:15-2:15 p.m.

## ABOUT A4A

Assets for Artists (A4A) is an artist-led and artist-centered program that provides an ever-evolving selection of free online and in-person workshops to address the most urgent needs, challenges, and opportunities facing artists in New England. Since 2024, A4A in Vermont has been funded by the Vermont Arts Council.

## STRAWBERRY

continued from page 10



donation is suggested when getting strawberry shortcake to cover the cost of purchasing the local strawberries

and biscuit ingredients. Weiss and the team behind The Meeting House at Cornwall want to put local families, groups and individuals first. So, carpool and come by The Meeting House, bring a lawn chair, listen, dance and enjoy a revived local tradition on Sunday June 28, from 3:30-7 p.m. For more info visit The Meeting House website at TheMeetingHouseVT.org.



## Pet of the WEEK



## Make your pet famous!

Submit your pet by scanning the code or emailing a photo and short description to:

[elsie@addisonindependent.com](mailto:elsie@addisonindependent.com)

We post our pets too! Follow us and our furry friends.



## Pets In Need

### HOMEWARD BOUND

#### Addison County's Humane Society

### George



This guy is a little on the chonky side and enjoys the finer things in life, especially Lickables and Temptations treats! **George's** favorite activity is spending time with humans. He loves pets, head rubs, and soaking up attention, though it's important to know that he likes to feel comfortable on his own timeline. He would prefer not being with another cat that wants to be in his personal space. He can also tolerate calm, respectful dogs who also understand personal space.

### Nightie



Nightie-night little one...**Nightie** is a lovely dilute tortoiseshell kitten who loves her siblings very much! She is playful and affectionate, and she will make her new family very happy! She is not spayed yet; her surgery day is set for 7/1. She can be adopted before then, but just needs to be brought back for her surgery.

### Pudding



Hi, I'm **Pudding**, a 4-year-old orange domestic shorthair with a mellow, independent spirit. I'm spayed and ready for my forever home, where I'd thrive in a calm environment at my own pace. I'm a bit shy at first, but I bond deeply with the people I love. I'm bonded with my daughter, so we'd need to be adopted together to keep our special connection strong. If you're looking for a gentle, low-key companion who'll warm up to you in her own time, I'd love to meet you!

### Lennox



**Lennox** is a striking 2-year-old girl with a one-of-a-kind look and an even more lovable personality. Her absolute favorite pastime is playing fetch with tennis balls, and she'd thrive in an active home where she has plenty of space to run, play, and burn off energy. While she can be a little cautious when meeting new people, Lennox warms up quickly—especially if tasty treats are part of the introduction. Once comfortable, her fun, affectionate side shines through. She's a smart pup who enjoys learning and would do best with an adopter excited to continue building her confidence and working on training together.

### Posie



This lovable girl is housetrained, walks beautifully on leash, and absolutely adores attention from her people. **Posie** is looking for an active family who can provide plenty of exercise, structure, companionship, and love. If she'll be spending time home alone on a regular basis, having a friendly canine companion is a must—she thrives with a four-legged friend by her side. Posie has experience living with both cats and dogs. She would likely be happiest in a home with older kids who can keep up with her excitement.

Homeward Bound  
Addison County's Humane Society



Want to learn more?

Call or check our website.  
We may have a pet for you!

802-388-1100 | [HomewardBoundAnimals.org](http://HomewardBoundAnimals.org)  
236 Boardman Street | Middlebury, VT



## EXHIBITS

continued from page 5

For more info contact  
info@lcmmm.org or 802-  
475-2022.

### "Fragments: Voices of the American Revolution on Lake Champlain."

Combining

archaeological research, shipwrecks, original artifacts, and first-person accounts, visitors can reflect on the events of the American Revolution on Lake Champlain, including the Battle of Lake Champlain, and the impact it had on people from multiple perspectives. On view May through Oct. 18.

**"Parley and Protocol, War and Peace."** This exhibition by the Vermont Abenaki Artists Association brings together historical documents, maps, and art with work by present-day American Abenaki artists, sharing Indigenous perspectives on the founding of the United States. On view June through Oct. 18.

## MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE MUSEUM OF ART

72 Porter Field Road, Middlebury

For more info visit [middlebury.edu/museum/exhibitions](http://middlebury.edu/museum/exhibitions)

**"With Time."** The photographs in this exhibit range in date, but all feature older adults. None focuses on a choice these individuals made to either fight or embrace the aging process. Instead, the photographers approach their subjects with a spirit of curiosity. Some are portraits, and a few feature celebrities. In the main, though, these are studies of human beings who have simply become who they are with time. On view through Aug. 9.

**"Frederic Church in Vermont."** This exhibit brings together for the first time more than forty graphite drawings, oil sketches, and finished paintings by Frederic Church created during or as a result of his visits to Vermont over 30 years. On view through Aug. 9.

## PHOTOPPLACE GALLERY

3 Park Street, Middlebury

For more info visit [photoplacegallery.com](http://photoplacegallery.com).

**"Portals: New Perspectives,"** juried by Ann Jastrab, explores thresholds, transitions and ways of seeing. Photographs range from literal portals such as windows, doors and mirrors to more conceptual shifts in light, space, and perspective. Featuring artists from around the world, the exhibition includes 35 works in the gallery and 40 in the online gallery. On view through June 27.

## PLANK ROAD ART STAND

7824 Plank Rd., Bristol

Open Friday, Saturdays, and Sundays or by appointment.

For more information visit [brendamyrickart.com](http://brendamyrickart.com), call 802-458-1415 or email [brendamyrickart@gmail.com](mailto:brendamyrickart@gmail.com).

**"Past and Present"** featuring the artwork of Brenda Myrick, the estate of Barbara Lane, and Jim Lienau. This self-serve roadside gallery is housed in a repurposed horse trailer, lovingly transformed into a one-of-a-kind art space. The art stand features original artwork, hand carved wooden fish, animal step stools, and cards, with new work being added regularly. On view through October.

## ROKEBY MUSEUM

4334 Route 7, Ferrisburgh

For more info visit [Rokeby.org](http://Rokeby.org) or call 802-877-3406

**"Help Each Other,"** is the 2026 seasonal exhibit created by Quaker Pirate, Todd Drake. The Quaker Pirate creates art that challenges us to help one another, to be emotionally and spiritually connected, and to persist and survive in today's world. On view through Oct. 11.

## SHELDON MUSEUM

1 Park Street, Middlebury

For more info visit [henrysheldonmuseum.org](http://henrysheldonmuseum.org)

**"Drawing on the Archive: Tillie Walden's Charity & Sylvia,"** invites visitors into a layered conversation between past and present, pairing the Museum's archival and object collections with Tillie Walden's contemporary illustrations. Together, these materials illuminate the lives of one of America's earliest documented same-sex couples, who built a shared home, tailoring business, and life in early Vermont. On view May 2-Jan. 2, 2027.

**"Time Keeping."** Artifacts and archival treasures from the 18th century through today will be presented in conversation with New England contemporary artist Luciana Frigerio's 'Clockworks,' the magically crafted worlds of paper theater within vintage clocks and watch housings. Showcasing stories of far-reaching possibilities in layers of time, Luciana Frigerio's captivating mixed media collages mirror Henry Sheldon's own passion for storytelling through paper and material culture. On view May 2-Jan. 2, 2027.

### "Uncovering Wallpaper Design: 1800 – Present."

The wallpaper in the Museum's collection tells the story of artistic process, globalization, and design tastes from the 1800s to present day. While wallpaper operates as a backdrop, bringing it to the forefront sheds light on the skill and process of creating these designs. Many the wallpapers on display are block printed. In a contemporary world where so much of production is now automated, these wallpapers invite viewers to slow down and consider the process, layers, and method on display in these prints. On view May 2-Nov. 7.

**"Remembering the American Revolution."** This exhibition features objects related to the American Revolution, as well as items produced to commemorate those events, notably for the World's Fairs of 1876 and 1926, and the U.S. Bicentennial of 1976. Collected by Henry Sheldon and community members, past and present, these artifacts illuminate how methods of commemoration and exhibition have shaped public memory, attesting to different ideas about American identity, gender roles, race, war and pacificism, rebellion or resistance, across different historical and political contexts. On view May 2-Jan. 2, 2027.

**"Icy Artifacts of the Everyday."** These objects and photographs from the past speak with the "Tempestry," an artistic display of Addison County climate data, knitted by the hands of nearly 100 current community members from locally sourced and hand dyed wool. On view May 2-Jan. 2, 2027.

## New photo exhibit opens in Middlebury on first Friday

The first Friday of the month, July 3, lots will be happening in Downtown Middlebury — Town Hall Theater will be hosting live music, food, a bike parade and block party to celebrate the country's 250<sup>th</sup>; plus shops will be open late. It's a perfect evening to stroll, and stop in at the PhotoPlace Gallery on Park Street.

On Friday evening, July 3 from 4-7 p.m., the gallery will host an opening reception for "After Dark: Night, Sky, and Shadow" with complimentary mead tastings. This exhibit was juried by Lance Keimig, and features photography created between dusk and dawn.

The exhibition includes night landscapes, urban scenes, long exposures, and experimental work exploring light, darkness, and time. From glowing city streets to quiet rural skies, the images reveal the creative possibilities of nighttime photography. Featuring 35 works in the gallery and 40 in the online gallery, the show highlights a wide range of approaches and techniques.

The exhibit will be on view July 3-31.



"After Dark," a new exhibit at PhotoPlace Gallery in Middlebury, will open on Friday, July 3, with a reception from 4-7 p.m.

PHOTO BY LANCE KEIMIG





196 MURRAY RD  
**WHITING**  
\$599,995

# THE HOME

A LOOK AT LOCAL PROPERTIES FOR SALE

## Make this energy-efficient Cape your home

A contemporary Cape built in 2024 on over seven acres near Route 30 offers energy-efficient, one-level living minutes from Middlebury and Brandon. The two-bedroom home features a ducted heat pump, central air, and a living room anchored by a Woodstock Soapstone woodstove. Nearby, an attached screened gazebo currently serves as a “catio” for pets. An unfinished second floor provides 1,200 square feet of potential expansion, supported by a septic system already permitted for four bedrooms. An oversized garage accommodates two vehicles and lawn equipment. Cafe appliances can be purchased separately, or bring your own!



*This week's property is managed by RE/MAX North Professionals, The Gridley Group, in Middlebury.*





REAL ESTATE

A

802-388-4944

advertising@addisonindependent.com

creating real estate solutions

**IRENE POOLE, REALTOR®**

COLDWELL BANKER

HICKOK & BOARDMAN

802-989-5563 | IreneVTRE.com

CHIPMAN HILL

Property Services

THE EXTRA HAND

We look after our client's home and property as if they were our own. Our services are tailored to your needs.

Please contact us to learn what we do and how we do it.

Tim Hollander 802.989.3857  
Geoff Conrad 802.355.7426  
ChipmanHillPropertyServices.com

National Bank of Middlebury

One Person. Start to Finish.

When you call us about a loan, you talk to a person who lives here, understands the local market, and will be with you through every step.

I love this bank. When you call an actual person answers the phone and is always helpful. They hold our mortgage, and most of our personal accounts. Having been a customer at bigger banks... we really appreciate the contrast and [NBM]'s more personal style. —Andrew M.

802-388-4982 | nbmvt.com | NMLS #: 403372

Member

FDIC

theREAL ESTATE COMPANY of VERMONT

2442 Maple Street, Waltham

This 5-bedroom, 4-bath farmhouse boasts 2 bedroom suites, including an ADA accessible suite on the ground floor. The property enjoys afternoon sun with views of conserved meadows and the Adirondack Mountains from the 6.5 acre grounds with an in-ground pool and a historic barn.

MLS No. 5085665 | \$ 785,000

for more information, contact:

Tammy Petersen  
Agent/Realtor®

Jill Fraga  
Broker/Owner/Realtor®

www.theRealEstateCompanyVT.com

3 MAIN STREET, BRISTOL, VERMONT 05443

802.453.6161

LOOK UP

continued from page 2

*T is the absolute temperature in Kelvins, and is the Stefan-Boltzmann constant,  $5.67 \times 10^{-8} \text{ W/m}^2\text{K}^4$ .*

For comparison, if a star has twice the temperature of the Sun (e.g. Vega, a type A star), it radiates  $2^4 = 16$  times more energy. When a star ages and begins to use up its fuel, it moves off the main sequence with its fate depending upon the type of star. Stars with more than 8 to 10 solar masses end their lives in explosive fashion. Core collapse supernovae can result in implosions that crush electrons and protons into neutrons making city-sized neutron stars with unfathomable density (a teaspoon full would weigh millions of tons).

Low mass stars comparable to the Sun (0.3 to 8 solar masses) swell into red giants when the hydrogen fuel in its core is exhausted, burn helium for a while, and then shed gases and dust leaving behind a core of carbon and oxygen called a white dwarf. White dwarfs are extremely dense, Earth-sized, burned-out cores of a dead star. The material shed by these dying, ancient stars create an infinite variety of planetary nebulae. In an estimated 5 billion years, our Sun will leave the main sequence and become a red giant swelling beyond the orbits of Mercury and Venus, scorching the Earth in the process. There will be no global warming debate whatsoever! It will likely leave an exquisite planetary nebula which may be viewed by other advanced civilizations.

The ephemeral rock stars of the stellar world are the giants and supergiants, burning bright and dying young. At the end of their lives, they may form some of the most interesting and bizarre objects; neutron stars, pulsars, and stellar mass black holes. The red hypergiant Stephenson 2-18, discovered in 1990, is estimated to be 30 to 50 solar masses

and will end its life with a hypernova leaving scattered remnants and a black hole. Betelgeuse (about 15 to 20 solar masses) is a pulsating red giant and one astronomers believe will go supernova in 10s to 100s of years. Vega is a close-by (25 ly) bluish-white main sequence star that is only about twice the mass of our Sun and will not go supernova. Sun-like stars (G-type main sequence) actually make up only a few per cent of the stars in the Universe. With long lives and lots of time for evolution of lifeforms, it is of great interest to explore the exobiology prospects for planetary systems around them.

The stars with longevity like our sun are the stars that keep pouring out their brilliance for 10 billion years or more, then dying at a ripe old age and leaving behind white dwarfs and collections of gorgeous works of cosmic cloud art (planetary nebulae).

SKY WATCH EVENTS FOR JULY

Look Up and watch the summer triangle of the bright stars Vega, Deneb, and Altair rise overhead.

**July 4** – Before sunrise, view Mars between the Pleiades and the Hyades star clusters in the east-northeast.

**July 9** – Look west after dusk to see Venus less than a degree from Leo's bright star Regulus.

**July 14** – New Moon; stay up past astronomical twilight to enjoy the Milky Way and lightning bugs.

**July 16/17** – Look west after dusk and view Regulus next to the crescent moon with Venus shining nearby.

**July 23 to 25** – Look south near the horizon after dusk to see the waxing gibbous moon close to Antares, the brightest in Scorpius.

**July 29** – Full Buck Moon; Watch it rise over the Green Mountains a short time after sunset.

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

June 25, 2026

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| P | A | C | A |   | A | S | K | I | N | G |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| L | O | A | N |   |   | G | I | D | D | I | N | E | S |   |   |   |
| A | R | M | Y |   |   | E | D |   |   |   | D | U | B | A | I |   |
| S | T | E | W | A | R | D | E | S | S | E | S |   | M | A |   |   |
| M | A | R | A | C | A |   | M | A | C | S |   | D | I | M |   |   |
| A | L | A | Y |   |   | E | A | C | H |   | E | A | S | E |   |   |
|   |   |   |   |   |   | B | A | N | N | S |   | P | A | R | E | S |
| A | F | F | E | C | T |   |   |   |   |   | M | A | R | I | N | E |
| L | O | I | R | E |   | O | L | M | E | C |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| M | R | N | A |   | E | R | I | C |   |   | A | B | A | S |   |   |
| O | E | D |   | G | L | E | N |   | U | N | C | O | I | L |   |   |
| N | P |   | C | O | M | M | E | N | D | A | T | O | R | Y |   |   |
| D | A | L | E | A |   | M | O |   |   |   | O | B | I | E |   |   |
| S | W | O | R | D | S | M | E | N |   |   | R | O | E | S |   |   |
|   |   |   | O | S | C | I | N | E |   |   | S | O | R | T |   |   |

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 6 | 5 | 4 | 8 | 7 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 9 |
| 2 | 7 | 1 | 5 | 4 | 9 | 8 | 6 | 3 |
| 8 | 9 | 3 | 1 | 6 | 2 | 5 | 4 | 7 |
| 9 | 1 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 |
| 4 | 8 | 7 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 6 | 9 | 5 |
| 3 | 2 | 5 | 6 | 9 | 4 | 7 | 8 | 1 |
| 1 | 6 | 9 | 4 | 2 | 7 | 3 | 5 | 8 |
| 7 | 3 | 8 | 9 | 5 | 6 | 2 | 1 | 4 |
| 5 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 8 | 9 | 7 | 6 |



Brandon - Near Lakes



Nicely located near Dunmore, Fern Lake, hiking trails & Neshobe Golf Course. Well-cared-for home of 1484 sqft. Main level: spacious LR, galley kit., DR with Deck access, 3 BRs & full Bath w/laundry hook up available. Lower level: BR, laundry area, workshop space & storage. Attached shed - lots of storage space. 0.55 A w/ town water & septic. \$335,000

**Our Location**  
14 Mt. Pleasant Dr. Brandon  
Office phone: 802-247-6633  
**Same People - Same Expertise**  
802-236-9075 (C); 802-236-9076 (T)

WhittakerRealEstate.com  
Brandon, VT - 802-247-6633  
(802)236-9076(T) (802)236-9075(C)  
Tom@WhittakerRealEstate.com



CHECK OUT OUR LISTINGS ONLINE

BERKSHIRE  
HATHAWAY  
HOMESERVICES

VERMONT REALTY  
GROUP

the real estate experts  
good to know!

WWW.VTRE4SALE.COM  
(802) 388-9836

32 MERCHANTS ROW | MIDDLEBURY

MLS



**PRICE IMPROVEMENT ~ \$775,000**  
**194 South Bingham St, Cornwall**  
**MLS #5088246**

Nestled among apple trees on 5 acres, craftsmanship built in 2023, 3 bdrms, 3 baths, sunroom, gas fireplace, Bosch appliances, finished lower level, barn-garage with workshop.

**Listing Agent:** Galina Mencil  
802-353-5370 | galinamencil@vtregroup.com



**PRICE IMPROVEMENT ~ \$110,000**  
**BUILD IN MIDDLEBURY**  
**4.5 ACRE LOT with WW PERMIT.**  
**Fred Johnson Circle, Forest Ridge**  
**MLS #5072452**

Set in nature, a quiet & thoughtfully developed neighborhood, State Wastewater Permit for 3 bdrms.

**Listing Agent:** Sue Mackey  
802-989-1417 | suemackey@vtregroup.com

READ  
THE ADDY INDY



SUBSCRIBE

PRINT OR DIGITAL  
ADDISONINDEPENDENT.COM



IPJREALESTATE.COM

34 MAIN STREET | MIDDLEBURY, VT  
EMAIL: INFO@IPJREALESTATE.COM  
CALL: 802.388.4242



Serving buyers, sellers,  
and community,  
since 2006.

NEW  
LISTING



**SHOREHAM | 1029 Richville Road | MLS #5094828**  
**4 BR | 3 BA | 3406 SF | 15.09 ACRES | \$499,000**

Open-concept contemporary with space, flexibility, and great natural light, perched on a hillside with sweeping views of the Green Mtns. Attached two-car garage and detached outbuilding allow for many uses.

NEW  
LISTING



**MIDDLEBURY | 464 East Main St | MLS #5095929**  
**4 BD | 4 BA | 2922 SF | 1.82 ACRES | \$699,000**

Beautifully updated home with historic charm and modern comforts. Large barn for many uses, a separate one-bedroom apartment, and established gardens along the banks of the Middlebury River.

NEW LISTING: consider for the  
land, subdivision, or rehab



**CORNWALL | 286 S. BINGHAM STREET | \$249,000**  
**LAND: 10.14 ACRES | MLS #5094402 RESIDENCE: 3 BR | 1 BA | 1456 SF | MLS #5094310**

Great acreage with views to the west. Plenty of road frontage for potential subdivision, after buyer due diligence. Preliminary test pits are available for those considering potential capacity. House and outbuildings sold "as is" —home will need rehab or demolition and rebuild. No information about the existing water source or septic or household systems.



# Brandon's Independence Day Celebration

Celebrate What Unites Us

Parade at 10 am  
Fireworks at Dusk

Fun Throughout the Day!

- Music
- Contests
- Kids' Activities
- Auctions
- Food & Drink
- Duck Race
- Beer Garden
- Street Dance

Friday  
July 3rd



Scan this code  
Or visit [www.brandon.org](http://www.brandon.org) for a complete  
schedule, parking, and shuttle info.