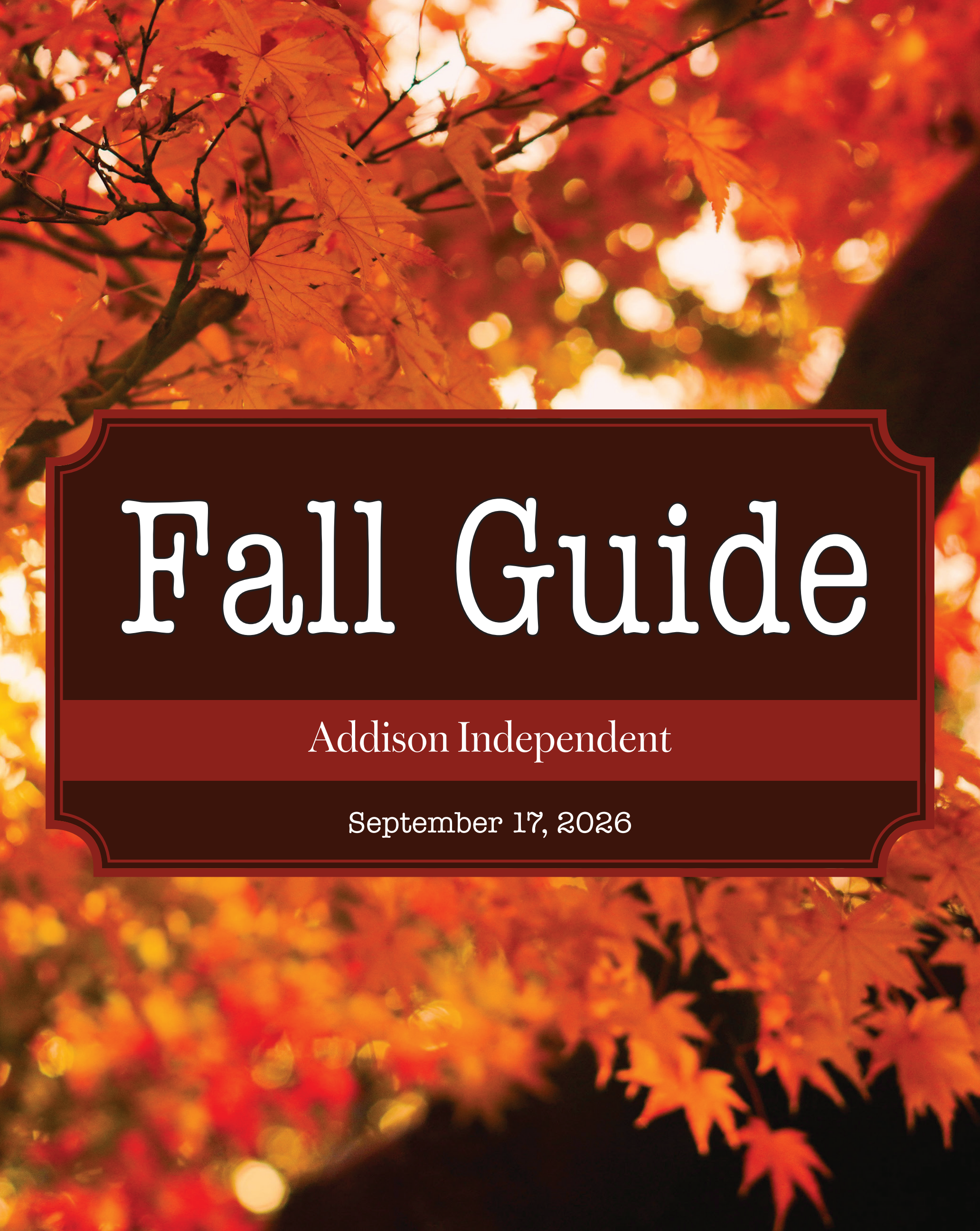




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Addison Independent

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From the Green Mountains on the east to Lake Champlain on the west, the Addison County region has some of the most diverse scenery in the state and one of the longest periods of peak leaf peeping. But the region is more than just pretty mountains, picturesque farms and our beautiful “west coast.” The towns of Addison County and Brandon are steeped in history and have plenty to see.

Middlebury is the region’s center, with Middlebury College a must-see for any tourist. Its magnificent campus is home to art galleries, performances by big city talent and plenty of sports (for a good view of the mountain scenery, check out the football stadium).

Downtown Middlebury has the excellent and quirky Sheldon Museum of Vermont History, as well as shops and restaurants.

But be sure to venture out from there. Addison sports the Chimney Point Historic Site and the Dead Creek Wildlife Refuge teeming with wild geese and fowl of great diversity. Orwell is home to one of the last undisturbed Revolutionary War sites in the country — Mount Independence. Bristol, Brandon and Vergennes offer small-town life at its best with fun things to do and all the necessary amenities.

Read the stories in this guide about getting out and about in the fall and then hit the back roads and trails of our beautiful region. Want to stick to your car? See detailed maps on pages 16 and 49 for some loops to drive and soak up the scenery.

This publication is meant as a guide to some of what this area has to offer. We’re sure you will find it worth the trip.

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An apple is never just an apple

When you pick that perfect fruit, know how much work went into it

By ELOISE CHRISTY

Before I began working on farms, specifically at Sunrise Orchards, I saw an apple as just an apple.

Apples are shiny, red — although not always — and they come in wide varieties. I chose McIntosh as my favorite since I was little because it was small, tart, and not too watery.

After spending two mornings a week at Cornwall's Sunrise Orchards starting bright and early at seven a.m., monitoring pest populations and doing other tasks, I began to realize how much goes into growing the fruit that most of us barely think about, except for how delicious it is.

An apple is rarely just an apple, especially to those who work in the orchard. It is the result of careful observation, decades of passed-down knowledge, unpredictable weather, pests, disease, pruning, picking and, most importantly, people.

Take the codling moth for example.

A few months ago, I don't think I'd ever heard of a codling moth in my life. But these little creatures can be detrimental to an apple crop and after many days of close trap checking, sticky fingers and many, many bugs, I can now identify them quickly. They are small, gray-brown insects with a small spot near the end of their wings. Their larvae can burrow into apples and feast on the fruit inside, causing significant damage.

Apple maggot flies are also a problem along with fungi like apple scab. Monitoring these pests and diseases isn't just a matter of looking and seeing if there are bugs or marks on leaves. No, workers have to know exactly what they look like and

understand why they have to put more traps in one area as opposed to another.

For most of my first morning at the farm, I trailed behind my uncle Barney Hodges, co-owner of Sunrise Orchards along with my aunt Chris. Through

the tall grass between each row we went, me holding the bag and him climbing a tree every now and then, both of us collecting branch samples at random to see about the apple scab. It was more difficult than I'd like to admit, especially since I wasn't the one climbing the trees. But as we trudged back to the house, despite my pants hanging heavy full of dew and my socks squishing inside my boots, I felt accomplished. I knew my small contribution was part of this larger process that would help the farm have a more successful season.

During our walk through the orchard that morning, I had asked my uncle questions about what we were doing, about the trees, and what each one was. Now I can see the distinction between the different varieties. He told me that, although it is hard sometimes, you can identify the different types of trees by looking at their leaves, long before there are any ripe apples hanging from the branches. Some may be long, slim, shiny, round, dark or light green.

I started noticing how the trees changed from the spring bloom to the summer growing season. As I completed my last round of trap checking in August, the trees hung heavy with blushed apples, almost ready to be picked.



For most of my life, Sunrise Orchards had been a place I visited and enjoyed thoroughly. Almost every year of my life, my family has made the five-hour drive from the Cape to Cornwall. I have seen frigid winters, foliage-filled falls, the budding spring and the sweltering summer heat. These trips were always something I looked forward to.

I remember running out of their house when I was little, into the surrounding fields and picking a Honeycrisp that is seemingly as big as my head. Or walking along their driveway and rubbing a McIntosh on my sleeve to make the dull red into a shiny one.

Now as I work with the crew, I not only understand the trees that create the apples I have always loved, but I also

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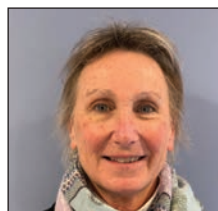
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see the people who make that happen. The staff at Sunrise includes people from the surrounding Vermont community as well as workers from Jamaica.

Working alongside them made me think about how much agriculture depends on people whose work is easy to overlook. When we drive to a farm stand and pick up a bag of apples, most of us don't think deeply about those who spent months and years caring for the trees and the land.

Nobody sees the mornings spent driving around to each pest trap or walking the rows to make sure all were accounted for. We don't see the extreme stress that weather brings, especially hail during the early summer months. We don't think hard about the planting, pruning, maintaining and picking of the fruit.

We just see this beautiful apple.

But that isn't all this orchard is to the people who work there. For many, it's a livelihood. To the Hodges, it's a family heirloom. This orchard was started by my uncle's father, James Barnett Hodges Jr., in 1970. Some of the trees from the original farm still stand today.

The orchard today represents decades of cultivation, a deep love for apples and a place that provides work for many.

"Nobody sees the mornings spent driving around to each pest trap or walking the rows to make sure all were accounted for. We don't see the extreme stress that weather brings, especially hail during the early summer months. We don't think hard about the planting, pruning, maintaining and picking of the fruit."

If you find yourself making the scenic drive out to the Sunrise Orchards farm stand this fall — or to any of the dozen-odd apple orchards in the greater Addison County region — follow the hand-painted signs and then make sure to really enjoy the apples. When you pluck that perfectly plump one from the tree, with a little apple cart trailing behind you, enjoy the crisp sweetness. Shine it on your shirt and eat a few on the way home.

Remember that it was made possible by the people behind-the-scenes — the workers putting their all into picking, growing and tending to the trees.

I think I still love the McIntosh too much to give up its first-place status in my heart, but now as I shine it up to take a nice big bite, I understand the hard work and complex calculation behind the making of such an extraordinary and tiny delight.



PICTURED IS A cluster of McIntosh apples from Sunrise Orchards in Cornwall. The apples still have morning dew on them, as this was taken in the early morning during my rounds checking the apple maggot fly traps.

Independent photo/Eloise Christy



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Skip the leaves, look at these cool cars!

MIDDLEBURY — Back in 2022 leaders of the local business community hoped families would pile into their respective cars and motor over to a special mid-October event in downtown Middlebury.

And if their car was a sweet vintage ride, it would become part of the extravaganza.

It was the first — and hopefully annual — “Middlebury Car Show & Fall Festival.” It featured music, vendors, raffles, kid-friendly games and activities, food, downtown shopping specials and a car show that was capped at 75 vehicles.

Targeted for the height of foliage season it was expected to bring in a lot of people.

And it proved to be a hit!

Main Street was closed, and beautiful automobiles lined Middlebury’s principal thoroughfare, along with part of Merchants Row. Between the cars and a few trucks and motorcycles, people from very young to well-seasoned strolled with family and friends, checking out the huge variety of vehicles.

“What a selection of cars!” one local resident gushed about the show on social media that fall. “What a wonderful way to catch up with old friends and make new ones! What spectacular weather! Fabulous music and good food! Looking forward to next year’s car show.”

It shouldn’t have been too much of a surprise; car shows in Vermont regularly draw a fair number of people. In fact, there is one this month at the Addison County fairgrounds in New Haven, where the Snake Mountain Car Show & Vendor Fair will take place on Sunday, Sept. 27, 8 a.m.-3 p.m.

At this show, look for 200 to 300 cars, plus 40 local artists and vendors in the Paquette building. Proceeds from the event benefit the Brendon P. Cousino Med47 Foundation, Veterans Place and New Haven Food Closet. Admission is free; it will cost \$20 to register your car.

And you can also get ready for the 5th Annual Middlebury Car Show & Fall Festival, which is slated for Sunday, Oct. 11, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., on Main Street and in Triangle Park.

Organizers again expect 75 classic cars and trucks, food trucks, 30-plus vendors, music, kids’ activities and more! Don’t miss this fun, family-friendly event brought to you by the Addison County Chamber of Commerce and the Better Middlebury Partnership. Thanks to its many sponsors this is a free event to spectators. Get the details online at addisoncounty.com/middleburycarfest.

“I stumbled upon this festival my first year, and it quickly became a favorite tradition,” a Middlebury College student told us last year.

Addison County Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Phil Summers was upbeat before the first Middlebury car show, and he’s still sanguine about the event.

“Obviously, it’ll be during prime peeper time,” Summers said back in 2022. “We think we’ll attract people from not only all over the county, but from outside the county as well. This will be such a cool thing to do on a Sunday morning and afternoon. As long as the weather cooperates, I think it’s going to be packed.”





THE ANNUAL TOUR de Farms gives people a chance to enjoy a bike ride along country roads with stops at several Addison County farms, where they can enjoy tastes of locally produced foods.

Photos courtesy of ACORN

Taste the bounty, enjoy the beauty on a bike ride

The Tour de Farms, one of Vermont’s oldest and most cherished cycling farm tours, returns to the Middlebury area for another jaunt around Cornwall, Weybridge and Salisbury this fall. The Tour de Farms highlights local food with a meandering bike tour of the central Champlain Valley, interspersed with visits to local farms and tasty treats along the way.

The Tour de Farms began in Shoreham in the late aughts. The original tour was a collaboration between ACORN, Rural Vermont, and the Vermont Bicycle and Pedestrian Coalition. Jonathan Corcoran, an ACORN founder and former board chair, said his wife Cassandra was inspired after seeing a bike tour in rural Maine. He said that he originally saw the tour as a great way for people to visit farms, meet the farmers, and altogether take a moment to slow down and relax.

With the help of Vermont Land Trust’s Al Karnatz, Rural Vermont’s Shelby Girard, and Nancy Schulz of the Vermont Bicycle

and Pedestrian Association, Corcoran launched the Tour de Farms in 2008, which represented ACORN’s first big project as a new community-based organization.

He said, at the time, he had no idea how many people would show up. The turnout surprised them and allowed for the confidence to do it again, and again.

“The Tour de Farms is a beloved community event that connects farmers with their neighbors, celebrates the bounty of the harvest and the vibrant working landscape of Addison County,” said Lindsey Berk, ACORN’s executive director. “Each ticket sold supports a thriving community that puts fresh, local food access as a top priority. By participating in the Tour de Farms, you are putting your dollar into supporting small-scale agriculture and access to local food for all!”

The Tour commences at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 19. Riders will explore two to seven different farm stops, depending on their chosen length of route, as well as

17 additional local food vendors. The full day of taste-testing finishes at the Better Middlebury Partnership After Party, where riders can continue to celebrate the harvest season’s abundance.

The Tour features a rolling 37-mile route and an alternative, shorter, family-friendly 11-mile route. Riders will set out in the morning from the Mary Hogan Elementary School in Middlebury. The terrain includes rolling hills with a mix of paved and dirt roads, so a mountain or gravel bike is recommended. Please do not bring a road bike! E-bikes are encouraged for folks not used to Vermont’s rolling hills!

Make sure to bring a camera, as the pastoral landscapes are breathtaking. Just as delightful as the views are the samples to taste. At each stop, farms will provide local meats, fruit, vegetables, and value-added products like cheese, chocolate, granola, and jams. A concierge van returns purchased goods to the finish, so riders can feel free to make as many local purchases as they’d like.

The Tour de Farms is a rain or shine event. Advanced, online registration is now open online at runsignup.com/Race/VT/Middlebury/TourdeFarms. Early bird pricing has ended, but younger riders do get a discounted rate. Registration will

be capped at 500 riders. Commemorative t-shirts can also be purchased online or at registration.

Ticket sales directly support ACORN’s Food Hub and the Farmacy: Food is Medicine Program. The ACORN Food Hub increases market access for small-scale farms. Food Hubs around Vermont are creating innovative logistical solutions to disrupt the traditional industrial supply chain while also supplying local food that aligns with customers’ values. Operating out of the Food Hub, the Farmacy Program underscores ACORN’s commitment to an equitable food system by providing free CSA shares to Addison County families. By participating in the Tour, riders have the opportunity to stand with ACORN and pledge their support for a just and resilient local food system.

ACORN (Addison County Relocalization Network) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit community organization whose mission is to promote the growth and health of local food and agriculture in Vermont’s Champlain Valley by providing support to our farmers and food producers, engaging in food education, and ensuring access to healthy food for all members of our community. For more information, go to www.acornvt.org.

“The Tour de Farms is a beloved community event that connects farmers with their neighbors, celebrates the bounty of the harvest and the vibrant working landscape of Addison County.”

—Lindsey Berk



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Need a fall book recommendation? Ask a librarian

By MARIN HOWELL

ADDISON COUNTY — With cooler temperatures in the forecast and less daylight to burn, the fall months present the perfect opportunity to curl up with a good book and enjoy the comforts of home.

For anyone looking for some new reads to dive into this fall, local libraries have you covered. In addition to helping community members access reading materials, those working at libraries across the county can often help point us to our next favorite story.

As we head into the fall months, local library staff shared some of the titles they're looking forward to reading this season — from new releases to classic fall reads.

Spooky & suspenseful

"If you're looking for a good mystery, Agatha Christie's are always a good choice for a cozy fall day," recommended Martha Sanborn, circulation librarian at the Bixby Memorial Free Library in Vergennes. "Specifically, I like 'The Murder of Roger Ackroyd' or 'And Then There Were None.'"

A prolific English writer known for her detective novels, Christie authored over 60 novels and 14 short-story collections. "And Then There Were None" is one of her most popular works and centers around 10 guests on a private island who are mysteriously killed off one by one. "The Murder of Roger Ackroyd,"

follows the case of Ackroyd's murder, which takes place less than 24 hours after the death of the woman he'd planned to marry.

Along with mysteries, other

quintessential fall reads include stories with spooky, magical or fantasy elements.

Bixby Director Jennifer Pearson said she's looking forward to spending a

portion of the 'ber months with Alice Hoffman's new book, "The Witches of Cambridge," a historical fantasy novel published on Sept. 8.

(See Librarians, Page 11)



A PATRON READS in the Vermont Room at Bixby Library, where staff have recommendations for titles to enjoy this season.



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Start your autumn with a festival in Bristol

BRISTOL — The Bristol Harvest Festival kicks off its 27th year on Saturday, Sept. 26. The day's activities, organized by the Addison County Chamber of Commerce with assistance from the Bristol Recreation Department, are a celebration of the town and community to be enjoyed by all ages.

Activities on this Saturday take place between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

The Bristol Town Green will be the site of more than 70 crafters and vendors

booths offering fine handcrafts, locally made products, food and more. Bristol Green will also feature music all day and pony rides and other activities for the kids. Also returning is the popular Art on Main Silent Auction.

After visiting the festival, continue strolling through Bristol's charming downtown and shop the local businesses.

For more information visit the event website at BristolHarvestFest.com or call 802-388-7951 or email info@addisoncounty.com.





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Librarians

(Continued from Page 9)

"I am a huge fan of 'Practical Magic' (can't wait to see the new movie!) and this new book, the first in a new series, intrigues me as it is set in the 1950s against the shadow of the McCarthy trials," Pearson said. "Following a group of young women at Radcliffe who are recruited by a secret society that dates back to colonial times, this seems like the perfect book to settle into on a cool Vermont Sunday afternoon under a blanket with a nice cup of tea. Or a midnight margarita."

Highly anticipated sci-fi

Other local library staff have their eyes on new books hitting shelves this season.

"I am very eagerly awaiting the release of 'As You Wake, Break the Shell' by Becky Chambers, due out Oct. 13 from HarperCollins," said Tea Friend, adult services and programs librarian at Bixby. "Chambers is one of my favorite contemporary sci-fi authors. She plays with space opera tropes and provides ample worldbuilding while also leaning into the personal narratives that exist within a wide, sprawling universe. She has a healthy sense of hope and optimism for the future, but still reckons with current, impending and imagined climate and cultural crisis."

"As You Wake, Break the Shell" tells the story of two individuals and how their lives are brought together on Fortune, a planet "hardly fit for life." It's an anticipated read also on the radar of Jen Lazar, children's librarian at Bristol's

Lawrence Memorial Library.

"I'm so excited about the release of Becky Chambers's new book. Her Wayfarer Series has made a tremendous impact on me as a reader and a writer," Lazar said. "Chambers is the kind of science-fiction writer who can write about space, evolutionary biology, and artificial intelligence with a clarity and precision that helps expand how I see the world around me."

"Somehow she writes space opera in a way that makes me feel me feel braver here on Earth, helps me feel the power in my own humanity, and offers the chance to approach some of the most complex modern realities (AI, especially) from that foundation of brave humanness," Lazar continued. "Chambers's new book promises to be a love story and I'm here for it!"

Bending genres

As for other new releases, Lawrence Memorial Library Director Katie Male-Riordan has her sights on "Said the Dead," a genre-blending book penned by Irish author Doireann Ní Ghriofa that's set to release in the U.S. on Sept. 22.

"I'm really looking forward to Doireann Ní Ghriofa's next hybrid work after 'Ghost in the Throat' — a deeply felt and poetic exploration of Ghriofa's career and years of early motherhood intertwined with the erased history of Eibhlín Dubh and her stirring composition 'The Keen for Art O'Laoghaire,'" Male-Riordan told the *Independent*. "Ghriofa moves to her next female text in 'Said the Dead' which

"If you're looking for a good mystery, Agatha Christie's are always a good choice for a cozy fall day."

*—Martha Sanborn
Bixby Memorial Free Library*



CHILDREN LOSE THEMSELVES in a good book — or several — at Bristol's Lawrence Memorial Library.



combines her personal research, invented dialogues, and the historical record of the lives of women institutionalized in a now-defunct facility of County Cork, Ireland."

"I love how Ghriofa is able to seamlessly draw parallels of women's

history to the tenors of our own personal histories in a manner that remains wholly humane toward the subjects studied," Male-Riordan continued. "Her latest promises a more haunting subject, but I have no doubt it will be equally moving."

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Learn about and see animals at Dead Creek Wildlife Day

ADDISON — If you enjoy wildlife be sure to make plans to attend the 25th annual Dead Creek Wildlife Day in Addison on Saturday, Oct. 3.

The free activities at Dead Creek Wildlife Day are especially for people who enjoy hunting, fishing, birdwatching, or learning about Vermont's diverse wildlife and ecosystems. The event will be held at the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department's Dead & Wildlife Management Area (WMA) on Route

17, west of Route 22A.

Early risers can begin the day with a bird banding demonstration at 7 a.m. Two large tents at Dead Creek WMA headquarters will open at 9:30 a.m. featuring wildlife-related exhibits and activities such as soap carving, building bluebird boxes, and nature crafts.

The Dead Creek Visitor Center will be open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. featuring displays about conservation and wildlife management in Vermont. Enjoy a walk along the interpretive trail

to observe pollinators feeding on native wildflowers. Complete the NatureQuest featuring Steward the Otter.

See live animals and learn about their ecology. Learn about Vermont's bees, then try your hand at waterfowl calling at the youth contest. Walk around a rare clayplain forest with an expert. Enjoy local foods and game samples from Vermont Wild Kitchen. Learn about mountain lions in Vermont. And watch working dogs including pointing dogs, retrievers, tracking dogs, and

conservation detection dogs.

Waterfowl will be moving through the area, and there will be plenty of opportunities for viewing around the WMA. Or join the Big Sit and tally birds. Let's Go Fishing activities and a story walk by Angela Kunkel will be available for exploration.

This year will be the first annual apple dish contest with a cash prize. Bring your apple dish to the event and register for \$15 at the information booth. A food

(See Wildlife day, Page 14)

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MANY OF THE activities at this year's Oct. 3 Dead Creek Wildlife Day in Addison are tailored for children, who can learn about Vermont's natural habitat.

Photo courtesy of Vermont Fish & Wildlife

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HUNTERS AND HISTORY buffs show how ancient people used the atlatl to launch a spear during a demonstration and competition at the Chimney Point historic site in Addison. Atlatls return this fall on Sept. 18-20.

Ancient hunting technique returns for a weekend

ADDISON — Come to the Chimney Point State Historic Site in Addison for the 31st annual Northeastern Open Atlatl Championship, with the main competition on Saturday, Sept. 19.

That will follow a Friday, Sept. 18, atlatl-making and more workshop. All activities are outside in the fresh fall air. This event is always a highlight of Vermont's September Archaeology Month.

On Saturday the Chimney Point field, down next to the shore of Lake Champlain, is the scene for contestants of all ages who test their prowess with the atlatl, an ancient spear-throwing tool found used around the world for hunting and shooting before the bow and arrow. Contestants try out their aim for bests in accuracy and distance by throwing at a variety of targets. Event attendees can watch and cheer them on. Contestants are strongly urged to pre-register by calling 802-759-2412 and leaving a message. Consider bringing a picnic lunch and an outdoor portable chair for your comfort. A light lunch, snacks, and beverages also will be available.

The competition starts with registration at 10:30 a.m. First up is the "International Standard Accuracy Competition," with a standard World Atlatl Association bullseye target. This is followed by the accuracy test, with painted animal and other targets, and then the distance event. The contest ends with a "Grand Champion" shootout. Categories include youth (ages 16 and under) girl and boy, women, and men.

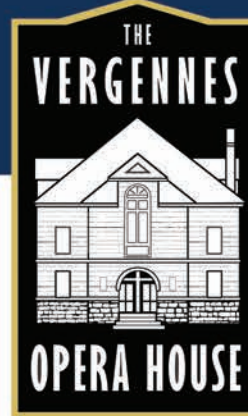
Contestants usually range from interested novices to some of the best in the country. Competitors who are pre-registered pay \$12; the charge is \$14 on the day. Visitor-only admission is \$6 adults, free under 15, including museum admission. Also on Saturday will be experts to talk about the atlatl and modern-day basket making including weaving a straw star for kids and the young at heart. There will also be other special activities for children.

On Friday, Sept. 18, from noon to 5 p.m., is the atlatl workshop taught by Thunderbird Atlatl. Attendees make an atlatl, feather or fletch three darts, and receive coaching advice and much more. The fee is \$70 and includes all materials; pre-registration is required. Call 802-759-2412. Then consider competing the next day.

A smaller second International Standards competition takes place on Sunday, Sept. 20, starting at 10 a.m. Competitor fee is the same as for Saturday.

The Chimney Point State Historic Site presents the history of the region's three earliest cultures — Native American, French Colonial, and early American. It is located at 8149 Route 17W in Addison at the foot of the Lake Champlain Bridge. The site is open 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Wednesdays through Sundays; the last day of the season is Monday, Oct. 12, Indigenous Peoples Day.

For more information about the Vermont State-Owned Historic Sites visit www.historicsites.vermont.gov.



Announcing Our 2026-2027 Season of Events!

TICKETS at vergennesoperahouse.org



Sat, Sept 26, 2026 • 7:30pm
Patti Casey, Colin McCaffrey & Eric O'Hara VT's Own Folk



Sat, Oct 10, 2026 • 7:30pm
Champlain Philharmonic Orchestra Matt LaRocca, Conductor



Sun, Nov 22, 2026 • 3:00pm
Thanksgiving Community Hymn Sing



Fri & Sat, Dec 11 & 12, 2026
Broadway Direct with Bill Carmichael Walsh & Friends



Sat, Jan 16, 2027 • 7:30pm
Cricket Blue
Seven Daysie Awards "Best Folk"



Sat, Feb 6, 2027 • 7:30pm
LC Jazz Winter Thaw
Free Community Concert/Dance



Sat, March 20, 2027 • 7:30pm
Cantrip
Celtic Fusion Folk from Edinburgh



Fri, April 9, 2027 • 7:00pm
Vermont Youth Orchestra Ensembles



Fri, April 23, 2027 • 7:30pm
Deb Brisson & The Hay Burners



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Wildlife day

(Continued from Page 12)
booth will be serving homemade dishes for lunch by donation or roast a hotdog over an open fire. All proceeds will go back into the event.

“We want to welcome visitors to the 25th year of the popular Dead Creek Wildlife Day,” said Amy Alfieri, manager of the Dead Creek WMA. “We try to bring in new activities and presentations, and I am excited with this year’s schedule. I only ever see smiles on people’s faces as they learn about fish and wildlife in a beautiful setting. Visitors love to see the live animals and working dogs, and the kids love to build their own bluebird box to take home. It’s a great event for everyone.”

The festival is hosted by the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department; Vermont Department of Forests, Parks & Recreation; and Otter Creek Audubon Society. This year’s event is supported by a grant from the Kelsey Trust.

For more information and a schedule of

events visit Vermont Fish & Wildlife’s website at vtfishandwildlife.com and check under Watch Wildlife.



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**ADDISON COUNTY
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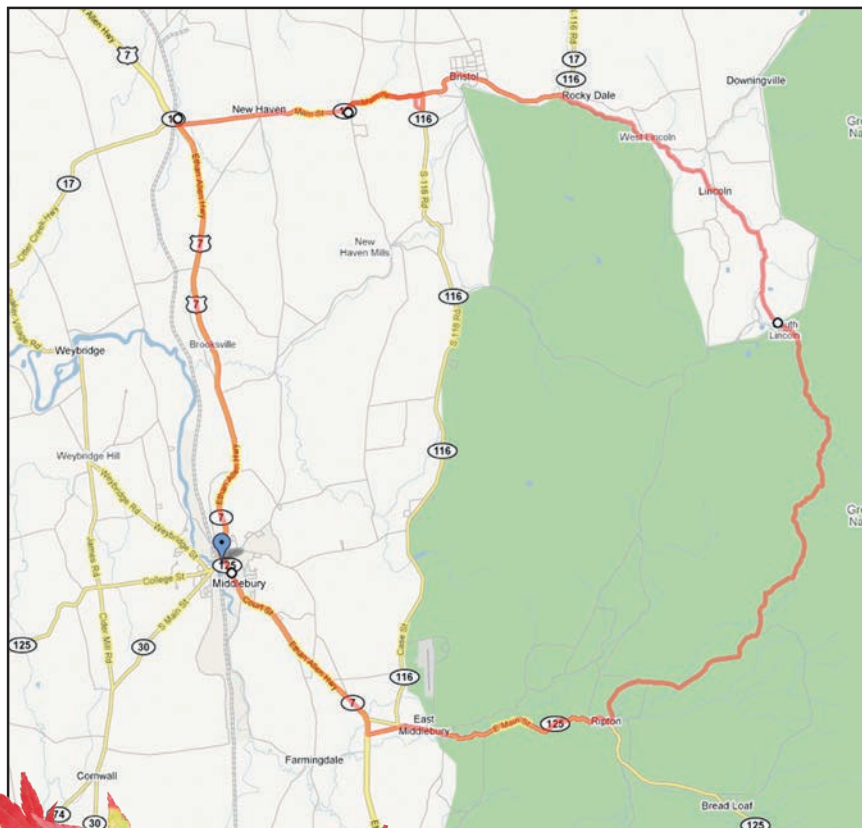
Discover Addison County

Fall Foliage Road Trips



Ripton/Lincoln Tour — 1 Hour:

From Middlebury, travel south on Route 7, then east on Route 125, passing the Waybury Inn on your left. Travel up the mountain, turn left at the Ripton Country Store and follow Lincoln Road north to Lincoln (take your time, part of this stretch is a dirt road). Lincoln Road turns into Ripton Road. When you get to River Road turn left and head west through Lincoln Village, down the mountain to Route 17 (it is also called Route 116 at this point, so don't be confused if signs mention both names). Travel Route 17 west through the quaint village of Bristol (where you may like to stop for lunch at a variety of dining establishments) and on to Route 7. Turn left on Route 7 and travel south back to Middlebury.



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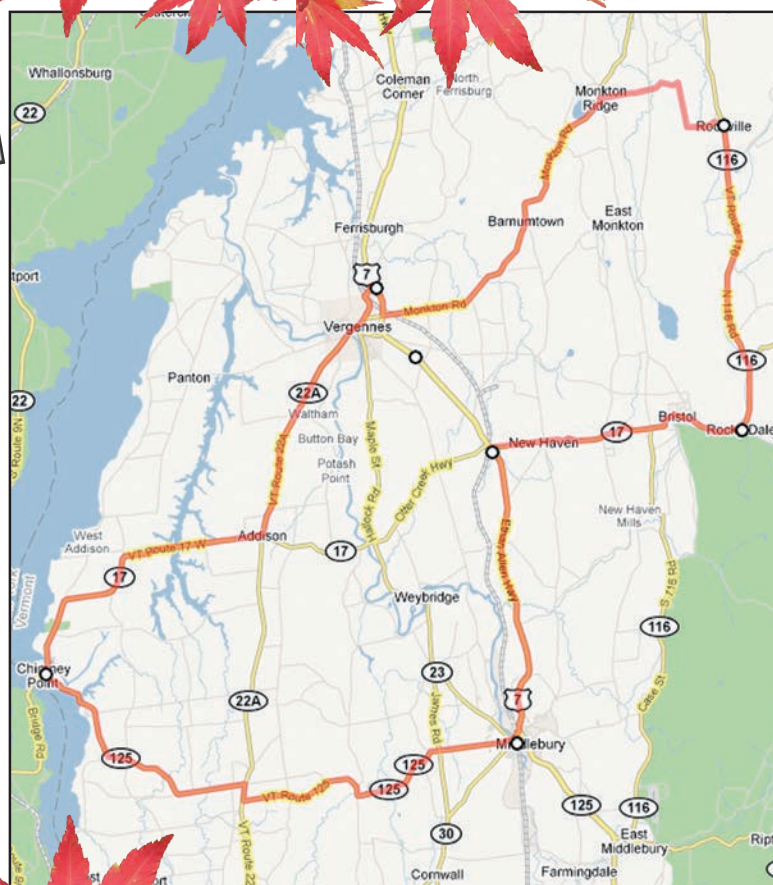


Chimney Point Drive — 2 Hours:

Leaving Middlebury via College Street, take Route 125 west to Chimney Point, the site of the beautiful Lake Champlain Bridge, which was rebuilt in 2011. A short trip across the bridge to Crown Point in New York will offer great views back to Vermont, and is a fine place for a picnic or tour around a major historic landmark. On the Vermont side of the bridge, the Chimney Point State Historic Site at the foot of the span is a perfect place to learn about, well, history. The nearby DAR John Strong Mansion Museum is also worth a stop if you have the time.

From the Vermont side of the bridge, take Route 17 east (passed the DAR museum) to Addison village, where you will pick up Route 22A and head north into Vergennes, the smallest city in the United States. Note: Vergennes has some of the most interesting buildings in Victorian architecture. If you have time, get out of your car, wander in the Bixby Memorial Library on Main Street, and gaze up at the stained glass ceiling in the center of the building.

From Vergennes, take Monkton Road east. Cross Route 7 and continue east to the village of Monkton Ridge. At Monkton Ridge turn right onto Bristol Monkton Road, heading south, and continue to Bristol. In Bristol turn right on Route 17 and drive west to Route 7 and head south on Route 7 back to Middlebury.



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Champlain Lookout — 3 Hours:

From Middlebury, take Route 30 (South Main Street) west to Larrabee's Point on Lake Champlain. Take Route 73 and travel west to Independence State Historic Site in Orwell, which is a National Historic Site. You will find the Fort Ti Ferry, which provides a quick crossing to Lake Champlain, running Tuesday-Sunday through Oct. 14.

If you stay in Vermont, this route continues from Lake Champlain. Follow 74 north and east through historic Shoreham.

Take a left on Route 22A heading north. In Bridgeville, take a left on Route 17 east. At the West Addison General Store, take a left on Jersey Street and continue north along Lake Champlain. At the end of Jersey Street take a left on Button Bay Road. At Button Bay State Park, where one might want to stop for a picnic, take a left on Basin Harbor Road. At Basin Harbor resort, which features the Red Mill restaurant, take a left on Basin Harbor Road. At the Maritime Museum, which is another popular attraction, take a left on Basin Harbor Road.

Head back on Basin Harbor Road passed Jersey Street (the Little City), where you'll travel south to Addison. From Addison, travel west on Route 17 through Weybridge and back into Middlebury.



Dining Guide & Calendar of Events



Fall at

TOWN HALL THEATER

HOUSE OF JAZZ FESTIVAL



John Pizarelli Trio

Fri Oct 9 7:30pm

Miles Donahue

Sat Oct 10 2pm

Mathis Picard Trio

Sat Oct 10 7:30pm

Lara Cwass Band

Sun Oct 12 4pm

Ray Vega's Afro-Carribean Ensemble

Sun Oct 12 7:30pm



CELEBRATION & FUNDRAISER

Saturday, October 17 5-9pm

- Fine Art Sale & Live Auction
- Live Jazz & Dance Music by the Doughboys
- Dance Performance by Christal Brown
- Local Designers Fashion Show
- And more!

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Calendar of events

sept
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THURSDAY

Vergennes Opera House Ribbon Cutting in Vergennes.

Thursday, Sept. 17, 2-3:30 p.m., Vergennes Opera House. Celebrate the completion of the All-Access Project with music by the Champlain Brass Quintet and Owen Clevenshine, refreshments, guest speakers and a ribbon cutting. RSVP: info@vergennesoperahouse.org. Free.

Republican Candidate Forum in Middlebury.

Thursday, Sept. 17, 5-8 p.m., Middlebury VFW Post 7823. A chance to meet and ask questions of the local candidates. Moderated by Tim Buskey. Light refreshments provided. For more information, contact Ian Johnson at 318-584-5291 Free.

"You Are Here" Artist's Reception at Middlebury College.

Thursday, Sept. 17, 5-7 p.m., Johnson Exhibition Gallery, 78 Chateau Rd. The exhibit features a combination of artistic and scientific studies of the Central Vermont Landscape and Geology. Included are recent works by artists Jill Madden and Dorothy Punderson and Professor Will Amidon from Middlebury's Earth and Climate Sciences Department.

Otto Funke with She Was Right Band in Monkton.

Thursday, Sept. 17, 4-7 p.m., Stine Orchard, 1823 Monkton Rd. As the leaves turn and the air grows crisp, enjoy an evening filled with lively cover tunes and the warm spirit of community in the orchard.

Bristol Historical Society Monthly Meeting in Bristol.

Thursday, Sept. 17, 6 to 8 p.m., Howden Hall. This month's program is "Show & Tell." Everyone is encouraged to bring any artifact, keepsake, photo, etc. or memory/story about Bristol you may have to share in an informal setting. A Short business meeting follows the presentations. In addition, the museum will also be open from 6-8 p.m. for anyone who would like to visit. Free.

Weekday Symposium: Hannah Miller in Middlebury.

Thursday, Sept. 17, 6:30-7:30 p.m., Ilsley Public Library Community Room, 75 Main St. Vt. State Univ. Johnson's Hannah Miller will present the first lecture in the Ilsley Library's "Weekday Symposium" series. Miller will discuss their quest to read, write and knit in all of Vermont's libraries and what they've learned along the way.

Emerald Ash Borer Discussion.

Thursday, Sept. 17, 7 p.m., New Haven Town Offices. The Conservation Commission will host Noah Hoffman, Invasive Species Coordinator for the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation. He will provide an overview of emerald ash borer and its history in North America, share what Vermont's Forestry Division is doing to address the impacts of this pest, and discuss landowner considerations for the management of ash trees in the face of EAB.

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FRIDAY

Cards & Board Games in Middlebury. Friday, Sept. 18, 3-4:45 p.m., at CSAC's The Center,

17 Court St. Every Friday afternoon (excluding holidays) stop by for games with Stephen before heading over to the weekly community supper. Attending the meal is optional. Parking is available behind the building, please use the street facing entrance. Free.

Addison Housing Works' Neighborhood Block Party in Vergennes.

Friday, Sept. 18, 4-7 p.m., Vergennes American Legion, 100 Armory Lane. AHW's annual party is both a fundraiser and a celebration of community, bringing together neighbors, residents, businesses and supporters who believe everyone deserves access to a safe, affordable place to call home. This family-friendly celebration will feature live music from The Grift, games and activities, a silent auction, local food vendors, and a cash bar. Tickets: \$10. For more info visit bit.ly/AHWBlockParty.

Unconditional Love: An Anti-diet Dance Theater Performance in Middlebury.

Friday, Sept. 18., 5 p.m., Mahaney Arts Center Dance Theatre. Using ensemble and solo dance, song, storytelling, research and projections, this one-hour show is about anti-fatness, body liberation, pleasure, dancing alone in the mirror, eating mangoes and shaking off that which binds us. Performed by Laura Haines, Winnie Looby, Alex Heisler, Zoraya Hightower, Hadley Mueller, Rhonda Doonan and Rachel Siegel.

Green Mountain Club Hike: Chipman Hill in Middlebury.

Friday Sept. 18. Hike up and around Chipman Hill from Washington Street Ext. TAM parking. Moderate, 2+ miles route, 400 feet elevation gain. Contact trip leader David Andrews at 802-388-4894 or vtrevda@yahoo.com for meeting time and to register. For more info, visit gmcbreadloaf.org.

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SATURDAY

Got Bats? Program in Monkton.

Saturday, Sept. 19, 9-10:30 a.m., Monkton Town Forest. Vermont bats are in trouble. Alyssa Bennett, Small Mammals Biologist at the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources, will be leading an outdoor field trip about bats and bat habitat. This exploration will help people learn to see the woods like a bat and understand what they can do in their own backyard or woods for bat conservation. Space is limited. RSVP to Marianne Eaton at 802marianne@gmail.com. Free.

Low Stimulation Library Time in Vergennes.

Sept. 19, 9-10 a.m., Bixby Memorial Free Library. The third Saturday of every month, the library will open one hour early to allow for youth who need an ASD/sensory friendly environment to experience the library without excess stimulation. A calm, self-directed craft will also be provided. Free.

Pug Social in Salisbury.

Sept. 19, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Branbury State Park. Pug Social is Green Mountain Pug Rescue's largest annual fundraiser and brings together pug lovers, rescue supporters, families and their four-legged friends for a fun day while raising critical funds to support the dogs in our care. Adoptable and forever foster dogs, vendors, food, a silent auction and raffles, pug races, a Pup Cup Bar, photo (See Calendar, Page 21)

VERY ERIC CARLE

A VERY HUNGRY,
QUIET, LONELY, CLUMSY,
BUSY EXHIBIT



September 26–
January 18



Very Eric Carle: A Very Hungry, Quiet, Lonely, Clumsy, Busy Exhibit was co-organized by Children's Museum of Pittsburgh and The Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art. TM & © 2016 Penguin Random House LLC. All Rights Reserved

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MIDDLEBURY
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ADDISON COUNTY
INDEPENDENT



Calendar of events

booth and several fun contests — including a costume contest, dog talent contest and our dog-friendly cake eating contest. Full schedule: gmpr.org/pugsocial.html.

The 31st Annual Northeastern Open Atlatl Championship in Addison. Saturday, Sept. 19, 10:30 a.m.-4 p.m., Chimney Point State Historic Site. Participate in or watch the annual atl atl championship testing skills in accuracy and distance. The sport is based on the ancient hunting technique. Newcomers to experts welcome. Flint-knapping demonstrations and lessons, and traditional to contemporary basket making, throughout the day. Pre-registration for competitors required. Competitors: \$12; visitors: \$6; free under 15. Call 802-759-2412 to register.

Finding Your French-Canadian Patriot in Ferrisburgh. Saturday, Sept. 19, 11 a.m., Cross Life Church. The Seth Warner-Rhoda Farrand Chapter of the DAR sponsors genealogist Sherry Marcoux, who will talk about her search for the ancestors of an Addison County resident, one of many who helped in the battle for our independence from the British. Free.

Vermont at the Midterm Moment: A Conversation with State Leaders in Middlebury. Sept. 19, 10:30 a.m.-noon, Town Hall Theater. Public forum brings together four of Vermont's key elected officials for a midterm-year discussion on statewide priorities and the issues shaping Vermont's future. Confirmed participants include Secretary of State Sarah Copeland Hanzas, Congresswoman Becca Balint, Attorney Gen. Charity Clark, State Sen. Ruth Hardy. Brief reflections from each official followed by a moderated conversation featuring questions from Addison County's Summer Social Justice Camp and community members. Free.

Teen Program: Button/Pin Making in Vergennes. Saturday, Sept. 19, 1:30-2:30 p.m., Bixby Memorial Free Library. Is your backpack in need of new decorations? Feel so passionate about a social cause, tv show, or book that you need to show your love for it in button form? Stop by to create your own personalized buttons. Come with images or print them here and transfer them to a pinnable format. Ages 13-18 only. Free.

Walking Tour of Middlebury in Middlebury. Saturday, Sept. 19, 2-3 p.m., Henry Sheldon Museum, 1 Park St. Learn about

the history of Middlebury with a 60-minute, 1-mile narrated walking tour. Follow Todd Goodyear as he weaves through town and time, from the 1780s to the 1980s, spotlighting the people who helped shape Middlebury's character. \$20 for adults; \$12 for ages 13 and under.

Willowell Harvest Festival in Monkton. Saturday, Sept. 19, 2-5:30 p.m., 36 Stoney Meadow Lane. Celebrate the bounty of the land and the changing of the season. This outdoor, family-friendly event brings together the arts, horse & wagon rides, wood-fired pizza, face painting, live music, performances and more. Free. For more info visit willowell.org/events.

Saturday Night Bingo in Vergennes. Saturday, Sept. 19, 5-8 p.m., St. Peter's Parish Hall, 85 S. Maple. A family friendly event, all-cash prizes, 50/50 raffle. Refreshments sold. Sponsored by St. Peter's Cemetery Committee to benefit the ongoing efforts for cemetery improvements.

Dolly & Curry Inspired Drag Night and Fundraiser in Vergennes. Saturday, Sept. 19, 5 p.m., Big Heart Social. An evening celebrating two legendary artists with Dolly Parton- and Tim Curry-inspired drag. Ticket receipts will be shared between the drag performers and a fundraiser for the Bixby Library, in honor of Dolly's Imagination Library. Food and drinks will be available for purchase during the show. Stick around for dancing, dessert and fun! \$30.

Autumn Equinox Gathering in Ripton. Saturday, Sept. 19, 6:30-8 p.m., Spirit In Nature Paths, Goshen Road, Ripton. Walk the lantern-lit path to a campfire at the Sacred Circle. Share poetry, song, the warmth of community and hot tea; tune into what's happening in the natural world. Bring a story or thought to share; bring an intention or a burden to release to the fire. There's a quiet power to these gatherings—you're welcome to come and just be. We'll close with the singing bowl. Free. For more info visit spiritinnature.org/new-events.

Young Masters: Ben & Romy Munkres in Middlebury. Saturday, Sept. 19, 7 p.m., Town Hall Theater. Enjoy Mark Sustic's curated Young Masters Series featuring Cornwall siblings Romy and Ben Munkres. This duo grew up playing music all over the Champlain Valley fostered by the many wonderful musicians and traditions in this part of the state. \$10-\$25.

Green Mountain Club Long Trail Day Hike: Emily Proctor & Cooley Glen Loop in Lincoln. Saturday, Sept. 19. Strenuous 13-mile hike connection the Emily Proctor trail and the Cooley Glen trail via the Long Trail. The hike climbs over Mts. Roosevelt and Wilson. Elevation gain is more than 2,000 feet. Early start is planned. Contact Ellen Cronan at 908-595-2926. More info at gmcbreadloaf.org.

Green Mountain Club: Long Trail Day Hike: Sunset Ledge and Mt. Grant in Lincoln/Ripton. Saturday, Sept. 19. Moderate out and back 8-mile hike from Lincoln Gap to great western views at Sunset Ledge and then on to the Bread Loaf wilderness and Mt. Grant in the Vermont Presidential range. Elevation gain is about 1,200 feet. Contact Ken Corey at 802-349-3733 or kencorey53@gmail.com. More info at gmcbreadloaf.org.

Green Mountain Club Long Trail Day Hike: Deer Leap in Bristol. Saturday, Sept. 19. This afternoon hike is about 3.5 miles with an elevation gain of about 1,000 feet. First stop is at Deer Leap with beautiful views. On the way back we will stop at the ledges with views of Bristol and beyond. Please contact Ruth Penfield at ruthpenfield@gmail.com for details, including start time, meeting location to register. More info at gmcbreadloaf.org.

Green Mountain Club Long Trail Day

Celebration in Bristol. Saturday, Sept. 19, 4-7 p.m., Hogback Mountain Brewing, 372 Rockydale Road. Join the LTD after-party, hear news of the hikes and the woods while listening to the New Haven River. More info at gmcbreadloaf.org.

sept
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SUNDAY

TAM Trek in Middlebury.

Sunday, Sept. 20, 7:30 a.m.-noon, Trail Around Middlebury. Trail race and fun run to benefit the Trail Around Middlebury, a 19-mile loop maintained by the Middlebury Area Land Trust. Proceeds support annual trail maintenance. Participants receive TAM swag, with an option to upgrade to a tech shirt. For more info visit maltvt.org/.

The 31st Annual Northeastern Open Atlatl Championship in Addison. Sunday, Sept. 20, 10 a.m., Chimney Point State Historic Site. Participate in or watch the annual atl atl championship testing skills in accuracy and distance. Competitors: \$12; visitors: \$6; free under 15. Call 802-759-2412 to register.

Fiddle Jam & Bake Sale in Middlebury. Sunday, Sept. 20, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., VFW Post 7823, 530 Exchange St. Come with

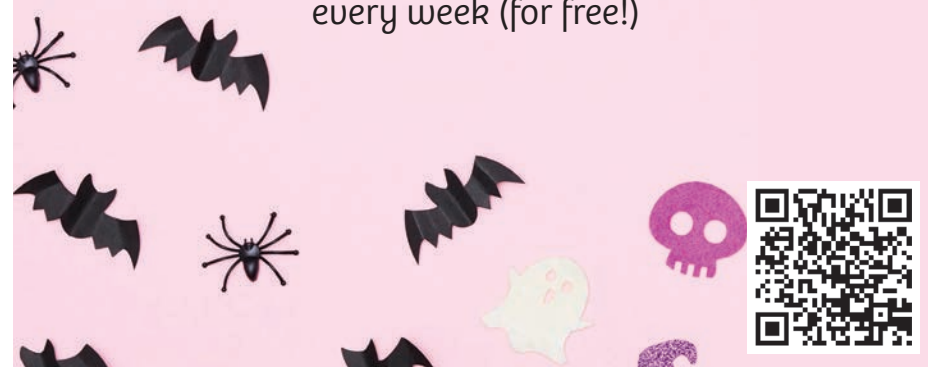
(See Calendar, Page 22)

MiniBury

by the Addison Independent

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MiniBury.com

39th Annual Ripton Ridge Run

Online registration is now open!

Sunday, October 11, 2026

Former Ripton Elementary School, 753 Lincoln Rd.

Race Day Registration: 11am-12pm

Race Start: 12:30pm

Register online!

Scan the QR code or visit tinyurl.com/RiptonRidgeRun

Calendar of events

your dancing shoes on! If you or anyone you know plays the fiddle or another instrument, come play. 50/50 Raffle. Door prize. Refreshments available.

A Revolution Will Not Be Tweeted with John Vincent in Bristol. Sunday, Sept. 20, 1 p.m., Howden Hall. Join us for an afternoon lecture, where you'll learn about the role printing played in the lead up to the Revolution of 250 years ago. Discover how the "Minds and Hearts of the People" were affected by the key participants in the Resistance movement articulating their case against the actions of an ever-increasing abusive authority. Afterwards everyone will have a chance to pull a print. Free.

Live Music: Eclipse Jazz Band in Monkton. Sunday, Sept. 20, 1-4 p.m., Yates Family Orchard. Eclipse performs classic jazz, jazz fusion and creative arrangements of well-known contemporary artists. Bring a picnic, enjoy a Dreamee and relax in the orchard. Free.

The MET Live in HD: 20th Anniversary Celebration in Middlebury. Sunday, Sept. 20, 1 p.m., Town Hall Theater. Hosted by star soprano Renée Fleming, this special presentation will showcase unforgettable moments from the last 20 years of broadcasts. \$10-\$24.

New Craft Circle in Salisbury. Sunday, Sept. 20, 2:30-4 p.m., Salisbury Free

Public Library. Bring your knitting, crochet or whatever you're working on for good company and hot beverages. Contact Aubrey Benner or the Salisbury Library for more information. Free.

My Dentist's Son Storytelling in Ferrisburgh. Sunday, Sept. 20, 3 p.m., Ferrisburgh Town Hall. A group where stories of magic and miracle are shared. Group reflections will explore the joyous and sometimes unexplainable moments that appear in our lives. Visit mydesntistsson.com.

The Lonely Days Are Gone: Community Square Dance & Concert in Brandon. Sunday, Sept. 20, 4-6 p.m., Brandon Town Hall. The Lonely Days Are Gone Tour welcomes neighbors of all ages to connect through live music, participatory dancing and shared meals. Participants will learn the basics of square dancing followed by an evening of traditional American string band music and dancing with caller Sarah Gibson, Ida Mae Specker and her all-star band. No prior dance experience or partner is required. Free. For more info visit idamaespecker.com/square-dance-tour.

Takeout Roast Pork Supper in Vergennes. Sunday, Sept. 20, 5-6 p.m., Vergennes United Methodist Church. Menu: Roast pork, mashed potatoes, stuffing, gravy, vegetable, applesauce, roll and dessert. To preorder call 802- 877-3150 before 7 p.m.

on Thursday, Sept. 10. Pick up at the side door of the church on East Street.

sept
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MONDAY

"Following the Ore" History Talk in Monkton. Monday, Sept.

21, 7 p.m., Monkton Town Hall.

The Monkton Historical Society will host a talk by Ivor Hughes, where he is "follows the ore" as it makes its way to Vergennes and the founding of the Monkton Iron Works. We will explore the rise and fall of the industry and the contribution in 1812-14 to the Battle of Lake Champlain by manufacturing cannonballs. We will look at some of the other industries that relied on the waterpower at its peak in 1870s.

sept
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TUESDAY

Classic Film Club Screening in Middlebury. Tuesday, Sept.

22, 1-3 p.m., Ilsley Public Library Community Room. Join other film lovers for a free screening of a classic film. Free.

Working with Yarn in Middlebury. Tuesday, Sept. 22, 3-4:30 p.m., CSAC's The Center, 17 Court St. Learn to crochet or knit, or share your skills. Not interested in working with yarn? No problem, bring your own

crafts & supplies to work on while spending time with other crafty folks. Every Tuesday. Parking is available behind the building, please use the street-facing entrance. Free.

Milk & Honey Quilters Guild Meeting in Middlebury. Tuesday, Sept. 22, 6:30 p.m., American Legion Post #27. Wilson Road. This meeting features art quilter Linda Diak, whose quilts showcase traditional techniques in new ways that show her expressive animals and intricate quilting. Her trunk show will have examples.

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WEDNESDAY

Balance and Fall Prevention Workshop in Starksboro.

Wednesday, Sept. 23, 12:30-2:30 p.m., Starksboro Public Library. See Sept. 23 listing. Every Wednesday.

Salisbury Community Cooking Club. Wednesday, Sept. 23, 6-8 p.m., Salisbury Free Public Library. Welcome the flavors of fall. Menu inspired by the tastes of the season—and sharing plenty of good food, conversation, laughter and community along the way. Whether you've attended before or this will be your first time, you are welcome at the table! Registration required; contact the library. \$15.

Teen Program: National Novel Writing

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Calendar of events

Month in Vergennes. Wednesday, Sept. 23, 3:30-4:30 p.m., Bixby Memorial Free Library. Have you ever wanted to write your own book but weren't sure where to start? November is National Novel Writing Month, or NaNoWriMo, and Bixby is taking that challenge on! Wednesday evenings will cover what it takes to write a novel, brainstorm ideas, and develop a completed draft by the end of the month. Snacks will be provided. Ages 13-18 only. Free.

Presentation: "Advanced Care Planning" in Middlebury. Wednesday, Sept. 23, 4 p.m., Congregational Church of Middlebury, Main Street. Learn how the Vermont Advance Directive process works. Get free forms and informational brochures. We will discuss how to use advance directives to make a plan for serious illness or end-of-life circumstances, tools to plan for your healthcare and care planning conversations with your loved ones and clinicians. Presented by Taylor Murray, Vermont Ethics Network Advance Care Planning Program Manager.

Summer live music: Ernest James Zydeco in Bristol. Wednesday, Sept. 23, 6-8 p.m., Tillerman, 1868 Rt 116 Road, 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.
"Shostakovich Against Stalin: The War Symphonies" Documentary Screening in Middlebury. Wednesday, Sept. 23, 6:30 p.m., Town Hall Theater. Opera Company Middlebury Artistic Director Doug Anderson will share opening remarks. The reception will be followed by a documentary exploring Dmitri Shostakovich's wartime symphonies against the backdrop of Stalin's Soviet Union. This acclaimed film examines how Shostakovich's symphonies have come to symbolize artistic courage and resilience in the face of totalitarian rule.

What About Wednesdays?: Remi Goode and Gabe Lehrer in Weybridge. Wednesday, Sept. 23, 7:30-9:30 p.m., 3345 Quaker Village Rd. Remi is a classical guitarist and choral singer turned alternative folk singer-songwriter, who writes with honesty and introspection, making an effort to get to the truth about a dynamic or situation with the people in her life. Classical sensibilities, pure vocal quality and the distinctive sound of a nylon-string guitar. \$25.

sept
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THURSDAY

VUHS Homecoming Parade in Vergennes. Thursday, Sept. 24, 6 p.m., downtown. Enjoy the

parade, which starts at the high school and goes down Main St. This year's theme is "Reality TV Shows." Each class builds their own float and comes dressed in the theme.

Green Mountain Club Hike: Charlotte Wildlife Refuge. Thursday, Sept. 24. Easy 2.7-mile hike with gravel and grass paths. Halfway through the hike there will be scenic views of farms and Lake Champlain to the west. Elevation gains of about 250 feet with an estimated 1-2 hour walking time. Dogs not allowed on this hike. Bring bug spray, snacks and water. Contact Steve Ralph at 802-398-5448 or sralph00@gmail.com. For more info, visit gmcbreadloaf.org.

Opera Company Middlebury Festival String Quartet Performance. Wednesday, Sept. 24, 6:30 p.m., Town Hall Theater. OCM Board Member and Middlebury College musicologist Danielle Simon shares a pre-concert talk, followed by our inaugural chamber music concert at 7:30 p.m. The program explores this year's festival theme, "Music in Troubled Times," with masterpieces by Bach, Purcell, Schumann and Shostakovich, alongside works by Rebecca Clarke and American composers Jessie Montgomery, Shelley Washington, and George Walker. The concert also features arrangements by distinguished Vermont composers Matthew LaRocca and Kyle Saulnier.

Tickets: \$30-\$40.

sept
25

FRIDAY

Cards & Board Games in Middlebury. Friday, Sept. 25, 3-4:45 p.m., at CSAC's The Center, 17 Court St. Every Friday afternoon (excluding holidays) stop by for games with Stephen before heading over to the weekly community supper. Attending the meal is optional. Parking is available behind the building, please use the street facing entrance. Free.

The Loop: The Conversations Trio in Middlebury. Friday, Sept. 25, 6 p.m., Town Hall Theater. Have you ever wanted to be part of the artistic process? The third installment of The Loop series invites audiences to step inside a dynamic, immersive jazz and poetry improvisation with The Conversations Trio, featuring musicians Bill Vitek (piano) and Ron White (bass), with poet Burnham Holmes. \$8-\$25

sept
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SATURDAY

27th Annual Harvest Festival in Bristol. Saturday, Sept. 26,

(See Calendar, Page 24)



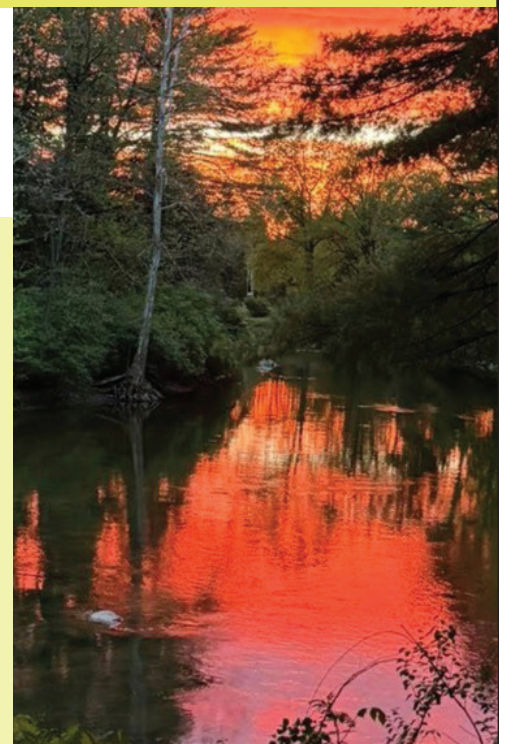
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Calendar of events

10 a.m.-3 p.m., on the town green. The town green will come alive with 70+ vendors, delicious food, live music on the gazebo, pony rides, children's activities, free horse & wagon rides and the popular Art on Main Silent Auction. After visiting the festival, continue strolling through Bristol's charming downtown and shop the local businesses. Free.

Biodiversity Builders: Taking Stock and

Determining What's Next in Vergennes. Saturday, Sept. 26, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., jennifer.pearson@bixbylibrary.org or 802-877-. For more information email to Ashley at arobinsonld@gmail.com. For more info visit tinyurl.com/BuiltyBioAtBixby.

Mushroom Walk with Middlebury Professors in Salisbury. Saturday, Sept. 26, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Branbury State Park. Professors Daniel Lyons and Andrew

Swafford will lead a walk looking for fall mushrooms. Please let the Salisbury library know you are planning to come. Meet at the entry gate. Reduced-priced entry to the park for the event is available. The walk is free.

Benefit Concert for MCMC's Community String Ensembles in Middlebury. Saturday, Sept. 26, 11 a.m., Town Hall Theater. A wildly eclectic morning of chamber music, from Dvořák to Led Zeppelin, to support MCMC's Community String Ensembles. \$10-\$50.

Pianist Henry Kramer in Concert in New Haven. Saturday, Sept. 26, 4-6 p.m. Praised by *The Cleveland Classical Review* for his "astonishingly confident technique" and *The New York Times* for "thrilling [and] triumphant" performances, pianist Henry Kramer is developing a reputation as a musician of rare sensitivity who combines stylish programming with insightful and exuberant interpretations. To buy a \$30 ticket, contact at 802-557-7589 or don@valleystage.net. Concert location will be provided when a ticket is purchased.

Mingle at the Museum in Middlebury. Saturday, Sept. 26, 5 p.m., Henry Sheldon Museum of Vermont History. Come Mingle at the Museum and support the Sheldon by joining us for a night of live music with Ernest James Zydeco, delicious dinner options by Crooked Ladle, beverages, photo booth, scavenger hunt, games and a silent auction. \$50/adult; kids free. For more info visit henrysheldonmuseum.org/events/mingle-at-the-museum.

Patti Casey, Colin McCaffrey, & Eric O'Hara in Vergennes. Saturday, Sept. 26, 7:30 p.m., Vergennes Opera House. The trio bring their celebrated blend of Americana, classic country, swing and original songwriting to the Little City. \$20.

Hope in Motion 5K & 1K Run in Middlebury. Sunday, Sept. 27, 9 a.m., Porter Hospital, 55 Collins Drive. Hope in Motion is a community celebration of recovery, hope and wellness hosted by the Peer Recovery Center of Addison County. Enjoy a 5K Run/Walk, 1K Fun Run, live music, food trucks, a community resource fair and family activities. Come connect, celebrate recovery, reduce stigma and show that every step matters. \$25. For more info visit prcv.org/calendar-of-events/hope-in-motion-5k-1k.

A Point in Time: In Their Own Words presentation in Orwell. Sunday, Sept. 27, 1-2:30 p.m., Mount Independence State Historic Site, 497 Mount Independence Road. A cast of characters present the story of the several months around the Oct. 11, 1776, Battle of Valcour Island — in their own words and from the point of view of the people at the northern garrison at Mount Independence/Fort Ticonderoga.

Live Music: Soulshine Revival in Monkton. Sunday, Sept. 27, 1-4 p.m., Yates Family Orchard. Bring a picnic, enjoy a Dreamee and relax in the orchard with Vermont's Allman Brothers Tribute band. Free.

"Music and Social Power" Lecture in Middlebury. Sunday, Sept. 27, 2 p.m., Town Hall Theater. A Professor of American Studies and English at Middlebury College since 1995, William Nash's scholarship examines Black literature, enslavement and abolitionism and contemporary Black culture, offering a rich perspective on how music has reflected, challenged and transformed American society. Tickets: pay what you can.

Soaring with the Kuaka Panel in Middlebury. Monday, Sept. 28, 5-6:15 p.m., Middlebury College-Dana Auditorium. A delegation of Maori and Pasifika colleagues visiting Middlebury College from Aotearoa/New Zealand will discuss the role of purakau (storytelling), waiata (song) and whakatauki (proverbs) in Indigenous Maori and Polynesian practices of wellbeing and planetary stewardship. Through the teachings of the kuaka, a shorebird known for its remarkable migration from Aotearoa to North America,

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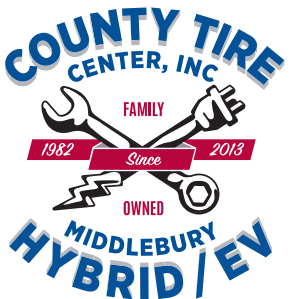
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Calendar of events

attendees can explore the idea that journeys are collective and community futures can soar in spaces of mutual learning, responsibility and relationship.

Cribbage Night in Bristol. Monday, Sept. 28, 7-8:15 p.m., Libanus Lodge. Semi-monthly cribbage night welcomes community players for an evening of cards.

Ecstatic Dance in Addison. Monday, Sept. 28, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Addison Community Center. Come dance it out through a freeform movement practice guided by a music wave that is open to anybody. There are no steps to learn and no experience required. Let the music move you and groove for no one but yourself. \$5-\$10.

sept
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TUESDAY

Presentation: "Medicare Open Enrollment" in Middlebury. Tuesday, Sept. 29, 2:30 p.m., Elderly Services. Age Well's State Health Insurance Assistance Program team will walk you through the steps to prepare for Medicare's Fall Open Enrollment, the time of year when you can change your coverage. Presentation will include: the differences between plans, when and how to change drug coverage, benefit programs that help to pay for Medicare costs, and how to use Medicare. gov. Presented by Sam Carleton of Age Well.

Working with Yarn in Middlebury. Tuesday, Sept. 29, 3-4:30 p.m., CSAC's The Center, 17 Court St. See Sept. 22 listing. Every Tuesday.

sept
30

WEDNESDAY

Balance and Fall Prevention Workshop in Starksboro. Wednesday, Sept. 30, 12:30-2:30 p.m., Starksboro Public Library. See Sept. 23 listing. Every Wednesday.

Class Series: Beginner Sun Style Tai Chi for Fall Prevention in Middlebury. Wednesday, Sept. 30, 1:30-2:30 p.m., Middlebury Recreation Gym. Tai Chi is a flowing and graceful sequence of movements that improve balance, concentration and overall sense of health and well-being. It is appropriate for all

ages, and for people with arthritis and other conditions that limit mobility. To register, email teacher Wendy Covey at wcacovey@gmail.com.

Summer live music: Albany Sound in Bristol. Wednesday, Sept. 30, 6-8 p.m., Tillerman, 1868 Rt 116 Road, 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.

Theater: The Ford/Hill Project in Middlebury. Wednesday, Sept. 30, 7:30-9:30 p.m., Wright Theatre. The Obie Award-winning company Waterwell presents a timely production tackling power, politics and gender. Anita Hill and Christine Blasey Ford provoked a reckoning about who is given the power by telling their stories during the confirmation hearings of Supreme Court justices Clarence Thomas and Brett Kavanaugh. With an ensemble of four actors speaking from the hearing transcripts, these women's stories can be seen side by side in a new light. There will be a public conversation directly following the play. A professionally staffed decompression space will be available. Recommended for audiences 16+. \$5-\$30.

Opera Company of Middlebury: "Rappahannock County." Wednesday, Sept. 30, 7:30 p.m., Town Hall Theater. "Rappahannock County" draws on diaries, letters and firsthand accounts of soldiers, enslaved people, families and civilians living through the Civil War. Composer Ricky Ian Gordon and librettist Mark Campbell built the piece as a series of musical portraits rather than a single narrative, tracing the war's arc from secession to defeat through the voices of ordinary Virginians. Post-show conversations with the cast and creative team follow each performance. \$50-\$100. Repeats Oct. 2 and 4.

What About Wednesdays?: Ordinary Elephant in Weybridge. Wednesday, Sept. 30, 7:30-9:30 p.m., 3345 Quaker Village Rd. Mesmerizing folk duo Ordinary Elephant has spent the better part of the last decade on a never-ending tour that's earned married couple Crystal and Pete Damore widespread critical acclaim. Intimate songs with weaving harmonies and stories that draw you

in. Seating limited to 30. Call 802-557-7589 or email don@valleystage.net for reservations. Tickets: \$25. For more info visit valleystageproductions.com

oct
1

THURSDAY

Lincoln Ladies Aid Industria Fall Rummage Sale in Lincoln.

Thursday, Oct. 1, 1-7 p.m., Burnham Hall. The Lincoln Ladies Aid Industria is celebrating its 140th birthday and will once again hold their Fall Rummage Sale to benefit community needs. Donations will be taken on Wednesday, Sept. 30, from 1-7 p.m. They ask for Fall and Winter items in clean, undamaged condition. Continues Friday and Saturday.

oct
2

FRIDAY

Cards & Board Games in Middlebury. Friday, Oct. 2, 3-4:45 p.m., at CSAC's The Center, 17 Court St. Every Friday afternoon (excluding holidays) stop by for games with Stephen before heading over to the weekly community supper. Attending the meal is optional. Parking is available behind the building, please use the street facing entrance. Free

Lincoln Ladies Aid Industria Fall Rummage Sale in Lincoln. Friday, Oct. 2, 1-7 p.m., Burnham Hall. See Oct. 1 Listing

Voices of Change: The Songs of Bob Dylan in Middlebury. Friday, Oct. 2, 5-7 p.m., Town Hall Theater. An all-star group of Addison County and Vermont musicians celebrates the songs of Bob Dylan, including Deb Brisson, Mark Pelletier, harmonica legend Mr. Charlie Frazier, The Morning Dudes, the Stay at Home Wilburys, Glenn Goodwin, Dan Whittemore, and Ron Rost, the concert weaves together Dylan's timeless protest anthems and unforgettable classics. Free.

Five Fridays Concert: Aysanabee in Middlebury. Friday, Oct. 2, 5:30-7 p.m., Town Hall Theater, Merchants Row Maloney Plaza, 68 South Pleasant Street. Aysanabee, a multi-Juno Award-winning Oji-Cree artist, performs emotionally resonant indie-folk, alternative, and rock known for powerful songwriting and haunting vocals. Food and bar offerings available for purchase. Free. For more info visit townhalltheater.org.

Opera Company of Middlebury: "Rappahannock County." Wednesday, Friday, Oct. 2, 7:30 p.m., Town Hall Theater. See Sept. 30 listing.

(See Calendar, Page 26)



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Calendar of events

oct 3 SATURDAY

Dead Creek Wildlife Day in Addison. Saturday, Oct. 3, 7 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Dead Creek Wildlife Management Area, Route 17 West. Enjoy a day packed with activities for outdoor enthusiasts, with wildlife exhibits, live animal demonstrations, nature crafts, guided walks, and birdwatching. Try your hand at waterfowl calling, fishing, and join the first annual apple dish contest or sample local foods and game from Vermont Wild Kitchen. Activities for all ages include working dog demos, a story walk, and plenty of opportunities to learn about Vermont's wildlife and ecosystems. Find the full schedule at vtfishandwildlife.com.

CSAC Annual Bocce Tournament in Middlebury. Saturday, Oct. 3, 9 a.m., Middlebury Recreation Park next to Mary Hogan School. Join the Counseling Service of Addison County for their annual tournament, a vital fundraiser and a celebration of community. Whether you're playing, volunteering, or cheering from the sidelines, your presence strengthens our mission and helps create spaces where everyone feels welcome, supported, and connected. Register to play or volunteer: runsignup.com/csacbocce.

Salisbury Free Public Library's 125th

Birthday Celebration in Salisbury. Saturday, Oct. 3, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Salisbury Free Public Library. Celebration with cake, treats, activities and swag. Addison County Senator Ruth Hardy and architect Glenn Andres will kick things off with a few remarks. Free.

Marrowbone Outdoor Theater in Lincoln. Saturday, Oct. 3, 12:30-4 p.m., The Meadow at Metta Earth. Marrowbone is an outdoor theater of stories in word, dance and song. Performances are outside. The audience will walk a guided half mile path to view scenes in the autumn woods. Children are most welcome but material is not created primarily for children. \$20. For more info visit marrowbone.org.

Crafternoon in Brandon. Saturday, Oct. 3, 1-3 p.m., Brandon Free Public Library, 4 Franklin St. A monthly crafting afternoon for all ages. Bring your own project or create something using library supplies. A different craft will be featured each month. Free.

Saturday Night Bingo in Vergennes. Saturday, Oct. 3, 5-8 p.m., St. Peter's Parish Hall, South Maple Street. Play bingo at this family-friendly event. All cash prizes, 50/50 raffle. Refreshments sold. This event is sponsored by St. Peter's Cemetery Committee to benefit the ongoing efforts for cemetery improvements. Free.

Lincoln Ladies Aid Industria Fall Rummage Sale in Lincoln. Saturday, Oct. 3, 1-7 p.m.,

Burnham Hall. See Oct 1. Listing

oct 4 SUNDAY

Opera Company of Middlebury: "Rappahannock County." Wednesday, Sunday, Oct. 4, 2 p.m., Town Hall Theater. See Sept. 30 listing.

Middlebury Acting Company Presents: "Mary Postgate" in Middlebury. Sunday, Oct. 4, 4 p.m., Town Hall Theater. Staged reading. Adapted from Rudyard Kipling's most unsettling short story, Mary Postgate is a taut, single-set chamber piece about grief, repression, and the terrible clarity of revenge. Set against the smoke of a garden incinerator on an ordinary English afternoon, it asks what happens when a lifetime of swallowed rage finally finds somewhere to go. Kipling wrote it in 1915 and readers have argued about it ever since. Come see why — and decide for yourself whether Mary Postgate is a monster, a mourner or simply, finally, herself. \$15.

oct 6 TUESDAY

Working with Yarn in Middlebury. Tuesday, Oct. 6,

3-4:30 p.m., CSAC's The Center, 17 Court Street. See Sept. 22 listing. Every Tuesday.

oct 7 WEDNESDAY

Balance and Fall Prevention Workshop in Starksboro. Wednesday, Oct. 7, 12:30-2:30 p.m., Starksboro Public Library. See Sept. 23 listing. Every Wednesday.

oct 8 THURSDAY

Bluebird Improv in Middlebury. Thursday, Oct. 8, 7:30 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 76 Merchants Row. Legendary comedians from SNL, MadTV, Second City and more come together for a night of improv. Joe Canale, Marc Evan Jackson, Stephanie Weir and Brad Morris share the stage, but every show has one more cast member: you.

oct 9 FRIDAY

Green Mountain Club Hike: Silver Lake in Salisbury. Friday, Oct. 9. Hike to Silver Lake from parking lot on Rt. 53. Moderate, 3 miles RT, 650

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Calendar of events

printing during the American Revolution and its modern-day echoes. Attendees can pull a print on a historic press and take part in a conversation about what “the next revolution” might look like. Free.

Balance and Fall Prevention Workshop in Starksboro. Wednesday, Oct. 14, 12:30-2:30 p.m., Starksboro Public Library. See Sept. 23 listing. Every Wednesday.

Presentation: “Driving and Aging — Challenges and Strategies” in Middlebury. Wednesday, Oct. 14, 4 p.m., Congregational Church of Middlebury. An informative session on driving in your later years. Understand how age-related changes affect your driving and discover helpful tips on staying independent, safe and mobile behind the wheel. Learn about the Yellow Dot Program and get ideas for how to approach the difficult conversation about driving retirement. Presented by Julia Irish of the Vermont Dept. of Health.

Stories from the Heart: Honoring the Spirits of Those Who Have Left This World in Middlebury. Wednesday, Oct. 14, 6:30 p.m., Town Hall Theater. Now in its fifth year, Stories from the Heart brings five local storytellers to Town Hall Theater to share personal experiences in their own words, without notes or a script. This year’s storytellers will be announced the week of the show. \$5-\$15.

oct
15

THURSDAY

Green Mountain Club Trail Work in Ripton. Thursday, Oct. 15. Help the trail crew put the trails to bed for winter. The work is dependent on conditions. Plan on a full day in the woods. Contact Ellen Cronan for details, (908) 595-2926. For more info, visit gmcbreadloaf.org.

oct
16

FRIDAY

Spirits of Rokeby Museum in Ferrisburgh. Friday, Oct. 16, 5 – 9:30 p.m. Rokeby Museum. A new immersive theater experience inspired by the Spiritualist history at the museum. Ticket holders will gather for a drink and a short talk on Victorian Spiritualism before entering the historic home where actors will guide them through participatory dramatization, recreating séances based on Rokeby records and other historical accounts. Tickets: \$20-\$25

Tina Friml: Comedy Special in Middlebury. Friday, Oct. 16, 7 p.m. Town Hall Theater, 76 Merchants Row. Vermont’s own Tina Friml is coming home for a very special night: the filming of her new one-hour comedy special. Named one of Variety’s Top 10

Comics to Watch, Tina has grown into an internationally touring comedian. Known for her sharp writing, animated optimism and fearless humor about disability and the assumptions that come with living with cerebral palsy, Tina has become one of the most exciting voices in stand-up today.

oct
17

SATURDAY

Walking Tour of Middlebury in Middlebury. Saturday, Oct. 17, 2-3 p.m., Henry Sheldon Museum, 1 Park St. Learn about the history of Middlebury with a 60-minute, 1-mile narrated walking tour. Follow Todd Goodyear as he weaves through town and time, from the 1780s to the 1980s, spotlighting the people who helped shape Middlebury’s character. \$20 for adults; \$12 for ages 13 and under.

Roots to Sky featuring Moira Smiley and the Rasa String Quartet in Vergennes. Saturday, Oct. 17, 7 p.m., Vergennes Opera House. This program explores the meeting point of classical and folk traditions, with works by singer/composer Smiley, Caroline Shaw, Tchaikovsky and Sato Matsui. \$20-\$40.

Green Mountain Club Trail Work in Ripton. Saturday, Oct. 17. Help the trail crew put the

trails to bed for winter. The work is dependent on conditions. Plan on a full day in the woods. Contact Ellen Cronan for details, (908) 595-2926. For more info, visit gmcbreadloaf.org.

oct
18

SUNDAY

Live Music: The Tenderbellies in Monkton. Sunday, Oct. 18, 1-4 p.m., Yates Family Orchard. The Tenderbellies are a Vermont-based string band that seamlessly blends Americana, bluegrass, new grass, jazz and rock. Their music ranges from bold and brazen to delicate and somber through tightly arranged songs and improvisational exploration. Bring a picnic, enjoy a Dreamee and relax in the orchard. Free.

The Lonely Days Are Gone: Community Square Dance and Concert in Ferrisburgh. Sunday, Oct. 18, 4-6:30 p.m., Ferrisburgh Union Meeting Hall. The Lonely Days Are Gone Tour welcomes neighbors

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Calendar of events

of all ages to connect through live music, participatory dancing, and shared meals. Participants will learn the basics of square dancing followed by an evening of traditional American string band music and dancing with caller Sarah Gibson, Ida Mae Specker and her all-star band. No prior dance experience or partner is required. Free.

oct 20 TUESDAY

Working with Yarn in Middlebury. Tuesday, Oct. 20, 3-4:30 p.m., CSAC's The Center, 17 Court Street. See Sept. 22 listing. Every Tuesday.

Ilsley Weekday Symposium: Henry Sheldon Museum presents "Imagining the World of Charity & Sylvia" in Middlebury. Tuesday, Oct. 20, 6:30-7:30 p.m., Ilsley Public Library Community Room. The Sheldon Museum's executive director Coco Moseley & Middlebury College's Ellery Fouch will present the second lecture in the Ilsley Library's Weekday Symposium. Free.

oct 21 WEDNESDAY

Balance and Fall Prevention Workshop in Starksboro.

Wednesday, Oct. 21, 12:30-2:30 p.m., Starksboro Public Library. See Sept. 23 listing. Every Wednesday.

oct 22 THURSDAY

Interlude Open House in Middlebury. Thursday, Oct. 22, 2-6 p.m., Interlude Counseling Service of Addison County. Join us in strengthening our Interlude community through collaborative art projects and games. Apple cider, donuts and light food will be served. Interlude is a peer run adult mental health urgent care that uses the Intentional Peer Support framework. All are welcome, whether you are a community partner, neighbor, part of our team, have visited previously or are simply curious to explore our space and learn more. Free.

oct 23 FRIDAY

Dashon Burton in Concert in Middlebury. Friday, Oct. 23, 7:30-9:15 p.m., Mahaney Arts Center, Olin C. Robison Concert Hall. Three-time Grammy-winning bass-baritone Dashon Burton has built a vibrant career, performing regularly throughout the

U.S. and Europe. His deep, expressive voice yields extraordinary power and warmth. Burton will perform selections from the 1946 Middlebury recital of Paul Robeson, a celebrated singer, actor, athlete and advocate for the civil rights of people around the world. \$5-\$30.

Green Mountain Club Hike: Silver Lake in Leicester. Friday, Oct. 23. Moderate, 3-mile hike with elevation gain of 500 feet. Beautiful river and lake scenery. Trip leader is Morris Earle. For details or to register, contact [morisearle@gmail.com](mailto:morrisearle@gmail.com) or 802-734-0984. For more info, visit gmcbreadloaf.org.

oct 24 SATURDAY

Guided History Walk: "Go Home Guy Carleton" in Orwell. Saturday, Oct. 24, 1-3 p.m., Mount Independence State Historic Site, 497 Mount Independence Road. A walk with experts to the horseshoe battery on the point to commemorate Oct. 28, 1776, when the defensive strength convinced Gen. Guy Carleton and his British fleet to head back to Canada for the winter. This gave the Northern American Army time to plan for 1777. Wear walking shoes and dress for the weather. If inclement weather,

discussion inside.

Illustrating Vermont History with Tillie Walden & Friends in Middlebury. Saturday, Oct. 24, 1-3 p.m., Ilsley Library Community Room; Henry Sheldon Museum. A conversation between comic artists, graphic novelists and faculty at the Center for Cartoon Studies, Dan Nott, Daryl Seitchik and Tillie Walden. Their conversation will be moderated by Middlebury Professor of History Rebecca Bennette. Free.

Full Moon Hike with Vermont Land Trust in Salisbury. Saturday, Oct. 24, 5:30-6:30 p.m., Salisbury Mills Preserve, 1660 West Shore Road. Family-friendly evening hike with MALT and Vermont Land Trust exploring the preserve by the light of the Hunter's Moon. The easy half-mile walk includes learning about nocturnal animals, nighttime sounds and games for children ages 4-10, with all ages welcome. Hot cocoa, snacks and a short story follow the hike. Costumes welcome. Free.

Silent Film Screening: "The Bat" in Brandon. Saturday, Oct. 24, 7 p.m., Brandon Town Hall. Directed by Roland West, a criminal dressed like a giant bat terrorizes the guests at an old house rented by a mystery writer. An early horror film

(See Calendar, Page 30)

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The Dreamee



Calendar of events

thought to be lost until recently discovered. Jeff Rapsis provides music. Free.

oct 25

SUNDAY

Choose Your Talk Day in Orwell. Sunday, Oct. 25, 1-4 p.m., Mount Independence State Historic Site, 497 Mount Independence Road. The site will offer several talks relevant to the history of this time 250 years ago. Come for one or stay for all. Breaks between programs. Site interpreter Paul Andriscin presents "Ethnic & Cultural Diversity at Mount Independence," looking at the ragtag force from six states and Vermont. Other subjects to be announced. Call 802-948-2000 for details.

Spooktacular in Middlebury. Sunday, Oct. 25, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., town green gazebo and Main Street. A Trick-or-Treating parade led by the one-and-only Spooktacular Witch! Shopkeepers and volunteers will be handing out candy on route, as well as along Merchants Row and in Triangle Park. Dress up and take to the streets for this fun and festive celebration of Halloween!

oct 27

TUESDAY

Working with Yarn in Middlebury. Tuesday, Oct. 27, 3-4:30 p.m., CSAC's The Center, 17 Court Street. See Sept. 22 listing. Every Tuesday.

oct 28

WEDNESDAY

The Mount's Finest Day Commemoration in Orwell. Wednesday, Oct. 28, 10-4:30 p.m., Mount Independence State Historic Site, 497 Mount Independence Rd. Mount Independence commemorates its finest day, 250 years ago, on Oct. 28, 1776, when the Northern Army's garrison caused British Gen. Guy Carleton to head back to Canada. Site interpreters will be on hand in the museum to talk to visitors. Visitors are encouraged to walk the trails and envision this busy day in 1776. Refreshments provided.

Balance and Fall Prevention Workshop in Starksboro. Wednesday, Oct. 28, 12:30-2:30 p.m., Starksboro Public Library. See Sept. 23 listing. Final event for the season.

Presentation: "Building Brain-Healthy Habits" in Middlebury. Wednesday, Oct. 28, 4 p.m., Congregational Church of Middlebury. This program provides research-backed guidance on brain health and outlines the importance of taking action at every age to protect your brain. Research shows there are everyday habits you can build today to help protect your memory and thinking as you get older, potentially reducing your risk or delaying the onset of cognitive decline. Presented by Jordan Cotto of the Vermont Chapter/Alzheimer's Association.

oct 30

FRIDAY

Green Mountain Club Hike

Abbey Pond in Ripton. Friday, Oct. 30. Hike a pretty trail with waterfalls and a secluded pond where moose have been spotted. Moderate hike with 1,220 feet of elevation gain over 4.7 miles. Contact Cary Beckwith at cwbeckwith@yahoo.com. For more info, visit gmcbreadloaf.org.

oct 31

SATURDAY

Trick or Treat at the Bixby in Vergennes. Saturday, Oct. 31, 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Start your day of Halloween fun at the Bixby! Follow the clues to find treats and prizes hidden throughout the library.

nov 3

TUESDAY

Working with Yarn in Middlebury. Tuesday, Nov. 3, 3-4:30 p.m., CSAC's The Center. See Sept. 22 listing. Every Tuesday.

nov 7

SATURDAY

Crafternoon in Brandon. Saturday, Nov. 7, 1-3 p.m., Brandon Free Public Library, 4 Franklin Street. A monthly crafting afternoon for all ages. Bring your own project or create something using library supplies. A different craft will be featured each month. Free.

Silent Film Screening: "The Navigator" in Brandon. Saturday, Nov. 7, 7 p.m., Brandon Town Hall. Set sail with Buster Keaton in this classic comedy about a spoiled rich couple marooned all alone on a drifting ocean liner. Jeff Rapsis provides music. Free; donations accepted.

nov 10

TUESDAY

Working with Yarn in Middlebury. Tuesday, Nov. 10, 3-4:30 p.m., CSAC's The Center. See Sept. 22 listing. Every Tuesday.

nov 12

THURSDAY

Speakers Bureau: "Bridging Divides in a Nation at War" in Ferrisburgh. Thursday, Nov. 12, 3-4:30 p.m., Ferrisburgh Town Offices and Community Center. Isaac Evans-Frantz presents a conversation on bridging political divides and exploring the impact on Americans from living in a country constantly engaged in war. This event invites participants to discuss peace, power, and how Vermonters can help foster unity in a divided nation.

nov 14

SATURDAY

Saturday Night Bingo in Vergennes. Saturday, Nov. 14, 5-8 p.m., St. Peter's Parish Hall, South Maple St. Join us for bingo at this family friendly event. All cash prizes, 50/50 raffle. Refreshments sold. This event is sponsored by St. Peter's Cemetery Committee to benefit the ongoing efforts

Calendar of events

for cemetery improvements. Free.

nov
17

TUESDAY

Working with Yarn in Middlebury. Tuesday, Nov. 17, 3-4:30 p.m., CSAC's The Center. See Sept. 22 listing. Every Tuesday.
Intro to Mandarin: An Evening with Heritage Speaker Connor Frost in Middlebury. Tuesday, Nov. 17, 6:30 p.m., Ilsley Public

Library. Have you ever wanted to learn Mandarin, the most spoken language in the world? Connor Lin Frost presents a workshop where you will explore the most commonly used words and phrases.

nov
20

FRIDAY

Speakers Bureau: "The Underwater Archaeology of the American Revolution on Lake Champlain" in Bridport. Friday, Nov.

20, 2-3:30 p.m., Bridport Historical Society, Bridport Community/Masonic Hall, 52 Crown Point Rd. Chris Sabick will share information on a number of research efforts focused on the Revolutionary War in general, and the Battle of Valcour Bay and its aftermath. Archaeological excavations at Valcour Bay, Arnold's Bay, and discussion about the gunboat Spitfire.

nov
22

SUNDAY

Thanksgiving Community Hymn Sing in Vergennes. Sunday, Nov. 22, time TBD, Vergennes Opera House. A community sing with the Addison County Gospel Choir featuring traditional and contemporary hymns and praise songs.

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NAVIGATE



WEBSITE

AREA Dining Guide



American Flatbread



American Flatbread's menu features all-natural pizza baked in a wood-fired oven, fresh salads, and house-made desserts. Guests can check out creative specials or choose one of the menu favorites — all include seasonal and organic ingredients whenever possible, showcasing the bounty of local farms. The spacious bar offers craft cocktails, select wines, and innovative signature cocktails. Guests can sit inside and watch how the machine runs behind the open kitchen and bar, or relax outside on the beautiful timber frame pavilion. Historic Marble Works, Middlebury. Call 802-388-3300 or visit americanflatbread.com to learn more.

Black Sheep Bistro

The talented chef and staff welcome you to the Black Sheep Bistro in Vergennes, for a warm and cozy dining experience inside or on the patio when the weather is fair. Their menu has been prepared with fresh, local ingredients and inspired by traditional French flavors. French fries and mashed potatoes for the table! Call 802-877-9991 for reservations or order online at blacksheepbistrovt.com. Located at 253 Main Street, Vergennes, VT.



Costello's Market



For gourmet lunches and dinners to go, Costello's Market can't be beat! Amazing sandwiches, salads, and the freshest seafood dishes. Costello's is a top-notch fish market, receiving daily deliveries. Plus, they offer a great selection of authentic Italian specialty items: San Marzano tomatoes, Illy coffee, pasta, meats, cheeses, olive oils, and fabulous domestic and imported wines to accompany any meal.

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Fire & Ice





AREA Dining Guide

Green Peppers



Green Peppers Restaurant at Shaw's Plaza in Middlebury is a fall destination for hand-crafted pizza on traditional risen crust, house-made pasta, calzones, subs, and salads. Guests can dine in, take out, or call ahead for large group orders and pasta trays. Next door, Retro Realm Arcade rounds out the experience with wristband specials and family fun seven days a week. It's eat, play, and more, right in the heart of Middlebury.

10 Washington St. • 802- 388-3164 • greenpeppersvt.com.

Jessica's at Swift House Inn

Jessica's at Swift House Inn offers fine dining in a historic setting, with an award-winning wine list and a seasonally changing menu. Vermont native Chef Rob Fenn showcases local ingredients, including vegetables from Elmer Farm in Middlebury, blue cheese from Boucher Family Farm in Highgate, Misty Knoll chicken from New Haven, and more. Whether planning a romantic dinner, a celebration feast, or cocktails on the patio, guests will find guidance from the sommelier in selecting the perfect pairing. Dinner hours: Wed., Thurs. & Sun., 5:00–8:00 pm; Fri. & Sat., 5:00–8:30 pm. Breakfast is served daily. 25 Stewart Lane, Middlebury.



Photo Credit: Caleb Kenna

Morgan's Tavern at Middlebury Inn



Morgan's Tavern at the Middlebury Inn offers contemporary world cuisine crafted from the finest local ingredients. Guests can savor Vermont's fare, along with local spirits, wines, and beers, all set against a historic backdrop for an unforgettable dining experience. Located at 14 Court Square in downtown Middlebury.

Call (802) 388-4961 for reservations & to-go orders.

For menu and more info, visit middleburyinn.com.

Otter Creek Bakery

Otter Creek Bakery & Deli, a Middlebury favorite since 1986, offers European-style pastries, artisan breads, and gourmet breakfast and lunch options made fresh seven days a week. Guests can enjoy flaky croissants, vibrant salads, and hearty sandwiches crafted with local ingredients. Conveniently located at 14 College Street, offering counter service and a spacious outdoor deck. Call 802-388-3371 or order online at OtterCreekBakery.com for custom cakes, catering, or grab-and-go meals.



AREA Dining Guide



Park Squeeze



Located on Main Street in historic downtown Vergennes, the Park Squeeze crew serves casual and delicious food and drinks Tuesday through Saturday. Bring the family or meet up with friends on one of two inside levels or on the porch where you can watch the activity on the bustling Main Street. Check them out on Facebook for new menu offerings and weekly specials! Order online at parksqueeze.com and walk-ins are welcome... they'll squeeze you in! Find them at 161 Main Street, Vergennes, VT. 802-877-9962.

Sabai Sabai

Comfortable and cozy, with a colorful flair of South Asia, Sabai Sabai offers sumptuous Thai cuisine. Offering an extensive menu adaptable for a variety of palates, plus vegetarian and gluten-free options, there is something for everyone. Serving lunch Thursday through Sunday; dinner Wednesday through Sunday. Closed Mondays and Tuesdays. Please make reservations for parties of 6 or more. For more information, call 802-989-7376, find us on Facebook, or visit www.sabaisabaithai.com. Located at 22 Merchants Row in downtown Middlebury.



Two Brothers



Located at 86 Main Street in Middlebury, Two Brothers Tavern offers upscale comfort fare in a charismatic setting. Guests can enjoy a rotating selection of 32 local craft brews, hard ciders, and kombucha - the largest in the region. Seasonal outdoor seating and the downstairs Notte lounge, with its full bar and pizza kitchen, provide additional options for dining and private events.

Open Thursday-Tuesday, closed Wednesdays.

For reservations and daily hours, visit twobrotherstavern.com.



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Saturday - Sunday, 12:30 PM- 3 PM

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Mixed Garden Salad	\$12.95
Mediterranean Salad fresh greens, roasted peppers, onion, cucumbers, mozzarella, tomato, kalamata olives & feta cheese dressing	\$15.95
Scampi Shrimp Salad large shrimp in garlic, lemon & olive oil over fresh greens, tomatoes & marinated broccoli florets	\$24.95
Misto Verdure medley of roasted & marinated vegetables with fresh herbs, olive oil & balsamic	\$18.95
Vermont Goat Cheese Salad w/ Eggplant & Arugula	\$18.95
Crispy Calamari with fresh basil aioli..pint	\$18.95

PASTA

Cheese Lasagna	\$15.95
Cheese Ravioli..marinara sauce	\$14.95
Pasta & Marinara	\$10.95
add meatball \$2.50 or sausage \$3.95 each	
Potato Gnocchi marinara sauce	\$16.95
add meatball \$2.50 or sausage \$3.95 each	
Gnocchi, Portabellas & Peppers	\$19.95
Eggplant Parmesan & Pasta	\$18.95

MEAT ENTREES

Chicken Cacciatore - peppers, mushrooms in wine tomato sauce over pasta	\$19.95
Pork & Pappardelle - tender boneless pork in a rich tomato sauce with mushrooms & peppers over pappardelle pasta	\$19.95
Chicken Parmesan - over pasta	\$18.95

DEEP FRIED DINNERS

Sea Scallops	\$ MP
Gulf Shrimp	\$ MP
Belly Clams	\$ MP
Calamari	\$19.95
Fish & Chips	\$17.95
Oysters	\$ MP

Fried dinners include fries & cole slaw

SEAFOOD SUBS AND DINNERS

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California Fish Taco	\$12.95
Salmon Patty Ciabatta	\$14.95
Seafood Salad Sub Small..	\$14.95 Large \$16.95
Tuna Salad Sub Small	\$12.95 Large \$15.95
Fish & Chips	\$17.95
Blackened Salmon Sub	
	Small \$14.95..Large \$16.95
Fried Shrimp Po Boy	\$17.95
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Fried Fish Filet Sandwich	\$17.95
Fried Scallops Dinner	\$ MP
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topped with fresh basil lemon aioli over medley of roasted vegetables **\$24.95**

SALADS

Mixed Garden Salad	\$12.95
Caesar Salad	\$10.95
Chicken Caesar	\$14.95
Salmon Caesar	\$19.95
Shrimp Caesar	\$21.95
Fresh Yellow Fin Tuna Salad	
celery & mayo, served on bed of fresh greens with tomato & cucumber salad	\$15.95
Mediterranean Salad	
fresh greens, roasted peppers, onion, cucumbers, mozzarella cheese, tomato, kalamata olives & feta cheese dressing	\$15.95
with chicken	\$20.95 with shrimp \$24.95
Sicilian Salad	
fresh greens, marinated roasted eggplant, artichokes, olives, roasted peppers, mozzarella, sun dried tomatoes, lemon & olive oil	\$17.95
with tuna	\$25.95 with shrimp \$29.95
Arugula Goat Cheese Salad	
eggplant caponata, baby portabella, Vermont goat cheese, romaine, roasted peppers, olive oil balsamic vinaigrette	\$18.95

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Menu
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The "Don Corleone" - oven baked sub with cappicola provolone, roasted peppers & onions, tomato
Small \$14.95 Large \$16.95
The Veggie - aged provolone, tomato, romaine, onion, banana peppers, cucumbers
Small \$12.95 Large \$15.95
The "Don Barzini" - oven baked sub with salami, roasted peppers & onions, tomato, provolone
Small \$14.95 Large \$16.95
The "Fredo" - veggie sub with fresh mozzarella, romaine lettuce, tomato, onion & seasoned olive oil
Small \$12.95 Large \$15.95
Baby Bella & Roasted Pepper Sub - oven baked sub with fresh basil aioli, Vermont goat cheese & arugula
Small \$12.95 Large \$15.95
Eggplant Caponata & Mozzarella - oven baked sub of Sicilian eggplant salad & fresh mozzarella
Small \$12.95 Large \$15.95
Turkey Sub - tomatoes, lettuce, mayo
Small \$12.95 Large \$15.95
The Roma Sub - capicola, provolone, tomatoes, lettuce, seasoned olive oil & banana peppers
Small \$12.95 Large \$15.95
The "Sicilian" - oven baked sub with homemade meat balls, marinara, Parmigiano Reggiano & aged provolone
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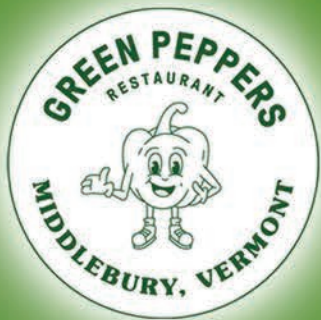
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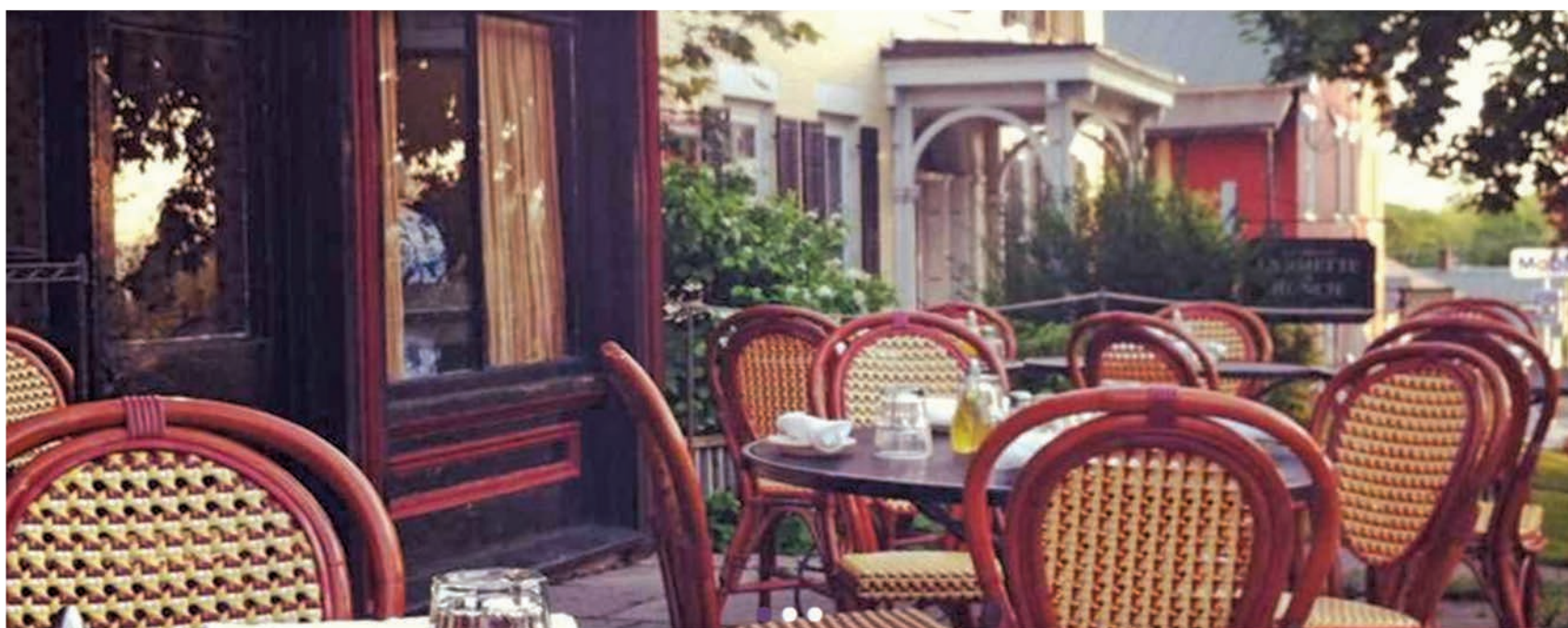


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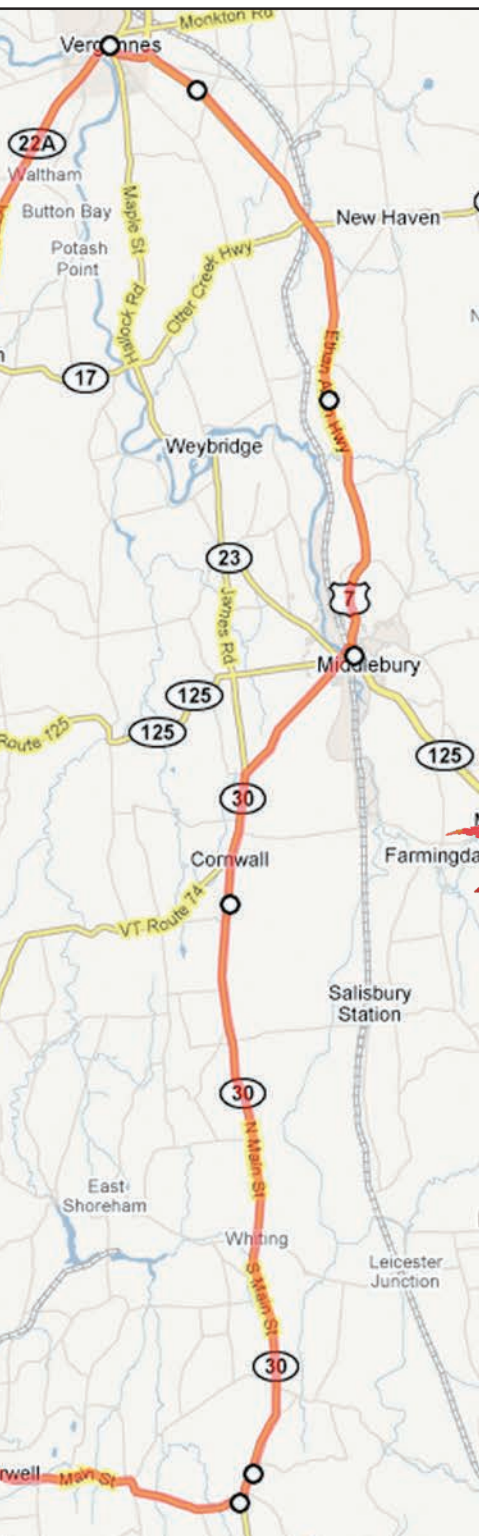
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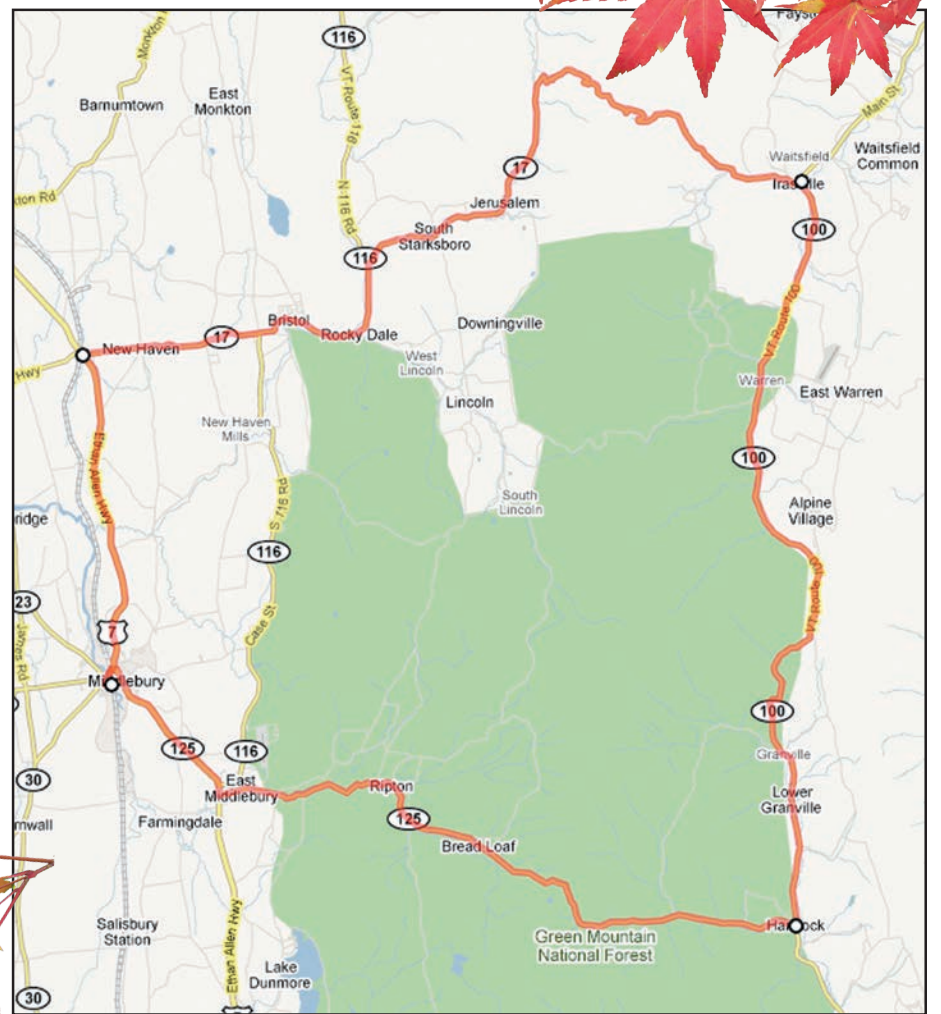


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Mad River Valley Tour — 3-4 Hours:

From Middlebury, take Route 7 south a few miles to Route 125 on the left. Cruise Route 125 east through East Middlebury and Ripton, passing the Robert Frost Wayside Recreation Area, the famous Middlebury College Bread Loaf campus, crossing over the Middlebury Gap (elevation 2,149 feet). Proceed down the mountain (also known as the Robert Frost Memorial Drive), into the village of Hancock.

Take a left onto Route 100 north through the town of Granville, watching on your left for the beautiful Moss Glen Falls. Continue north into Waitfield, where you will pick up Route 17, and follow it west over the Appalachian Gap (elevation 2,365 feet — a great place to stop and enjoy foliage views). When you get to the bottom of the other side, you'll take a left and Route 17 and Route 116 will run together for several miles, including through the village of Bristol. Just past the village, Route 116 peels off south but you should stay on Route 17 westbound through New Haven until you come to Route 7. Take Route 7 south back to Middlebury.



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Capital City Cruise — Day Trip:

From Middlebury, take Route 7 south to Route 125, Route 125 east over the mountains to Route 100 in Hancock. Take Route 100 south to Stockbridge, where you pick up Route 107 and drive east to Bethel.

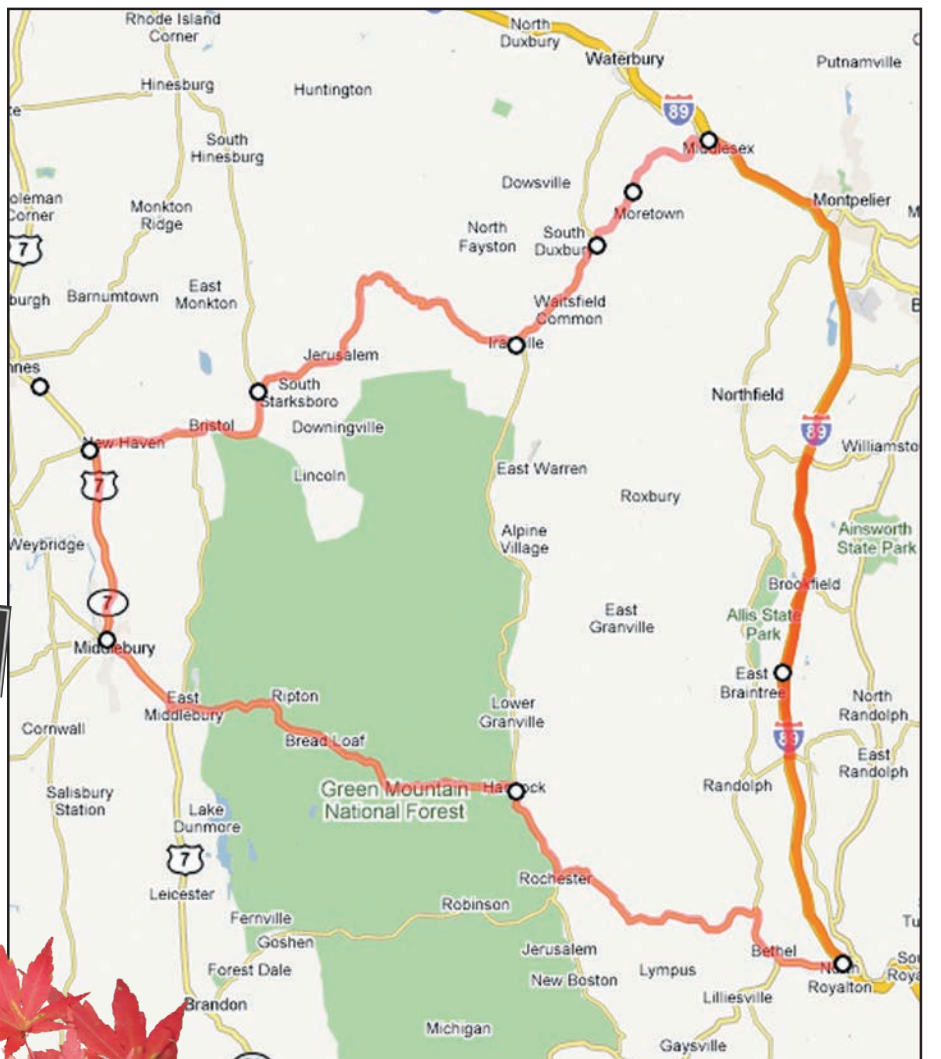
In Bethel take Interstate 89 (known as one of the most beautiful interstates in the country) and head north, passing Vermont's capital city, Montpelier (population around 8,000 — smallest capital city in the country). Get off the interstate at Middlesex (Exit 9) and take Route 100B south to the town of Waitfield. In Waitfield, bear right on Route 17 and head west over the Appalachian Gap (elevation 2,365 feet). Follow Route 17 to Route 7 and then take 7 south back to Middlebury.

Street) south to Sudbury, where you take a right on Lake Champlain. You may want to stop at the Mount very fine Revolutionary War site. At Larrabee's Point k ride across the lake (for a fee, no credit cards). It is

Larrabee's Point, where Route 73 ends and Route 74 oreham.

ort take Route 125 west to Chimney Point on Lake in Bridge, which opened in November 2011. Follow known locally as WAGS, bear left off Route 17 and Champlain passed the Pantown Town Hall. At the and head north, passing a short road to beautiful and picnic. Basin Harbor Road takes you past the aurant. Also look for the nearby Lake Champlain on.

Street toward Vergennes and it will bring you back to Route 22A (just before At Addison Four Corners take Route 17 east to Route 23 and Route 23 south



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DASHA KALISZ

Meet artists in Brandon

Brandon Artists Guild features new artists every month.

BRANDON — The village of Brandon has many charms, one of which is that it is destination for Vermont art and fine craft.

One of the reason is the Brandon Artists Guild, founded in 1999, which is an artist-run gallery showcasing an ever-changing selection of fine art and handcrafted work by more than 30 Vermont artists and artisans. The gallery features painting, sculpture, ceramics, glass, jewelry, metalwork, wearables, printmaking, and more, all thoughtfully curated in a warm, welcoming space.

The nonprofit supports Vermont’s visual artists and arts education, with a special commitment to sustaining visual arts programs in local schools. Located in the heart of downtown Brandon at 7 Center St. (Route 7), the gallery is a rewarding stop for visitors seeking authentic, locally made art and a meaningful connection to the creative spirit of Vermont.

The Guild features an Artist of the Month, with a talk and a special exhibit. This fall, the Artist of the Month for September is ceramic artist Dasha Kalisz. She creates functional

and sculptural ceramics inspired by seasonal transformations and rural landscapes. She aims to create one-of-a-kind pieces that nourish the spirit and honor the home by celebrating our daily routines.

Kalisz’s artist’s talk took place earlier in September, but here’s a little about her background. She earned her B.A. from Burlington College and her M.F.A. from Maine College of Art and Design in studio arts. Kalisz has been making both functional and sculptural art for more than ten years. Her method of making includes working on the potter’s wheel and hand building pieces, sometimes infusing the two methods.

Kalisz participated in a residency in Tuscany, Italy, at La Meridiana International School for Ceramics. She has also juried into group exhibitions at the Paper and Clay Show in Lagan, Utah, The Clay Studio National in Philadelphia, and the Emotional Value Auction in Topsham, Maine.

She lives in Leicester, where she operates out of her home studio. An art teacher at Otter Valley, Kalisz teaches occasionally at Middlebury Studio School.

The Guild’s October Artists of the Month will be Althea Bilodeau Lamb, a fiber artist who will deliver a talk about her work on Oct. 16 at 7 p.m.

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"I express my love of fashion through traditional felt making and distinctive surface design," Lamb writes in an artist's statement. "Each one-of-a-kind item is created from the finest quality wool, silk and exotic natural fibers. I begin by hand-dyeing my raw materials, then create unique non-woven fabric using my own variation of an ancient wet felting technique. From classic outerwear to dramatic scarves, shawls and bags, each piece is carefully designed and handcrafted in my Vermont studio."

The Brandon Artists Guild gallery is open daily 10 a.m.–5 p.m.



ALTHEA BILODEAU LAMB



Apps entice young Vermonters to join the 'birding boom'

By ERIKA TALLY
UVM's Community News Service

More than a third of adults in the U.S. engage in some form of birdwatching, with the majority of them being age 55 or older, according to data from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

But technological advancements are creating a new generation of avian enthusiasts. Experts say apps such as Merlin Bird ID and eBird are attracting more members of Gen Z to the hobby, fostering a new community of young naturalists.

"We need this next generation to really develop that sense of conservatorship responsibility in terms of ensuring that we preserve what we have and all of their habitats," said Patrick Philips, president of the Green Mountain Bird Alliance. "That's been one of our main focuses as an organization, to really try to instill that in all the groups, for a long time."

Allan Strong, an ornithologist and the director of the wildlife and fisheries biology program at the University of Vermont, believes the birding trend began to take flight during the COVID-19. He said people were looking to spend more time outdoors, and walking around searching for birds in their neighborhood offered that opportunity.

Data supports Strong's hypothesis: According to Audubon on Campus, a national program focused on engaging college students in birding and conservation, the club's growth has been exponential, expanding from a dozen chapters in 2019 to over 92 by 2025.

Strong said he has seen a marked increase in the number of young birders. His ornithology class at UVM has doubled in size over the past few years, with upwards of 60 students enrolled each semester, a number he calls "mind-boggling."

Like many birders, Strong also credits the introduction of new birding technologies, namely Cornell Lab's Merlin Bird ID, to the increase in popularity. The free app, which Strong uses in his classes, allows users to identify birds around them with the touch of a button using features such as photo and audio identification.

"The app democratizes birding. You don't really need any kind of special training to know what birds are singing all around you. You can just walk around in the woods and have your Merlin app out," Strong said.

Philips, who is a former high school biology teacher, agreed, saying that creating technology that is accessible and attractive to Gen Z could help younger people appreciate nature more.

"It's been a fabulous entry point for people. For somebody to walk out in their backyard, put Merlin on and say, 'Oh my god, there's 20 species here,' Then they start to look at those birds, and they begin to learn more," he said.

Vermont's diverse habitats — from high mountain spruce-fir forests and treeless balds, to mixed hardwood forests, to the Champlain River Valley with diverse agricultural, wetland, and forested habitats — afford the birder a variety of species to discover. Brandon is fortunate in that some



A WOBBLY CHESTNUT-SIDED warbler warbles away in Lincoln.

Photo by Dale Cockrell

of these habitats exist within the town-wide area, while others are a short distance away, such as in the Moosalamoo National Recreation Area. From the Hermit Thrush—our state bird—to a variety of other species, Brandon can give the keen birder some 60 species on a morning.

Gen Z's new-age spin on birding and growing appreciation of the creatures has been a net positive, as finding a common interest in the activity has also created

new opportunities for social connection, said 22-year-old birder Max Handelmann of Burlington.

People go out on trips. My friends and I will have group chats and text, 'Hey, there's this bird around, you should try and go find it,'" he said. "It's a very inclusive community."

Editor's note: This story comes courtesy of the Community News Service, a University of Vermont journalism internship.

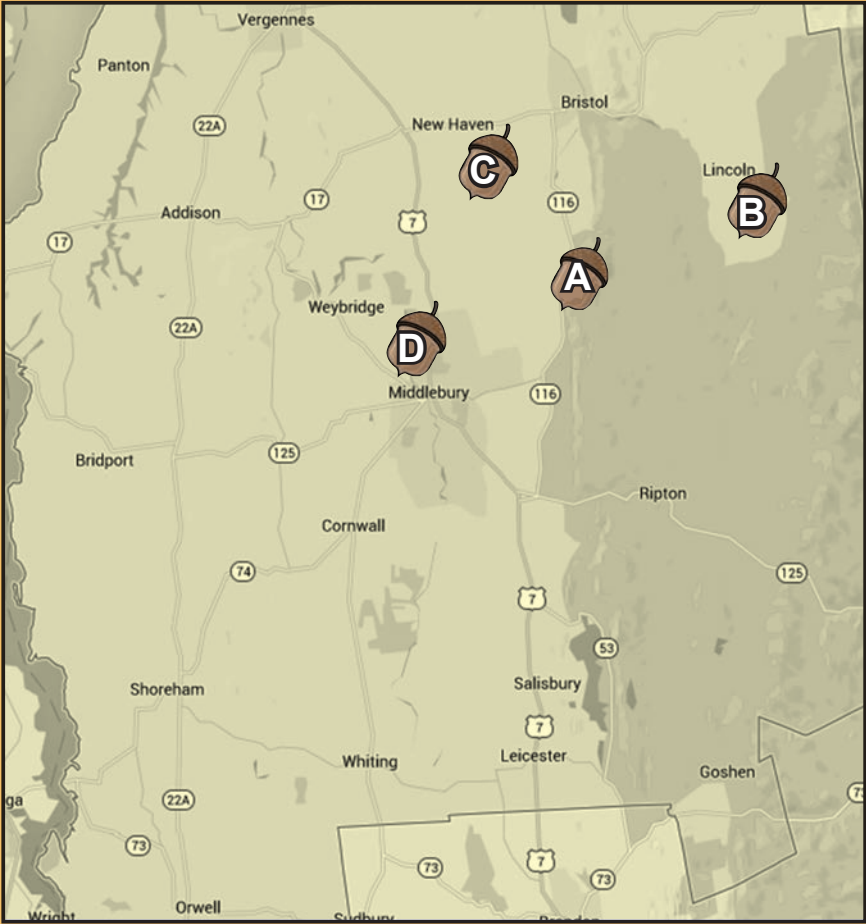
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Henry Sheldon Museum

Don't miss these upcoming events at the Sheldon this fall!



Cooking Workshop with Maryait Khader

October 5: 1:00 pm-3:00 pm

Participants will learn how to make maqluba, a traditional Palestinian dish. Supplies are provided, but registration is required as space is limited. Free to all.



Memory Altar

October 7-November 4

A memory altar is a personal and meaningful way to honor the memories of loved ones who have passed. As part of the "Stories from the Heart" project, hosted by the Palliative Care Department at Porter Medical Center, the Sheldon Museum will be hosting an altar on our front porch and inviting the Addison County community to share in this tradition. All are invited to add something of meaning to the altar.



Walking Tour of Middlebury *Last Tour of the Season*

October 17: 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Explore Middlebury's history on a 60-minute, one-mile narrated walking tour led by Todd Goodyear. Discover the people and families who shaped the town, from the 1780s through the 1980s. Tours depart from the Henry Sheldon Museum, and tickets—\$20 for adults and \$12 for ages 13 and under—include same-day Museum admission.



Illustrating Vermont History

October 24: 1:00 pm-3:00 pm

Join Vermont comic artists Dan Nott, Daryl Seitchik, and Tillie Walden for a panel moderated by Middlebury Professor Rebecca Bennette exploring creativity, storytelling, history, and community. The free discussion at Ilsley Library will be followed by a book signing and reception at the Henry Sheldon Museum



Rolling down the Tracks:

Holiday Trains

Opening day for the annual holiday trains exhibit begins November 27



Scan for exhibits and events

Visit the Henry Sheldon Museum A gem in downtown Middlebury!

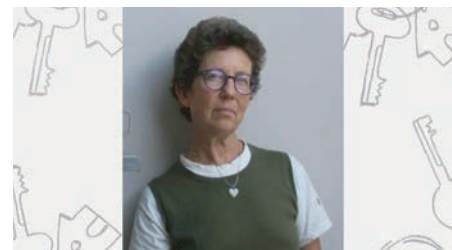
NEW ON EXHIBIT

Re/Collecting Works by Kate Gridley

September 12 - January 2



29 selected works from Kate Gridley's Witness Marks series exhibited alongside items from the Museum's collection. Paired together, these works offer insight into the connection between material objects and memory and pose to the viewer how the acts of collecting and recollecting become enmeshed.



Opening Reception & Gallery Talk

October 1 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm

Join artist Kate Gridley for a reception and gallery talk on the new exhibit Re/Collecting. Free and open to the public; light refreshments will be served.



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Hands-on fun and creative exploration for all ages! Weave on a loom, try pottery etching, make a cootie catcher, build with our Rigamajig set, or create your own stop-motion animation. Kids are admitted free!

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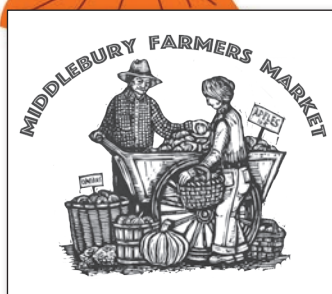
Find us every Saturday at the VFW: 530 Exchange St in Middlebury, VT from 9-12:30

Indoors or out, each week you'll find music, fresh & prepared foods, crafts and artisan products. Most importantly the market offers a touchpoint with local farmers...



"I look forward to Saturday Morning for my Middlebury Farmers' Market bliss. MFM is a relaxing and delicious way to get the weekend off to a satisfying start. The food, vendors, customers, and families are a pleasure, a farmers market family. So many of us have attended this market for decades. They have been around for half a century. Imagine that. I have kept a relationship with this market through the best of times as well as the leaner times. I suggest that you treat yourself to a Saturday Morning Treasure, the Middlebury Farmers' Market is a good place to begin your weekend, it is habit-forming."

~Margaret



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Art Bridges

Image: Michelangelo Lovelace, *Streetology*, 1999, acrylic on textured canvas, 53.5 x 70 in. Collection of the Akron Art Museum. ©Michelangelo Lovelace Estate. Courtesy of the estate and Fort Gansevoort, New York. *Michelangelo Lovelace: Art Saved My Life* is organized by the Akron Art Museum, Akron, Ohio. Generous support is provided by Art Bridges Foundation.

cultural·historic·sites

Please come in and explore our collections, enjoy our free WiFi, culture a new hobby, and join our thriving library community.

Youth:

- Patterns of Fall Nature Etchings • Oct. 3, 12-1 p.m.
- Angela Kunkel Author Visit and Read Aloud • Oct. 24, 1-2:30 p.m.
- Trick or Treat at the Bixby • Oct. 31, 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
- Bring Your Grandparent to the Library • Nov. 7, 10:30-11:30 a.m.
- American Girl Doll Tea Party • Nov. 21, 12:30-2 p.m.

Teens:

- Teen Scrapbook and Sip • Oct. 10, 1-2:30 p.m.
- College Essay Peer Review Workshop • Oct. 17, 1-2:30 p.m.
- Teen DIY Color Analysis • Nov. 14, 12-1:30 p.m.

Adults:

- Bixby Book Club • each month on the second Tuesday at 6 p.m.
- Beginning Mah Jongg meetup • Each Thursday evening at 4 p.m.
- Shirley Reid art exhibit • through Oct. 22
- Dolly/Curry Double Feature Drag Show @ Big Heart Social (benefitting the Bixby) • Sept. 19 at 5 p.m. (tickets at Big Heart Social)
- Dolly Parton themed open house • Sept. 25, 2-5 p.m.
- Data Centers: A Community Conversation • Oct. 21, 5-6:30 p.m.
- Shirley Reid Artist Reception • Oct. 22, 5-6:30 p.m.

Visit bixbylibrary.org/events for more events & information.

cultural·historic·sites



The Chipman Inn was built in 1828 by Daniel Chipman, a U.S. Representative and early trustee of Middlebury College, and his wife, Eleutheria. The Chipmans were important figures in the early history of Ripton, and their home served as the town's first post office for twenty years, with Daniel as its first postmaster.

In 1938, William Meacham, Middlebury College Class of 1921, and his wife, Rena, purchased the property and restored and modernized the house while preserving many of its original features, including several 1820s Salisbury Glass windowpanes, recognizable by their small, slightly blue rectangular shape.

The house became an inn in the early 1970s. Today, it also hosts live music, readings, art workshops, wellness events, and other activities throughout the year. A café and lounge provide another gathering place for guests and locals.



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Nestled in Vermont's Green Mountains, the historic Chipman Inn is a creative haven for curious travelers. The Chipman also supports the Snug Foundation, a nonprofit that helps create a kinder world for animals, people, and the planet.

So whether you stay for a weekend, stop in for a coffee or a drink, gather for live music, or join us for an art opening, your time at the Chipman becomes part of something bigger and helps strengthen the community around us.

*History gave the Chipman its roots.
Community gives it a future.*



❖ thechipmaninn.com ❖



HIKERS RELAX AFTER reaching the summit of Mt. Abraham.

Independent photo/John S. McCright

See the Green Mountains up close on Long Trail Day

VERMONT — Long Trail Day, the Green Mountain Club's annual fundraiser and hike-a-thon for the trails, is on Saturday, Sept. 19. On this unofficial club holiday, outdoor enthusiasts will celebrate hiking in Vermont and the pinnacle of the club's summer-long fundraising efforts with group hikes, trail magic, and trail work parties up and down the Long Trail and with a few post-hike celebrations at local supporting businesses.

Show your love and support for the trails by making a gift to Long Trail Day and join for a hike or celebration on Sept. 19.

Hike will be happening all up and down the spine of Vermont. See a list online at greenmountainclub.org/celebrate-long-trail-day-2026. You can also visit the Hike-A-Thon site at secure.ggiv.com/event/longtrailday2026/team/1039677, where you can join a team or make a donation to the effort.

Maintaining the Long Trail hiking system is a difficult and expensive endeavor. The Bread Loaf Section of the Green Mountain Club takes pride in their work. Volunteers are out every spring and fall to clear the trail for hikers. They appreciate any support and all contributions large or small.

In Addison County, volunteers from the Bread Loaf Section will lead three hikes of varying length and difficulty in Bristol, Lincoln and Ripton. Continue the celebration with post-hike food, beverages, and cheer at Hogback Mountain Brewing in Bristol from 4-7 p.m. The three hikes are:

- Emily Proctor & Cooley Glen Loop, Lincoln – 13 miles. Strenuous hike connecting the Emily Proctor Trail and Cooley Glen Trail via the Long Trail. The hike climbs over Mounts Roosevelt and Wilson; elevation gain is more than 2,000

feet. Early start is planned. Contact Ellen Cronan at 908-595-2926 for details.

- Sunset Ledge and Mount Grant, Lincoln/Ripton – 8 miles. Moderate out and back 8-mile hike to great western views at Sunset ledge and then on to the Bread Loaf wilderness and Mount Grant in the Vermont Presidential range. Elevation gain is about 1,200 feet. For details, contact Ken Corey at 802-349-3733 or kencorey53@gmail.com.

- Deer Leap, Bristol – 3.5 miles. This afternoon hike is about 3.5 miles with an elevation gain of about 1,000 feet. First stop is at Deer Leap with beautiful views. On the way back we will stop at the ledges with views of Bristol and beyond. Please get details by contacting Ruth Penfield at ruthpenfield@gmail.com for details, including start time, meeting location and to register.

The Green Mountain Club Long Trail

Day Celebration on Saturday, Sept. 19, runs from 4 to 7 p.m. at Hogback Mountain Brewing, 372 Rockydale Road, Bristol. Join the LTD after-party, hear news of the hikes and the woods while listening to the New Haven River. More info at gmcbreadloaf.org.

"Each year, we rely on the amazing community of hikers and donors to complete our work to protect and maintain the Long Trail," Alicia DiCocco, Green Mountain Club's deputy director, told the *Independent* a few falls ago. "We will need significant crew time to repair sections of trail that (are) washed out. Long Trail Day is the perfect way to support the ongoing work required to keep trails open and safe for hikers to use."

As in year's past, the GMC Bread Loaf Section is asking for donations to help keep the Long Trail "clear and in good shape."



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Check out the season's colors from a ski lift

HANCOCK — Some leaf peepers like to head into the mountains to look at the beautiful colors that autumn brings to Vermont. But the Middlebury College Snowbowl is offering the change to go UP the mountain to view fiery foliage from a unique perspective.

The ski area off Route 125 east of Ripton will host its Foliage Lift Rides, Artisan Market and Fall Celebration on Oct. 3, 4 & 5, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

"We're thrilled to offer our Fall Foliage Lift Rides on the Sheehan Quad," organizers said. "Join us for a breathtaking journey through Vermont's stunning autumn scenery, with unparalleled views of vibrant fall colors."

Why visit?

- Unmatched Views: Experience autumn from a whole new perspective.
- Photography Opportunities: Frame those vibrant landscapes.
- Family-Friendly: Ideal for families, couples, and solo adventurers.
- Relax & Unwind: Enjoy tranquility away from daily life.

New this year: The Rikert Outdoor Center will be on site with ramps and a wooden roller-ski arena so you can try roller skiing. In addition, you can chat with the team from Rikert, which is just a mile or two down the road on the Breadloaf campus, about their programs and events, get answers to all your Rikert questions, and pick up some fresh Rikert swag.

Enjoy live music by Nick Bredice on



Friday, Oct. 3, and Saturday, Oct. 4, and by Granville Daze on Sunday.

Gene's Chili Hut and the Tavern at the Bowl will offer food on site. Together they'll be serving up crowd favorites including Gene's legendary chili dogs, burgers, fries, quick-serve classics, and a selection of Tavern specialties.

An artisan market in and around the

base lodge will feature confirmed vendors such as Sew Many Stitches and Sun Wood Pottery.

Snowbowl season pass holders will get complimentary rides as a special perk. The charge for non-pass holders is adults \$15, juniors (ages 6-17) \$10, and children 5 and younger free (infants are not permitted on the lift).

Anyone who plans to make the trip to the top of the mountain is urged to dress in layers to stay comfortable in changing temperatures. Vermont regulations require fully enclosed shoes — no Crocs or similar footwear allowed.

And, of course, bring a camera or smartphone to take advantage of unmatched photo ops.



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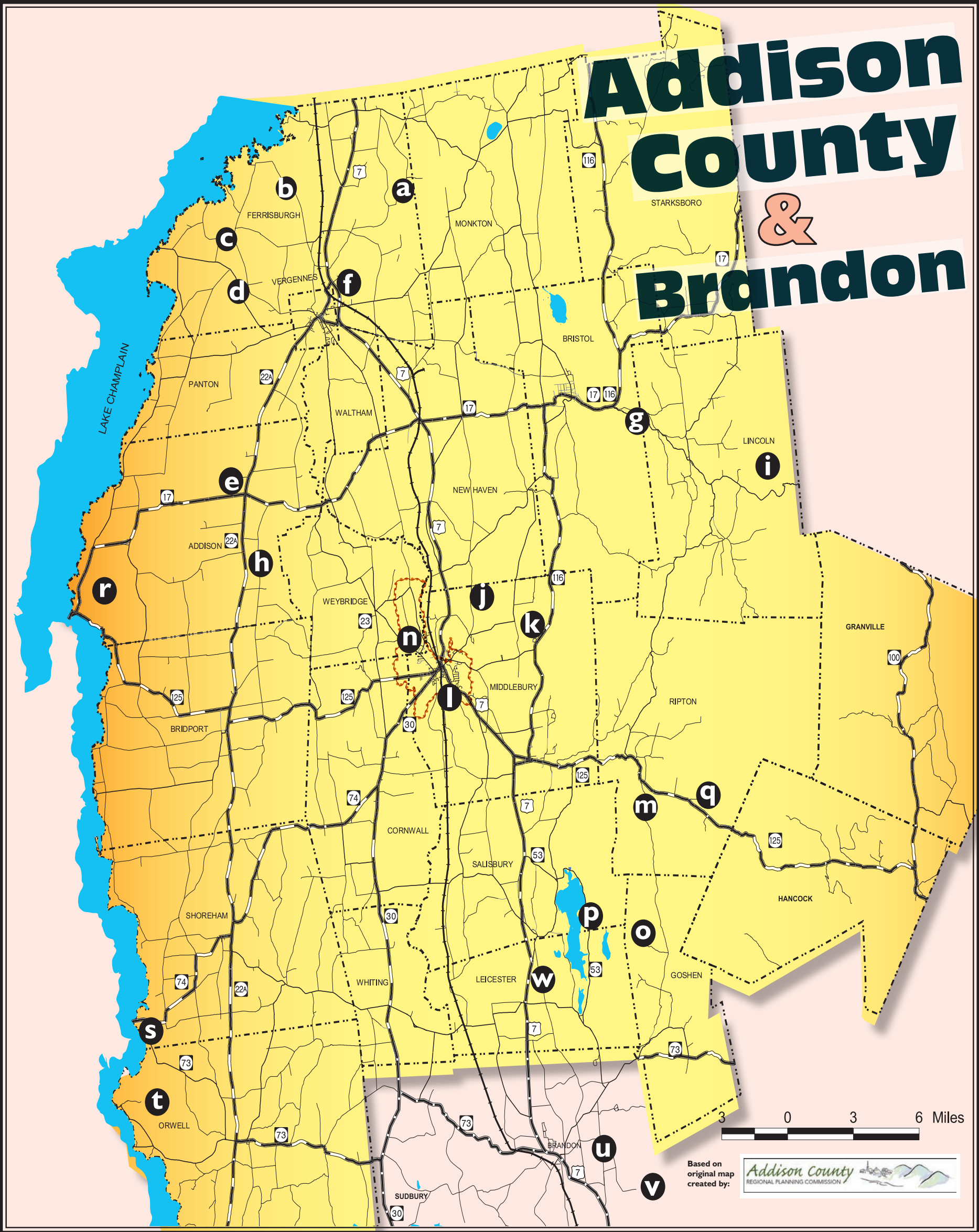
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Hot Spots Key

- a. **Rokeby Museum**, 45334 Route 7, Ferrisburgh. Underground Railroad site and prominent Quaker family farm. rokeby.org. Open through Oct. 11.
- b. **Kingsland Bay State Park**, Ferrisburgh. Day use, nature path. vtstateparks.com/kingsland.html. Open through Oct. 12.
- c. **Button Bay State Park**, Ferrisburgh. Overnight camping, nature trails. vtstateparks.com/buttonbay.html. Open through Oct. 12.
- d. **Lake Champlain Maritime Museum**, Ferrisburgh. Traces the history of Lake Champlain, extensive indoor and outdoor exhibits, including boats. lcmm.org. Free admission in 2025. Through Oct. 18.
- e. **Dead Creek Wildlife Management Area**, Route 17, Addison. Home to migrating waterfowl, walking paths, and boat launches. vtfishandwildlife.com/watch-wildlife/dead-creek-visitor-center. Visitor Center open through Nov. 22.
- f. **Bixby Library**, 258 Main St., Vergennes. Stained glass ceiling illuminates historic library and extensive collection of early arrowheads and other artifacts. bixbylibrary.org.
- g. **Lord's Prayer Rock**, Bristol. In 1891, Joseph C. Greene paid a carver to engrave the Lord's Prayer on a huge rock sitting next to what is today Route 116. It's still an unusual roadside attraction. tinyurl.com/BristolLordsPrayer.
- h. **Snake Mountain**. Parking lot on Mountain Road in Addison. Family-friendly hike to beautiful vistas of Champlain Valley and Adirondacks. Don't leave valuables in the car. tinyurl.com/SnakeMtnWMA.
- i. **Mount Abraham trail access**, Long Trail, Lincoln. Summit includes 360-degree panorama. greenmountainclub.org.
- j. **University of Vermont Morgan Horse Farm**, Morgan Horse Farm Road, Weybridge. Beautiful grounds featuring a leading breeding program for state's official animal. Tours daily. uvm.edu/cals/morganhorsefarm. Open through Oct. 24.
- k. **Henry Sheldon Museum of Vermont History**, 1 Park St., downtown Middlebury. Tour the Judd Harris House, sculpture garden, ongoing exhibits and events. Fall shows feature a historical graphic novel, Kate Gridley paintings, time keeping, wallpaper design and other things. henrysheldonmuseum.org.
- l. **Middlebury College**. Campus tours available at admissions office. Event listings available at arts center ticket office. middlebury.edu.
- m. **Spirit in Nature Path**, Goshen Road, Ripton. Immerse yourself in nature by walking any of the 13 different paths. spiritinnature.org.
- n. **Trail Around Middlebury**. The "TAM" is a 19-mile footpath that encircles Middlebury and links several hundred acres of town land, conserved properties and other local landmarks. maltvt.org/tam.
- o. **Falls of Lana**, Rattlesnake Cliffs, Silver Lake trails access, Salisbury-Leicester town line. newenglandwaterfalls.com/vermont.php.
- p. **Branbury State Park**, Salisbury. Day use and overnight camping, kid-friendly sandy beach and extensive grass lawn, boat rentals. vtstateparks.com/branbury.html. Open through Oct. 12.
- q. **Rikert Outdoor Center**, Ripton. Located on Middlebury College's Breadloaf Campus, take a walk on the ski trails before the snow flies and you will see some beautiful scenery. Another couple miles up Route 125 in Hancock is the Snowbowl, which offers foliage viewing on its ski lifts in early October.
- r. **Chimney Point State Historic Site**, Addison. Chimney Point is the site of Native American, early French, and Revolutionary War-era settlement. Historic tavern was an important meeting place. Ongoing exhibits and tours. historicites.vermont.gov/chimney-point. Open through Oct. 11.
- s. **Fort Ticonderoga** (take the Lake Champlain Bridge in Addison then head 17 miles south). Preserved Revolutionary War fort with extensive interpretation, guides, re-enactors, gift shop and many events. fort-ticonderoga.org. Open through Oct. 25.
- t. **Mount Independence State Historic Site**, Orwell. A largely undisturbed Revolutionary War site. Visitors center with extensive exhibits and many interpretive trails. historicites.vermont.gov/mount-independence. Open through Oct. 28.
- u. **Steven A. Douglas Birthplace & Museum**, Route 7, Brandon. Town of Brandon museum located in historic birthplace of statesman Steven A. Douglas. Enjoy local history including architecture, industry, business, tourism, and immigration. brandon.org/things-to-do/the-brandon-museum.
- v. **Brandon Artists Guild**, 7 Center St., Brandon. Gallery shows work from a diverse group of more than 30 artists in various media. brandonartistsguild.org.
- w. **Giant gorilla holding a VW**, 2829 Route 7, Leicester. An unusual sight if you've never seen a nearly 20-foot-tall concrete gorilla hoisting a real car. roadsideamerica.com/story/11913.

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