

## No humbug!

THT will host a fresh and lively revival of Dickens' 'A Christmas Carol.' See Arts + Leisure.



## Goals elusive

After a 1-0 first round win, the Panther women's hockey team fell in its tourney finale. See Page 1B.



## HOPE offering

A local social service agency has food and presents ready for the holidays. See Page 2A.

# ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT

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MIDDLEBURY'S BEN DEBISSCHOP displays what was the largest deer bagged during Youth and Novice Hunting Weekend — a 212-pound, 8-point buck that he shot in Weybridge and had weighed at Backwoods Gun & Tackle in Bridport. See the full Youth Hunting Weekend report on Page 13A.

Photo courtesy of Backwoods Gun & Tackle

## Hunters have more bangs for the bucks

### County's rifle season sets record

By ANDY KIRKALDY

ADDISON COUNTY — Venison probably was a popular dish at local Thanksgiving gatherings.

Hunters during the 16-day deer rifle season that concluded on Sunday brought what was, according to *Independent* archives, a record number of bucks — 676 — to be weighed at Addison County's

wildlife reporting stations.

The record dates back to 2005, when Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department rules first banned shooting bucks with two or fewer antler spikes — so-called spikehorn bucks. That spikehorn ban was intended to allow more bucks to reach maturity and provide more

(See *Hunters*, Page 12A)

## Lawmakers talk progress on climate bills, future work

By MARIN HOWELL

ADDISON COUNTY — Two state lawmakers are urging Addison County folks not to ease up on efforts to battle climate change.

The Legislature in recent years has passed several climate-related bills, from laws aimed at protecting the state's biodiversity to legislation focused on transitioning the state

away from the use of fossil fuels.

On Monday, Sen. Chris Bray, D-Addison County, and Rep. Amy Sheldon, D-Middlebury, spoke with community members about some of those climate bills, as well as areas where they said the state could be doing more to address climate change and their priorities

(See *Climate*, Page 11A)



## By the way

Vermont State Police are warning the public about scam phone calls in which the caller is purporting to be a member of the VSP. The agency has received reports of an imposter calling people alleging their identity has been compromised. The number that appears on Caller

(See *By the way*, Page 9A)

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## Schools wrestle with accused youth

### Pupils facing charges is rare, but raises questions

By MARIN HOWELL

VERMONT — When juveniles were accused of pulling the trigger in two recent fatal shootings in Addison County, the spotlight fell on the various questions and complexities that arise when prosecuting crimes committed by minors.

Among those questions: How do Vermont schools educate students who've been accused of violent crimes?

Vermont students, even

*"When we put our kids in public school, we trust (the district) to keep our children safe. That's what I have done and what I'll continue to do."*

— MAUSD grandparent

when facing criminal charges, are entitled to a public education. However, parents and community members may have concerns about students who have been accused of

crimes returning to their children's classroom.

"It's putting parents in a position that's uncomfortable. It's putting our children in a position that's uncomfortable," a local parent told the Mount Abraham Unified School District Board at a Nov. 21 meeting, where community members raised concerns about a student who recently joined the district and is believed to have committed a violent crime. "We're having to make decisions that are just really hard, and I know that's

life, but please weigh that when you think about this."

The *Independent* reached out to several Vermont school districts and state officials to learn more about how these situations are generally handled.

Fortunately, such cases are rare and are typically evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Officials also emphasized that school-age Vermonters have a right to a public education, and that constitutional right is not revoked when students are incarcerated or facing criminal

(See *Youth*, Page 10A)



GATHER AT 48 Merchants Row in Middlebury hosted a Thanksgiving dinner last Thursday for around 60 people, many of them houseless and/or struggling with other challenges. Pictured at the meal here, from left, are Gather helpers Busshin Nash, Joshin Byrnes, Peg Murray, Dinah Smith and Bernie Schlager.

Independent photo John Flowers

## 'Gather' offers relief for hunger & loneliness

### Drop-in center develops a following

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — One never knows who'll be gathering at Gather, billed as Middlebury's new "community living room," at 48 Merchants Row.

This past Thanksgiving, Nov. 23, saw almost 60 people converge upon the 1,400-square-foot building that contains a spacious activities room, kitchen and restrooms. Those who Gather are offered food; access

to laundry and shower facilities; conversation; educational, artistic and recreational activities; camaraderie; and empathy.

All of it delivered free and in a safe, supervised setting with basic rules that include no labels or judgment.

A mixture of philanthropy, patience and altruism designed to fill bellies, buoy spirits and help people deal with what Gather architect Joshin Byrnes calls "the epidemic of loneliness."

Time will tell if Gather has

(See *Gather*, Page 9A)

## Mount Abe could see 6th-grade

By MARIN HOWELL

BRISTOL — The Mount Abraham Unified School District Board in 2024 could begin considering whether to expand the district's middle school to include sixth-graders, a step that's been taken by other school districts in the county.

MAUSD Board Chair Krista Siringo noted at the board's Nov. 21 meeting that moving the district's sixth-graders into Mount Abraham Union Middle/High School was one of the recommendations included in the report compiled by New Solutions K12 for the district in 2022. The firm was hired to evaluate community proposals for how to address ongoing challenges of declining enrollment and increasing costs in MAUSD.

"Some of the other options we've already explored, like merging (with the Addison Northwest School District) and

(See *Mount Abe*, Page 17A)



## Intense focus

AMERICAN SKIER MIKAELA Shiffrin looks ahead to the next gate before blasting through the one she's about to hit during Sunday's World Cup slalom race in Killington. Shiffrin overcame a stiff challenge by Petra Vlhova to win the race, her 90th World Cup win. See the story on Page 1B and more photos.

Independent photo/Angelo Lynn

## ACSD hires new leader after search

### Baker emerges from among three finalists

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — The Addison Central School District will have a new superintendent beginning July 1, 2024: Wendy Baker

She is currently an independent grant writer and business owner who has a wealth of experience leading school and educational institutions in Vermont, New York and New Hampshire.

Baker spent the first 20 years of her career serving Vermont public schools, including a stint as a tutor within the Chittenden County Correctional Center, as a humanities teacher, a school improvement specialist within the Vermont Department of Education, a middle school principal (at People's Academy in Morrisville), and as superintendent of the

(See *Baker*, Page 11A)



# Bristol appoints assistant treasurer

**By MARIN HOWELL**  
BRISTOL — The Bristol selectboard on Monday appointed Mark Bouvier to serve as an assistant treasurer for the town while town leaders continue searching for someone to fill the vacant, fulltime treasurer position. Former town treasurer Anthony Delmonaco resigned from the position earlier this month to move out of the state. The town has begun advertising for the open position, which is appointed by the selectboard. In the meantime, Town Clerk Sharon Lucia and Assistant Town Clerk Kris Perlee have taken on the various responsibilities of the treasurer's office. Both Lucia and Perlee also serve as assistant treasurers for the town. "Obviously the absence of a treasurer is placing a lot of extra things on people that they may or

may not have time to do, have the capacity to do, or should be doing because of conflicts, protocols and the checks and balances of internal controls," Town Administrator Valerie Capels told the board. Capels added that it's unclear what the responsibilities of an interim assistant treasurer would be, but Bouvier might be able to help the town with various tasks in the treasurer's office. Bouvier currently serves as the town's head lister and is a retired school district financial officer. "The thinking is that, to the extent that Mark can help, that he offered to do so if he can," Capels said. "I figured in order for that to happen, if the opportunity comes up, that he should be authorized to do that." Selectboard members voted on Monday to appoint Bouvier as an

interim assistant treasurer to serve until the town treasurer position is filled. In other activity at the Nov. 27 meeting, the Bristol selectboard: • Approved an updated version of the zoning administrator's job description that is meant to better reflect the position and its responsibilities. • Approved a request from the Bristol Fire Department to apply for a grant through the Vermont Department of Public Safety Homeland Security Unit to install a generator and heat source in the fire department's radio repeater building. • Approved a grant application authorization request for the town administrator to apply for a \$240,000 grant through the Vermont Agency of Transportation to design and construct a sidewalk on Airport Drive.

# HOPE gathers food, gifts for holidays

**By JOHN FLOWERS**  
MIDDLEBURY — The headquarters of Helping Overcome Poverty's Effects (HOPE) at 282 Boardman St. in Middlebury will be extra busy through the end of this year, as the agency makes sure a record number of local families in need are fed and have gifts to open during the holidays. The organization last week provided Thanksgiving meal boxes to 221 low-income households representing 625 people, with each box containing a turkey and enough groceries to make side dishes, such as stuffing, mashed potatoes, cranberry sauce, veggies and pie filling. Jeanne Montross, the longtime executive director of HOPE, said during a recent interview she anticipates more than 200 additional meal boxes will be

offered up for Christmas. "It's a time of extraordinary generosity and a time of extreme gratitude from the people we serve," Montross said as volunteers were crisscrossing HOPE's philanthropic nerve center, stocking the food shelf, signing folks up for charitable services and fielding phone calls from people navigating financial crises. Each year around this time, area religious institutions, HOPE and other nonprofits work hard to help low-income households struggling with mounting expenses, including home heating costs. Montross said the HOPE food shelf served 1,158 (unduplicated) people in October — an all-time monthly record for an organization that was born 58 years ago. "We're seeing lots of new

people," Montross noted, a disconcerting trend signaling an increasing number of Addison County residents are unable to afford necessities. While the county recorded a jobless rate of only 1.6% in October, Montross explained many of HOPE's clients are working but still finding it hard to keep up with the growing cost of living. "There are people working at places with low wages," she said. "And there are some employers who deliberately keep people below the level (at which they qualify for) benefits." Some HOPE clients work multiple part-time jobs to try to make ends meet, then run into problems of trying to find — and afford — childcare, according to Montross. "Housing is through the roof," she continued. "Yes, inflation is easing now, but prices are still high, and we don't see them coming down that far." As a major purchaser of food, HOPE has also been affected by high prices. And that makes private donations and local food drives even more important right now, Montross stresses. Heather Potter, HOPE's director of development, credited the Congregational Church of Middlebury, the Eastview at Middlebury retirement community, the Patricia Hannaford Career Center, and civic groups such as the Lions Club and Knight of Columbus for food drive efforts. She was particularly impressed with a recently concluded Congo Church effort that netted more than 6,000 pounds of donated food. Montross also praised the generosity of local farms and the work of HOPE Food Program Assistant Anna Freund in helping to keep the shelves stocked with fresh fruits and veggies. Perusal of the HOPE food shelf on Wednesday, Nov. 22, revealed a particular need for fruit juice (especially 64-ounce sizes), spaghetti and other pasta, baked beans, baking mixes, canned chicken, hearty canned soups, canned tuna, cereals and snacks. Occasional trips to the food shelf enable some families to avoid making the choice between a balanced meal and paying a utility



## Lighting up the season

**MOLLY FORBES AND her Mom, Sarah, ready a blow-up Scooby Doo to put in the driver's seat of the bulldozer adorned with Christmas lights in their front yard on Sunday. Dad Travis Forbes is supervising. Check out the impressive holiday display on Middlebury's Case Street after dark.**

Independent photo/John S. McCright



**KATHRYN TORRES AND Joey Siesholtz were among those staffing the Helping Overcome Poverty's Effects food shelf in Middlebury last week. It's a busy time of year for the poverty-fighting nonprofit, which is making sure area low-income households have food and gifts during the holidays.**

Independent photo/John Flowers

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**HELPING OVERCOME POVERTY'S Effects (HOPE) staff members Heather Potter, left, and Abby Quesnel stand in the Middlebury nonprofit's Holiday Shop, surrounded by a sampling of free gifts that will be available to area low-income households, thus ensuring everyone will have a present to open this Christmas.**

Photo courtesy of Jeanne Montross

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# ACSD board grapples with major shift in special needs budgeting

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — Much like a math-averse student getting their first dose of calculus, the Addison Central School District board on Monday got a quick, dizzying tutorial on the possible budget impacts of Act 173 — a major revamp in the way special education services are funded and delivered at public schools. Board Chair Barb Wilson aptly summed up the board’s sentiments after a 70-minute deep-dive.

“It’s very complicated,” she said, as her colleagues nodded in agreement.

But it’s a learning curve the board will try to negotiate during the next seven weeks as it reviews a challenging Fiscal Year 2025 spending plan for the ACSD’s nine schools that deliver preK-12 education to children in Bridport, Cornwall, Middlebury, Ripton, Salisbury, Shoreham and Weybridge.

Act 173, passed in 2018, is a law designed to boost the effectiveness, availability and equity of how special education services are provided to students who need additional supports.

In short, Vermont school districts during the coming 2024-2025 budget year must transition from a system in which they’ve received state reimbursement for special education costs, to one where the Vermont Agency of Education will provide direct payments to districts based on their student counts — defined as “long term weighted average daily membership.”

It’s a system intended to give school districts more flexibility in how they use their special education dollars, but it comes with major accounting changes and a system overhaul that are creating anxious moments for parents, educators and school leaders.

Nicole Carter, ACSD’s assistant superintendent and director of equity and student services, and Matthew Corrente, the district’s director of finance & operations, gave board members an overview on Monday of the current student services system and how it will change for FY’25.

Carter explained the district currently pays for specialized instruction in three ways: With its Census Block Grant, which in FY’25 will amount to around \$3.18 million (up approximately \$400,000); an Individuals with Disabilities Education Act grant of roughly \$500,000; and \$2.6 million in local funds.

“The majority of these funds are sequestered,” she said. “Federal law says you can’t take that money away or move it unless you can show that

students no longer need the service.”

But with Act 173, Carter said school districts are now being told “that anything we don’t use, that’s not particularly targeted to a student’s needs, we can use very flexibly. This is new. So we can take that money and use it for preventative purposes and at-risk purposes for kids.”

And budget flexibility will be more important than ever for the ACSD in FY’25. While ACSD budget planners are anticipating a \$400,000 increase through the Census Block Grant and a \$25,000 bump from an English Language Learner Grant, they’re also looking at the loss of \$917,000 in federal Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funding that was tied to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Carter noted Act 173, among other things, will allow teams of school leaders to review district data to identify student needs. This change will help inform funding decisions for such services as special education case managers, mental health and counseling supports, wellness and learning centers, and behavior interventionists.

Staff will be allocated based on data compiled from student evaluations, as opposed to having them arbitrarily distributed among the nine schools, officials said.

“Under the old model, if you were in a place that had an academic interventionist and you needed that, wonderful. But if you were in a school that didn’t have one, you didn’t have access to one,” Carter said. “You can imagine how that would be troubling to a child, parent or teacher. So the idea is to bring them together, now that we can do that fiscally.”

The ACSD current employs 27.5 FTE special educators, all subsidized through state funds. The ACSD also has 12 “academic intervention” specialists, a contract for eight Counseling Service of Addison County clinicians, three behavioral specialists and a variety of other professionals aimed at helping students who are struggling in the school environment.

Board member Mary Heather Noble voiced concern that while it might make sense to shift away from a system where special needs services are siloed at various district schools, the jury is out on whether all students will benefit from a new paradigm in which resources are directed at spots in the ACSD where they’re most needed.

“We’re still going to have edges of the bread that aren’t getting butter,” she said. “That’s a fundamental problem I think this board needs to

contemplate.”

But Carter suggested the new, centralized special needs system will allow the district to invest in preventative services that can flag children before they require more dramatic and costly intervention.

“There’s a lot of education policy change unfolding right now in Vermont that’s complex,” Carter said. “It’s important the board know we’re trying to leverage those policy changes so we can shift from each school doing its own thing, to creating a system where we can identify (and address) kids’ needs as soon as possible.”

## OTHER ISSUES

Meanwhile, ACSD budget planners are forging ahead based on the information they have right now.

Corrente pointed to other as-yet-unknown variables that will affect the final FY’25 budget proposal, including:

- A new contract for ACSD

teachers. Negotiations are underway for that pact, which will take effect next year.

- A new Child Care Contribution (CCC) tax that’s part of Act 27, a new law that provides more resources for child care centers and the eligible households that use them. The CCC is an employer payroll tax of 0.44% on all (gross) wages. As a major employer, the district’s exposure could be \$100,000-\$120,000, according to Corrente.

- The potential of a fund balance from the ACSD’s fiscal year 2023 budget that could be used to reduce the tax impact of the FY’25 spending plan.

- A 4.5% hike in student transportation costs.

- An expected bump of 5-9% in the Patricia Hannaford Career Center tuition rate.

Corrente cautioned these and other budget-related numbers could

change prior to January, when the ACSD board will need to OK an FY-25 spending plan that will be fielded by district voters in March.

In other action on Monday, the ACSD board:

- Agreed to vote on a new ACSD strategic plan at its next meeting, currently set for Monday, Dec. 11. That strategic plan is intended to guide the district’s educational decisions during the next five years. The document has been shaped by an action team made up of students, parents, staff, administrators, and community members.

Many of those team members possess what district officials called “underrepresented identities,” such as Black, Indigenous, people of color, LGBTQ+ folks, people living in poverty, and people living with a disability. The new strategic plan embraces three main objectives: fostering in students a sense of

belonging, promoting better access to education programs, and creating a learning environment conducive to each child achieving maximum success.

A draft of the strategic plan can be found at [acsdvt.org/district-link/strategic-plan](https://acsdvt.org/district-link/strategic-plan).

- Unanimously endorsed the hiring of a new superintendent, Wendy Baker, who will take the reins of the district on July 1, 2024. See related story, Page 1A.

- Began discussing a possible return to holding board meetings at a rotating set of ACSD schools, rather than just at 208 Charles Ave. Some board members are keen on conducting business within the schools, but others are concerned about poor acoustics in school gyms and auditoriums that could make it hard for people to follow board discussion, both in person and online.

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Dec. 1 Shabbat seeks  
justice for Palestine

MIDDLEBURY — There are Jewish people in Addison County who are firm believers in the human rights of Palestinian people. These people strenuously object to the collective punishment Israel is delivering to the people of Gaza. After a well-attended Ceasefire Shabbat held on Nov. 10, the group will hold a Shabbat for Justice this Friday, Dec. 1, from 4:30-5:30 p.m. in the Crest Room at McCullough Student Center, located at 14 Old Chapel Road on the Middlebury College campus. Organizers encourage anyone interested to join Jews, friends and Palestinian allies in this gathering for peace and justice. Contact Joanna for more info at [joannacolwell@gmail.com](mailto:joannacolwell@gmail.com).

Stuff-A-Truck Toy drive!

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Guest editorials

Justice for Palestinians and security for Israel

By Sen. Bernie Sanders

There have been five wars in the last 15 years between Israel and Hamas. How do we end the current one and prevent a sixth from happening, sooner or later? How do we balance our desire to stop the fighting with the need to address the roots of the conflict? For 75 years, diplomats, well-intentioned Israelis and Palestinians and government leaders around the world have struggled to bring peace to this region. In that time an Egyptian president and an Israeli prime minister were assassinated by extremists for their efforts to end the violence. And on and on it goes.

For those of us who want not only to bring this war to an end, but to avoid a future one, we must first be clear-eyed about facts. On Oct. 7, Hamas, a terrorist organization, unleashed a barbaric attack against Israel, killing about 1,200 innocent men, women and children and taking more than 200 hostage. On a per-capita basis, if Israel had the same population as the United States, that attack would have been the equivalent of nearly 40,000 deaths, more than 10 times the fatalities that we suffered on 9/11.

Israel, in response, under the leadership of its right-wing prime minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, who is under indictment for corruption and whose cabinet includes outright racists, unleashed what amounts to total war against the Palestinian people. In Gaza, over 1.6 million Palestinians were forced out of their homes. Food, water, medical supplies and fuel were cut off. The United Nations estimates that 45 percent of the housing units in Gaza have been damaged or destroyed. According to the Gaza health ministry, more than 12,000 Palestinians, about half of whom are children, have been killed and many more wounded. And the situation becomes more dire every day.

This is a humanitarian catastrophe that risks igniting a wider regional conflagration. We all want it to end as soon as possible. To make progress, however, we must grapple with the complexity of this situation that too many people on both sides want to wave away.

First, Hamas has made it clear, before and after Oct. 7, that its goal is perpetual warfare and the destruction of the state of Israel. Just a few days ago a spokesman for Hamas told *The New York Times*: “I hope that the state of war with Israel will become permanent on all the borders, and that the Arab world will stand with us.”

Second, Israel has done nothing in recent years to give hope for a peaceful settlement — maintaining the blockade of Gaza, deepening the daily humiliations of occupation in the West Bank, and largely ignoring the horrendous living conditions facing Palestinians.

Needless to say, I do not have all of the answers to this never-ending tragedy. But for those of us who believe in peace and justice, it is imperative that we do our best to provide Israelis and Palestinians with a thoughtful response that maps out a realistic path to addressing the reality we face today. Here are my thoughts as to the best way forward and how the United States can rally the world around a moral position that moves us toward peace in the region and justice for the oppressed Palestinians.

To start, we must demand an immediate end to Israel’s indiscriminate bombing, which is causing an enormous number of civilian casualties and is in violation of international law. Israel is at war with Hamas, not innocent Palestinian men, women and children. Israel cannot bomb an entire neighborhood to take out one Hamas target. We don’t know if this campaign has been effective in degrading Hamas’s military capabilities. But we do know that a reported 70% of the casualties are women and children, and that 104 U.N. aid workers and 53 journalists have been killed. That’s not acceptable.

(The current extended pause in the war) must not precede a resumption of indiscriminate bombing. Israel will continue to go after Hamas, but it must dramatically change its tactics to minimize civilian harm.

If long-suffering Palestinians are ever going to have a chance at

(See Sanders, Page 8A)

Wake boats just too onerous

By Bob Popp, former state botanist

I recently retired as the state botanist in the Fish and Wildlife Department, where I served for over 30 years. In that time I have reviewed many permits for aquatic nuisance control and stream alteration. So be assured that I totally understand the concept of multiple use and the need to accommodate multiple users of our aquatic (and terrestrial) resources. It is and will always be a balancing act to accommodate multiple and often conflicting uses. I appreciate the hard decisions that the DEC Water Quality staff have made and continue to make that often result in intense criticism of the program.

I have reviewed the draft rule governing wake boats and have concluded that on occasion a proposed use is so onerous that it should not be allowed. The potential damage from wake boats to other lake users, shoreline owners and the environment can hardly be justified to accommodate the resulting disturbance by a small number of users. Aside from the impact to shoreline property and other users, I worry most about environmental impacts resulting from the unnatural turbulence that churn up bottom sediments. This would result in increased eutrophication from buried phosphorous and other nutrients and also sediment deposition on leaves of submersed aquatic plants reducing their photosynthetic capacity. I’m also assuming there would be similar impacts to fish and macroinvertebrates, but these are not my expertise.

Even allowing wake boat use within 500 or 1,000 feet of shore

(See Wake boats, Page 8A)

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Going up?  
A MACHINE USED to lift workers to a job on the roof of the Battell Block in downtown Middlebury appears to dwarf the three-story building in this image.  
Independent photo/John S. McCright

Community caring builds peace

It was the summer of ‘68. Cities across America were erupting in riots, political differences were tearing families apart, the war in Vietnam was raging, protesters at the Democratic National Convention were being bludgeoned. My husband and I were living in a little walk-up apartment on the back side of Beacon Hill. It felt as if the world was coming apart. Then one Sunday, Settling into a cool, silent meeting room downstairs, we were laved in an oasis of love. People smiled as we walked in but were not overly friendly. We sat on old wooden pews arranged in a semi-circle. The ceiling was two stories high; the stone floors cool under our feet. A wall of windows opened onto an enclosed garden filled with plants; a small fountain glistened in the sunlight. I don’t recall a vocal ministry or any political speeches that first morning, but when the worship ended, people held hands, shared their names and encouraged one another to work for peace.

I fell in love with Beacon Hill Friends House at that moment and have loved it ever since. How amazing to find a place that offers the deep solace from which people find strength to work for justice in the world.

A few years later, we moved to an old farm in New Haven, Vermont. We began raising sheep and a family, learning about this beautiful community, and gradually becoming part of it. The first opening was when my neighbor Millie invited me to solicit for the United

Way. She said, “We all take turns doing this. Everyone contributes, and we get to have tea in each other’s homes.” I miss those door-to-door times but have since discovered new ways to build community.

A bit later, another neighbor invited me to join her in a canning class run by the UVM Extension Service. We laughed, practiced safe handling, and left with a new circle of friends. Gradually my circle of community expanded and overlapped: the farming community, the non-profit community, the writers and poets, the families with young children, the social justice workers.

Now that I have joined the Quaker Meeting in Middlebury, it feels as if the solace of Beacon Hill Friends House has joined the neighborliness of our home place. How grateful I am for these farms and forests, these vibrant small villages, these loving communities. I often ponder how, instead of feeling guilty for these gifts, we might share them more widely with a troubled world?

Gandhi said “If we live by the law of an eye for an eye, eventually we will all be blind.” Recently, I’ve been reading heartfelt stories of people who have lost loved ones in these terrible times, yet they have found ways to pray and work together for peace. They refuse to be blinded by their loss.

After World War II, the citizens of Reggio Emilia, Italy, took the scattered bricks and debris from their devastated town and built schools for their youngest children. Their goal was to surround the children with respect, love, and opportunity. They believed this

(See Ways of Seeing, Page 5A)

Ways of Seeing

By Cheryl Mitchell

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(See Ways of Seeing, Page 5A)

Thanksgiving prep takes its toll

This year, due to family scheduling conflicts, we celebrated Thanksgiving two days late. Since the meal would not technically be on Thanksgiving, I saw no need to go all out.

I told myself, “This is just a family dinner on a Saturday with eight people. No big deal.”

I never listen to myself.

Regardless of the day, I was always going to treat this as the biggest meal of the year; that’s the whole point of Thanksgiving. There are no Thanksgiving carols, no hiding of Thanksgiving eggs. Nobody sets off Thanksgiving fireworks in their backyard. A huge meal is the whole shebang.

At first, I planned to just roast a good-sized chicken, a passable substitute for turkey. But what if that wouldn’t feed eight of us?

I decided to cook a ham as well.

Of course I would make mashed potatoes to go with the standard stuffing, peas, corn, gravy, etc. But with ham, one needs potatoes au gratin. And in any case, there would have to be pies.

Soon, I was looking at a full-on feast.

Thanksgiving dinner is not about how well one can cook; it’s about how much one can cook. No matter how simple I pretended the meal would be, the color-

coded cooking schedule I drew up three days ahead of time exposed my lie. Normal meals do not require formal outlines, much less footnotes.

And, much as I do in other areas of my life, I tend to self-impose arbitrary standards that make Thanksgiving dinner unnecessarily challenging.

I recall that my grandmother, as she got older, started giving in to conveniences, things she would once have considered cooking heresy. Out shopping with her one day, I caught her tossing a two-pack of premade pie crusts into her cart.

She shot me a look, shrugged and said, “I can’t be bothered.”

On the Wednesday before Thanksgiving, however, I wasn’t thinking about my grandmother’s late-in-life culinary rebellion. I was busy consulting my Gantt chart for the scheduling of each dish’s preparation.

Late that afternoon, a friend called, saying, “Hey, pies just went on sale in town. Go get some while they last.”

I’m sure she meant well.

But I was, at that very moment, dicing up chunks of pig fat to be melted down and strained through cheesecloth. (Blended with butter, the resulting white

(See Jessie, Page 5A)

Around the bend

By Jessie Raymond

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(See Jessie, Page 5A)

Letters to the Editor

Nuovos merit lasting tribute

As I was reading the tributes to Victor Nuovo in this newspaper following his death a few weeks ago, it occurred to me that a fitting memorial would be to name the Cross Street bridge in his honor. No one played a greater role than Victor in forging the partnership between the town and Middlebury College that enabled the bridge to become reality, without state or federal funding, and after over fifty years of unproductive discussion.

And then I read the editorial celebrating Victor’s life, and saw that former state representative Paul Ralston had suggested naming the bridge in honor of both Victor and Betty Nuovo — an even better idea! But I have not read of further action; why not proceed now?

Surely no couple has contributed more to the town of Middlebury and the state of Vermont over the past half century than Betty and Victor Nuovo. I hope that the selectboard will move forward with naming the bridge in their honor, which would be a fitting memorial indeed. In later years, we so often saw the two of them walking around Middlebury, hand-in-hand. How appropriate to have their memory preserved together through the bridge that connects us across the Otter Creek.

Frank Winkler  
Middlebury

Criticism was unwarranted

I was surprised to read the letter to the editor in last week’s *Addy Indy* from Marianne Lust of Lincoln who was critical of the efforts of Tim Parsons at Middlebury College. I am a member of the Vermont Nursery & Landscape Association, as is Tim, and was excited to hear from him at the summer conference about his work with reducing some of the mowed lawn spaces at the college. I believe that any work done toward finding suitable and attractive lawn alternatives is well worth the effort. Whatever Tim discovers in these next years with how to develop and maintain these new spaces will benefit other landscapers and designers. My thanks to Tim for helping lead the way.

Lily Snow  
Middlebury

Howl conjures tender reminder

Our neighbor, Doug Butler, had many sled dogs, and when they howled at night, it made our corner of Middlebury seem wild, like the Arctic, or the Russian steppes from Willa Cather’s novels.

After many years, I didn’t hear the howling anymore; it became a permanent part of my consciousness.

Doug developed Lou Gehrig’s disease and passed away this fall. I went to the service at the Legion Hall and there were more people there than any service I’ve ever been to. Over and over people commented that he was the most cheerful person they knew.

I think the dogs are gone but I will always imagine I hear them howling and I hear the voice of our most cheerful neighbor. Doug, you are missed!

Morris Earle  
Middlebury

A tribute to Simon Barenbaum

Simon Barenbaum, who died on November 18, had a remarkably generous spirit and an unflinching commitment to community. He was a great gift in my life. This is my tribute to him.

Simon, emeritus professor of French at Middlebury College, had recently launched a conversation group when I met him more than 25 years ago. I’d studied French in my

(See Smith letter, Page 5A)



# Letters to the Editor

## Hounders and control of hounds — Here we go again

There has been a moratorium on coyote hounding via Act 165. The Fish and Wildlife Board and Department were to address control of hunting hounds for the moratorium to be lifted. Not surprisingly, the board’s recommendations to regulate themselves fell significantly short of any improvement.

The board’s solution to hounders lacking control over dogs was to require that hounds wear remote shock collars with GPS.

Remote collars won’t control hunting hounds and Fish and Wildlife should no longer be granted the entitled privilege of policing themselves.

Remote training or shock collars can be marketed by many names. They are manual, radio-controlled systems that enable you to deliver a shock to a dog’s collar from a hand-held transmitter.

The hand-held transmitters have multiple toggles to set for individual dogs. Hounders usually hold these while wearing thick gloves, which makes handling them cumbersome. There is great potential for hounders to deliver mistimed shocks since one transmitter is used for multiple dogs. Of course, when the hounder stares at the transmitter, he is not keeping an eye on the hounds. If the hounder can’t see the dogs, it negates any efficacy or point to the collars.

A GPS collar does not control hounds, nor is it a training substitute. Electronic collars are unreliable in wooded terrain. According to the manufacturers of these collars, to get the full range out of any system there should be nothing between the transmitter and receiver. Hounders release dogs into the woods to chase bears and coyotes out of their native habitats. The forests and mountains of Vermont, where coyotes and bears prefer to reside, are anything but flat and open.

With regards to “recalling” hounds (dog training lingo for coming), they are transported in “dog boxes.” Once released, they have no point of reference as to their starting location. Their direction and behavior is determined by the animal being chased. Hounders routinely change direction in their trucks while pursuing the hounds, so the hounds have no set location to return to.

A shock itself provides no information to a dog other than causing pain or discomfort. Since shock is a punishment, for it to be effective in training, three criteria must be met — consistency, timing, and intensity. For timing, the shock must be administered within, at most, a second or two of the behavior. Since hounders do not see their dogs, this timing is impossible.

Individual dogs respond to shock differently on any given day. How they respond varies according to the dog’s energy level, emotional state, frustration level, pain threshold, distractions present and environmental conditions. Hounds are mostly out of sight and often not in proximity to each other. They are in a constant state of motion and exhibit multiple behaviors at one time, which varies between dogs. One hounder being able to control multiple dogs on one transmitter is extremely unreliable.

Predatory aggression and prey drive are the hardest behaviors to control training-wise. If anyone has experienced a dog fight, you are aware of how frenzied it can be. Sicing a bunch of dogs on a coyote or bear is a form of dog fighting. Hunting hounds are caged, kenneled, or tied on chains 24/7, transported in dog boxes in the back of pickups, and then let loose to chase down and attack animals. They are in high state of arousal and are not capable of being trained in this state.

The use of e-collars is contraindicated for animals with aggression. The use of shock increases a dog’s propensity to bite, as well as biting intensity and severity. It can elicit redirected aggression and aggression in dogs with no prior aggressive history. This is one reason why professional animal behavior and veterinary organizations are against using them.

Hounders consider the basic requirement that they be within visual or verbal control of hounds a ‘de facto ban’ and foul play. Of course, to most dog owners and rational people, this would seem a minimal expected requirement. Companion dogs are not allowed to chase wildlife or attack animals and people, so why should hounders get a free pass? It’s challenging enough to control one dog with predatory aggression off-leash, no less a pack of them.

People, dogs, and domestic and farmed animals have been repeatedly attacked and seriously injured by hunting hounds, as have non-target wild animals such as deer.

Not only was a couple and their dog viciously attacked by hounds in Vermont in 2019, a veterinarian and her dog were chased and attacked in 2021 for over two miles while mountain biking. All four hounds wore remote GPS collars. Every time she’d slow down, the hounds would jump on her dog to attack him again. Her dog was attacked over ten times. She and her dog eventually ran onto a porch of an empty cabin. She yelled for help while trying to prevent the hounds from climbing the porch. About fifteen minutes later, a hounder pulled up in his truck, grabbed the dogs and threw them into the dog boxes in the back of the pickup. He refused to give his name and quickly drove off. There were no consequences for the hounder. The attack was (See Stevenson letter, Page 8A)

## Israel must destroy Hamas to protect its existence

History is important. Teaching it and remembering it is crucial to maintaining our democracy. Much outrage is being expressed in our nation, state, and community of Middlebury about the Israeli bombing of Gaza. People express shock and rage that Israel is bombing civilians. But we seem to have no recollection of the actions of our own government, our own military in times of war and during our invasions of other nations. In fact no nation, no nation has bombed civilian populations like the United States has.

President Truman authorized the dropping of the atomic bomb on Hiroshima. We all know

of the tens of thousands killed in this event. Truman did this to force Emperor Hirohito to surrender. Hirohito refused, and the Japanese were preparing an air attack on the Philippines. The war in Europe was over. Hitler was dead. The Russians had repelled and destroyed The German army in the west. Faced with the refusal of Hirohito to surrender Truman then ordered a second atomic bomb to be dropped on Nagasaki. Again, tens of thousands of civilians died. The emperor then surrendered and World War II was over. The other two outstanding bombings on civilian populations were by the British when they obliterated the German city of

Dresden, killing thousands. The second was “Operation Shock and Awe,” when the United States bombed the city of Baghdad in Iraq, under what we now know were false pretenses. Japan was bombed to end the war. To halt the last of the Axis powers. To protect American soldiers from planned air assault. The British destroyed Dresden because Hitler had to be stopped. I offer to you that Israel has the right to defend itself. The nation of Israel must destroy Hamas to protect its very existence and its citizens. Remember our history, your history.

Catherine Braun  
Middlebury

## Smith letter

(Continued from Page 4A)  
early years, but it had fallen by the wayside, purely from lack of use. One serendipitous day, I noticed a flyer posted on the walls of the Ilsley Library. It was an invitation to join his French conversation group. At that point, I was hesitant, embarrassed that my French had become so rusty. Nonetheless, Simon welcomed me with reassurance and delight.

We met at the Bristol Bakery. As he told it, after he’d retired from teaching and happened to be buying what he deemed were particularly good baguettes, an inspiration struck him, “Why not have a conversation group here? This is the perfect place!” And so “Les Boulangers” (The Bakers) as he called it, was born.

Word caught on and soon robust gatherings at the bakery felt like Saturday mornings at a French café. All levels of fluency were welcome. There were native speakers, beginners, and those who simply wanted to listen. We were there for what began as a love of French and soon grew into a love of the conviviality that Simon so conscientiously fostered. Pleased with the resounding success of his vision, Simon took on the role of our doting leader. He

arrived at the bakery early and waited patiently for his flock. His briefcase, always by his side, held a cornucopia of newspaper clippings, magazine articles, and snippets of paper with hand-written poems - a carefully curated collection with which to spark interesting discussions. During these discussions, it was not unusual for Simon, with a merry twinkle in his eyes, to break into song, inviting us to sing along with him.

A masterful raconteur, he regaled us with stories. Coming from a family who had run a Yiddish theater in Paris, he knew how to turn simple narratives into compelling dramas as he carefully enunciated each word and used gestures to great effect. Such tales were highly entertaining. Others were heartbreaking. He often spoke of his years during World War II when he, his mother, and father were imprisoned in Drancy, an internment camp outside of Paris, and where, at the last minute, they made a miraculous escape. Simon’s eyes would brim with tears when he spoke of his beloved brother who died in Auschwitz. We cried along with him.

Despite this tragic chapter in his life, Simon was not bitter.

Linda Smith  
Middlebury

## Jessie

(Continued from Page 4A)  
lard makes a flaky homemade pie crust.)

At a loss for words, I finally said, “Have you met me?”

She apologized and quickly hung up.

It sounds like a humble brag: “Thanksgiving is hard for me because I go above and beyond when it comes to preparing everything from scratch, right down to my own shortening.” But it’s no brag, humble or otherwise; in fact, most people seem to find my interest in processing animal fat more off-putting than impressive.

To each his own. I do tend to eschew prepared foods, mostly because of my inner

miser. I refuse, for instance, to pay \$4.65 per pound for stuffing mix when I can chop up bread myself. And while nutrition and flavor play roles as well, even they don’t justify the labor I will go through to create an entirely homemade meal.

For all that, I’m an unimaginative cook. My Thanksgiving repertoire ranges from “plain” to “plain but with a dash of pepper.” Yes, I’ll cube my own bread for stuffing, but I’ll die before I ever add anything as audacious as chestnuts or oysters — imagine! — to the mix.

And if I give off any hint of Martha Stewart snobbery in my insistence on whole ingredients, it’s more than offset by my lack

of attention to presentation. Our dinnerware is mismatched. All the forks are salad forks. And we only own three dessert plates, so most of our guests have to eat their pie out of cereal bowls.

I don’t know why I can’t be so laid-back about the food itself. I could buy the stuffing and the pies. No one would care.

Except me. I wonder if I’ll reach an age, like my grandmother did, when I decide it’s all too much. Maybe someday I’ll crumple up my Thanksgiving spreadsheet and free-throw it into the recycling, saying, “I can’t be bothered.”

If that time does come, I hope it’s soon. Thanksgiving was a week ago, and I’m still recovering.

## Ways of Seeing

(Continued from Page 4A)  
positive start in life would help children become independent creative thinkers yet able to work together for the good of the whole group, immune to the forces and rhetoric of hate.

In the many years I have been fortunate to work with young

children and their families I have become convinced that peace begins by cherishing our young, beginning with those who need food, shelter, acceptance, and unconditional love. The ripples of such community-wide caring may eventually spread to bring solace and justice to our troubled world.

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











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Letters received by Monday, December 18<sup>th</sup> may be published with names in our December 21<sup>st</sup> edition.

ADDISON COUNTY  
**INDEPENDENT**





ADDISON  
COUNTY

# Obituaries

## Simon Barenbaum, 97, formerly of East Middlebury

MILFORD, Mass. — Simon Barenbaum died on Nov. 18, 2023, in Milford, Mass., with his daughters by his side. He was 97 years old.

He was born in 1926 to Israel Barenbaum and Esther Zevko Barenbaum, traveling actors in the Yiddish theater. Their troupe was in Latvia at the time of his birth, and settled in Paris when he was very young. In the late 1930s, when they performed in Britain, Simon learned English, which would prove essential to his later endeavors.

The Barenbaums were in Paris in June 1940 when the Nazi occupation began. Simon was 14. His beloved older brother, Kadia, was ordered to report to the French police, and never returned home.

In 1942, Simon's father, and then he and his mother, were detained in Drancy, a transit camp outside Paris. Just before they were to be deported, they were saved by a friend who told the authorities they were his employees, needed to make fur coats and boots for the Nazis. That fall, they were allowed to return to Paris.

At age 16, Simon joined a group of Jewish Boy Scouts who were making false ID cards. He managed to obtain some for his family, and they left for Dranguignan in the south of France, where they had friends. There, they lived a relatively normal life for two years. Simon's prowess at soccer earned him a place on the local team.

American paratroopers landed in the area in August of 1944. Hoping to hasten liberation, Simon offered to help them, using his proficient English. The head of the local Resistance gave him a mission, and he was able to help the Americans to gain military advantage. Simon was able to participate in several other missions, and to act as a guide and go-between, averting further attacks.

Soon after he returned to Dranguignan, his family learned that Kadia had died of typhus at Auschwitz. After the war, the family moved back to Paris. Simon studied at the Sorbonne, and met Colette Jacot, who would become his first



SIMON BARENBAUM

wife.

In 1950, Simon and his parents moved to the United States so that he could continue his studies. He married Colette in 1951, and taught French at Brown University while working toward his Ph.D. He and Colette had a daughter, Nicole. Sadly, in 1954, Colette succumbed to cancer. Some time afterwards, Simon met and married Ruth Schwarzkopf, daughter of General Norman Schwarzkopf. After earning his Ph.D., he moved with Ruth, Nicole, and daughter Myriam to Oberlin, where he would teach French language and literature and direct French plays for 13 years. Son Kadia, born in Oberlin, was named after Simon's brother.

The family moved to Middlebury in 1970, drawn by the strong languages program there. At Middlebury, Simon continued to inspire students with his love of French language, culture, and theater. He directed students in French plays, and assigned a project to create "Vous Allez à Montréal?," a free travel guide in French offering walking tours and more, which he continued to update for many years. His love for Francophone Canada expanded as he took a series of week-long bike trips in Quebec.

After retiring from Middlebury in 1992, Simon became more involved in promoting Francophony in Northern Vermont. He helped found the Alliance Française of Vermont: Cercle Québécois (now

the AFLCR). In 1992, he launched "Les Boulangers," a French conversation group that met weekly in Bristol. That group continues in Middlebury, with some members having attended for decades. He also edited a newsletter announcing Francophone activities and events in the area, and created a monthly program, Chronique Francophone, for Middlebury Community Television. He organized "Chez Roland" social lunches in Rutland and Burlington.

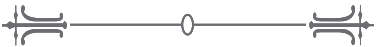
In 1999, the Vermont Chapter of the American Association of Teachers of French named him "Ambassador of French" for the many ways he promoted the learning and speaking of French.

Simon also spoke frequently to Vermont high school students about his experiences of surviving the Holocaust. He remained politically active, assisting with projects through the local Friends' group. He and Ruth loved and cared for their garden in East Middlebury.

After Ruth died in 2022, Simon moved to Massachusetts to be near Nicole. Nicole and Myriam helped him to keep "Les Boulangers" going online each week. The group gave him a much-needed connection to his community in Middlebury, and the chance to share songs, poems, and texts related to France. He became known at his senior living center for breaking into song during Happy Hour and whenever else he felt so moved.

Friends and family appreciated Simon's courage, enthusiasm, creativity, generosity, and sense of humor. As one friend said, "His memory will always evoke his irrepressible optimism, dignity, and devotion to others, to life and learning."

He is survived by his daughters, Nicole Barenbaum of Mendon, Mass., and Myriam Barenbaum of Sleepy Hollow, N.Y.; son, Kadia Barenbaum of Burlington, Vt.; grandsons Joshua Scheufler of Nashville, Tenn., and Jake Miller of New York, N.Y.; and great-granddaughter, Olive Colette Potts Scheufler. ◊



## Frances Helen White, 86, of Bridport

BRIDPORT — Born April 24, 1937, in Peoria, Ill., to John and Mary Jennings (deceased), Frances Helen White, left us on Nov. 13, 2023, after a long battle with dementia. Fran was married to Mike White (deceased) in 1957.

She is survived by daughter Rene Saenger of Shoreham, Vt.; son Patrick White and wife, Lydia, of Fredericksburg, Texas; daughter Wendy Vorsterveld White of

Vergennes, Vt.; son John White and wife, Lori, of Pittsford, Vt.; thirteen grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

After living in several states throughout her life, Fran spent the last 30-plus years in Vermont.

Fran was a housewife and focused on raising her four children. Fran then started her first health food store in Texas (mid 1980s) that transitioned into The Vites and

Herbs Shoppe in Vermont. Mike, Wendy and John helped Fran with this business. Fran earned a Certified Nutritionist license and counseled hundreds of people in natural alternatives to health problems, in an era when little was known or excepted by the mainstream in Vermont.

Fran was an alternative natural health pioneer in Vermont who helped lay the groundwork for the vast health and nutrition culture we see today. Fran was also employed by Vermont State Housing for many years.

Many thanks to the staff of Gazebo Senior Living of South Burlington for the compassionate care provided for Fran.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation in Fran's name to Project Independence of Middlebury, Vt and the UVM Hospice and Palliative Care Program.◊

**Thank You from the Family of Lyle Martell**

The family would like to thank everyone for visiting him during his illness and all who attended his celebration of life. A special thank you to Addison County Home Health & Hospice, Post 19 American Legion, Legion Auxiliary, and Sons of the American Legion for their support.

**Lyle will be in our hearts forever.**

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## Francis Raymond Nicosia, 79, of Middlebury

MIDDLEBURY — Francis Raymond "Frank" Nicosia passed away peacefully at the University of Vermont Medical Center on Nov. 21, 2023, due to complications from Parkinson's disease. Throughout his illness he was always in the company of family members.

Frank was born and raised in Philadelphia. After graduating from Penn State University, where he also spent a semester abroad in Spain, he became a Peace Corps volunteer in a small desert village in Libya, and then taught English and History in a German high school in a small town in southern Germany. He received an M.A. in Modern European History from Georgetown University and a Ph.D. in German and Middle Eastern history from McGill University. He was a history professor at Saint Michael's College in Colchester, Vt., from 1979 until 2007, and then taught at the University of Vermont, where he was the Raoul Hilberg Distinguished Professor of Holocaust Studies until he retired in 2018.

He was a prolific scholar who focused especially on the Holocaust, and the need for deep historical understanding to make sense of the present. Amongst his many works was "Nazi Germany and the Arab World," "Zionism and Anti-Semitism in Nazi Germany," and "The Third Reich and the Palestine Question." He co-authored the textbook "The Columbia Guide to the Holocaust," co-edited six books and edited three volumes of documents. He published numerous articles in English and German in scholarly journals and collections. He received many grants and fellowships for his research in Germany, Israel, England, and the United States.

Despite his scholarly contributions, Frank always

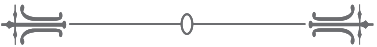


FRANCIS RAYMOND  
"FRANK" NICOSIA

maintained that the most wonderful thing about working as an academic was the continued relationships with young people who gave him hope. In 2000, the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education named him "Vermont Professor of the Year," and in 2014 he received the "Distinguished Achievement Award" from the Holocaust Educational Foundation at Northwestern University.

In addition to his teaching at UVM and St. Michael's, he also served as a visiting professor at the Center for Research on Anti-Semitism of the Technical University in Berlin, and at the Humboldt University in Berlin. He served several stints as the Interim Director of the Carolyn and Leonard Miller Center for Holocaust Studies at UVM.

Frank always enjoyed hiking, snow shoeing, and cross-country skiing in the fall and winter, and perennial flower and vegetable gardening in the spring and summer. He produced bumper crops of garlic in his backyard garden! Along with his wife, Ellen, and sister-in-law, Nancy, he was an avid opera fan, enjoying live



## Mae A. Nye, 91, of Vergennes

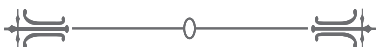
VERGENNES — Mae Annette Nichols Nye, age 91, passed away on Nov. 21, 2023. Mae was born on Feb. 8, 1932, in Providence, R.I. She graduated from Plainfield High School in Connecticut in 1949. She married the love of her life, Bruce E. Nye, in Raleigh, N.C., on Sept. 17, 1954. Together, Bruce and Mae moved their family to their Vermont farm in 1965. Mae enjoyed baking, snowmobiling, square dancing and camping. Most of all, she enjoyed spending time with her family.

She is survived by her four children: Bryan Nye and wife Dru of Loris, S.C.; Brenda Lattrell and husband Dan of Lincoln, Vt.; Belinda Nixon and husband Rusty of Bowdoin, Maine; and Barry Nye and wife Katherine of Sheldon, Vt.; eleven grandchildren, James Nye, Benjamin Nye, Bryce Nye, Laurel Lattrell, Amber Lattrell, Emily Nixon, Anna Nixon, Laura



MAE A. NYE

Tacher, Daniel Nye, Jacob Nye and Joshua Nye; and four great-grandsons, Nolan Nye, Bruce Nye, Alfred Nye and Dale Nye. She is also survived by her sisters Janet Fernandes of Brooklyn, Conn., and Marguerite Burns of Albany, N.Y. She was pre-deceased by her parents, James and Marguerite



## Shirley Ann Wrisley, 88, of Vergennes

VERGENNES — Shirley Ann Wrisley, 88, passed away peacefully Wednesday, Nov. 22, 2023, at McClure Respite House in Colchester.

She was born on Oct. 27, 1935, in St. Albans, the daughter of James Underwood and Aurise Dumas Underwood. She was married to the love of her life, Kermit C. Wrisley (predeceased). She touched many hearts as she had a heart of gold. She had many friends and donated to many charities. She had worked part-time for the Vergennes postal service and Wrisleys Bike Service. She loved playing the harmonica and watching television — she loved watching "Gunsmoke" and "The Young and the Restless." She



SHIRLEY ANN WRISLEY

also loved talking on the phone with her friends and family on a daily basis. Also she loved her Grand

performances from Middlebury to New York, as well as Saturday radio broadcasts from the Metropolitan Opera. He was also a lifelong Philadelphia Phillies fan and took enormous joy in watching their 2023 postseason run. Frank and Ellen worked together advocating against militarism and for health care for all, as well as going door to door canvassing during progressive political campaigns.

Frank's kindness, good nature, and brilliance will be forever missed. He was an extraordinary scholar, teacher, father, husband and citizen. He was loved by many, especially his sons, to whom he was deeply devoted, Alex Nicosia of Middlebury, Vt., and Tim Nicosia of Westwood, Mass.; as well as daughter-in-law Elizabeth Nicosia, grandchildren Maeve, Patrick and Joey, and wife Ellen Oxfeld. Frank and Ellen married in 2000 and were happy every day they were together.

He is additionally survived by his brother Joe Nicosia and sister-in-law Janet Nicosia of Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla.; sister Frances Nicosia and her husband Michael Volpe of Philadelphia, Pa.; brother Michael Nicosia and wife Patricia Tierney of West Chester, Pa.; sister-in-law Nancy Oxfeld of West Orange, N.J.; and mother-in-law Edith Oxfeld of South Orange, N.J.

Donations in Frank's memory may be made to either the Center for Holocaust Studies at UVM, or to Democracy Now! radio show or Metropolitan Opera Saturday Matinee Radio Broadcasts. As he struggled to overcome health obstacles in his last months, Frank always looked forward to connecting to the world through Democracy Now! and to pure beauty through the Saturday opera broadcasts.

A celebration of his life is planned for Spring 2024. ◊

Brown Nichols, by her husband Bruce, her brothers Stuart Nichols and Gordon Nichols, and her sisters Lois Strouse and Janice Nichols.

Per Mae's request, there will be no calling hours. A memorial service will be held at the Vergennes Congregational Church on Friday, Dec. 8, 2023, at 3 p.m. Mae's family wants to thank Addison County Home Health & Hospice nurses and her caregiver Penny Armell for their care.

Mae has requested that any donations in her name be sent to the Vergennes Congregational Church, where she was a member for many years. The Vergennes Congregational Church, 30 South Water St., Vergennes, Vt., 05491. Arrangements are under the care of Brown and McClay Funeral Home. To send online condolences to her family please visit [www.brownmccclayfuneralhomes.com](http://www.brownmccclayfuneralhomes.com) ◊

Puppy Mookie. When visiting her, you could not leave there without her giving you something.

Shirley is survived by her sons, Kermit Wrisley Jr. and wife Roxanne Wrisley of Taunton, Mass.; Kenneth Peter Wrisley and wife Deena Wrisley of Malletts Bay, Colchester, Vt.; and James C. Wrisley of Castleton, Vt.; her sister Loretta Underwood Jarvis; her sister-in-law, Rita Underwood; brother-in-law Ray Raia; Orville Davis and also Harvey Findling; her grandchildren, Stacy Wrisley of Pennsylvania and Tyler Wrisley of Ferrisburgh; along with many nieces and nephews.

She was predeceased by her parents, James Underwood and Aurise (Dumas) Underwood; her husband, Kermit C. Wrisley; her sisters Theresa Underwood Davis, Marilyn Underwood Raia and Judy Underwood Findling; and brother James Underwood Jr. and also brother-in-law Francis Gary Jarvis.

Services will be held In Vergennes at the Brown McClay Funeral Home. Calling hours will be Wednesday, Nov. 29, from 5 to 7 p.m. Full church service will be in Vergennes at St. Peter's Catholic Church on Thursday, Nov. 30, at 10 a.m.

To send online condolences to her family please visit [www.brownmccclayfuneralhomes.com](http://www.brownmccclayfuneralhomes.com). ◊

**REACH THE COUNTY**  
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## Phyllis Bingham Severson, 93, formerly of Middlebury

SHELBURNE — Phyllis Bingham Severson, a resident of Wake Robin in Shelburne, Vt., died Nov. 8, 2023, at the age of 93. She was born Dec. 13, 1929, in Portland, Maine, the oldest of Neva and Wellington Bingham’s three children. After attending Deering High and the University of Maine, she completed a program at Columbia-Presbyterian School of Nursing. She graduated in 1952 as an RN. While attending school, she went to a picnic under the George Washington Bridge and met a young Columbia graduate student from Iowa named Ken Severson. They were married Aug. 16, 1953, in Portland, Maine. They recently celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary at their camp on Lake Champlain surrounded by extended family.

Phyllis worked as a nurse in New Hampshire, Iowa, NYC, Massachusetts, and Vermont depending on where Ken was working or going to school. In 1955 they moved to Vermont, where their four children were born. In 1973, she began the first of her 20 years working at the Counseling Service of Addison County in Middlebury, Vt., where she and Ken lived for 41 years before moving to Wake Robin in 2002. During those wonderful years in



PHYLLIS BINGHAM SEVERSON

Middlebury, Phyllis volunteered for the Red Cross, Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts, the Congregational Church, the local elementary school, and Middlebury Volunteer Ambulance Association. She also volunteered at the Counseling Service before and after she was employed, where she met many cherished friends.

After moving to Wake Robin, Phyllis remained active both physically and by volunteering. She was a member of a walking group, went snowshoeing (sometimes by moonlight!) and volunteered by helping in the gift shop among other things. She served as a floor representative which involved welcoming new residents and

arranging get-togethers. She helped residents of the nursing home participate in recreational activities such as BINGO, and enjoyed attending the countless gatherings, concerts, movies, and special occasions offered to residents.

Phyllis is survived by her devoted husband Kenneth (96) who went above and beyond in her later years to care for and support her. She is also survived by her children, David (Cheryl) Severson, Jeffrey Severson, Dana Severson, and Nancy (Denis) Montera. She also leaves behind a legacy through her six grandchildren, Katelyn (John Jr.) Ihne, Alex Severson, Daniel Montera, Kelly Montera, Margaret Montera and Dylan Severson; and two great-grandchildren, Jack III, and Madison. Her beloved brother Allen Bingham and sister-in-law Jody Bingham, many incredible nieces and nephews, as well as extended family and wonderful friends have also survived her. She is predeceased by her sister (and partner-in-crime) Judy Larsen, brother-in-law Joel Larsen, and their son, Peter Larsen.

There will be no calling hours. If desired, donations in her memory may be made to the Counseling Service of Addison County, 89 Main Street, Middlebury, VT 05753.◊

## Joan Wilma Allen Korda, 86, of Bridport

BRIDPORT — Joan Wilma Allen was born May 8, 1937 in Cleveland, Ohio, and adopted at age three days by Adelaide and Harold Allen of Detroit, Mich. She lived a blessed and fairytale life. From age 3 to 7, she traveled with her mother and father, (her father a Lieutenant Colonel in the U.S. Army) to Dayton, Ohio; Albuquerque, N.M.; and Miami Beach, Fla. In Florida, she rode on her **Grate** Dane alongside of her father as he inspected the troops. She was their mascot.

Back in Detroit, she attended the Liggett School for Girls, spent winters on Biscayne Bay in Miami Beach, and from age 9 to 16 she spent two months each summer at Camp Winonah, in Naples, Maine. Joan was a Gold Medal English Saddle Rider, and once rode with Cary Grant in Palm Springs. Sports great Hank Greenburg, her father’s best friend, lived with them while playing for the Tigers, Singer Tony Martin and his wife, Cid Cerise, a professional ballerina, stayed at their home when he performed in Detroit. Cid gave Joan ballet lessons, opening the door to what was to be her career.

Joan attended the University of Michigan and was a lifelong sports fan. After a year at the University of Michigan, her parents divorced and her mother and Joan moved to Beverly Hills, Calif., where most of her extended family lived. They were agents to Elizabeth Taylor, Fred MacMurray, and many more. Her cousin Jimmy Goldstone won an Oscar for “Marty.” Her Uncle Jack Schwab opened two Pharmacies, one in Beverly Hills, Calif., and one in Hollywood, Calif. They were a popular hangout at the café for movie actors and movie industry dealmakers from 1930 through the 70s.

In Los Angeles, Joan was a model for Saks Fifth Avenue, was a member of “New Talent” at 20th Century Fox, took acting lessons from Agnes Moorehead, and ballet and tap lessons from Oscar winning choreographer for the greats and Zigfield, Seymour Felix.

At age 20, Joan fell deeply in love with concert violinist and orchestra leader Murray Korda. They became engaged on her 21st birthday and were married two months later. Their one-year



JOAN WILMA ALLEN KORDA

honeymoon touring the world ended after five months when Joan became pregnant with their first child. During their honeymoon, Murray performed in several European cities. They met with the King of Denmark, Queen of Belgium, played Ping-Pong with the King and Queen of Spain, stayed at the castle Chateau de Grosbois in France, dined with the prince, and Queen Elizabeth sent her personal physician to care for Joan when she contracted the German Measles.

Once back in Los Angeles, Joan and Murray bought a beautiful home and had three more children. Joan was a Cub Scout Troop Leader, a Brownie Troop Leader, a Girl Scout Troop Leader, PTA President, and chair of the Woman’s Division of the Reiss Davis Child Study Center for Emotionally Disturbed Children. She also did her husband’s payroll for his orchestra.

They had a second home in Palm Springs and spent a month or more each winter in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico where she homeschooled the children. Wanting a change of life, they bought an 18th Century historic mansion in Orwell, Vt. Brookside Farms became a Country Inn and Antique Shop. Joan quickly became active in the community as chair of the Addison County division of the American Cancer Society, and the Vermont Symphony. She was Secretary of the Friends of Art at Middlebury College; membership chair, then secretary for many years, of the Orwell Fortnightly Club, a Director of the Sheldon Museum, and two-term President of the Vermont Antique Dealers Association, and then a director.

Among her many honors was “Business Woman of the Year.”

After her beloved husband was killed in an automobile accident in Vermont, the family decided that running the inn and the farm were too much, so Joan sold Brookside and moved seven miles up the road to Bridport. She bought a three- bedroom home on the Village Green and proceeded to double it in size as well as adding an Antique Shop.

Joan joined the Bridport Homemakers, Bone Builders, the Historical Society, and was an active member of the town as well.

Her friendships were many and true, and she loved all the towns that she lived in. For all of her beautiful and blessed life, she was a down-to-earth and devoted mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, and kept her dearest friends the closest. Her motto was always, “Family First — Friends a close second.” Joan was a giving spirit. She loved to give gifts, and emotional support.

She leaves her children and their spouses; Sidney Korda and Margaret (Orr) from Orwell, Vt.; Elizabeth Korda Smith and husband, Tait from Woodland Hills, Calif.; Suzanne Korda Roorda and husband, Case from New Haven, Vt.; and Anthony Korda and his wife, Kathrin (Zimmerman), formally from Bridport, Vt., and recently Tucson, Ariz.; grandchildren Nicholas Korda (life partner, Elena Cantor), Hannah (Chris) Ainsworth, Joshua Schwartz, Benjamin Schwartz, Elyse Schwartz, Melissa Porter, Emily Porter, Alex Korda, Kyle Korda, Cassidy Roorda, and Austin Roorda; and great-grandchildren Trenton Ainsworth, Garrett Ainsworth, Ana Cantor-Wilkes, Eva Cantor-Wilkes, and Joaquina Cantor Korda. She also leaves two very special friends, Lynne and Robert Boie.

It was Joan’s wish that instead of flowers, please donate to the American Cancer Society, Addison County Homeward Bound, Orwell Fire and Rescue, Bridport Fire Department, or your favorite charity, and please remember the homeless and those in need of food.

Arrangements by Miller & Ketcham Funeral Home in Brandon. ◊

## James Howard Morse Sr., 83, of Middlebury

MIDDLEBURY — It is with heavy hearts that the family of James Howard “Jim” Morse Sr. reports his passing on Nov. 9, 2023, at his home in Middlebury after a courageous and hard-fought battle with cancer. He was 83 years old.

He is survived by his wife, Adeline “Dolly” Morse; his children, Leslie Morse-Jones, James H. Morse Jr., Beth M. Morse, and Paul J. Morse; grandchildren Amanda (Adelie) Marnik, her husband Michael Marnik, Rachael Woodham, Danielle Morse, Shannon Morse, Kaitlyn Morse, and Blaine Morse; five great-grandchildren; and his brothers, Louis F. Morse of Hampden, Mass., Wayne “Happy” Morse of Montgomery, Mass.; and Oren R. Morse of Jacksonville, Fla.

He was born June 16, 1940, in Westfield, Mass., to Leslie J. Morse and Mildred (Smith) Morse Stockwell. In 1957 he met the love of his life, Adeline “Dolly” Morse. They were married on Aug. 24, 1959. He received his GED while serving in the Army.

While serving in the Army he spent 13 months in Korea and was stationed in Tacoma, Wash. After an honorable discharge he and Dolly returned to Massachusetts, then moved to Vermont in 1982 to pursue his love of farming.

He was a true Jack of All Trades, working from a florist to a machinist to a farmer. A skilled carpenter, plumber, and electrician. There was nothing he wasn’t afraid to tear apart and fix — always willing to give a helping hand. While going through chemo he saw on FPF that someone needed help adjusting the size of their cabinet doors. Though ill from the treatments he willingly helped a woman with her project.

A member of the Grange for over 50 years (most recently of Bridport Grange), he was a true friend to the community, embracing the Grange’s motto, “In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; in all things, charity.” He volunteered at a non-profit summer camp run by the Vermont State Grange,



JAMES HOWARD MORSE SR.

caring for the property. He truly believed that all children deserved to go to camp.

He was probably best known for being the timekeeper for the Addison County Legislative Breakfasts that are held on Mondays from February to April. Jim not only did that for the program but also organized the schedule, contacted organizations to host the events and set up the sound system. He wanted to ensure

that our legislators knew what the people they represented truly thought and felt about the bills being proposed.

One of his regrets is not being able to see the Bridport Grange Building in Bridport, Vt., restored.

In lieu of flowers, donations in his name can be made to the Bridport Grange 303 and sent to his daughter Beth Morse (92 Happy Valley Rd, Middlebury, Vt. 05753), for the building fund.

A celebration of his life will be held on Dec. 3 at the Middlebury American Legion from noon to 4 p.m.

The Family would like to thank Dr. Alexander Fuld, D.O., and his team at Dartmouth Hitchcock Cancer Center; Kim Kurak and team from Brandon Community Health; and the Addison County Home Health & Hospice for their compassionate care through this long process.

Arrangements under the direction of Sanderson-Ducharme Funeral Home.

Online condolences at [www.sandersonfuneralservice.com](http://www.sandersonfuneralservice.com). ◊

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## Pet of the week

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# Thank you!

There is no better time of the year to thank the people who contribute to our success. We appreciate those who donate to us, teach us, collaborate with us and help us provide care to our friends, neighbors and family members here in Addison County.

Most of all, we are thankful for the trust you put in us when you invite us in to care for you and your loved ones.

Best wishes for a very joyous holiday season.

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# Obituaries

## Linda Lee (McDurfee) Sargent, 72, of Vergennes

VERGENNES — Linda Lee (McDurfee) Sargent, 72, passed away peacefully at her home in Vergennes on Nov.14, 2023.

Linda was born into the McDurfee clan of Burlington, Vt., on Dec. 17, 1950, the second oldest among her seven siblings. At a young age she was moved to a farm in New Haven, following this she graduated from Mount Abraham UHS. She continued to live in Bristol and Lincoln where she raised her two children. During this time, she worked in various roles including healthcare, bartending, and manufacturing with Autumn Harp.

Linda was a proud lifelong member of the Post 19 Legion, though her most cherished role was that of a grandma to her grand- and great-grandchildren. Linda's favorite pastime was chatting on the phone with family and friends, and she was never short of an earful. We loved her for this.

She is survived by her sons, Wilder J Wheelock and Brett M



LINDA LEE (MCDURFEE) SARGENT

Sargent (Jen Smith); daughter-in-laws Willow Wheelock and Kate Earley; grandchildren Nikolai S., Chaz E., Jonah L., Azia M., Savannah C., Shain O., and Brett P.; and great-grandchildren Wilder M., Axel R., and Lucius W.

Additionally, she is survived by her brother, Richard McDurfee;

sister Pam Robinson (Sparkie), sister Debbie McDurfee, sister Kim Gage (Kevin), and brother Bruce Hazen (Nancy), as well as many loved nieces and nephews.

Linda was preceded in death by her father, Richard McDurfee; mother, Juanita Hardy; brother David McDurfee, and sister Lynn McDurfee-Gravel.

A special thanks goes to neighbor and close friend of many years, Diane Charron (Tootie), who played a key part in allowing Linda to stay home in her final months. Her unwavering support, along with that of Addison County Home Health & Hospice, made Linda's final wishes possible. Thank you.

In honor of Linda's life, we are inviting family and friends to gather at the Bristol American Legion on Saturday, Dec. 9, from 1-4 p.m. This will provide us an opportunity to celebrate the woman we all loved.

So, raise a Bud Light, crack a witty joke, and let that laugh rip. Here's to you, Linda.◊

# Stevenson letter

*(Continued from Page 5A)*

only revealed by VT Fish and Wildlife upon a public records request.

The bottom line is there are no laws protecting citizens from hunting hound attacks.

H. 323 is a bill that, if passed, will ban coyote and bear hounding. Banning the hounding of raccoons, foxes and bobcats should be added to this bill. The reason is that these animals are considered 'large game.' Multiple dogs are used on large game since these animals can cause injury to the hounds while trying to defend themselves and offspring. Fox and coonhounds are the hounds

of choice because they are larger, more aggressive, and relentless.

Hounding needs to be banned for public safety. The majority shouldn't have to suffer so a few can engage in an activity that is inherently cruel to hounds and wildlife and dangerous to Vermonters and companion and farmed animals. The hound "training season" is simply a cover for an extended season.

It is not right that the only recourse for people who are attacked or whose animals are injured and killed by hounds is to file individual lawsuits and litigation. It's not right that hounders from out of state can

'train' their dogs in Vermont and then leave with no repercussions or consequences for their behavior.

Support H. 323 to ban bear and coyote hounding. Call your legislators to request the bill passes through committees and is enacted into law in 2024. If you've had personal experiences where you have been impacted or harassed by hounders, or your animals have been attacked, please contact your legislator and write a formal complaint. Legislators have to hear from you.

Alana Stevenson  
Charlotte

## Kenneth L. Munson Jr., 68, of Middlebury

MIDDLEBURY — Kenneth L. Munson Jr., of Middlebury, Vt., died on Nov. 25, 2023, at the age of 68. He was born in Torrington, Conn., the son of Kenneth L. Munson Sr. and Elsie M. (Wood) Munson.

He enjoyed hunting, fishing, farming, and the outdoors. He loved his family and spending time with the grandchildren.

He is survived by his son, Richard Munson (Vanessa Hernandez) and his daughter, Jennifer Munson (Shawn Freegard); his grandchildren, Amy, Jesse and Alexis Freegard, Katrina Harris

and Tyler Munson; his sister, Ella May Ash; his nieces, Judy Linares (Humberto, Carter and Andres), and Karen Holbrook, (Stephen, Holly and Jared); aunt and uncles, several cousins and many friends.

He was predeceased by his parents and several aunts and uncles.

A celebration of life will be held on Sunday, Dec. 10, from noon to 4 p.m., at the VFW, 530 Exchange Street, in Middlebury.

Arrangements under the direction of Sanderson-Ducharme Funeral Home. Online condolences at [www.sandersonfuneralservice.com](http://www.sandersonfuneralservice.com). ◊



KENNETH L. MUNSON JR.

# Police apprehend Colorado fugitive

MIDDLEBURY — Middlebury police responded to the report of a man exposing himself in the drive-through of Walgreens Pharmacy off Court Street during the afternoon of Nov. 20. Police said the man was gone upon their arrival.

## Middlebury Police Log

In addition to conducting additional patrols in the Bakery Lane area to check on a group of houseless folks who've been camping under the Cross Street Bridge, Middlebury police:

- Assisted Middlebury Regional EMS (MREMS) on a medical call in the Sugarwood Court neighborhood on Nov. 20.
- On Nov. 20, cited Mark Bilodeau, 19, of Weybridge for retail theft.
- Were informed on Nov. 20 that some people were squatting in a Munger Street home. Police said they referred the homeowner to the eviction process to remove the unwanted people from the abode.
- Began investigating the possible theft of financial documents from an elderly Amory Lane resident on Nov. 20.
- Enforced Middlebury's overnight winter parking ban downtown on Nov. 21.
- Responded to a report of a plow truck striking a building on

Merchants Row during the evening of Nov. 21.

- Responded to a domestic argument at a Route 7 South home on Nov. 21.
- Investigated a crash involving a vehicle that had collided with two pedestrians near the intersection of Cross and Main streets on Nov. 22. Police said the pedestrians in question sustained "very minor injuries" that didn't require a hospital visit.
- Responded to a trespassing complaint in the Munger Street area on Nov. 22.
- Arrested Megan A. Chaix, 34, of Colorado as a fugitive from justice after locating her on Merchants Row with a felony extraditable warrant from Colorado on Nov. 22.
- Responded to a report of an injured deer on Route 30 on Nov. 23.
- Responded to a report of a woman walking in and out of Court Street traffic during the evening of Nov. 23. Police found the woman and told her to stay out of the road.
- Investigated a noise complaint in the North Pleasant Street area on Nov. 23.
- Assisted Middlebury Regional EMS in responding to the Case Street area where a person was

having a mental health crisis on Nov. 23.

- Helped a person experiencing mental health problems at Porter Hospital on Nov. 24.
- Assisted MREMS with a medical call at the Abbey Pond Trailhead during the afternoon of Nov. 24.
- Responded to a report that a FedEx truck had struck the Pulp Mill Bridge on Pulp Mill Bridge Road on Nov. 24.
- Assisted in corralling cows from the Nop Farm that had gotten loose onto Route 7 on Nov. 24.
- Responded to a report of a man believed to be experiencing seizures at the Charter House Emergency Shelter on Nov. 25.
- Cited Jeffrey P. Preseau, 44, of Addison for driving with a criminally suspended license on Seymour Street on Nov. 25.
- Began an investigation into a reported theft at the Residence at Otter Creek on Nov. 25.
- Cited Amanda T. Smith, 37, of Shoreham for driving with a criminally suspended license in the Seminary Street Extension area on Nov. 25.
- Responded to an untimely death in the Case Street area on Nov. 25. Police identified the deceased as 69-year-old Kenneth Munson. *(See Midd Police, Page 9A)*

# Sanders

*(Continued from Page 4A)*

self-determination and a decent standard of living, there must be no long-term Israeli re-occupation and blockade of Gaza. If Hamas is going to be removed from power, as it must be, and Palestinians given the opportunity for a better life, an Israeli occupation of Gaza would be absolutely counterproductive and would benefit Hamas. For the sake of regional peace and a brighter future for the Palestinian people, Gaza must have a chance to be free of Hamas. There can be no long-term Israeli occupation.

To achieve the political transformation that Gaza needs, new Palestinian leadership will be required as part of a wider political process. And for that transformation and peace process to take place, Israel must make certain political commitments that will allow for Palestinian leadership committed to peace to build support. They must guarantee displaced Palestinians the absolute right to return to their homes as Gaza rebuilds. People who have lived in poverty and despair for years cannot be made permanently homeless. Israel must also commit to end the killings of Palestinians in the West Bank and freeze settlements there as a first step toward permanently ending the occupation. Those steps will show that peace can deliver for the Palestinian people, hopefully giving the Palestinian Authority the legitimacy it needs to assume administrative control of Gaza, likely after an interim stabilization period under an international force.

Finally, if Palestinians are to have any hope for a decent future, there must be a commitment to broad peace talks to advance a two-state solution in the wake of this war. The United States, the international community and Israel's neighbors must move aggressively toward that goal. This would include dramatically increased international support for the Palestinian people, including from wealthy Gulf States. It would also mean the promise of full recognition of Palestine pending the formation of a new democratically elected government committed to peace with Israel.

Let's be clear: This is not going to happen on its own. Mr. Netanyahu's Likud party was explicitly formed on the premise that "between the Sea and the Jordan [River] there will only be Israeli sovereignty,"

and the current coalition agreement reinforces that goal. This is not just ideology. The Israeli government has systematically pursued this goal. The last year saw record Israeli settlement growth in the West Bank, where more than 700,000 Israelis now live in areas that the United Nations and the United States agree are occupied territories. They have used state violence to back up this de facto annexation. Since Oct. 7, the United Nations reports that at least 208 Palestinians, including 53 children, have been killed by Israeli security forces and settlers. This cannot be allowed to continue.

Mr. Netanyahu has made clear where he stands on these critical issues. So should we. If asking nicely worked, we wouldn't be in this position. The only way these necessary changes will happen is if the United States uses the substantial leverage we have with Israel. And we all know what that leverage is.

For many years, the United States has provided Israel substantial sums of money — with close to no strings attached. Currently, we provide \$3.8 billion a year. President Biden has asked for \$14.3 billion more on top of that sum and asked Congress to waive normal, already-limited oversight rules. The blank check approach must end. The United States must make clear that while we are friends of Israel, there are conditions to that friendship and that we cannot be complicit in actions that violate international law and our own sense of decency. That includes an end to indiscriminate bombing; a significant pause to bombing so that massive humanitarian assistance can come into the region; the right of displaced Gazans to return to their homes; no long-term Israeli occupation of Gaza; an end to settler violence in the West Bank and a freeze on settlement expansion; and a commitment to broad peace talks for a two-state solution in the wake of the war.

Over the years, people of good will around the world, including Israelis, have tried to address this conflict in a way that brings justice for Palestinians and security for Israel. I, and some other members of Congress, have tried to do what we could. Obviously, we did not do enough. Now we must recommit to this effort. The stakes are just too high to give up.

# Wake boats

*(Continued from Page 4A)*

and beyond certain depths doesn't solve the concerns. Although it might lessen the impact to the environment, it really creates another unfunded mandate for the state to enforce these limits. I think it safe to assume that there are no staff available for this aspect, and the DEC would largely rely on the honor system.

Another enforcement nightmare would be restricting movement of the boats among lakes in the state so as not to further the spread of aquatic invasives.

The simple solution is just to ban the use of wake boats outright on all inland lakes, i.e. other than

Champlain and Memphremagog. There comes a time when the state has to just say no after weighing all the evidence. I acknowledge this will be difficult and that you are undoubtedly receiving lots of pressure from the wake boat users and industry. I draw a parallel to Vermont's bold decision to ban billboards along our interstate. Although it was highly controversial at the time, it has served the state well over time.

*Editor's note: Bob Popp worked at the Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife for 30 years, and recently retired from his role as state botanist.*



## Lincoln, VT Homeowner Recommends Bristol Electronics



**Phase I - 2014**

For a long time I had been thinking of going solar, but had not pursued it until I talked with a neighbor who just had hers installed. I contracted with her installer and soon had panels on the roof that supplied all of my household electricity, with some extra capacity to supply an on-demand electric water heater I soon put in. I loved not hearing the propane boiler firing up in the summer to keep domestic water hot for the shower I'd be taking 16 hours later. Thrilled with the installation and not having an electric bill. I even splurged and bought my first ever noisy window A/C.

**Phase II - 2016**

While my primary heat source has been a woodstove and later a pellet stove, the propane boiler served as my backup. On a December road trip to PEI, I discovered the 25+ year old propane boiler died on me. I'm lucky to have had a monitoring system to notice this and awesome neighbors to feed pellets until I got back. Rather than buy another fossil fuel burning device, I decided to have heat pumps installed. At the time Bristol Electronics didn't install those, but they were very competitive as I shopped around for additional solar capacity. So in February 2016 they were on the roof installing panels that would provide enough electricity year round to supply my heating needs. And, since the heat pump also cools the house quietly on the hottest days, I sold the window unit. Maybe I'm just getting older, but there seems to be more and more of those hot days.

**Phase III - 2019**

Since I commute from So. Lincoln to Burlington, I've always felt guilty about all of the CO2 I've been emitting to get to work. I still have 7-10 years before I can even think about retiring, so I decided to make the investment and buy an electric car. And part of that investment was to buy the additional solar capacity to power it. I didn't think twice about having Bristol Electronics do it. My roof was running out of space, and since it has a low pitch, snow coverage was an issue for the last two years. This time I worked with Chris, Stephen, Dave and Trevor to have a ground mount installed that will be easy to clear the snow off of. They did amazing work, despite weather issues, and were actually able to make some long overdue landscaping improvements during the process. I couldn't be happier with my experience with this team!

~ Paul Webb, Lincoln, VT



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FREE SITE EVALUATIONS



# Gather

(Continued from Page 1A)  
staying power, but members of Bread Loaf Mountain Zen Community (BLMZC) in Cornwall have high hopes.

“We created Gather as a space where everyone is welcomed and treated in just the same way and just as they are, no matter how they’ve been labeled by society, professional services and culture,” said Byrnes, leader of the BLMZC, which launched Gather as a secular, humanitarian offering this past February.

“A community isn’t made up of labeled people,” he continued, as more folks trickled into the space while volunteers readied a Thanksgiving Day meal. “A community is made up of whole-being humans, relating and vibing with each other on many levels. A community is made from all kinds of life experiences and of people who all share and can see in each other the same wish for connection, purpose, safety and acceptance.”

Many of those frequenting Gather are in search of a helping hand as much as they’re in need of a friend.

On this Thanksgiving Day, a bearded man cloaked in warm clothing was hunched over in a chair, working hard to bring his body to room temperature after a night spent outdoors.

A young woman in recovery from substance use disorder received a welcome hug from a Gather volunteer as she summoned the courage to meet new people.

A man who Byrnes said was “having a bad day” abruptly made his way out the front door to smoke a cigarette outside.

Several people at Gather have seen their share of bad days. Whether self-inflicted or foisted upon them, those bad days have accumulated and derailed their lives. At Gather, they find folks in the same boat, as well as others who aren’t struggling.

“Yes, a lot of people who have been living in the encampments or in their cars have been coming to Gather along with many others who are part of the mosaic of the community,” Byrnes said. “We have seen an increase in demands for food, showers, laundry and warm resting spaces.

“Everyone, housed and unhoused, comes offering something and needing something no matter who they are, and they share, sometimes receiving and other times giving,” he added. “Honestly, sometimes you just forget about giving and receiving and it’s just life happening in each other’s company.”

Gather “friends,” as they are called, can keep to themselves if they’d like, or they can participate in free programming that includes craft days, “creativity jams,” singalongs, game nights, “mindfulness groups,” and recovery and wellness meets.

A young woman named Faith has been a regular at Gather since



“GATHER,” BILLED AS Middlebury’s “community living room,” was a popular place on Thanksgiving Day. Around 60 people met up at Gather for food, games, warmth on a cold day, and banter.

Independent photo John Flowers

it opened. Her life has already had a lot of ups and downs, and she appreciates the structure and ground rules of Gather, which emphasize cooperation and friendship. It’s a system she believes has kept her away from people and influences that might lead her astray.

“Without this place, I’d be alone — or someplace I shouldn’t be,” said Faith, her eyes peering shyly from under the brim of a cap.

She feels so strongly about her new safe haven that she volunteers there when she can.

“It’s kind of like a second home,” Faith said.

Henry dreams of world travel and excitement, but on this particular Thanksgiving, Gather — in his hometown of Middlebury — was the only place he could imagine himself being. He’s there an average of three times per week. He meets up with friends, plays cards, has a cup of coffee and a nutritious meal.

“I love this place,” he said. “I enjoy the peaceful cooperation. No fighting, no violence. It’s like a family.”

Cathy has become another Gather regular. She’s there around four times a week, spending a couple of hours at a time. Cathy has no family in the area; her friends at Gather have assumed that role.

“It’s a great place,” she said. “It has a cozy feeling.”

Gather opened at just the right time for Cathy.

“I’d been going through a really hard time and this place has helped me get back on my feet,” she said. “The staff is absolutely wonderful.”

Steve Fidler is blind but finds his way to Gather at least once each week, usually on Thursdays.

“It’s really the community part that I love,” he said.

Being without sight has never held him back; he’s a newly minted author who used to operate a solo massage and hypnotherapy practice. Like millions of

other folks worldwide, Fidler experienced his share of setbacks in early 2020.

“When COVID came, I lost my business and got shut in,” he said.

He credited Gather with restoring a sense of normalcy to his life.

“When I came here for the first time, I loved the welcoming atmosphere and the people,” Fidler said. “It was powerful for me because I had become so disconnected. I was reconnecting with people.”

He’d like to become a more frequent “Gatherer,” but his lack of sight makes it challenging to get rides. He’s particularly keen on making the Friday and Saturday singalong sessions.

## SPECIAL MOMENTS

Whether it’s one day or three, Fidler said he’s happy with any amount of time he’s able to spend at Gather.

“I already have so many great moments and stories with people here,” he said. “It’s about creating unique and special moments, and they stay with all of us.”

And Fidler recently had a special moment to share with his new friends: The release in late October of his first book, “The Two Paths.” Eight years in the making, “The Two Paths” shares how, in a single night at age 23, Fidler’s life shifted from graduating college with honors and a bright future, to unexpectedly losing his sight.

While Bread Loaf Mountain Zen Community embraces Buddhism, Byrnes stressed that Gather is, and will remain, a nonreligious offering.

“We’re not pushing a religious agenda. But we do honor the spiritual lives of people because that’s part of a whole human being,” he said. “It’s not uncommon for people to be asking those big existential questions here, such as, ‘Why do I suffer?’ ‘What comes after life?’ People come with hopes, aspirations and dreams.”

BLMZC’s lease for 48 Merchants

Row extends through May 2025. Gather is run by volunteers, but it still costs around \$50,000-\$60,000 annually to cover rent, utilities, food and other expenses, according to Byrnes.

“So far, we’ve been able to meet expenses and we hope to be able to do so in the future,” he said. “This is a project that really depends on the generosity of a big group of people.”

BLMZC doesn’t ask for governmental support because it doesn’t want to become tangled in the strings that often come with such assistance.

“Sometimes government funding forces you to narrow your target population; we’re trying to avoid that language and approach,” Byrnes said. “To do it this way

requires a practice for us of asking for what we need and working with what we’ve got. We have some principles that drive that — we’re trying to feed people the healthiest food we can afford that’s palatable for them, that’s locally sourced, that’s healthy. It sends a signal that they’re valued and that we care about their health and tradition.”

As much as Gather gives to others, the recipients always seem to have something to share, according to Byrnes. It might be food, stories and words of encouragement.

“Our project is not so much about providing a social service as it is about holding an informal community space for people to just be themselves with one another,” said Byrnes.

He hopes that if Gather can catch on in a small town, “maybe we can apply it in settings where our labels keep us from knowing each other and being curious about each other — who are progressives and conservatives beyond their labels, the rich and the poor, Gazans and Israelis, and all the many ways we divide up the human family?”

You can find out more about Gather at [gatheronthegreen.org](http://gatheronthegreen.org).

# By the way

(Continued from Page 1A)  
ID is the main line for the state police’s Westminster barracks, but the calls are not originating there, officials stressed. If anyone receives such a call, they should hang up or not call back the number provided. Instead, call the New Haven barracks (802-388-4919) to confirm the authenticity of the message. State police remind the public never to give out personal information or agree to pay money, obtain gift cards or money orders, etc., in response to unknown or suspicious callers. People also are encouraged to report suspicious calls to the Vermont Attorney General’s Office at 1-800-649-2424.

The number of families being served by Bristol’s Have-A-Heart Food Shelf has increased by 49% since 2020, according to representatives of the Bristol nonprofit that serves low-income households in the 5-Town Area. Food costs continue to climb, making it harder for Have-A-Heart — a small, homegrown food shelf — to serve everyone in need in Bristol, Lincoln, Monkton, New Haven and Starksboro. You can help by donating at the checkout in Shaw’s Supermarket (“Nourishing Neighbors”) or by sending a check made out to Have-A-Heart Food Shelf, in care of Allison Pouliot, 446 Hazel Dr., Bristol, VT 05443. The money is guaranteed to stay local, and 99.9% of it goes directly to food and other essential items, according to organizers. Have-A-Heart Food Shelf is a 501c3 charitable organization, is totally independent and volunteer-run, and is not affiliated with any church denomination. The food

shelf is located in the basement of St. Ambrose Catholic Church.

Bristol and Monkton-area residents continue to rally around the Jewell family as it tries to rebound from last week’s fire that destroyed their business, Queen Bee’s Snack Bar at 1915 Hardscrabble Rd. The Masons of Libanus Lodge #47 in Bristol have decided to donate all of the proceeds from its next monthly community breakfast (on Sunday, Dec. 10) to help the Jewell family rebuild their business. The breakfast will be from 7:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. at 2 Elm St. It will include sausage gravy with biscuits, scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage links and patties, home fries, French toast, and plain and blueberry pancakes with Vermont maple syrup. All this along with a fruit cup, baked goods, toast, juice and bottomless coffee from Vermont Coffee. Lodge leaders noted that the Jewells have been ardent supporters of the Masons’ “Cops and Creemee Program,” through which Bristol police handed out “tickets” that could be redeemed for a free creemee at Queen Bee’s. The Jewells only charged the Masons \$1 per coupon and Queen Bee’s donated the rest.

Average gasoline prices in Vermont have fallen 2.8 cents per gallon during the past week to \$3.43, according to GasBuddy’s survey of 626 stations in the state. Prices are 19.8 cents lower than a month ago and 41.2 cents lower than a year ago. The cheapest station in Vermont sold at \$3.12; most expensive: \$3.59. The national average price has fallen 5.8 cents to \$3.21.

# Midd Police

(Continued from Page 8A)  
Police reported no signs of foul play in this case.

- Assisted the Addison County Sheriff’s Department with a drug influence evaluation at Middlebury PD on Nov. 25.
- Investigated a report of a “large fight” in front of Two Brothers Tavern on Main Street at around 11:45 p.m. on Nov. 25.
- Cited Richard P. Quesnel, 38, of Shoreham for driving with a criminally suspended license near the intersection of Route 7 South and Halladay Road on Nov. 26.
- Investigated a hit-and-run incident in The Centre shopping plaza on Nov. 26 involving a

vehicle that had left the scene after damaging another vehicle.

- Responded to a report of a fight between two people in the Bakery Lane area on Nov. 26. Police said both parties refused to provide information about the fight but agreed to separate.
- Conducted a welfare check on a person with mental health challenges in the Bakery Lane area on Nov. 26.
- Arrested Tracey Martel, 44, of Middlebury on an active in-state arrest warrant, on Route 7 South on Nov. 27. Police said Martel was lodged at the Chittenden Regional Correctional Facility on \$5,000 bail.



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(Continued from Page 1A)

“A student has a right to education and cannot be excluded from receiving education services without due process, which is provided in local policies in addition to state law,” Lindsey Hedges, a public information officer for the Vermont Agency of Education, told the *Independent*. “There are a few different approaches that a Vermont school district could take when dealing with students accused of crimes or who may pose a safety concern. These approaches must also take into consideration special education requirements as applicable.”

## SCHOOLS' APPROACHES

The *Independent* spoke with a handful of Vermont school districts about how, given the guidance provided in state law, school districts decide how to educate students who have been accused of crimes or who might pose other safety concerns within the learning community.

Many Vermont school districts abide by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, a federal law that safeguards the privacy of student education records. Thus, school officials weren't able to discuss situations involving specific students, but spoke generally about how such cases are addressed.

“The number one priority is assuring the safety of our students and staff and our continuous improvement plan focuses on safe, healthy schools and social-emotional health,” Julia Maguire, communications coordinator for the South Burlington School District, told the *Independent*.

Maguire referenced her district's policies and procedures on student conduct and discipline, which outline the responsibilities of students in contributing "to a safe and productive learning environment," and of administrators in responding to student misconduct.

Addison Northwest School  
District Superintendent Sheila

Soule said that instances of students facing criminal charges or safety concerns are “an extremely rare occurrence” in the Vergennes-area school district. The district’s top priority is ensuring the safety and well-being of its students, she said.

“Our district is committed to creating a safe and inclusive learning environment for all students,” Soule said. “In instances where a student is facing accusations or safety concerns, we follow a thorough and fair process that takes into account the individual circumstances of each case. We work closely with law enforcement and other relevant agencies to ensure that our response aligns with legal requirements and best practices.”

The *Independent* was not able to reach interim Addison Central School District Superintendent Tim Williams for this story. The ACSD's policy on student conduct outlines the responsibility of each student to contribute to a safe and productive learning environment in school. The policy also states that the school principal, along with educational staff, will develop an overall discipline plan in accordance with state law.

According to the district's policy, that plan will include provisions for the suspension or expulsion of students who engage in misconduct "on school property, on a school bus, or at a school-sponsored activity when the misconduct makes the continued presence of the student harmful to the welfare of the school community," as well as misconduct that occurs outside of those spaces and in which "direct harm to the school can be demonstrated or where the misconduct can be shown to pose a clear and substantial interference with another student's equal access to educational programs."

## BRISTOL-AREA SCHOOLS

Situations in which students are accused of crimes or pose safety concerns are also infrequent in the Mount Abraham Unified School

to reach interim Addison Central School District Superintendent Tim Williams for this story. The ACSD's policy on student conduct outlines the responsibility of each student to contribute to a safe and productive learning environment in school. The policy also states that the school principal, along with educational staff, will develop an overall discipline plan in accordance with state law.

District, according to Superintendent Patrick Reen. The Bristol-area school district can approach these cases slightly differently based on whether the student resides in one of the district's member towns.

When it comes to admitting non-resident students in these circumstances, district officials aim to learn more about the student and their needs.

"As is the case with pretty much any student that moves in, there are efforts and processes to understand what we can about the student, where they're transferring from, what needs they have," Reen explained. "There's a range of needs each student might come to us from their sending district with and we review as much as we can about what that case might be, and we look to our resources within about where we may have space to make the transition successful for the student."

Reen noted that when a non-resident student moves from one district to another, records are transferred from the sending district to the MAUSD. During that exchange of information, school and district officials evaluate how to continue meeting the student's needs and allow for a smooth transition into MAUSD.

That process includes finding ways to address any social emotional needs the student might exhibit.

“That’s a part of that process that we have, and we would think about what resources we have available to help meet those needs. That goes for social emotional learning as well as academic needs,” Reen said. “Really looking at it from the whole child perspective as we think of the suite of options we have available to help meet the needs of that student.”

Can MAUSD officials simply decide not to educate a student who has been accused of a crime or poses other safety concerns?

“If we are talking about resident students, meaning they reside in our

school district, we have a moral, ethical and legal obligation to provide them with an education. Whether or not that happens in one of our school buildings or outside of one of our schools is determined on a case by case basis,” Reen told the *Independent*. “When we are talking about admission of non-resident students, our policy does give us a bit more latitude. The policy states, ‘Decisions regarding the enrollment of non-resident students shall be made at the discretion of the district and in compliance with federal and state laws and regulations governing tuition payment and non-discrimination.’”

## PARENT CONCERNS

The MAUSD board at its Nov. 21 meeting heard from a handful of community members who expressed concerns about a student who recently joined the district and who is believed to have been involved in a shooting crime.

One parent asked how she and other parents could be reassured about the situation and how it's being handled.

"Whatever the scenario is, there is going to be mental health concerns around this issue, and do we get to be reassured that there's things in place for this child, there's a structure around it of some sort," she asked the board. "I feel like we need something, if we're sending our kids

daily, I think any parent would want some reassurance that's above some generic response that could just be any situation, any day. This is very unique, and I think we're deserving of something that's a little bit more tailored to the situation."

Another community member provided a different perspective, stating she remains confident in the school's ability to keep students safe. She noted her grandchild attends school with the student in question and encouraged those with questions or concerns about the situation to reach out to school officials.

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**Superintendent  
Patrick Reen**

what I have done and what I'll continue to do."

Robinson Elementary School Principal Edorah Frazer also spoke at the Nov. 21 meeting. She shared with the board and those in attendance information about the various safety measures in place at the elementary school.

"The safety situation in any

elementary school is dynamic, it changes day to day," Frazer said, adding that school officials are trained to adapt to changing circumstances.

Safety measures at the elementary school include ongoing relationships with a variety of community partners, including two police forces, the Counseling Service of Addison County (with which the school contracts for a full-time counselor), and organizations that help ensure each student has access to food, clothing and medical care.

Frazer noted Robinson's 101 students have unique needs that school officials work to respond to each day.

"Regardless of who shows up, we assess the needs of those students. In the vast majority of cases, we can meet those needs, and we are doing so," she said. "I have no concerns about my 101 students. I have no concerns that there are safety issues, that any of our students are dangerous within the school building."

The principal added that school officials plan for a variety of safety measures. The school uses cameras, alarms, drills and has weekly meetings discussing the needs of each classroom, all of which are measures designed to ensure the safety of those in the learning community.

"Every adult in an elementary school is trained to watch, to listen, to respond to student needs, to help kids be calm and happy. All of those things we're trained to do, and we do it every minute that a student is in the building," Frazer said. "We take that responsibility seriously. I think we're doing it well. I feel very safe and comfortable in my school. I think that's been the case every day this year, and I expect it to be the case going forward."

*Editor's note: Next week we will go over some specifics on state laws and difficult students.*



## Taking wing

The sky over Dead Creek was full of Snow Geese over Thanksgiving weekend. They number in the thousands, a sight and sound to behold. This photo shows a tiny part of one of the big flocks.

Photo by Dottie Nelson

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An advertisement for The Middlebury Shop. The central text reads "THE MIDDLEBURY SHOP" in a large, blue, serif font. Below this, the word "SKIDA" is written in a black, handwritten-style font. To the left of "SKIDA" is a photograph of a smiling woman wearing a pink ski jacket and a colorful patterned ski mask. To the right of "SKIDA" is a red and white shield-shaped logo that says "DARN TOUGH VERMONT". Below the "DARN TOUGH" logo is a pair of blue and yellow ski goggles. To the right of the goggles is a teal and brown sock with a small house illustration. At the top left is a brown teddy bear wearing a dark blue t-shirt with a white "M" and "MIDDLEBURY" text. At the top right is a dark blue hoodie with a white "M" and "MIDDLEBURY" text. At the bottom is a black banner with the text "MiddleburyShop.com" in white. Below the banner, it says "Formerly FORTH IN GOAL" with a small logo, followed by the address "68 Main Street, Middlebury, Vermont • 802-388-3444". The entire advertisement is framed by a dark blue border with white pine branches and silver and gold ornaments.

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# Climate

(Continued from Page 1A)  
for the upcoming legislative session.

“We shouldn’t be lulled into thinking that we’re in such great shape that we don’t have to press on. There’s a great deal more left to do,” Bray said, referencing a recent Energy Action Network report on how the state is doing at meeting its climate and energy goals. “Vermont is improving, but we’ve certainly got more work to do.”

Around 70 people tuned into the Monday Zoom discussion, which was hosted by the Addison County Democratic Party. Bray kicked off the conversation, sharing with those in attendance some of the key findings from the Energy Action Network’s 2023 Annual Progress Report for Vermont.

The report found that Vermont is not on track to meet the legal obligations for statewide greenhouse gas emission (GHG) reductions established by the Global Warming Solutions Act, passed in 2020.

“Right now, we’re making progress in reducing, but we’re not on track to meet those targets that we set for ourselves,” Bray said.

Other findings from the report include that lower-income Vermonters are disproportionately burdened by energy costs, and that meeting Vermont’s climate commitments will require a larger climate workforce.

“The challenge there is we don’t have enough people necessarily trained in weatherizing, insulating, putting in heat pumps and solar panels,” Bray said. “On the other hand, it’s also a job opportunity. Wages are good in the industry, so we’re working in the workforce area with career technical centers to help get younger Vermonters interested and aware of the fact that there’s a clean energy economy that they can participate in.”

## ENERGY

Bray, who chairs the Senate Natural Resources & Energy Committee, also spoke about some of the climate bills the Legislature has passed in recent years, including the Affordable Heat Act that was passed earlier this year.

The act establishes a “Clean Heat Standard,” to reduce the state’s GHG emissions in the thermal sector. That standard will be overseen by the state’s Public Utility Commission and require obligated parties to demonstrate annual reductions in GHG emissions through a credit system.

“(The act) starts the modeling and pathway for a program that will take fees related to the use of fossil fuels and then distribute them back out to help people make the transition off of fossil fuels,” Bray explained. “It’s sort of paying our own way to make the transition that we know we need to make in order to reduce emissions.”

Bray noted that work to develop that program is underway.

“It’s a complicated and multi-part process and program. That work will happen in 2024 to get ready,” he said. “(In 2025), we’ll then have the opportunity to, I hope, press on and implement the program. They may well make changes to the design that we passed this past year, because I’m sure we will learn a lot in the next 18 months, but then the opportunity and the need is to make that plan for reducing fossil fuel emissions related to heating a reality for more Vermonters.”

Bray also spoke about the state’s Renewable Energy Standard (RES), which was passed in 2015 and requires Vermont electric distribution utilities to get 75% of their electricity from renewable sources by 2032.

That state senator said he and other lawmakers are looking to pass a revised RES that would move the state’s goal to 100% renewable energy by 2030.

“That means when we help and encourage people to stop heating with fossil fuels and move over to a cold-climate heat pump, which runs on electricity, that the electricity that pump is running from is clean power,” Bray said. “If we don’t have a clean grid, then the beneficial electrification that we like to talk about for heating and transportation, may well not be so truly beneficial.”

## RES REVISIONS

Attendees weighed in on



**PAWLET RESIDENT JESSICA Van Oort and other Vermonters advocated for revisions to the state’s Renewable Energy Standard during a 350Vermont event at the statehouse on Tuesday. Updating the Renewable Energy Standard was also one of the topics discussed by local lawmakers at a Monday event hosted by the Addison County Democrats.**

Photo courtesy of Rebecca Dalglin

revisions to the RES during the question and answer period of Monday’s discussion.

Rep. Caleb Elder, D-Starksboro, raised a couple of questions related to the RES, including what the state considers renewable energy and how much more electric energy the state will require as it moves toward electrification in the heating and transportation sectors.

“Sometimes we kind of benchmark the past or just the present when really we need to think about how ‘is the 100% of the electric grid 20 years from now actually 300% of what it is today,’ and therefore, we need more than we think we do, because I tend to be in that camp,” Elder said.

David Blittersdorf, CEO of the solar company AllEarth Renewables, advocated for a greater focus on the development of in-state renewable energy sources like wind and solar.

“The idea that we’re going to buy wind and solar from out of state is absolutely absurd, it’s not going to happen. We must build a tremendous amount of in-state renewables,” Blittersdorf said.

Vermonters in another part of the state were also advocating for revisions to the Renewable Energy Standard this week. On Tuesday, grassroots climate justice organization 350Vermont held a press conference at the statehouse in Montpelier, urging lawmakers to approve a revised RES that reduces greenhouse gas emissions and prioritizes new solar and wind energy sources.

Among those to speak at the event was Ripton resident and environmentalist Bill McKibben.

“Vermont is poised to play a really important role if we can get this right. We have to work really fast to produce more clean energy here in Vermont,” McKibben said in a video for the press conference.

## LAND USE AND WILDLIFE

During Monday’s discussion,

Sheldon shared some of the work lawmakers have done to address climate and environmental issues during recent legislative sessions. Sheldon chairs the House Environment & Energy Committee.

The state representative noted that in 2022, the Legislature passed one of the “strongest wanton waste bills in the country.” Bill H. 411 establishes requirements for the retrieval and use of certain wild animals, including moose, bears and wild turkeys.

“It is a climate bill. We need intact, function ecosystems, and we need wildlife in those ecosystems in order to address the challenges of climate change,” Sheldon said.

Sheldon also discussed Act 146, which was passed by the Legislature in 2022 and amended the state’s Current Use program to create a sub-category of Reserve Forestland in the Managed Forestland use category.

“That’s a program that opens a door, a little bit, for property owners who are involved in the current use program, whose properties meet certain criteria, to allow their entire parcel to grow into old forests,” Sheldon explained. “My committee has spent a lot of time learning about the important role of mature forests in addressing carbon storage and sequestration, in addition to mitigating the effects of flooding and drought and providing habitat for biodiversity.”

Local lawmakers on Monday also shared with attendees some of their priorities for the upcoming legislative session. Bray said some of the work ahead includes supporting the transition to electric vehicles and updating Efficiency Vermont programs aimed at helping residents save on energy costs and reduce carbon emissions.

“Between the RES being revised, the Affordable Heat Act moving forward, revising the Efficiency Vermont program to help it become more effective at greenhouse gas reduction, helping partner with our colleagues in transportation committees to try and do more in the transportation sector and on district energy, I think we have a really solid agenda for the coming session,” he said.

# Baker

(Continued from Page 1A)  
Orange East Supervisory Union in Bradford, Vt.

Most recently (in 2022 through March 2023), Baker was director of development at the Meadowmount School of Music in Westport, N.Y., and was vice president of institutional advancement at Clinton Community College in Plattsburgh, N.Y. (2020-2022).

She and her husband, Rich, own the Corner Store Bookshop in Plattsburgh.

Currently a Plattsburgh, N.Y., resident, Baker was one of three finalists for the ACSD superintendency, vacated this past June by Peter Burrows, who left after a decade-long stint to lead the Milton, Mass., public schools. Tim Williams is serving out this academic year as interim ACSD superintendent. He was hired after the board’s initial search this past spring failed to yield a permanent replacement whom the board could endorse.

The appointment of Baker — whose credentials include a Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership and Public Policy from UVM, and graduate degrees from Dartmouth College and the Harvard Institute for Educational Leadership — was the ACSD board’s final action at the end of an about 3.5-hour meeting on Monday that included lengthy discussions about the district’s fiscal year 2025 budget (see related story on Page 2A) and a new strategic plan.

Baker told the *Independent* on Tuesday that the opportunity to serve in this type of position doesn’t come along often, and she is humbled by the board’s selection to hire her.

“This is both an exciting and critical time for the district,” Baker said. “The newly drafted strategic plan provides timely and important guidance, focusing our collective attention on the success of each ACSD student. I look forward to moving this work forward, and I’m delighted at the invitation to join the district’s talented team.

“In the coming months, I hope to have many opportunities to engage with ACSD’s schools, partners, teachers and staff, students, families, and leaders as the schedule of transition activities unfolds.”

The *Independent* will conduct a more comprehensive interview with Baker after she gets settled in next year.

Barb Wilson, chair of the ACSD board, called Baker “a multigenerational Vermonter with 30 years of demonstrated success supporting students, teachers, schools and leaders to achieve at

**“Wendy Baker’s passion is deeply rooted in social justice and equity ... She has developed and taught graduate coursework and advised doctoral research in equitable teaching and leadership practices, socially just public policy, and positive organizational development.”**

— ACSD board in a press release



WENDY BAKER

high levels.”

The ACSD board issued the following statement following its unanimous endorsement of Baker to lead the preK-12 district, which serves children in Bridport, Cornwall, Middlebury, Ripton, Salisbury, Shoreham and Weybridge:

“The ACSD board is thrilled to welcome Dr. Baker to the district and is looking forward to bringing her skills and experience to the benefit of ACSD students and educators.”

Judy Sclair-Stein from McPherson & Jacobson helped the ACSD board evaluate 15 applicants from across the country for the district’s top administrative job. Evaluators determined six of the 15 hopefuls deserved further scrutiny. After one of those six dropped out for personal reasons, officials narrowed the remaining five down to three, each of whom submitted to a full day, onsite visit/interview, held on Nov. 13, 14

and 15.

The board chose to conduct a closed search process, deviating from what had been a long history of open searches for its top administrative officials. Baker’s identity wasn’t disclosed until she’d agreed to take the job, and her two competitors haven’t — and won’t be — publicly identified.

District stakeholders were invited to question the three finalists during their onsite visits, providing they maintained strict confidentiality.

“The board would like to thank the more than 45 individuals who took time out of their busy schedules to participate in three days of stakeholder meetings,” the board statement reads. “These groups included parents, community leaders, school administrators, teachers, support staff and students. Their feedback on each of the three finalists was essential in helping the board select the best candidate for ACSD.”

Wilson, during a brief Tuesday morning phone interview, said she was impressed with the quality of all three finalists.

“Any of them could have done the job,” she said. “They all had the credentials.”

But Baker, according to Wilson, stood out for exuding an air of approachability.

Wilson said she could imagine Baker communicating just as well with blue- and white-collar constituents.

“She has a welcoming, relaxed demeanor about her,” Wilson said.

The board also appreciated Baker’s demonstrated commitment to equity in education, a priority outlined in a new ACSD strategic plan that will come up for approval in December.

“(Baker’s) passion is deeply rooted in social justice and equity,” reads the ACSD’s press release on Baker’s hiring. “Alongside her full-time roles, she has sought to gain perspective across cultural contexts as a consultant with more than 50 diverse organizations across the United States, in Liverpool, England, and in Johannesburg, South Africa. Since 2013, she has developed and taught graduate coursework and advised doctoral research in equitable teaching and leadership practices, socially just public policy, and positive organizational development.”

Baker will have no shortage of tasks to keep her busy when she takes the ACSD’s reins next summer. It’s a to-do list that will include keeping the district fully staffed during a challenging hiring market and helping the board prioritize a lengthy list of deferred maintenance repairs and upgrades to ACSD school buildings — a multi-million investment that will require a bond vote.

Reporter John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.

## Holiday Estates Sale

10 Green Street, Vergennes, Vermont

### Special Hours

Wednesday Dec 6th and 13th

for “Magic on Main” 4pm-8pm

### Regular Sale Hours

Thursday + Friday + Saturday  
December 7th, 8th 9th. 8am-5pm.

Partial contents of estates from Charlotte, Burlington, Stowe, Middlebury and more. Including but not limited to AUDIO EQUIPMENT 1976 Yamaha Electric Grand Piano, Clavinova, other keyboards, teac tape decks, microphones, LPs, CDs, etc), lots of LOCAL ART Phyllis Demong, Sabra Field, Arthur Healy, Georgia Balch, Beth Donahue, etc, PRINTS Baskin, Robert Sargent, David Bumbeck, Woody Jackson, Asian, etc, Antique CLOCKS Long Case, Mantle, etc, ANTIQUE FURNITURE Corner China Cabinet, Cupboards, Restoration Hardware Mission, Pier Mirror, Armoires, Beds, Tables, Lamps, etc, ANTIQUE CHAIRS Rocking, Dining, Upholstered, Ralph Lauren, etc, MISC ANTIQUES Stoneware, Toy Tractors, China inc. Canton, Cradles, Woodenware, Copper and Brass, Quilts, Frames, Mirrors, Baskets, Costume Jewelry, etc Hundreds of Small Items and MUCH MUCH MORE

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## NEWS?

Email it to:  
news@addisonindependent.com

A poster for "The Tinkering Turtle" holiday wish list. It features a large brown teddy bear wearing blue overalls, holding two wrapped gifts. The background is pink with white polka dots. Text on the poster includes: "MAKE YOUR holiday wish list WITH TED", "thetinkeringturtle.com", "at the tinkering TURTLE", "210 COLLEGE STREET BURLINGTON, VT", "Saturday, December 2", "10 am - 5 pm", "Shopping &amp; hot cocoa 11 am - 1 pm", "Photos with Ted", and a tag that says "ECHO Members get 20% off!". There are also logos for the Vermont Youth Center and the Vermont Radio Station.



# Hunters

(Continued from Page 1A)  
trophy bucks for deer hunters. Rules do allow spikehorn to be taken in some wildlife management areas, including in Addison County.

The new mark tops 2020’s previous record of 647 and the 2019 total that of 636 that is third highest. As has been the case all along, not all deer were shot in Addison County, but were taken to a wildlife reporting station in the county to be weighed.

One factor in this year’s total was undoubtedly the relicensing of Jerusalem Country Store in Starksboro as a reporting site. A number of hunters who were successful in southern Chittenden County, notably Huntington, reported their bucks here.

Fish & Wildlife Deer Project Leader Nick Fortin said he did not have enough results in to draw a firm statewide conclusion, but early data did seem promising. Fortin speculated that weather that was generally mild for this time of the year probably encouraged more hunters to take to the woods and fields, and spend more time out there when they did hunt. Overall favorable weather conditions over this past winter also might have meant a larger herd.

Eight bucks topping 200 pounds were weighed in the county during rifle season: Brian Wilson’s 207-pound, 9-pointer from Orwell; Chris Huston’s 204-pound, 8-pointer from New Haven; Josh Bell’s 204-pound, 8-pointer from Bridport; and Michael Aruzza’s 203-pound, 7-pointer from Huntington.

Also, Devin Russell’s 203-pound, 8-pointer from Orwell; Eric Steele’s 202-pound, 8-pointer from Rochester; Cory Steady’s 201-pound, 8-pointer from Shoreham; and Dennis Cassidy’s buck from Bridport that weighed in at 200 pounds and boasted a 10-point rack.

More than a dozen bucks were taken with at least 10 antler points. Among those notable trophy racks were a 151-pound, 12-pointer Pierre Bordeleau shot in Bridport; a 180-pound, 10-pointer Kathryn Kayhart killed in Waltham; Lilian Russell’s 180-pound, 10-pointer from Orwell; a 174-pound, 10-pointer Timothy Bouvier took in Waltham; and a 165-pound, 10-pointer Adam Thompson



ARIEL SEIPLE  
Photo courtesy of Backwoods Gun & Tackle

brought down in Lincoln. All the bucks were weighed at one of the following: Buxton’s Store in Orwell, Rack ’N Reel in New Haven, the Lincoln and West Addison general stores, Jerusalem Country Store in Starksboro, Backwoods Gun & Tackle in Bridport, Green Mountain Trails End in Bristol, and C&S Hunting Supplies in East Middlebury.

The following hunters were successful in the final 14 days of rifle season (Rack N Reel’s list is for the complete 16-day season). They are listed by town of kill, pounds and points.

### JERUSALEM COUNTRY STORE

Steven Moulton, Starksboro, 160 pounds-8 points; Brandon Thibault, Huntington, 114-4; Patrick Beal, Waitsfield, 129-5; Seth Clifford, Starksboro, 117-4; Ryan Whitcomb, Starksboro, 135-5; Nathan Wallace-Gusakov, Bristol, 103-3; Casey Huizenga, Starksboro, 120-4; Troy Francis, Warren, 134-6; Kyle Taft, Huntington, 134-6; Hunter Foster, Richmond, 141-8; and Matthew Brace, Huntington, 173-10.

Also, Josh Roscoe, Starksboro, 131-3; Keith Robertson, Jericho, 172-8; Sheamus Morrissey, Starksboro, 142-6; Matthew Laberge, Hinesburg, 132-8; Craig Shepard, Starksboro, 151-7; Mary Taft, Huntington, 120-2; David Whitcomb, Bristol, 142-4; Adam Thompson, Lincoln, 165-10; and John Chamberlain, Lincoln, 155-6.

Also, Mark Moultroup, Richmond, 178-8; Danny Grace, Bristol, 158-6; Eric Jennings, Starksboro, 174-6; Allen Mashia, Hinesburg, 137-6; Mark Whitcomb, Starksboro, 113-4; Paul Malzac, Middlebury, 103-2; Edward Lafayette, Lincoln, 109-2; Andrew Tracy, Monkton, 186-6; Grant Lewis, Huntington, 178-11; and Austin Lafayette, Lincoln, 146-6

Francis Jennings, Starksboro, 85-2; Ryan Weaver, Huntington, 158-6; Pernell Bedell, Bristol, 112-5; Victor Atkins, Starksboro, 179-7; Darien Haselton, Huntington, 160-8; Anne Weston, Huntington, 156-6; Jay Lestage, Huntington, 148-6; Dustin Breen, Starksboro, 164-9; Evan Deckers, Huntington, 138-2; and Joseph Genest, Huntington, 97-2.

Also, Trevor Haskins, Huntington, 93-3; Tyler Ducharme, Duxbury, 148-5; Steven Bissonnette, Huntington, 131-2; Codey Corse, Starksboro, 100-2; Nancy Lowell, Huntington, 100-2; Lawrence Martell, Lincoln, 105-2; Larry Haskins, Huntington, 135-4; and Todd Weston, Huntington, 159-6.

Also, Logan Francis, Hinesburg, 157-8; Douglas Kendall, Starksboro, 98-4; Michael Rheume, Starksboro, 146-3; Claude Mailloux, Huntington, 131-4; Edward Lafayette, Lincoln, 153-6, Chad Shepard, Starksboro, 140-8; and Charles Levam, Lincoln, 140-8.

### LINCOLN GENERAL STORE

Joshua Rochon, Monkton, 177-7; Cary Tracy, Monkton, 173-8; Brian Donnelly, Lincoln, 171-8; George Leclair, Ripton, 159-8; Frank Bryan, Starksboro, 153-4; Brandon Reynolds, Middlebury, 151-7; Timothy Deering, Lincoln, 142-5; Aaron Thomas, Starksboro, 134-6; and Stanley Sargent, Lincoln, 132-2.

Also, Robert Patterson, Lincoln, 126-4; Fred Ramsburg, Ripton, 121-7; Lance Desautels, Lincoln, 120-4; Alan Kamman, Lincoln, 115-4; Patrick Albertini, Middlebury, 115-4; Kurt Naser, Lincoln, 112 spikehorn; Benjamin Kent, Lincoln, 109-3; Gabriel Meader, Starksboro, 100-2; and Clinton Alger, Huntington, 86 spikehorn.

### WEST ADDISON G.S.

Russell Bishop, Shoreham, 182-8; Michael Quesnel, Bridport, 145-8; Troy Audet, Bridport, 150-7; Quinton Brown, Shoreham, 151-5; Jason Hatch, Ferrisburgh, 140-4; Brendan Wagner, Bridport, 145-7; and Alex Brace, Ferrisburgh, 173-3.

Also, Philip Armell, Charlotte, 170-7; Axl Paquette, Cornwall, 151-8; Brian Blake, Cornwall, 122-5; Kyleigh Dubois, Addison, 130-6; Brian Lavoie, Ferrisburgh, 122-5; Bryan Nolan, 125-6; and Shelly Bishop, Shoreham, 140-7.

### BACKWOODS GUN & TACKLE

Eric Leno, Whiting, 118-4; Morgan Delorme, Salisbury, 89-2; Lance Fleming, Ferrisburgh, 168-6; Seth Pope, Bridport, 145-7; Lloyd Davis, Bridport, 140-5; Scott Whitman, Ripton, 104-2; Christopher Mulliss, Addison, 124-7; Rowdy Pope, Bridport, 114-4; Alan Christian, Orwell, 132-4; Calvin Loven, Leicester, 130-8; and Cole Warren, Shoreham, 161-7.

Also, Tyler Hotte, Bridport, 151-8; Pierre Bordeleau, Bridport, 151-12; Julie Pyle, Bridport, 128-5; Kevin Desforges, Cornwall, 136-8; Amos Ranney, Bridport, 141-4; Timothy Laframboise, Cornwall, 156-7; Travis Whitemore, Bridport, 120-4; Justin Quenneville, Whiting, 165-3; Ariel Seiple, Bridport, 140-4; Kimberly Gero, Bridport, 130-3; and Brent Warren, Cornwall, 103-3.

### RACK ’N REEL

Adam Lafountain, Starksboro, 173-9; Brendin Roberts, Addison, 142-6; John Mohan, Waltham, 130-6; Timothy Yandow, New Haven, 130-6; Johnathan Hill, New Haven, 122-5; Conner Gordon, Williston, 142-8; Timothy Marcotte, New Haven, 148-6; Shane Coyle, Ferrisburgh, 145-6; Jason Saunders, Bristol, 148-8; and Tucker Brunelle, Huntington, 137-3.

Also, George Morgan, Bristol,



JUSTIN TATRO  
Photo courtesy of Green Mountain Trails End



GEORGE LECLAIR

Photo courtesy of Vaneasa Stearns, Lincoln General Store

138-5; David Hurlburt, Monkton, 163-7; Kenneth Munson, Lincoln, 109-5; Brian St. Cyr, Hinesburg, 148-9; Rusty Conant, Lincoln, 110-2; Kris Eitelman, Ferrisburgh, 121-4; Peter Funk, Cornwall, 150-4; Chan Washburn, Monkton, 168-8; Eleanor Hurlburt, Monkton, 134-8; John Mlcuch, New Haven, 148-5; and Andrew Driver, Hinesburg, 135-8.

Also, Kameron Brooks, Addison, 134-7; Benjamin Newkirk, Weybridge, 151-5; Dorothy Muzzy, Ferrisburgh, 171-8; Travis Kirby, Ferrisburgh, 1442-8; Levi Doria, Ripton, 150-10; Brandi Blair, Bristol, 100-4; Travis Guillemette, Monkton, 125-8; Perry Kilbourn, Ferrisburgh, 155-8; Adam Gorton, Weybridge, 123-6; and Andrew Rheume, New Haven, 109-4.

Also, Brian Kayhart, New Haven, 132-7; Michael Dragon, Middlebury, 135-4; Christopher Breen, Bristol, 127-6; Richard Brunet, New Haven, 155-7; Daniel Crossman, Waltham, 153-6; Isiah Moore, Ripton, 109-3; John Campbell, Addison, 146-8; Joseph Aube, Charlotte, 147-6; Andrew Hubinger, Huntington, 130-2; Sherman Jewett, New Haven, 105-3; and Hugh Delibac, Warren, 166-7.

Also, Randall Stearns, Ferrisburgh, 127-8; Martin Jerger, Ferrisburgh, 166-6; Maverick Livingston, New Haven, 179-8; Richard Mason, Huntington, 145-5; Matt Leonard, Ferrisburgh, 125-5; Earnest Oakes, Hinesburg, 114-6; John O’Brien, Shelburne, 188-9; Randy Butler, New Haven, 150-6; Paul Metzger, Ripton, 133-4; Sally Torrey, Ferrisburgh, 133-8; and Patrick Deering, Cornwall, 190-6.

Also, Ryan Fortune, New Haven, 118-4; Joshua Baldwin, New Haven, 172-8; Scott Brace, Ferrisburgh, 113-3; Alexander Newton, Waltham, 116-6; Calvin Stone, New Haven, 131-4; Justin Lalumiere, Ferrisburgh, 128-5; Raymond Highter, Middlebury, 192-6; Lester Little, Ferrisburgh, 151-8; Brad Lambert, Cornwall, 125-6; and Evan Potter, Huntington, 149-4.

Also, Timothy Godard, Addison, 152-4; Wyatt Kennet, Dorset, 89-2;

Francis Trombley, Ferrisburgh, 150-4; Dylan St. George, Charlotte, 110-6; Christopher Brown, New Haven, 125-4; Richard Greene, Charlotte, 159-4; Anthony DelGreco, Monkton, 132-7; David DeVries, Addison, 137-4; Brooklyn Ryersbach, Bristol, 126-4; and Cody Barnum, Starksboro, 138-4.

Also, Cody Cyr, New Haven, 156-7; Shawn Roscoe, Bristol, 138-5; Michael Hinsdale, Ferrisburgh, 142-7; Daniel Gaiotti, Salisbury, 110-3; Chris Huston, New Haven, 204-8; David Livingston, Bristol, 142-8; Leon Demers, New Haven, 138-5; Brandon Tierney, New Haven, 122-4; Alan Whitemore, Ferrisburgh, 150-8; Richard Packard, Monkton, 128-6; and Bruce Smith, Monkton, 186-9.

Also, Rudy Devoid, Addison, 127-3; Timothy Paquette, Ripton, 110-2; Randy Cameron, Ferrisburgh, 128-6;

Ashlie Gevry, Addison, 158-6; Nick Curtis, New Haven, 158-8; Maxwell Flynn, New Haven, 123-7; Bradley Bertrand, Addison, 118-4; Charles Bradford, Addison, 141-4; Kyle Charron, Ferrisburgh, 116-6; and Lee Terrier, Middlebury, 148-5.


Also, Cory Paquin, New Haven, 150-8; Peter Norris, New Haven, 172-4; Eric Raymond, Addison, 118-8; Char Perlee, New Haven, 145-5; Daren Muzzy, Ferrisburgh, 153-7; Gary Brown, Salisbury, 139-6; Wyatt Jennings, Ripton, 101-2; Debra Bessette, Ferrisburgh, 143-4; Christopher Melendy, Lincoln, 100-3; Blake Bowen, New Haven, 147-7; and Ryan Cornellier, Hinesburg, 123-8.

Also, Benjamin Andrews, Ferrisburgh, 132-8; Nicholas Munch, Poultney, 128-4; Mark Livingston, New Haven, 143-4; (See Rifle, Page 13A)



COLE WARREN

Photo courtesy of Backwoods Gun & Tackle



# Memory Tree

The Middlebury Lions Club informs those who wish to memorialize the names of their deceased relatives and friends on this year’s “Christmas Memory Tree” that they may do so by the donation of a dollar for each name and forwarding the names to the:

**Middlebury Lions Club**  
P.O. Box 5  
Middlebury, VT 05753

The Lions suggest each name be typed or printed so as to be legible.

Please use below or attach a separate list for more names.

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**DEADLINE FOR ACCEPTANCE IS DECEMBER 15.**

NAME	NAME
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_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

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Maplefields  
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**FERRISBURGH:**  
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**LINCOLN:**  
Lincoln General Store

**MIDDLEBURY:**  
Addison Independent Office  
Champlain Farms  
Costello’s Market  
Greg’s Market  
Hannaford  
Hare and The Dog  
Kinney Drugs  
Maplefields  
Middlebury Discount Beverage

Middlebury Natural Foods Co-op  
Middlebury Short Stop  
Otter Creek Bakery  
Paris Farmers Union  
Rosie’s  
Shaw’s  
Stone Mill Public Market  
The Vermont Book Shop  
Vermont Field Sports  
Vermont’s Own  
Village Depot  
Walmart’s

**NEW HAVEN:**  
Village Green Market

**N. FERRISBURGH:**  
N. Ferrisburgh Short Stop

**ORWELL:**  
Buxton’s Store

**RIPTON:**  
Ripton Country Store

**SALISBURY:**  
Kampersville Store (seasonal)

**SHOREHAM:**  
Shoreham Service Center

**STARKSBORO:**  
Jerusalem 4-Corners Store

**VERGENNES:**  
BJ’s Farm Supply  
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Kinney Drugs  
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# Spotlight on Vergennes

COME ONE!



COME ALL!

## HOLIDAY stroll

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2ND  
| 10AM-3PM |  
FRIENDS OF THE BIXBY BOOK SALE  
HOLIDAY CARD MAKING  
PUZZLE SWAP

10:30

STORYTIME WITH SANTA

11

JON GAILMOR PERFORMANCE

12

MAIDEN VERMONT PERFORMANCE

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258 MAIN ST, VERGENNES







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## The tradition continues

By ANDY KIRKALDY  
VERGENNES — What has been an annual tradition since 2005 returns to the Little City this season — the Holiday Stroll.

Organized by the Vergennes Partnership, this holiday kick-off offers a wide variety of free events that feature some old standbys and a few new things each year. This season starter comes this Saturday, Dec. 2, when the Holiday Stroll will include Breakfast With Santa, music in the Bixby Library, an Ugly Sweater Contest, and the Lighting of the City Green.

“The annual stroll presents a fun-filled day with excitement up, down and all around Main Street, Vergennes,” said Partnership Marketing & Development Coordinator Julie Basol.

The day kicks off with Santa arriving from the North Pole at 8 a.m. at St. Peter’s Parish Hall for Breakfast with Santa, which last until noon. This is billed as a free event, with food available from Queen Bee Catering (which said it will still be providing food, even after the recent fire at their headquarters). Word is that Addison resident Tim Buskey will also be playing a pivotal role.

From 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., the Bixby Memorial Library on Main Street will offer a book sale sponsored by Friends of the Library. In the middle of those sale hours, at 10:30 a.m., Santa will read “’Twas the Night Before Christmas.” Yes, Santa is magical, and he can be two places at once.

The Bixby will also over two free musical performances: Jon Gailmor will sing at 11 a.m., and the Maiden Vermont women’s chorus will follow from noon to 12:30 p.m. All this for no charge!

Santa will make another appearance in his busy day at the Vergennes Opera House, this time accompanied by Mrs. Claus, from 1 to 3 p.m. Photo ops with the couple will be available for the children, as will a story time, crafts, cookies and more. All is free.

Festivities on the Vergennes Green commence at 4 p.m. and are scheduled to run until 6 p.m.

What the partnership is calling a community gathering will include fire pits (featuring marshmallows for roasting) hot chocolate, the Vergennes Congregational Church Holiday Singalong, the arrival in the park of that tireless guy Santa at about 4:45 p.m., and at around 5 p.m. both the Lighting of the Park and the arrival of the dramatically lit S.D. Ireland cement truck, which features at least 10,000 little holiday lights displayed on the spinning concrete tank.

But there’s still more: Specialty ice cream shop lu\*lu will be hosting a Holiday Makers Market from 5 to 8 p.m. with vendors. Other businesses traditionally in the past have stayed open a little late and/or run sales to coincide with the Holiday Stroll during the course of the day, while the Masonic Lodge on School Street is planning a craft fair from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Finally, the Vergennes Partnership’s Basol in the early evening of Dec. 2 will host the Ugly Sweater Contest — with prizes — in the Low Bar, in the lower level of the Hired Hand Brewery/Bar Antidote. No

word, however, if Santa plans to make an appearance there, except possibly in a victorious sweater.





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Holiday Stroll photos courtesy of Vergennes Partnership

## Broadway’s best will perform here

Craving Broadway? Pop up to our very own Little City to see the 18th annual Broadway Direct at the Vergennes Opera House. A spectacular lineup of performers will take the stage on Friday, Dec. 8.

As usual, this show is brought to you by Bill Carmichael Walsh, Broadway veteran and VOH board member. He has pulled together another fantastic group of talented friends to put on another powerhouse show. He is bringing some returning and some new faces to the opera house stage. Joining Bill will be Mark Aldrich, Jennifer Evans and returning favorite Kathryn Markey, who will reprise her beloved “Mrs. Santa Claus” routine.

Joining the professionals on stage will be newly minted New York City actor and singers Caitlin Walsh and Landan Berlof. Also joining are two locals you may have seen on the Vergennes Union High School stage: VUHS seniors Matilda Seylor and Rory Hendee.

Look for a wonderful mixture of Broadway Classic medleys from “My Fair Lady,” “Brigadoon” and “Fiddler on the Roof.” There will also be songs from “HadesTown,” “Chicago,” “Parade” and the “Secret Garden.” And there will be songs written by The Beatles, Carol King and Randy Newman.

The entire ensemble will be accompanied by the talented Scott Nicholas on piano.

Doors and cash bar open at 6:30 p.m., show starts at 7:30.

## Toys for Kids 2023 is on!

VERGENNES — Vergennes Lions have placed numerous barrels around the Bristol and Vergennes area to help support the Toys for Kids program. Some of the barrels are at One Credit Union, Shear Cuts, Jackman Fuels, Kinney Drugs, and Dollar General. Every new, unwrapped toy will be going to needy children in this area. Money donated will be used to purchase gift cards for needy teenagers’ gift cards. Toys will be available for parents to pick up at the former Long Trail on the Falls office on Meigs road on Friday, Dec. 15, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday, Dec. 16, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. People are encouraged to purchase toys that would help make a child’s Christmas brighter.

The annual drawing for the 50/50 Cash for Christmas will be held on Dec. 13, with the winner receiving half of the proceeds (last year’s that was close to \$3,000.) The other half of the 50/50 will be used to fund Vergennes Lions projects in the Vergennes/Bristol area. Tickets are \$10 for 1, \$20 for 3 and \$40 for 8. Anyone interested can purchase them from any Lion or mail a check with your name and address to “Vergennes Lions Club”, P O Box 94, Vergennes, VT 05491.

Funds raised from all of these raffles help fund eyeglasses and hearing aids for needy folks, accessible ramps to folks’ homes, food for the needy, and donations to many area organizations.

The club also wishes to thank folks for the many food items donated at the Food Drive at Shaw’s Supermarket before Thanksgiving, which was managed by the Lions and Rotary Clubs. Nearly a hundred families had food provided from this effort.



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Ho, Ho, Ho Holiday Stroll

Saturday, Dec. 2

Santa Claus makes his rounds up, down, and all around Main Street, Vergennes! Breakfast, story time, pictures and caroling in City Park, he'll be there! Full Schedule of events: [VergennesDowntown.org](http://VergennesDowntown.org).

SHOP - SIP - DINE



Magic On Main

Wednesdays, Dec. 6 & 13

Can't fit it all into the day? Make it a night out in Vergennes as the shops keep their lights on until 8:00 pm. Special activities, holiday cheer, make you list, check it twice and head straight to Vergennes!

ENJOY THE SHOW!



Broadway Direct

Friday, Dec. 8

In its 18th year, Vergennes Opera house is pleased to present this ever-popular show featuring singers and actors directly from the Broadway stage! Tickets: [VergennesOperaHouse.org](http://VergennesOperaHouse.org)

GET INTO THE LITTLE CITY SPIRIT!



Gift List Got You Puzzled?

A 500-piece Little City puzzle will please any lover of Vergennes! Replicated from the mural inside One Credit Union, Erin Daigle's artwork depicts a bird's eye view of Green Street and a bit beyond. Available for sale at One Credit Union (48 Green Street), at just \$25, proceeds benefit Vergennes Partnership.



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Vergennes Green Gift Certificates are available in various denominations at One Credit Union — this just might be your one-size-fits-all solution. Accepted at over 50 businesses — from shops to services and dining — up, down and all around Main Street, Vergennes. Keep it local this holiday season with the gift of Vergennes Green. Info: [www.VergennesDowntown.org](http://www.VergennesDowntown.org).

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### Trombone choir plays the Little City

VERGENNES — Call them big, call them brassy, you can even call them loud, and they will consider it a compliment.

We are talking about the Vermont Trombone Choir, a 14-member group with a connection to and deep love of the trombone. This talented group of musicians, ages 20 to 86, are making their performance debut at the Vergennes Opera House this Sunday, Dec. 3, at 2 p.m. Founder Robert Wigness, Professor Emeritus at UVM, heard about the Vergennes Opera House and its All Access Project and offered up the group as a way to help raise funds to make the historic building accessible to more potential patrons.

The musicians come from all over Vermont and nearby New York state. The evening will be introduced by VOH Board Vice President Jim Lanpher, who actually studied under Professor Wigness in the 1970s!

Tickets may be purchased online at [VergennesOperaHouse.org](http://VergennesOperaHouse.org) or at the door. General seating tickets are \$15 for adults and \$5 for students 18 and younger. Doors open at 1:30 p.m. with the show starting at 2 p.m.

### Vergennes Police Log

VERGENNES — Vergennes police last week were twice called to deal with patients being dismissed from the for-profit Valley Vista rehab facility in Alden Place.

On Nov. 21, an uncooperative patient refused to leave the rehab center even after the center purchased her a bus ticket. Police said she demanded a ride to the bus stop, which they and center personnel declined to offer.

Police said she was initially calmed and given directions to find the bus stop. But they were called back a little later and told she'd again refused to leave and had apparently overdosed on medications in the facility's lobby. Police said the Vergennes Area Rescue Squad took her to the UVM Medical Center.

On Nov. 23, a patient who police described as eight months pregnant was asked to leave Valley Vista, this time without a way to reach her home in Brattleboro. Police said they helped her contact someone in that area to pick her up after she'd walked as far as the Champlain Farms convenience store.

Also between Nov. 20 and 26, Vergennes police conducted five patrols in cruisers and 19 traffic stops, checked out security after hours once at Vergennes Union Elementary School, responded to a false alarm, and:

- On Nov. 21:
  - Went to Green Street to help a caretaker of a person with cognitive issues who was being uncooperative.
  - Directed traffic on Main Street around a tractor-trailer unit that had jackknifed on the hill near the Maplefields convenience store.
- On Nov. 22, responded to a report of a shoving match between two people on School Street; both had left the scene when police arrived.
- On Nov. 24:
  - Dealt with an accident in which a moving vehicle struck a parked car on Main Street.
  - Advised a person who wanted to obtain a no-trespass order how to do so. Police said they're no longer issuing such orders themselves because they can be delivered by mail by individuals or businesses, but that Vergennes police will enforce them.
  - After receiving a complaint, spoke to the occupant of a vehicle reported to be taking up three parking spots at Maplefields and to possibly be asleep. Police said the driver was cooperative and not impaired.

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# A witch in the woods

By D. GLENN MILLER

In late autumn, well past the showy blossoms of summer, after even fall's late bloomers have faded and the trees have dropped their leaves, there is one shrubby plant still putting on a flower show: American witch hazel (Hamamelis virginiana).

Four slender, wrinkly yellow petals, about three quarters of an inch long, adorn each of the shrub's flowers. These flowers, which grow along the ends of witch hazel's branches, begin blooming in October and may persist into December. Like all flowering plants, witch hazel must be pollinated to produce fruit and seeds, and for this, it relies on insects. These include late-flying gnats and flies as well as forest-dwelling owllet moths, all drawn to the scented flowers and the sweet nectar within.

The large family of owllet moths, Noctuidae, includes some 12,000 species worldwide. Owllet moths are primarily nocturnal and therefore often go unnoticed. Some species are agricultural pests and are commonly known as armyworms or cutworms. The forest-oriented species that pollinate witch hazel flowers remain active after most other pollinators have died or retired for the season. Renowned biologist and naturalist Bernd Heinrich first documented the relationship between witch hazel and owllet moths belonging to the genus Eupsilia in a 1987 article published in *Scientific American*.

Cold-adapted owllet moths can stay active during nights when the temperature remains at or slightly below freezing. They do this by shivering, a behavior that can raise their body temperature by an impressive 86 degrees above the ambient air level. Heinrich observed owllet moths feeding on witch hazel flowers at the end of October. The key part of a moth's body needing warmth, as Heinrich explained in his article, is the thorax. That's where the wing muscles are, and heat is essential for them to keep functioning.

Pollinated witch hazel flowers produce fruit capsules, each containing two seeds. These capsules remain on the shrub for an entire year after pollination. Witch hazel's genus name — Hamamelis, which translates to "fruit together" — is a nod to the coexistence of the flowers and seeds. Plants have evolved various mechanisms for seed dispersal, and witch hazel achieves it with something of a flare. In autumn, once a witch hazel seed capsule is fully developed, it ruptures, launching its pair of seeds into the air, sending them up to 30 feet from the parent shrub.

After launching and landing, the seeds settle into the duff where they will remain for up to two years. Like many seeds, those of witch hazel must go through "stratification" — a series of warm and cold conditions — before germinating. Witch hazel can also reproduce from vegetative sprouts. But cross-pollination and seed production are what allow for

diversifying the gene pool, and with hazel that sprouts from seeds is important for long-term adaptation and survival of the species.

In the Northeast, witch hazel grows in hardwood or mixed hardwood and conifer forest understories. Although it can reach small-tree height of 20 feet or more, it's often smaller and usually multi-stemmed. Witch hazel is relatively easy to identify by its leaves, which have asymmetrical bases, distinctive veining, and wavy edges. In winter, the leaf buds look like deer hooves in profile. It might take a little imagination to see that detail, but it's a feature that instructors in university dendrology courses often use for teaching tree and shrub identification.

Owllet moths are not the only organisms that benefit from witch hazel. Wild turkeys and other woodland animals eat the seeds, and deer browse the leaves and stems. And there's another insect, one having no interest in the witch hazel flowers, that makes use of the shrub's leaves. The witch hazel leaf gall aphid spends part of its life cycle in cone-shaped galls it creates on witch hazel leaves, which provide both food and shelter. The presence of these distinctive galls can even aid in identifying the shrub.

People have recognized witch hazel's medicinal and therapeutic properties since at least pre-colonial times in North America, and it is still a common ingredient in many commercial products, including shampoos and lotions. More



importantly, witch hazel provides a food source for late-flying owllet moths and other insects — and a bit of color to the late autumn woods.

D. Glenn Miller is a freelance writer and naturalist based in northeast Connecticut. His writing has appeared in American Forests magazine, Boys' Life (now Scout Life), and the Hartford Courant. Illustration by Adelaide Murphy Tyrol. The Outside Story is assigned and edited by Northern Woodlands magazine and sponsored by the Wellborn Ecology Fund of the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation: [www.nhcf.org](http://www.nhcf.org).

# Mt. Abe

(Continued from Page 1A)  
consolidating schools," Siringo explained. "This was a pretty big one that we haven't really done much with, so we wanted to put it on the agenda and have a discussion about how, if and when we might want to move forward with that topic."

Board members at the Nov. 21 meeting agreed to hold off on diving deeper into the matter until at least after the FY25 budget is complete but began identifying what information they'd like to gather before further discussion.

Some board members noted that the district could learn more about the process from the Vergennes-area ANWSD and the Middlebury-area Addison Central School District (ACSD). Sixth-graders in the ACSD began attending Middlebury Union Middle School in 2021, and the ANWSD is planning to move sixth-graders into Vergennes Union Middle/High School next fall.

"We have two guinea pigs that we can analyze after at least a year of data maybe; if they say what they thought they were going to say, what's the environment at the schools that the grades were removed from, what kind of impact did that have on the elementary schools that no longer

have a sixth grade," MAUSD board member Stephen Rooney said.

MAUSD Board Member Sarah LaPerle echoed the suggestion to explore how other districts in the county have approached middle school expansion.

"We could also start with what information did they go and gather, and how did they go about doing it," she said. "When you're asking, 'what are we going to need,' I feel like we should look at what they needed to go make that decision and look at the process that was undertaken."

Board members discussed other aspects of the move to consider, such as exploring different configurations of a middle school expansion.

"I, as a mom of kids who would be in this mix, I would want to know about the financial pieces and comparing two choices of having sixth-graders within this (Mount Abe) building, so a 6-12, or is there an option to have another building be purposed as a middle school, where its 5-8, 6-8, something within our district, and what would those costs and benefits be," MAUSD Board Member Bailee Layn-Gordon said.

The board will explore the topic further at a future meeting.

**Board members discussed other aspects of the move to consider, such as exploring different configurations of a middle school expansion.**

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(Continued from Page 13A)  
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Charles Holbrook, Ripton, 125-6; Raymond Germain, Middlebury, 136-6; Andrew Malzac, Middlebury, 104-2; Donald Williams, Ripton, 136-6; and Harold Doria, Ripton, 96-2.  
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Also, Joshua Litch Jr., Huntington, 147-7; Calihan Butler, Bristol, 138-4; Thomas Lathrop, Starksboro, 138-6; David Huizenga, Monkton, 135-3; Rolland Cousino, Starksboro, 133-6; Kiley Sorrell, Charlotte, 129-8; Kevin Clark, Monkton, 125-5; and Jerad Gorton, Bristol, 124-2.  
Also, Nick Lossman, Bristol, 123-3; Conrad Marsano, Lincoln, 121-2; David Patterson, Lincoln, 115-2; Charles Morris, Ripton, 108-2; Timothy Farr, Charlotte, 105-4; Michael Sears, Monkton, 104-4; and Justin Tatro, Starksboro, 104-2.  
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Eric Steele, Rochester, 202-8; Cory Steady, Shoreham, 201-8; Dennis Cassidy, Bridport, 200-10; Kenneth Lenz, Castleton, 187-10; Wayne Newton, Cornwall, 185-6; Brian Kemp, Sudbury, 180-6; Makayla Davis, Orwell, 180-8; Lilian Russell, Orwell 180-10; Randall Strong, Shoreham, 178-8; Jake Ambrozaitis, Bridport, 177-8; and Kevin Birchmore, Whiting, 177-6.  
Also, Paul Maynard, Orwell, 177-6; Paul Manley, Shoreham, 177-5; Eileen Reynolds, Sudbury, 168-6; Jonathan Lucas, Orwell, 168-8; Casey Barry, Bridport, 167-8; Christopher Mongeur, Benson,

167-7; Nelson Haley, Shrewsbury, 166-8; Louis Lee, Orwell, 165-8; G. Fred Bova, Fair Haven, 164-7; Jarod Wilcox, Hubbardton, 161-9; and Cathy Alger, Orwell, 161-4.  
Also, Gabriel Mattison, Whiting, 161-10; Clinton Brown, Orwell, 160-6; Allison Straley, Orwell, 160-7; Keegan Duprey, Shoreham, 160-5; Ryan Fitzsimmons, Shoreham, 158-7; David Hanson, Sudbury, 158-5; Timothy Williams, Orwell, 158-6; George Burnham, Cornwall, 158-6; Wright Myrick, Bridport, 157-5; Katherine Foote, Brandon, 156-3; and Les Wood, Shoreham, 156-4.  
Also, Joseph Patton,

Hubbardton, 155-9; Paul Parent, Orwell, 155-9; Kenneth Wedge, Shoreham, 154-7; Eric Russell, Orwell, 152-8; Amber Bourdeau, Pawlet, 152-6; Steven Solari, Sudbury, 151-6; Jeffrey Booska, Orwell, 150-7; David Charron, West Haven, 150-7; Raymond Bradish, Sudbury, 150-6; Ryan Fraser, Shoreham, 150-8; and Dylan Disorda, Whiting, 150-7.  
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Also, John Johnson, Hubbardton, 133-5; Brianna Mulcahy, Sudbury, 133-5; Bret Williams, Whiting, 130-8; Jonathan Gallagher, Orwell, 130-6; Paul Clifford, Mendon, 128-6; Joseph Nartowicz, Orwell, 128-5; Bryan Waters, Ripton, 127-4; John Lowell, Orwell, 125-4; Walter Hadvab, Orwell, 125-6; Francis Bradish, Orwell, 125-5; and Robert Doane, Shoreham, 125-6;  
Also, Joseph Burt, Sudbury, 125-4; Tim Mccullough, Benson, 125-6; Zachary Booska, Orwell, 125-6; Lexi Orleans, Orwell, 120-4; Robert Almeida, Orwell, 119-5; Wyatt Laberge, Shoreham, 118-6; Jacqueline Holler, Hubbardton, 118-6; and Devon Duquette, Pittsfield, 117-2;  
Also, James Hanson, Hubbardton, 117-3; Alyza Hall, Orwell, 115-7; Jordan Bradish, Orwell, 110-5; Christopher Leno, Leicester, 105-2; Keith Hartline, Sudbury, 105-4; Brittany Coutermarsh, Orwell, 105-4; and Tucker Sheldrick, Salisbury, 100-2.

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Boy booters honored

ADDISON COUNTY — Seven local high school boys’ soccer players were named to the Division II or III All-State Teams, and another 23 earned recognition from either the Lake Division or the Southern Vermont League B Division.

The Division II All-State Players are senior forward Eddie Fallis, senior defender Milo Rees and junior midfielder Ollie Choudhury from Middlebury Union High School; senior forward Judah Jackson and sophomore midfielder James Graziadei from Mount Abraham; and senior forward Owen Thomas from Otter Valley. Senior back Oakley Francis from Vergennes made the D-III All-State Team.

Joining Fallis, Rees and Choudhury on the Lake Division First Team from MUHS was Iver Anderson.

Joining Graziadei and Jackson on the Lake First Team from Mount Abe was Owen Frizzell.

Francis was the lone Commodore on the Lake First Team, while joining Thomas on the SVL B Division First Team was Isaiah Wood and Aiden Decker.

Earning Lake Division Second Team nods were Caleb Burrows, Gus Hodde and Jonathan Kafumbe from MUHS; Eagles Liam Lazare and Noah Ladeau; and Commodores Eyon Tembreull and Ryker Mosehauer.

Receiving Lake Division Honorable Mention were Tigers Ben Longman, Jake Mitchell, Oscar Drake and Sem Weenk; Eagles Finley Kaeck and Sam Mangini and Commodores Connor Kelly, Ethan Croke and Owen Collette.

Otters Max Derby, Drew Pelkey and Logan Letourneau earned Honorable Mention from the SVL B Division.



PANTHERS AVERY MCINERNY, #15, and Cat Appleyard, #8, celebrate the goal scored by Kate Flynn, right, late in Sunday’s game in Kenyon Arena vs. Plattsburgh.

Independent photo/Steve James

Cardinals nip women’s hockey in tourney  
Panthers outskate, outshoot Plattsburgh, but goals proving to be elusive

By ANDY KIRKALDY

MIDDLEBURY — The Middlebury College women’s hockey outplayed and outshot — by 38-17 — visiting Plattsburgh in Sunday’s final of the annual Panther-Cardinal Classic.

But the Panthers did not outscore the Cardinals, who cashed in on two loose pucks in the final 7:16 and added an empty-net goal to prevail, 3-1.

The Cardinals, who entered

the game ranked No. 4 in NCAA Division III, escaped with a 6-0-1 record, while the No. 5 Panthers dropped to 4-1.

Coach Bill Mandigo’s career record early in his 36th year leading the Panthers fell to 646-167-51. He said he was pleased with his team’s effort and play against their New York rivals.

“They played hard. I thought they battled. We outshot Plattsburgh two-to-one. That

doesn’t happen,” Mandigo said.

Then came the caveat. Mandigo is concerned by the Panthers’ lack of offensive production — 10 goals in five games this season.

“We’ve got to figure out a way to score. I just told the kids you’ve got to bury some pucks. You’ve got to work really hard and stick your nose in and battle, and you’ve got to find a way to put the puck in the net,” he said.

Particularly, he’d like the

Panthers to get their sticks on loose pucks near the crease, something they also struggled to do in a 1-0 victory over Endicott in Saturday’s first-round tournament game.

“There’s rebounds galore. You don’t win pucks in front of the net,” he said. “Everybody packs in it, and you’ve just got to get garbage goals.”

On the plus side, sophomore goalie Sophia Will, playing

(See Hockey, Page 3B)



PANTHER SOPHOMORE DEFENDER Rachel Newman blocks a Plattsburgh shot in front of goalie Sophia Will, while freshman forward Liv Fernandez (#7) protects the crease during Sunday’s game in Kenyon Arena.

Independent photo/Steve James



MIKAELA SHIFFRIN NAVIGATES the gates on the Superstar trail at the top of the slalom at the Stifel Killington World Cup on Saturday.

Independent photo/Angelo Lynn



AMERICAN SKIER MIKAELA Shiffrin bashes against a gate on her way down the mountain at Killington on Saturday during the World Cup slalom ski race. She was third in this event and won Sunday’s giant slalom.

Independent photo/Angelo Lynn

Shiffrin captures 90th World Cup triumph with Killington win

By LISA GOSSELIN LYNN

KILLINGTON — “To be perfectly frank, I’m not sure I’m in a position to win either of these races,” Mikaela Shiffrin said on Friday night before the start of the Stifel Killington World Cup. The winningest skier in history seemed tentative. A year ago, she had failed to podium in either race at Killington, the first time in six years she had not won the slalom. Earlier this season, a bone bruise had set Shiffrin back in her training.

But on Saturday, Shiffrin skied solidly to a third place in the giant slalom race.

Then on Sunday, in what racers and spectators alike described as near-perfect skiing in near-perfect

conditions, she not only won both runs in the slalom race, but on her second run put half a second between her and second-place finisher Petra Vhlova of Slovakia to take her 90th World Cup win.

“After watching Petra Vhlova’s second run, I just thought that’s it — there’s no way anyone can beat Petra,” said Mary Seaton Brush, the former Olympian and Shelburne resident who raced slalom and giant slalom, or GS, on the World Cup circuit in the 1970s.

Brush and her family founded the Kelly Brush Foundation in honor of their daughter Kelly, who had a spinal cord injury while ski racing for Middlebury College. Among many other things, the foundation

now helps ensure skier safety with netting and other measures at this event and others.

Vhlova, who was third after the first run, skied a clean second run to build a whopping 1.04-second lead over Switzerland’s Wendy Holdener. “You made that look easy,” announcer and Middlebury native Doug Lewis said to Vhlova on the podium after. “It’s not!” said Vhlova with surprise.

But there were two racers left. As a crowd of nearly 10,000 screamed and rang cowbells, Shiffrin, the last skier to start, flowed like water through the 62 gates of the course. She finished 0.33 seconds ahead of Vhlova. The grandstand erupted in cheers.

THE FAN CLUB

“I was giving Mikaela a little bit of grief about how self-deprecating she was on Friday,” said teammate and former UVM ski racer Paula Moltzan. “Her response: ‘Self-deprecation is a way of building confidence,’” said Moltzan.

While the crowds cheered for all the racers, Moltzan may have had the largest cheering squad at the event. Her family — “in-laws and outlaws” as one quipped — showed up with lots of fan paraphernalia: hockey jerseys emblazoned with “MOLTZAN No. 1,” photo placards with “Paula’s Fan Club” and flags with her face on them.

Moltzan didn’t disappoint. On Sunday she skied the sixth-fastest

first run in the slalom gates, coming in at 49.48 to Shiffrin’s leading 48.27. Her second run was the 20th fastest, but her combined times still put her in 8th overall. She also was 8th in Saturday’s GS race. In 2023, she was ranked 7th for the World Cup season overall in slalom and 11th in GS.

Moltzan’s rise on the World Cup circuit has been steady since she (along with her now-husband and current ski tech Ryan Mooney) took time off from the University of Vermont to compete independently from the U.S. Team on the European World Cup circuit. “She works out two times a day, six days a week at the gym/shed at our house in northern Massachusetts,” said her

mother-in-law, Jen Mooney. “And then she runs these super steep trails. She’s worked hard.”

“She’s also just plain happy now. She’s in a good place; she’s with Ryan and that gives her confidence,” said Paula’s mother, Robyn Moltzan. In 2022, Moltzan was 8th at the Beijing Olympics.

Robyn Moltzan also noted that most of the top 10 women skiers were veterans of the sport:

“While we want to see more younger women coming up in the ranks, it’s actually great to see that the top women at today’s race were all in their late 20s or early 30s.”

Germany’s Lena Duerr, 32, finished fourth. Shiffrin, who won

(See World Cup, Page 4B)





**A flurry of wings**  
THIS CLOSE-UP OF snow geese taking wing near Dead Creek in Addison on Nov. 19 look as if they could be a painting.

Photo by Tom Raymond

# Score BOARD

COLLEGE SPORTS	
Men's Basketball	
11/26 Midd vs Endicott .....	90-86
11/28 Midd vs NEC .....	80-70
Women's Basketball	
11/21 Midd vs Castleton .....	75-57
11/27 Midd vs Union .....	68-50
Women's Hockey	
11/21 Midd vs Castleton .....	3-0
<i>Panther/Cardinal Classic</i>	
<i>In Kenyon Arena</i>	
11/25 Midd vs Endicott .....	1-0
11/25 Platts vs Wisc Eau Claire.....	6-1
11/26 Wisc Eau Claire vs Endicott.....	3-2
11/26 Plattsburgh vs Midd .....	3-1
Men's Hockey	
<i>Tourney at Plattsburgh</i>	
11/24 Norwich vs Midd .....	7-1
11/25 Midd vs St. Olaf .....	2-2
11/25 Plattsburg vs Norwich .....	2-1

# Schedule

HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS	
Girls Hockey	
12/2 MUHS at Colchester.....	4:45 PM
12/9 Stowe at MUHS.....	7 PM
Boys' Hockey	
12/2 MUHS at Hartford.....	2 PM
12/6 MUHS at Mt Mansfield.....	8 PM
12/9 MUHS at U-32 .....	6:30 PM
Boys' Basketball	
12/5 Colchester at MUHS.....	7 PM
12/8 St. Albans at MUHS.....	7 PM
12/8 VUHS at Danville.....	7 PM
12/9 OV at MSJ .....	2:30 PM
Girls' Basketball	
12/7 MUHS at West Rutland .....	6 PM
12/8 VUHS at Fairfax.....	7 PM
Wrestling	
12/9.....OV & Mt Abe at NAC Tourney	

COLLEGE SPORTS	
Men's Basketball	
12/2 Rochester at Midd .....	3:30 PM
12/3 Chicago at Midd.....	5 PM
12/6 Midd at Plattsburgh.....	7:30 PM
12/8 Skidmore at Midd.....	7:30 PM
12/10 Midd at Stevens .....	1 PM
Women's Basketball	
12/1 Midd vs Babson at Williams.....	3 PM
12/2 Midd vs Wheaton at Williams ...	1 PM
12/6 Midd at Plattsburgh.....	5:30 PM
Women's Hockey	
12/1 Midd at Amherst .....	7 PM
12/2 Midd at Amherst .....	3 PM
12/9 UMass-Bost at Midd .....	7 PM
Men's Hockey	
12/1 Conn at Midd.....	7 PM
12/2 Tufts at Midd.....	4 PM
12/8 Hamilton at Midd.....	7 PM

## Coaches announce girls' soccer state, league all-star squads

ADDISON COUNTY — Five area high school girls' soccer players were named either Division I or D-II All-State Players by the state's coaches, and another half-dozen earned recognition from either the Lake Division or Southern Vermont

League B Division. Earning D-II All-State recognition were sophomore midfielders Solstice Binder and Isla Underwood from Middlebury and Mount Abraham union high schools, respectively, and senior

goalies Joanna Toy and Linnea Faulkner from Mount Abraham and Otter Valley, respectively. Vergennes striker Ava Francis was named to the D-III All-State team. First Team Lake Division All Stars were Binder, Meredith Horne

and Harper Werme from MUHS and Toy and Underwood from Mount Abe. Francis and Alaina LeBeau from VUHS were named to the Lake Second Team. OV's Savanna Cook, Mallee Richardson and Linnea Faulkner

were named to the SVL B Division First Team, and OV's Nicola Husmann made Honorable Mention. OV's Tammi Blanchard was named the SVL B Division Co-Coach of the Year.

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## Men's hockey loses, ties in tournament

MIDDLEBURY — The Middlebury College men's hockey team lost and settled for a tie at a tournament hosted by Plattsburgh State this past weekend. On Nov. 24 and 25 the men's hockey team lost its first game and tied its second at the LayerEight Shootout in Plattsburgh, N.Y. This was the 25th annual event formerly known as the Great Northern Shootout. The Panthers will look to improve on an 0-2-2 mark with

home games this Friday at 7 p.m. against Connecticut and Saturday at 3 p.m. vs Tufts. In this past Friday's first round of the tournament, Norwich improved to 5-2-1 by topping the Panthers. 7-1. Seven Cadets scored a goal apiece. Norwich outshot the Panthers, 32-18, and got 17 saves from goalie Sami Molu. Panther senior Andrej Hromic cut the Cadet lead to 3-1 in the second period with his team-high third goal of the season.

Wyatt Pastor set up Hromic for a one-timer between the circles. Middlebury goalie Thomas Giroux made 25 saves. On Saturday, the Panthers got 35 saves from goalie Jake Horoho, 19 in the second period alone, in a 2-2 tie with St. Olaf in the consolation game. Plattsburgh edged Norwich, 2-1, in the final. Middlebury took a 1-0 lead late in the first period on Andrew Seaman's first career goal, a wrister into the top left corner set up by Paddy Bogart.

The Oles' Michael Webster leveled the score early in the second period. Ole goalie Thomas Lalonde (22 saves) denied Pastor on a shorthanded breakaway in that period. Paddy Mangan scored from the left point on a five-on-three power-play goal to give Middlebury the lead 1:57 into the third period. With 6:38 to go in regulation St. Olaf's Ben Luscko skated onto the loose puck inside the Panther zone and one-timed the

tying shot home. Late in overtime Panther Chris Garbe had a look at an open goal, but St. Olaf's Gunnar Johnson dove to block his shot.

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# Hockey

(Continued from Page 1B)  
fulltime while senior captain and mainstay Sophia Merageas heals from a preseason injury, has been playing well.

“She’s had five good games,” Mandigo said.

First-year players like defender Callia Ferraris and forwards Kate Flynn and Liv Fernandez have also made impacts. Mandigo noted Merageas and forwards Delanie Goniwiecha and Audrey Lazar are the team’s only seniors.

The defense, led by juniors Sabrina Kim and Cece Ziegler, has also played well.

“You play them and give up 17 shots, that means you’re doing something right,” Mandigo said.

The Panthers started fast on Sunday. Flynn bolted in off the opening faceoff and forced Cardinal goalie Lilla Nease to make the first of her 37 saves. Soon afterward, Nease stopped a Ferraris screened point shot.

The Panthers threatened again in the eighth minute. Nease denied Raia Schluter, and Jordan Hower and Cat Appleyard couldn’t find the puck in the ensuing scramble — a recurring theme.

Midway through the period, Nease denied Avery McNerny’s tip of a Ferraris shot. Later in the period, with the teams skating four-on-four, Flynn dropped a pass to Ferraris, but Nease stoned her one-timer from the slot.

In the second period, play evened out until the Panthers earned a power play at 6:11. Another scrum after Nease stopped a Britt Nawrocki shot failed to produce a goal, and Nease stopped Nawrocki again and denied Flynn on the rebound.

The Cardinals’ first good chance came midway through the period, when Will stopped Ava Mattaliano’s slapper from between the circles.

With 7:19 left in the period, Flynn broke in on Nease, but

Plattsburgh’s Taya Balfour hauled her down at the last second.

Middlebury nearly scored during the ensuing power play, but Nease stopped Kim’s blast from between the top of the circles.

The Cardinals had a power play late in the period, but Kim cleared the puck four times to help kill it off.

The Cardinals had another failed power play five minutes into the third period. Will saved a Kendall Wasik bid late, to end the threat.

In the eighth minute, Nease stopped a Kim bid, and Nawrocki and Hower stormed the net for the rebound — to no avail.

Soon afterward, the Panthers had another fruitless power play, and then the Cardinals broke through when Julia Masotta took advantage of a rare Middlebury failure to clear. She picked up a loose puck in the left circle and fired it into the upper left corner with 8:16 to go.

Almost immediately the Panthers broke in, two-on-one on Nease, but she stopped McNerny’s one-timer from the slot on a pass from Appleyard.

Plattsburgh made it 2-0 with 4:22 remaining. Mattaliano picked up the puck on the right side and fed Emily Kasprzak, whose one-timer from the slot found the five-hole.

After pulling Will for an extra skater, Middlebury made it 2-1 at 1:58. Flynn picked up the rebound of a Nawrocki shot at the top of the crease, spun and stuffed the puck inside the right post.

In the final 1:15, Kim tipped a shot wide, and the Cardinals blocked two shots before Zsafia Pazmandi won the puck and tossed it into the empty net at 0.8.

The Panthers don’t have a lot of time to iron out their offensive wrinkles before their next challenge: They visit defending NESCAC champion Amherst (4-0) this coming weekend for a



**PANTHER SOPHOMORES AVERY McNerny, left, and Britt Nawrocki hunt the puck in front of the Plattsburgh goal on Sunday in the final of the Panther-Cardinal Classic in Kenyon Arena.**

Independent photo/Steve James

two-game series.

### SATURDAY GAME

On Saturday, the Panthers overcame strong defense by 15th-ranked Endicott to win, 1-0. Will made 16 saves for the shutout, and Nawrocki’s goal at 16:02 of the first period was the game-winner. The Gulls dropped to 6-3 heading into Sunday’s consolation game vs. No. 9 Wisconsin Eau-Claire, which lost to Plattsburgh, 6-1, on Saturday. Wisconsin Eau-Claire edged Endicott on Sunday, 3-2.

The Panthers dominated the first period, outshooting the Gulls by 12-1 on the way to their final edge of 23-16.

Gull goalie Casey Moritz made the first of her 22 saves three minutes in, denying Appleyard’s

one-timer from the left circle. In the ninth minute, Moritz stoned Kylie Quinlan’s point-blank tip of a Kim shot.

The Panthers buzzed the net during a power play later in the period, but the Gulls blocked several shots, while Hower’s tip of another Kim shot bounced off the crossbar.

Nawrocki broke the ice at 16:02. Quinlan chipped the puck up the right side, and it bad-hopped past a defender at the blue line. Nawrocki steamed by, picked up the puck and went in alone on Moritz, beating the goalie between the pads.

Early in the middle period, Hower’s one-timer on a centering pass from Quinlan hit the left

pipe.

The Gulls got offensive traction in that period’s fifth minute, when Will denied two bids from the slot, sprawling to save the second shot. Later in the period, Will stucked away a solo bid by Gull MacKenzie Graham.

Meanwhile, the Gulls’ tight defensive zone coverage and reliance on icing the puck slowed the Panther attack in the final two periods.

In the third period, Will made two saves early on, one from the

slot, but Endicott’s best chance came in the seventh minute. Teaghan Hall’s shot from the left trickled off Will and across the crease, and Ziegler cleared the puck off the goal line.

With 8:36 to go, Quinlan sent a pass from behind the goal to Nawrocki, but Moritz smothered her bid from the doorstep.

The Gulls pulled their netminder and had two chances with less than a minute remaining, but Will stopped them to seal the win.



**MIDDLEBURY FRESHMAN FORWARD Kate Flynn tucks the puck inside the right post late in Sunday’s game against Plattsburgh at Kenyon Arena.**

Independent photo/Steve James

# College hoop teams each prevail twice

MIDDLEBURY — In recent Middlebury College action, both the men’s and women’s basketball teams won twice.

The Panther men picked up their first two victories of the season. The 2-4 squad on Saturday earned a 90-86 victory over visiting Endicott (2-3). After a back-and-forth first half ended with the Gulls ahead, 36-34, the Panthers took the lead for good with 13:07 left in the second half when Noah Osher sank a trey to make it 54-53.

The Panthers maintained a slim lead the rest of the way. Key points from David Brennan and Osher helped the Panthers take their largest lead at 82-74.

The Gulls cut the lead to 82-80 at 3:02, but the Panthers closed strong. Jackson McKersie’s jumper made it 86-80 with 1:24 to go, and Jaden Bobbett and Osher each sank

two free throws to help seal the win.

Osher finished with 32 points and five rebounds, and Brennan contributed 23 points and 21 rebounds. Tristan Joseph added 15 for Middlebury. The Panthers prevailed even though leading scorer Sam Stevens didn’t return to the game after suffering an ankle injury in the first half.

Elijah Kinney led Endicott with 25 points and 13 rebounds, and Jalen Echevarria scored 17.

On Tuesday, the Panthers beat New England College, 80-70. The Panthers went on a 15-1 first-half run to take a 24-12 lead and still led at the break by 37-27. The closest the 1-5 Pilgrims came in the second half was 58-53, but the Panthers responded with a 17-5 run.

The Panthers were fueled by 26 points from Osher, 15 points from

Joseph, 12 from Evan Flaks, and 16 rebounds from David Brennan. Jayden McGrew tossed in 16 points for NEC.

The Panthers are hosting a NESCAC-University Athletic Association tournament this weekend. Their games are vs. Rochester at 3:30 p.m. on Saturday and Chicago at 5 p.m. on Sunday.

### WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

The Middlebury women’s basketball team won two recent road games to even its record at 3-3. The Panthers will play at a tournament hosted by Williams this weekend.

On Nov. 21, the Panthers coasted at Castleton, 75-57. Alexa Mustafaj scored 23 points for Middlebury, and Emily Downer and Kale Tornwini each scored 14. Augusta Dixon hauled in 13 rebounds, and Tornwini added eight boards.

Stasia Epler (14 points) and Liz Bailey (12) led Castleton, which dropped to 3-3.

On Monday, the Panthers outscored host Union in the second half by 39-19 to prevail, 68-50. Mustafaj poured in 36 points and hit six three-pointers as the Panthers pulled away from their 1-3 hosts.

Mustafaj scored eight straight points early in the fourth quarter to give Middlebury a 51-41 lead, and the Panthers pulled away from there.

Dixon, Gabby Stuart and Bethany Lucey each scored seven points for Middlebury, and Dixon led with eight rebounds. Jelena Perovic led Union with 15 points and seven boards.

Those 36 points moved Mustafaj into fifth place on Middlebury’s all-time scoring list with 1,181 points.

# Tiger, Eagle, Otter football players earn recognition

ADDISON COUNTY — Many athletes on the Middlebury, Mount Abraham and Otter Valley union high school football teams have been named Division I, II and III all-stars, respectively, for their efforts this past fall season.

Two Tigers were named twice as Division I First Team All-Stars: Jackson Gillett as a wide receiver and defensive back, and Gavin McNulty as a running back and linebacker.

Also named as D-I First Team All Stars were Tim Whitney as an offensive lineman, Kyle Stearns as a defensive lineman, and Angus Blackwell as a linebacker.

Second Team D-I All Stars were Stearns and Joe Bergevin as offensive linemen, Blackwell as a tight end, Whitney as a defensive lineman, and George Devlin as a defensive back.

Earning D-I Honorable Mention were Devlin as a tight end, Tucker Morter as a kicker, Avery Carl as a kick returner and Tassilo Luksch as a defensive back.

In Division II, two Eagles earned First Team recognition: Jamison

Couture as a running back and Ian Funke as a wide receiver.

Receiving a D-II Second Team nod was Tyler White as a wide receiver.

Eagles earning D-II Honorable Mention were Ryan Wright as a wide receiver; Gerrit Beenan; Shayne Russell and Tyson Hallock as offensive linemen; Hallock and Abel Atocha as defensive linemen; and Mason Atkins and Cole Gagnon as linebackers.

Earning First Team honors in Division III for Otter Valley were Isaac Whitney both as a running back and defensive lineman and Luciano Falco as an offensive lineman.

OV’s Second Team picks were Noah Drew as a wide receiver, Colin Corrocia and Derek Li as offensive linemen; kicker Mason Bushee, and Corrocia and Falco as defensive linemen,

Otters earning Honorable Mention were quarterback Zac Dragon, running back Chase Cram, wide receiver Chase Razanouski, and Drew as a defensive back.

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FORMER UVM SKI racer and current U.S. Ski Team member Paula Moltzan, shown with a huge contingent of fans after Saturday’s slalom, received some of the largest cheers at this past weekend’s World Cup event in Killington. Her supporters showed up with lots of fan paraphernalia.

Independent photo/Angelo Lynn



MIDDLEBURY NATIVE AND skiing hall of famer Doug Lewis interviews Mikaela Shiffrin on the stage at the bottom of the Killington slopes on Sunday after she won a World Cup giant slalom event in impressive fashion.

Independent photo/Angelo Lynn

# World Cup

(Continued from Page 1B)  
her first World Cup at age 15, is now 28 and Moltzan is 29.

Of the three other U.S. Ski Team members who competed in the slalom, two — AJ Hurt and Zoe Zimmerman, a Burke Mountain Academy grad — did not finish, with Zimmerman taking a long slide. But Allie Resnick, 22, of Vail, Colo., completed the first run, finishing 49th. Only the top 30 get a second run.

Canadians Ali Nullmeyer (a Green Mountain Valley School alumna who graduated from Middlebury College in 2023) and University of Vermont grad Laurence St. Germain ended up 13th and 14th, respectively.

“I think skiing at the Middlebury Snowbowl actually helped my skiing. Its rolls and flats really helped me improve,” said Nullmeyer. She earned her B.A. in Economics at Middlebury in four years, all while competing on the World Cup’s 13-race, 10-country circuit. “It was actually good mentally to have other things — like schoolwork — to focus on other than ski racing.”

Of the U.S. women who raced at Killington, four (Mary Bocoock, Stella Johansson, Allie Resnick and Zoe Zimmerman) have all enrolled

at Dartmouth (which offers a winter semester off) with AJ Hurt having graduated. “Having raced NCAA and having teammates really helps,” noted Resnick, who competed in her first World Cup race in 2020 and whose sister Emma is on the Development Team.

### ONE BIG PARTY

With big ski schools such as Middlebury, University of Vermont and Dartmouth all within an hour’s drive, and nearly two dozen ski clubs participating in the opening parade, there were plenty of alumni and fans who flocked to Killington to watch. Estimates for attendance were 6,000 on Friday, 18,000 or Saturday and 10,000 on Sunday.

On Friday night, fireworks went off as 220 kids performed on the Kona Big Wave Stage after the bib draw.

On Saturday, Mix Master Mike kept the crowds dancing in between the runs with rock band Young the Giant performing after the race. And on Sunday, Matisyahu’s

reggae beat seemed to fit in with the bright sunshine and temperatures in the 30s.

In the vendor village, people lined up for lobster rolls and chicken sandwiches from food trucks while in the VIP tent, a who’s who of the ski world sipped splits of Champagne and noshed on a buffet and passed hors d’oeuvres.

In one roped-off corner, Michael Sneyd, who oversees Canadian resort development was showing slides of the stunning new base village and lodges that his company has planned for Killington. Construction will start in the next few years on Phase One, replacing the old Ramshead and Snowshed lodges and bringing in 190 new ski-in/ski-out units.

Eric Resnick, who helped form KSL Partners, the financial group that created Alterra Mountain Company and the Ikon Pass, was also in the VIP tent to watch his daughter Alli race slalom. “Killington puts on an awesome event,” he said as Killington CEO Mike Solimano walked in.

When asked how much longer Killington will continue to host the World Cup, Solimano smiled.

“I hope for a long time,” he said. “The first few years were a little hard on our team, but I think we’ve got it down now. Did you hear the national anthem? That was one of our operations team singing it.”

While Killington remains the only U.S. stop for women racing slalom or GS, next weekend the women’s tech teams will head to Mont Tremblant in Quebec. “We’ll stay here in Killington for a few days of training and then drive up,” said Moltzan.

For the North Americans who are used to competing for most of the winter in Europe, a little home time — and for so many, Vermont is at least an adopted home — sounds pretty good.

Editor’s note: See more about the race at [vtskiandride.com](http://vtskiandride.com).

– Robyn Moltzan

## Field hockey players are named stars

ADDISON COUNTY — Thirteen members of the Otter Valley, Mount Abraham and Middlebury high school field hockey teams earned postseason recognition from the Metro Conference or the Southern Vermont League B Division.

Three of those players, Eagle midfielder Morgan Barnard and goalie Greta Jennison and OV’s Elizabeth Atherton, earned berths on the Vermont Twin-State Team.

Barnard was the only player named to the Metro Conference First Team.

Named to the SVL B Division First Team were Otters Brenna Bovey, Lily Morgan and Atherton Receiving Second Team recognition from the Metro Conference were Tigers Lila Cook Yoder, Jolee Heffernan and Erin Mulcahy.

Honorable Mention nods from the SVL B Division included Otters Marissa Dick and Micheala Hobbs.

Earning Honorable Mention from the Metro Conference were Jennison and Maris LaPerle from Mount Abe and two Tigers: Kenyon Connors and Quinn Doria.

# 4-H members honored at Achievement Night

MIDDLEBURY — The 2023 Addison County 4-H Achievement Night was held on Nov. 18 at Mary Hogan School in Middlebury. The evening was culmination of the 4-H year for the members who have worked hard on their project areas to receive recognition for their efforts.

Participants included 49 youths, 11 leaders and 38 guests, who shared a potluck dinner and took part in a fun Jeopardy-style game about 4-H, led by Mountain View 4-H Club members Torrey Hanna from Addison, and Katherine Whipple from Bridport.

Several participants received certificates of participation or excellence, medals or continued achievement awards for their work in specific projects. To be eligible to receive any of these awards, 4-H’ers have to be members in good standing and attend at least 75% of both club business meetings and applicable project meetings. They also are required to complete their member and project records and receive a recommendation from their club’s adult leader.

A certificate of participation is awarded to recognize outstanding work in a project and requires six to eight hours of sequential project-related activities. A certificate of excellence is awarded to those 4-H’ers who meet the requirements for a certificate of participation but also complete more than eight hours of project-related activities, including developing and conducting a visual or verbal presentation that shares project skills, knowledge or information with an audience beyond the club level.

Medals are awarded to 4-H’ers who previously earned a certificate of excellence in their project area,

are enrolled in that project for a minimum of two years and participate in a project area learning experience beyond the club level, such as a workshop, quiz bowl or livestock show. The highest recognition, the continued achievement award, is given to 4-H’ers who previously received a medal and have continued to excel in that project.

Award winners, listed by club, were:

### BETTER DAYS 4-H CLUB, BRIDPORT

**Certificate of Participation:** Aliyah Bradford (equine, communication arts) and Chase Petrin, (poultry, communications arts), both from Addison; Alexis Freegard, Bristol (equine).

### CRITTER CREEK 4-H CLUB, SALISBURY:

**Certificate of Participation:** Natalie Layn, Bristol (gardening).

**Certificate of Excellence:** Natalie Layn, Bristol (sheep).

### KELLOGG BAY 4-H CLUB, FERRISBURGH

**Certificate of Participation:** Lacey Barber, New Haven (dairy); Hailey Chase, Bristol (gardening, sewing); Logan Kirkpatrick, Addison (dairy).

**Certificate of Excellence:** Thomas Allen, Ferrisburgh (dairy); Hailey Chase, Bristol (dairy); Lola Rollins, North Ferrisburgh (dairy); Eliana Vunables-Vogel, Addison (dairy).

**Medal:** Mackenzie Chase, Bristol (dairy, poultry); Emma Deering, Middlebury (dairy); Roxanne Griffin, Vergennes (dairy).

**Certificate of Continued Achievement:** Caroline Allen, Ferrisburgh (dairy).  
**MOUNT INDEPENDENCE 4-H CLUB, ORWELL**

**Certificate of Participation:** Payton Lucas (dairy) and Olivia Tudhope (dairy), both from Orwell.

**Certificate of Excellence:** Taryn Burns (dairy) and Sutton Chittenden (dairy), both from Whiting; Morgan White, Shoreham (leadership).

**Medal:** Tenley Chittenden, Whiting (dairy).

**Certificate of Continued Achievement:** Morgan White, Shoreham (dairy).



### MOUNTAIN VIEW 4-H CLUB, BRIDPORT

**Certificate of Participation:** Caroline Allen, Ferrisburgh (equine); Tessa Busky, North Ferrisburgh (equine); Colton Butler (dairy); Desiree Plouffe (sewing); Renee Plouffe (sewing), Kendall Thompson (dairy) and Robert Whipple (beef), all from Bridport; Normandie Cesario, Cornwall (equine, dairy, community service); Gabby Ellis, Shoreham (beef); Torrey Hanna, Addison (dairy); Clairra Lucas, Orwell (beef).

**Certificate of Excellence:** Emma Lucas, Orwell (beef); Camille Plouffe, Bomoseen (dairy); Desiree Plouffe (dairy, community service); Renee Plouffe (dairy, community service) and Sophia Stocker (dairy), all from Bridport.

**Medal:** Michael Plouffe (leadership) and Erin Whipple (leadership), both from Bridport.

**Certificate of Continued Achievement:** Michael Plouffe

(dairy, community service), Alexis Whipple (beef, community service), Erin Whipple (beef, community service) and Katherine Whipple (beef, community service), all from Bridport.

### NEW HAVEN DAIRY, NEW HAVEN

**Certificate of Participation:** Alyssa Warren (dairy), Shoreham; Dayton Needham, New Haven (dairy); Sophee Shepard, Pantan (dairy).

**Certificate of Excellence:** Gracelynn Barber (dairy, sewing), Shoreham; Jayden Ploof (dairy) and Kylee Shepard (dairy), both from Pantan; Bella Roell, Middlebury (dairy); Isabella Wilbur, Orwell (dairy).

**Medal:** Peyton Ball, Vergennes (dairy); Brailey Livingston, New Haven (dairy).

### PRIME CUTS, SHOREHAM

**Certificate of Participation:** Damian Fitzsimmons, Shoreham (beef).

### SHELBURNE EXPLORERS, SHELBURNE

**Certificate of Participation:** John Belter, Essex Junction (dairy).

**Certificate of Excellence:** Jordan Hutchins, North Ferrisburgh (dairy); Noa Sauve, Colchester (dairy).

### SHOREHAM EARLY BIRDS, SHOREHAM

**Certificate of Excellence:** Gracelynn Barber, Shoreham (poultry).

### SILVER HOOVES, SHOREHAM

**Certificate of Excellence:** Serenity (Iris) Bassett, New Haven (equine).

**Certificate of Continued Achievement:** Shyanne Wedge, Shoreham (equine).  
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# community calendar

**dec 1**

## FRIDAY

**North Pole Christmas Bazaar in Bristol.** Friday, Dec. 1, 1-4 p.m., St. Ambrose Parish Hall, 11 School St. Craft shop, bake shop, dolls & jewelry, wonder jars, attic treasures, face painting, online silent auction (Nov. 26-Dec. 1) and raffle mania, including hand-made quilts, theme baskets, 50/50. Silver Tea at 2:30 p.m. on Friday.

**Chocolate Walk in Bristol.** Friday, Dec. 1, 5-8 p.m., downtown. Stores open until 8 p.m. Stroll around Bristol and get your chocolate fix while doing some holiday shopping.

**Memory Tree lighting in Bristol.** Friday, Dec. 1, 5:30-6:15 p.m., town green. Join the Bristol Recreation Department and the Bristol Elementary Chorus on the green. Names of all honorees will be displayed next to the Memory Tree. Registration for the Memory Tree can also be done at the Recreation Office or in the Town Office.

**“Polaroid Stories” on stage in Middlebury.** Friday, Dec. 1, 7:30 p.m., Seeler Studio Theater, Mahaney Art Center, 72 Porter Field Rd. See Nov. 30 listing. Post-show talkback and discussion following the performance.

**dec 2**

## SATURDAY

**St. Paul's Christmas Bazaar in Orwell.** Saturday, Dec. 2, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Orwell Town Hall, Main St. Beautiful handmade gifts and crafts, Christmas decorations, quilt raffle with many wonderful prizes, basket raffle, flea market treasures, baked goods, wreaths. Have lunch — soup, chili and sandwiches available. Benefit St. Paul's Church.

**Santa comes to town in Middlebury/Very Merry Middlebury.** Saturday, Dec. 2, 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 South Pleasant St. Very Merry Middlebury 2023 kicks off in its usual fashion with Santa's arrival, horse and wagon rides, the hot cocoa hut and other festive activities in downtown Middlebury.

**Used book sale in Middlebury.** Saturday, Dec. 2, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Community Room, Ilsley Public Library, 75 Main St. Lots of CDs for sale at 25 cents apiece, a large selection of holiday books, and for December only all children's books are free.

**Bixby Holiday Stroll in Vergennes.** Saturday, Dec. 2, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Bixby Memorial Library, 258 Main St. During Vergennes' Holiday Stroll Bixby Library will host a series of performances, which begin with Santa reading “’Twas the Night Before Christmas” at 10:30 a.m. Jon Gailmor performs at 11 a.m., followed by Maiden Vermont at noon. Bixby's holiday book sale will run from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Refreshments, a puzzle swap and holiday card making will go on throughout the day. All is free and open to the public.

**Rokeby Holiday Shop in Ferrisburgh.** Saturday, Dec. 2, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Rokeby Museum, 4334 Route 7. Come to the annual holiday sale in Rokeby Museum's shop. Door swags made by Rokeby volunteers will be for sale, and the store will be open for shopping.

**Twist o' Wool Guild meeting in Monkton.** Saturday, Dec. 2, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Town Offices, 280 Monkton Ridge Rd. For anyone interested in fiber arts. All are welcome. Masks are strongly encouraged but not required.

**Sheldon Museum open house in Middlebury.** Saturday, Dec. 2, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Henry Sheldon Museum, 1 Park St. Admission to the museum is free and the model trains will be running from 10:30 am to 3:30 pm. The annual holiday trees and wreaths raffle will be on view as well as other festive activities throughout the day. For more information visit [www.henrysheldonmuseum.org](http://www.henrysheldonmuseum.org) or call 802-388-2117.

**Holiday Open House in Middlebury.** Saturday, Dec. 2, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Homeward Bound, 236 Boardman St. Bid farewell to our fearless leader of 10+ years, Jess Danyow, and partake in refreshments, visit shelter animals, browse stocking stuffers, and more. You'll be able to pick up a 2024 dining card, a “Tiny Tim and His Tiny Friends” foster kitten calendar, and even have a Guardian Angel made on-the-spot to make gift giving easy for you and meaningful for the recipient.

**Cookies and a Craft with Mr. Claus in Shoreham.** Saturday, Dec. 2, 2-4 p.m., Platt Memorial Library, 279 Main St. A quieter, simpler visit to Mr. Claus. Stop by anytime from 2-4 and write a list for Santa and drop it in the official mailbox, make a holiday craft, eat a cookie or a candy cane, and get a free book. Free and open to anyone and everyone.

**dec 3**

## SUNDAY

**Pancake breakfast in Middlebury.** Sunday, Dec. 3, 8-10 a.m., VFW, 530 Exchange St. Menu includes pancakes, sausage gravy/biscuits, bacon hash, sausage, hash browns, eggs to order, toast, coffee and orange juice. Adults \$12/children \$6. Open to the public. All proceeds benefit Veterans' programs.

**Farmers Haven indoor market in Orwell.** Sunday, Dec. 3, noon-4 p.m., 318 Route 22A. Shop local for products from local growers and artisans.

**Pictures with Santa Claus in Middlebury.** Sunday, Dec. 3, 1-3 p.m., Agway, 338 Exchange St. Bring your own phone or camera and take your picture with Santa. Children and pets are both welcome.

**Holiday Auction in Brandon.** Sunday, Dec. 3, 2 p.m., Brandon Town Hall, 1 Conant Sq. The Friends of the Brandon Free Public Library's annual Holiday Auction. Offerings are from renowned local artists and photographers, also a wide variety of items from artisans in glass, wood, fabric. Refreshments served. Doors open at 1:30 p.m.

**dec 5**

## TUESDAY

**François Clemmons talk and book signing in Middlebury.** Tuesday, Dec. 5, 3 p.m., The Residence at Otter Creek, 350 Lodge Rd. Co-sponsored by The Vermont Book Shop, François Clemmons will discuss his book, “Officer Clemmons.” Free and open to the public.

**“Eat, Poop, Die: How Animals Make Our World” in Middlebury.** Tuesday, Dec. 5, 6 p.m., Reference Room, Ilsley Public Library, 75 Main St. Ilsley and the Vermont Book Shop present the next installment of the Vermont Authors Series with fellow and writer in residence at the Gund Institute for Environment at the University of Vermont Joe Roman. “Eat, Poop, Die” takes readers on a



### All aboard

THE HENRY SHELDON Museum's annual model train exhibit returns for another year. The locomotives are chugging around the track through Jan. 13. The exhibit is open Wednesday-Saturday from 1 to 3:30 p.m. and during Middlebury's Midd Night Strolls on Dec. 7 and 14. It's an impressive display.

Photo courtesy of Minibury

global adventure, revealing the remarkable ways in which the most basic biological activities of animals make and remake the world — and how a deeper understanding of these cycles provides us with opportunities to undo the environmental damage humanity has wrought. Please enter through the library's front door.

**“Protecting Our Pollinators” in Middlebury.** Tuesday, Dec. 5, 7-8:30 p.m. Unity Hall, Congregational Church of Middlebury, 30 N. Pleasant St. Learn how to help Vermont's pollinators. Emily May, a conservation entomologist with the Xerxes Society, and Paul Burns, executive director of Vermont Public Interest Research Group, will speak about the importance of reducing pesticide use. Burns will introduce VPIRG's initiative “Protect our Pollinators.” Q&A, handouts, seeds and refreshments. Free. More info at [pollinatorpathway.addisoncty@gmail.com](mailto:pollinatorpathway.addisoncty@gmail.com). Register at [tinyurl.com/pol-path-Emily-May](http://tinyurl.com/pol-path-Emily-May).

**dec 9**

## SATURDAY

**Wildlife walk in Middlebury.** Saturday, Dec. 9, 8-10 a.m., meet at Otter View Park parking area, Weybridge St. and Pulp Mill Bridge Rd. Join OCAS-MALT and help survey birds and other wildlife at Otter View Park and Hurd Grassland. Beginning birders are welcome. Come for all or part of the walk. For information, including the latest COVID constraints, call 802-388-6019 or 802-388-1007.

**Ilsley expansion open house in Middlebury.** Saturday, Dec. 9, 9 a.m.-noon. The current designs for the renovated and expanded library will be displayed on posters, and a member of the professional design team will be present to give overviews and answer any questions. A comment cards box will also be available to record any thoughts you wish to share.

**Community toy swap in Lincoln.** Saturday, Dec. 9, 10 a.m., Burnham Hall, 52 East River Rd. Save money and time, reduce your impact on the environment, decrease clutter in your home, and connect with members of the community this holiday season by joining us for a one-day toy swap in Lincoln. Open to everyone, regardless of need or ability to bring items to swap. Please read the details below about the kinds of items we can and cannot accept at <https://fb.me/e/4asUjZb2p> or call Elizabeth at 413-250-9334.

**Prize Bingo in Leicester.** Saturday, Dec. 9, 1 p.m., Leicester Senior Center, Leicester Four Corners. Final Bingo of the year. Refreshments served and all are welcome.

**Christmas Cookie sale in Vergennes.** Saturday, Dec. 9, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. (or until cookies run out), Champlain Valley Christian Reformed Church, 73 Church St. A large selection of Dutch specialties, fancy homemade cookies, and treats for sale. Choose and package your favorites. They do the baking for you so you won't have to. More info contact Alisa at 802-458-7615.

**Bingo in Vergennes.** Saturday, Dec. 9, 5 p.m., St. Peter's Parish Hall, 85 S. Maple St. Doors open at 5 p.m., Bingo starts at 6 p.m. 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.

**Takeout-only chicken and biscuit supper in Vergennes.** Saturday, Dec. 9, 5-6 p.m., Vergennes United Methodist Church, Main Street, (across from the Vergennes Opera House). Menu includes chicken and gravy over biscuits, stuffing, vegetable, cranberry sauce and dessert. Adults \$12. Take out preorder only. Must place order by 8 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 7. To order call 802-877-3150.

**dec 10**

## SUNDAY

**Breakfast Buffet in Vergennes.** Sunday, Dec. 10, 8-10 a.m., St. Peter's Parish Hall, 85 S. Maple St. Omelets to order, scrambled eggs, French toast, bacon, sausage, fruit, plain and blueberry pancakes, maple syrup, sausage gravy on biscuits, corn bread, home fries, mini muffins, juice, milk and coffee. Adults \$12/children 8-12 \$7/immediate family \$32 (maximum). Offered by Vergennes Knights of Columbus to support their community service programs.

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## Leicester

Have a news tip? Call the Addison Independent at 388-4944.

### NEWS

LEICESTER — The Leicester Historical Society is sponsoring the final Prize Bingo of the year on Sat, Dec. 9, at 1 p.m. at the Senior Center at the Four Corners. Refreshments served and all are welcome. The society is also sponsoring the Memory Tree, an opportunity to remember

loved ones at this time of year. The cost is \$5 for six names, or one dollar per name. Send names and payment to Diane Benware at 1594 Old Jerusalem Road, Salisbury, Vt. by Dec. 21. The tree, at the Meeting House, will be lit at 5 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 23.

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## Bernie seeks essays from students

BURLINGTON — Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.), Chairman of the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee, has launched his fourteenth annual State of the Union Essay Contest for Vermont students.

Each year, the President of the United States delivers the “State of the Union” address to a joint session of Congress, which outlines priorities for the coming year. Sanders knows that great ideas can come from everyone — not just those in power — which is why he created the State of the Union Essay Contest to encourage young people to engage in the political process. The contest is an opportunity for Vermont high school students to describe a major issue facing our

country and propose what they would do to solve it.

“The purpose of this contest is to get young people to start thinking about the many important issues that we deal with every day,” said Sanders. “We are living in very tough times. There is no doubt about it. All people have the right to express their views and help shape the direction in which our country goes — and that includes young people. I want to see our students be actively engaged, no matter where they stand on the issues.”

The 250-500 word essays can be on any issue of national importance. A volunteer panel of Vermont educators will judge the essays on the students’ ability to articulate an issue and propose

a solution, without regard to the students’ political views. Following the contest, Sanders will enter the essays of the finalists into the Congressional Record — the official archive of the U.S. Congress.

Over 5,700 students from high schools across Vermont have written essays in the past thirteen years about critically important issues, including climate change, racial justice, access to mental health care, immigration reform, the state of our democracy, and much, much more. Last year, August Howe from Twinfield Union School was selected as the winner from 382 submissions for their essay on misinformation.

The deadline for student essay submission is Jan. 9, 2024. More information can be found on Sanders’ Senate website at <https://www.sanders.senate.gov/stateoftheunion/> or by calling (800) 339-9834.

## Lincoln

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

### NEWS

LINCOLN — A toy swap will be happening on Saturday, Dec. 9, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Burnham Hall. All are welcome, regardless of need or ability to bring anything to swap. A limited number of shoppers will be in the swap area at any given time and additional people will be able to enter as others leave.

Acceptable donation items for the swap include clean, working, safe, complete toys, like-new children’s books, games, puzzles, brand new stuffed animals, and any unopened items such as lotions, candles, earrings. The toy

swap cannot accept any clothing, shoes, books that aren’t in good condition, DVDs, CDs and VHS tapes, pre-loved stuffed animals, baby gear such as cribs, mattresses, seats, strollers, bottles, helmets, car seats or anything that is broken or missing pieces.

Items for the swap can be brought on the day of the event or contact Elizabeth at [elizakeenan1545@yahoo.com](mailto:elizakeenan1545@yahoo.com) to make arrangements to drop off donations early. You do not have to donate anything to the swap in order to participate. You also may donate items to the swap but not participate or take anything

in return.

The library will be having an open studio on Wednesday, Dec. 6, from 3 to 4:30 p.m. Crafters will be making cards and present tags for holiday gift giving. Watercolors will be available to use for carving potatoes for stamped designs.

**REMINDER**

Burnham Presents welcomes The Vermont Mandolin Trio on Saturday, Dec. 2, from 7:30 to 10 p.m. at Burnham Hall.

Until next time ... Once You Choose Hope, Anything Is Possible. Don’t Limit Your Challenges, Challenge Your Limit.

## Adams achieves Scouting gold award

MONKTON — In the community of Monkton, a rural town with no real center, the “dump,” or recycling center, often serves as a place for people to meet and catch up as they deposit their trash and recyclables. Thanks to Gold Award Girl Scout Natalie Adams, doing so is now safer, with new platforms between dumpsters.

Adams, 18, of North Ferrisburgh, earned the highest honor possible for a Girl Scout in high school, the Gold Award, with her project, Recycling Center Renovation. Along with the new platforms, Adams repaired a shed used for bottles and added a community bulletin board and information about how to recycle common items.

“I’ve been volunteering at that recycling center for forever,” said Adams. “When it started to fall into disrepair I thought that it would be a great thing for me to do for my Gold Award project because it’s both helping the people in my community while also being important to me personally.”

Adams spent 97 hours and over \$1,000 to accomplish the renovation, which was badly needed. She removed the old decking, added to the structures to stabilize them, and built new handrails. She coordinated a team of people to help with the construction work over several years, which the COVID-19 pandemic made more difficult.

“COVID kind of set me back a little bit,” she said. “I think I would have probably finished my junior year had I been able to work with people and been in school full time and not had to work around COVID.”

Adams, a 2023 graduate of Mount



**NATALIE ADAMS REPAIRED three platforms at the Monkton Recycling Center for her Girl Scout Gold Award project.**  
Courtesy photo

Abraham Union High School, has been a Girl Scout since kindergarten, where she has had a wide variety of experiences, sold Girl Scout Cookies, traveled, and camped. She made lasting friendships too, that were only strengthened as they worked together and overcame some adversity.

Troop leader and mentor Kim Clark said she has received nothing but positive comments from the community on the project, which is now sturdy and safe.

“Natalie is a hard worker,” she said. “When she sets her mind to something that needs to be done, she works through it until it is complete and completed well. She demonstrates the Girl Scout law regularly in her daily life and has

been a real asset to our community. It has been a pleasure to work with her the last 12 years and through this project.”

Adams’ experiences have given her a wealth of life skills. “I have so much community service, and I’ve gained a lot of different skills that I think have been really important to my success in academic settings and outside of academic settings,” she said.

Adams was an honors student in high school, where she won several state championships in field hockey, and is now a freshman at Bryant University in Rhode Island, where she is studying finance. She intends to finish her bachelor’s degree in three years and follow it up with a one-year master’s program there.

## Monkton

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### NEWS

MONKTON — It’s time to get your cut fresh Christmas tree, wreath or special holiday spray. BSA Troop 525 is selling trees and wreaths, plus specialty orders once again this year. All wreaths are handmade by the Boy Scout families from fresh homegrown Monkton greenery. Specialty wreaths can be made upon request.

Located at 265 Mountain Road (Northern end toward States Prison Hollow Rd.), Trees and wreaths are waiting for your pickup via the honor system during the week — or arrive during weekend sale hours of 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. each Saturday and Sunday for help and service to pick out your purchase.

If you should need special

assistance or wish to place a special order call 802-989-3993. Delivery is also available upon request. Prices are as follows: All trees: \$55, Regular wreath: \$25, Large wreath: \$30

This sale runs while supplies last so come early to get your special pick! The Happiest of Holidays from BSA Troop 525 and thank you for your support!

# STUDENTS OF THE WEEK FROM AREA HIGH SCHOOLS

## Mount Abraham Union High School

### Morgan Barnard

Mt. Abe would like to congratulate Morgan Barnard as Student of the Week. Morgan, who hails from Starksboro, is an amazing athlete and scholar. She has played field hockey and basketball all four years of high school, and was a part of three championship teams. Last year, she was the captain of the Field Hockey Team. This year she made the Twin-State team for field hockey, along with Metro First Team. She is an essential member and contributor of the Mt. Abe Environmental Action Group, or EAG, and the Eagle Leadership Society. She received academic high honors the past two years, the St. Michael’s College Book Award and was invited to attend Green Mountain Girls State Leadership Program and the Athletic Leadership Conference.

Morgan lives with her parents Heather and Jason, and younger siblings Brody and Brooke.

In her free time, she loves reading and going for walks with her dogs. In the winter, she enjoys Nordic skiing with her boyfriend, and in the summer she relishes in Vermont’s great outdoors by hiking and swimming. Morgan volunteers as a member of the Mt. Abe Field Hockey program to support younger kids interested in the sport. For over a year and a half she has been working at Hogback Mountain Brewing.

Morgan appreciates the opportunity for collaboration and discussion in a classroom setting, working with peers on a bio lab, and getting feedback on her work, which has taught her a lot. Morgan considers English and writing classes to be her strengths and are her favorite classes. She also enjoyed her AP English Literature last year, discussing books and poems as well as studying Spanish with Mr. Shepard, who has inspired her to continue her language studies in college.

Morgan has a special message for us all to consider, “In my time at Mt. Abe, I have learned the most by listening to other people. In a smaller classroom or group setting you have the opportunity to hear the thoughts and ideas of others, and being open to those ideas has taught me a lot.”

Mt. Abe wishes Morgan all the best with her plans to attend the St. Lawrence University in Canton, N.Y., where she will play field hockey and plans to major in biology or health sciences as she strives to become a chiropractor in Vermont.



**Morgan Barnard  
MAUHS**

## Otter Valley Union High School

### Derek Li

Otter Valley Union Middle and High School’s Student of the Week is Derek Li. Derek lives in Brandon with his parents, Bo and Tiffany, and younger brother, Ryan. Derek has a pet parrot, and his family owns Li’s Chinese Restaurant in Brandon.

School has been fun recently for Derek and his classes are going well. Mr. Hall and Ms. Krezter are his favorite teaching duo. He eats lunch in their room and they chat. Derek can be himself and get helpful advice from them.

Derek plays two sports, football and wrestling — he has participated in both since elementary school. He was a captain for football his senior year and has been a captain for wrestling since his junior year. Derek is also in the student government — as the treasurer for the senior class — part of the National Honor Society, and a mentor. He has been mentoring for two years. In addition, Derek is part of a program called Upward Bound and the president of SAB.

Outside of school Derek works at Kamudas, helps out with middle school wrestling with Coach Miro, assists at the family’s restaurant, and helps out Ms. Dick’s 6th grade class at Neshobe School.

In his spare time Derek likes hanging out with friends, going to the gym, and playing video games.

The most important lesson Derek has learned is to persevere and work hard. His advice to the underclassman: trust the process.

Derek is planning to go to college and still deciding on which one. He would like to major in engineering or architecture.

Otter Valley wishes Derek the best in all of his future endeavors.



**Derek Li  
OVUHS**

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**Best of luck to all Addison County students!**

**If you are interested in advertising in Student of the Week contact [advertising@addisonindependent.com](mailto:advertising@addisonindependent.com)**

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**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS** in person meetings are available. For a list of local virtual meetings visit <http://bit.ly/district9aa>. For more information visit <https://aa.vt.org/> or call the 24 hour hotline at 802-802-AAVT (2288).

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Public Meetings

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• Special 4 for 3 rates not valid for the following categories: Services, Opportunities, Real Estate, Wood heat, Attn. Farmers, For Rent & Help Wanted

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Notices         | <input type="checkbox"/> Work Wanted       | <input type="checkbox"/> Att. Farmers       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Card of Thanks  | <input type="checkbox"/> Help Wanted       | <input type="checkbox"/> Motorcycles        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Personals       | <input type="checkbox"/> For Sale          | <input type="checkbox"/> Cars               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Services        | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Meetings** | <input type="checkbox"/> Trucks             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Free**          | <input type="checkbox"/> For Rent          | <input type="checkbox"/> SUVs               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lost 'N Found** | <input type="checkbox"/> Want to Rent      | <input type="checkbox"/> Snowmobiles        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Garage Sales    | <input type="checkbox"/> Wood Heat         | <input type="checkbox"/> Boats              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lawn & Garden   | <input type="checkbox"/> Real Estate       | <input type="checkbox"/> Wanted             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Opportunities   | <input type="checkbox"/> Animals           | <input type="checkbox"/> Real Estate Wanted |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Adoption        |  | <input type="checkbox"/> Vacation Rentals   |

\*\* no charge for these ads    Spotlight with large ✓ \$2

PLEASE PRINT YOUR AD...

_____	Number of words: _____
_____	Cost: _____
_____	# of runs: _____
_____	Spotlight Charge: _____
_____	Internet Listing: <b>\$2.00</b>
_____	TOTAL: _____

The Independent assumes no financial responsibility for errors in ads, but will rerun classified ad in which the error occurred. No refunds will be possible. Advertiser will please notify us of any errors which may occur after first publication.



# Addison Independent CLASSIFIEDS

Help Wanted

Help Wanted



**FULL-TIME  
EDUCATION MANAGER**

*Passionate and skilled in environmental education?  
Want to work for a thriving non-profit in Addison County?*

A NEW full-time and benefited position at the Middlebury Area Land Trust (MALT) will lead our education and outreach programs.

**Must love nature.  
Must love teaching.  
Must be passionate about connecting people with MALT's lands and trails.**

Learn more and apply:  
[maltvt.org/staff-and-careers](http://maltvt.org/staff-and-careers).

Services

Help Wanted

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

Help Wanted

Help Wanted



**MAPLEFIELDS**  
*Looking for work in your hometown?*

We offer medical, dental, paid vacation, personal time, sick time and 401K for full time positions.

ALL ADDISON COUNTY LOCATIONS  
CURRENTLY HIRING!

For openings and to apply, visit  
[Maplefields.com](http://Maplefields.com)

Help Wanted

Services

Help Wanted

**ODD JOBS; PROPERTY** clean up, junk removal, brush cutting, lawn work. Call us today, we do other jobs too! 802-999-2194, John.

✓

**WE BUY OLD STUFF** Estates, collections, antiques etc. Also hunting and fishing items. Call Erik 802-345-0653.

Help Wanted

Free

Free

**DIGITAL ACCESS** View obituaries, calendar listings and classifieds online at [addisonindependent.com](http://addisonindependent.com). Don't miss out on events, garage sales, or opportunities- check out our

free digital listings. Looking to read more? Become a subscriber!

Help Wanted

Help Wanted



**Production Team Members**

Vermont Soap is looking for attentive, reliable and responsible people to work in our production department.

This position requires basic computer skills, attention to detail, the ability to sit or stand for long periods of time and the ability to lift up to 50lbs. Must be a team player and also able to work independently.

This is a full time position (Mon-Fri 7-3:30) with paid vacation time, paid holidays, 401k with employer match, and more!

Please send cover letter and resume to  
[nichole@vermontsoap.com](mailto:nichole@vermontsoap.com).

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

**ADDISON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**GROUND'S TECHNICIAN 2023-2024**

Addison Central School District is seeking a full-time Grounds Technician at Middlebury Union High School. Requirements of the position are being able to work outside in all weather conditions, must be able to operate a variety of manual and power equipment/ tools, climb ladders, and lift 80 lbs unassisted.

**Addison Central School District offers competitive wages. Employee benefits include:**  
**Health, Dental, Life AD&D, Long Term Disability Coverage**

- Contribution up to a family health insurance plan
- Contribution to either a Health Savings Account or a Health Reimbursement Arrangement
- Access to a flexible spending account
- Single dental insurance plan funded by the school district with the option to purchase dependent coverage
- Long term disability plan with a 90-day elimination period, benefit pays 66 2/3% of salary, funded by the school district
- Life insurance valued at \$30,000, funded by the school district
- Paid leave

**Other Benefits**

- Retirement annuity match of up to 4.5% of salary after two years of service
- Employee Assistance Program

**Apply by sending a letter of interest, resume, and three current reference letters, through Schoolspring.**

Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. E.O.E.


Help Wanted

Help Wanted

**PART TIME PERSONAL CARE** assistant wanted for 75 year old man, in Addison. To work for 3 hours/day, every other weekend, Saturday and Sunday. There is also a possibility of working one weekday every week for 3 hours. Help with light housekeeping, cooking, and chores. \$25/hour. Contact Ellen at: [eresnik@rcn.com](mailto:eresnik@rcn.com).

**MIDDLEBURY COOP IS HIRING** Looking for a supportive, active workplace? The co-op is hiring full-time & part-time positions with a set weekly schedule. Benefits include a 20% staff discount, 3+ weeks paid time off, medical, dental, and vision insurance, profit-sharing bonus, 401k, life insurance and more. Pay starts at \$16.50 an hour. \*\*\$1000 hiring bonus available after completing 90 days. To learn more and apply visit [www.middlebury.coop/careers](http://www.middlebury.coop/careers) or pick up an application in store.

**RESPIRE CARE - BRANDON.** We are currently looking for an individual who would be willing to provide respite support/care in your own home occasionally- some daytime hours and overnights available. Flexible employer and excellent pay. The position is for a lovely elderly lady. Please call/text or email for more information. 802-398-5657 or [respite2022@yahoo.com](mailto:respite2022@yahoo.com)



**Positions offer generous, twice a year bonuses as well as an employee discount on all products!**

**Warehouse Worker**

Loading and assisting with customer orders from the yard, warehouse and store; Stocking shelves and filling propane tanks. Skills/Qualifications: Ability to lift 50 lbs repeatedly throughout the day. Ability to demonstrate strong organizational skills. Forklift & Skid steer experience preferred. Weekends and dependability a MUST! Preferable age 18+.

**Cashier - Customer Service**

Immediate Openings available. Must be able to work until 6pm. Weekdays and Weekends a MUST. Up to 40 hours per week. Wage commensurate with experience.

Please send resumes to [info@middleburyagway.com](mailto:info@middleburyagway.com) or fill out an application at **Middlebury Agway**, 338 Exchange Street, Middlebury VT.

**Please no phone calls.**

**Middlebury Agway 338 Exchange St. – Middlebury, VT.**



**We do meaningful work every day, in every department. Join us and see why people love to work at EastView!**

We have open positions in the following departments:

A full-time and a part-time **Caregiver**, full-time and part-time members of our **Dining team**, a full-time **Housekeeper**, a full-time **Facilities** team member, and a part-time **Activities** team member,

**We offer a generous benefits package, a complimentary meal with each shift, and paid time off.**

To apply or for full job descriptions go to <http://www.eastviewmiddlebury.com/join-our-team/>

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

**Experienced Residential Carpenter**

**Silver Maple Construction** is currently hiring a full-time Carpenter who is eligible for benefits. The ideal candidate should have a strong focus on providing excellent customer service and delivering high-quality work.

- Competitive Weekly Pay (based on experience)
- Comprehensive Medical, Dental, and Vision Plans
- 401k Retirement Plan + Company Match
- 15 days Paid Time Off

- 7 Paid Holidays
- Commuter + Mileage Reimbursement
- Life, Disability And Accident Insurance
- Paid Parental Leave
- And MORE!

**To learn more**, please visit [silvermapleconstruction.com](http://silvermapleconstruction.com), email [hr@silvermapleconstruction.com](mailto:hr@silvermapleconstruction.com), or call our office at (802) 989-7677.




**Apply Today!**

For Rent

Help Wanted

**12' X 25' STORAGE SPACES** in Brandon. Call 802-349-4212.

**DRY, WINTER/SUMMER STORAGE SPACE** in Addison. Available storage space in my barn for summer/winter storage. The barn is structurally sound and weather-tight with electricity. No heat or running water. The barn is also available for lease. The entrance door measurements are 8' wide by 7' high. For more info: 802-363-3403 or [rochon\\_m@yahoo.com](mailto:rochon_m@yahoo.com)



**HOMeward BOUND: ADDISON COUNTY'S HUMANE SOCIETY**

**Interim Executive Director**

Homeward Bound is seeking an Interim Executive Director. This position is part-time, approximately 20-30 hours a week, and is a temporary contract for two to six months. In-person presence at the Middlebury-based shelter is required. This candidate could apply for the full-time, permanent position when the search opens. Animal welfare experience is not required for this interim position.

Homeward Bound, Addison County's Humane Society, is a private and independent 501(c)(3) open admission shelter dedicated to protecting the wellbeing of homeless, abandoned, and abused/neglected animals. We serve over 1,200 animals per year, including those who enter the shelter and those who receive services through PetCORE, PetFIX, and other community programs. Our community services are designed to combat pet overpopulation, provide support to low-income pet owners, and enhance the human-animal bond through education and outreach.

The Interim Executive Director reports to the board of directors and is responsible for overseeing the day-to-day operations of the shelter which includes:

- Administration, operations, and financial management
- Supervise and support administrative and management/leadership staff
- Attend to the mental well-being of the staff as a whole (14 full-time and part-time employees with direct management responsibilities for four staff positions)
- Engage in fiscal oversight of the organization with a general objective to develop and operate within the approved budget, maximize resource utilization, and maintain the organization in a positive financial position
- Oversee facility and vehicle needs and ensure both are maintained, safe, and compliant with relevant code
- Effectively communicate with the board president and treasurer, prepare monthly management reports, lead monthly board meetings
- Assist transition team in its search for a permanent executive director

**The Interim Executive Director will be hired as an independent contractor. No benefits are included in the compensation. Salary is negotiable. Immediate start date.**

**Submit a cover letter and resume to: [search@homewardboundanimals.org](mailto:search@homewardboundanimals.org)**



**MAPLEFIELDS**

**Manager in Training - Full Time**

Maplefields Addison County

Position Based in Middlebury

**Position Description**

The primary role of the Assistant Manager/Manager in Training is to develop and demonstrate the skills necessary to successfully oversee operation of a Maplefields Store in the absence of a manager. This individual is also to assist the Store Manager in the day-to-day activities associated with the store and the development and training of store sales associates, while ensuring that company standards are met at all times. The goal of this position is to be ready to step into a Store Manager role or another leadership role.

**For additional benefits and further job description apply to: [Maplefields.com/employment](http://Maplefields.com/employment)**

Help Wanted



**Better Middlebury Partnership is hiring!**

**The Board of Directors of the Better Middlebury Partnership is hiring leaders of this valuable community organization.**

If you are motivated to serve Middlebury by strengthening business relationships, planning and executing fun and engaging events and creatively imagining ways to improve life in Middlebury, then this is the perfect opportunity for you!

*The Better Middlebury Partnership (BMP) is a non-profit organization run by a volunteer board with a mission to promote, enhance and support community in Middlebury through trustworthy communication, collective advocacy and a focus on engagement with a goal to make Middlebury a great place to live, work and play.*

BMP leaders must fully embrace our mission and must thrive in a self-directed environment where they work independently to recognize needs, imagine solutions and build teams to execute the work of the organization. They will work collaboratively with board members, business leaders, Town of Middlebury staff as well as partners from other local and state organizations.

The BMP is responsible for managing community events including, but not limited to:

- Very Merry Middlebury
- Spooktacular
- Middlebury Car Show (in partnership with the Addison County Chamber of Commerce)
- Middlebury Markets/Sidewalk Sales/Block Parties

We could offer a part time or full time schedule with a range of responsibilities best suited to the strengths and experience of the individual applicant(s).

BMP employees will primarily work from home, with monthly board meetings and the expectation that s/he will engage directly with business owners and community partners at their places of business.

For more information about the Better Middlebury Partnership, please visit [ExperienceMiddlebury.com](http://ExperienceMiddlebury.com).

*To apply, please send a letter of interest, resume and at least two professional references by December 8 to:*

Amy Carlin  
Board President  
[bmp@bettermiddleburypartnership.com](mailto:bmp@bettermiddleburypartnership.com)





**BIRD FEEDERS OFFER** an easy and safe way to interact with wildlife, and installing them after December 1 limits the potential to attract bears, keeping you and the birds safe.

Photo by John Hall, VTF&W

## Caring for the birds during the winter

VERMONT — “Winter bird feeding is a great way to observe and learn about our year-round bird residents such as black capped chickadees, nuthatches and blue jays. It’s also a great time to learn about winter visitors such as evening and pine grosbeaks.” said Jillian Kilborn, Vermont Fish and Wildlife’s bird project leader.

Here are some basic bird-feeding tips from Vermont Fish and Wildlife:

- Make your own feeding mixture to maximize the number of species visiting your yard. Black oil sunflower seed is a favorite of many birds, but when mixed with “thistle” (or “nyjer”) or cracked corn you will be sure to attract a wide variety of species. Don’t forget the suet to attract woodpeckers and even chickadees.
- Mix up the type of feeders you use. Hopper feeders are great for large birds such as blue jays, while tube feeders are best for smaller birds. Elevated tray feeders will attract birds that usually feed on the ground including juncos and larger bodied winter visitors such as evening grosbeaks.
- Place your feeders near natural habitat, or even add a habitat for birds to hide. A Christmas tree is a great addition to a snowbank next to your feeder to provide quick cover.
- Keep your feeders clean. Only put out enough food for a day, and wash feeders every couple of weeks in a 10 percent bleach solution and let dry to prevent the spread of bacteria and disease.
- If you decide to feed birds, remember:
  - Feeding can expose birds to hazards they might otherwise avoid. The risks of predation are higher close to people, especially from domestic cats — the leading cause of bird deaths in North

America. Keep cats inside and take feeders down if predators become frequent visitors.

- Don’t feed birds when bears are active. Most bears are in dens from December 1 to April 1, but some will delay hibernation or re-emerge to feed during periods of warmer weather. Remove bird feeders immediately if you see signs of bears or know a bear is active in your community. Bears that learn to associate food with a house will continue to return, potentially leading to property damage and dangerous encounters with people. Further, it is illegal to feed bears in Vermont.
- Once you’ve started feeding the birds, keep your feeders stocked. Although wild birds are not entirely dependent on bird feeders, they can become accustomed to this easy food source. If you wish to stop feeding during winter months, gradually taper off the amount of food you provide rather than stopping abruptly, giving the birds a chance to find other food sources. This is especially important when food is scarce in late winter or during periods of extreme weather.
- Finally, report your observations. While watching your bird feeders, you can participate in one or more bird monitoring projects by looking up the Audubon Christmas Bird Count, the Great Backyard Bird Count and Project Feeder Watch and eBird — all collect important information for understanding bird populations.

As winter sets in, find a comfortable spot inside where you can watch the birds visiting your feeders. Figure out what birds they are, observe how they interact with each other, and see what they prefer to eat. It’s a perfect way to get to know the birds around you better.

## Vt. State Police Log

**ADDISON COUNTY** — Vermont State Police dealt with several motor vehicle incidents in the past week — some involving impaired driving, and other dealing with crashes.

First off, troopers saw a motor vehicle violation on Nov. 25 at five minutes before 6 p.m. and stopped the car on Route 30 near Route 74 in Cornwall. Police identified the driver as Elizabeth C. Cornett, 61, of DeLand, Fla. Police ended up citing Cornett for refusing to take a driving under the influence test.

The next day, Nov. 26, at about a quarter passed 8 a.m., state police responded to a two-vehicle crash on Route 22A in Orwell near North Cross Road.

Police report that a 2021Nissan Versa driven by Kareece Smith, 26, of Oneonta, N.Y., attempted to pass another vehicle on a curve, crossing into the northbound lane while headed south. Smith’s Nissan struck a 2020 Chevy Equinox head on — totally both vehicles.

Smith was transported directly to UVM Medical Center for suspected moderate injuries, as was a passenger in the Equinox, 20-year-old Paul Jones of New Preston, Conn. The Equinox driver, Bradford Jones, 59, of New Preston, was transported to Porter Medical Center with suspected minor injuries.

Court action in this case is pending, according to state police.

The day after that, Monday, Nov. 27, troopers again observed a motor vehicle violation and stopped the car, this one at around 1:30 p.m. near the intersection of Rout 7 and Maple Run Road in Leicester. Police cited James Raymond, 43,

of Colchester for driving under the influence of drugs. Vergennes police assisted in this case.

Early on the morning of Tuesday, Nov. 28, state police reported that both lanes of Route 7 at Arnold District Road on the northern side of Brandon were closed due to a motor vehicle crash. One lane was reported open three hours later. Further details on the crash were not available at press time.

Separately, 31-year-old Sean Sullivan of Orwell came into the New Haven state police barracks on the morning of Nov. 27 to turn himself in on an active arrest warrant for simple assault and violation of probation. Sullivan was taken into custody without incident and transported to Addison County Courthouse for an online appearance. Bail was set at \$1,500.

Meanwhile, troopers this week warned the public about scam phone calls in which the caller is purporting to be a member of the Vermont State Police. Reports to the state police indicate the imposter tells the recipient of the call that his or her identity has been compromised. The number that appears on Caller ID is the main line for the state police’s Westminster Barracks, although the calls are not originating from this location.

These calls are not from the Vermont State Police. If anyone receives such a call, they should hang up or not call back at the number provided, and instead telephone their local VSP barracks — the New Haven barracks is at 802-388-4919 — to confirm the authenticity of the message.

## Addison Independent CLASSIFIEDS

### For Rent



**ALL REAL ESTATE** advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 as amended which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, national origin, sexual orientation, or persons receiving public assistance or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertisement for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination, call HUD Toll-free at 1-800-424-8590. For the Washington, DC area please call HUD at 426-3500.

**VERGENNES VALLEY VIEW APARTMENTS** is currently taking wait list applications. Occupants must be 62+ years of age. No smoking/ No pets. Income limits apply - Rent based on income. Equal Housing Opportunity. 802-247-0165 TTY: 800-253-0191 www.SummitPMG.com.

**ATTRACTIVE 1 BEDROOM** home in the heart of Bristol Village. Well maintained, sunny, warm and cozy. January 1 - July 1, 2024. Partially furnished. No pets or smoking. Background and credit check by application. \$1,800/mo. includes all utilities, internet, snow removal. First month plus 1 month security, 6 month lease. Call 802-338-2362. No texts..

**HOUSE FOR RENT** in Vergennes. \$1,400 per month. Utilities not included. Call 518-546-7424.

**MIDDLEBURY BRIARWOOD APARTMENTS** is currently taking waitlist applications for 2- br apartments. No smoking/No pets. Income limits apply- rent based on income- 2 person minimum occupancy. Equal Housing Opportunity. Handicapped accessible. 802-247-0165 TTY: 800-253-0191 www.SummitPMG.com.

**MIDDLEBURY, OFF CAMPUS HOUSING** available. 802-388-4831, AJ Neri Property Rentals.

**HOUSE IN CORNWALL** Furnished, \$4000/mo. 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths. Single family home 8 miles from Middlebury with view of Green Mountains and surrounding orchards. Primary bedroom and bath on first floor. Open living area with brick fireplace, second living room with soapstone wood stove. 3 additional bedrooms on second floor plus study or entertainment room. Screen porch, patio, fenced in yard. Weatherized basement and fast, reliable fiber-optic. Includes water, propane, lawn and garden maintenance. Tenant responsible for heating, electricity, trash and snow removal. No smoking. Pets considered. Available January 15 or possibly sooner. Short-term or long-term lease. Deposit: one month’s rent. Photos available upon request. Contact: bhodges@sunriseorchards.com

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 as amended which makes it illegal to advertise “any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, national origin, sexual orientation, or persons receiving public assistance, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination.”

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertisement for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination, call HUD Toll-free at 1-800-424-8590. For the Washington, DC area please call HUD at 426-3500.

### For Rent

**ORWELL: OUTGOING SENIOR** gentleman who enjoys dice games, TV, and time with family, offering rent-free housing (just a small utils. share) in exchange for meal prep 3-4 times/week, light snow removal, and sharing conversation. Must be cat-friendly! 802-863-5625 or HomeShareVermont.org for application. Interview, references, background checks required. EHO

**VERGENNES VALLEY VIEW APARTMENTS** is currently taking wait list applications. Occupants must be 62+ years of age. No smoking/ No pets. Income limits apply - Rent based on income. Equal Housing Opportunity. 802-247-0165 TTY: 800-253-0191 www.SummitPMG.com.

**VERGENNES: WOMAN** IN her 50s, active outdoors with kayaking, horseback-riding, and photography, seeking housemate who will enjoy 2 friendly large dogs! Private bath, unfurnished bedroom. \$550/month plus utilities. No additional pets. 802-863-5625 or HomeShareVermont.org for application. Interview, references, background checks required. EHO

### Wood Heat

**DRY OR GREEN** firewood for sale. Delivery available. 802-758-2007.

### For Rent



**Just in time for the holidays!**

**The Cottage at 10 Seymour Street, Middlebury** is a charming, fully furnished 2-bedroom apartment available for short-term rentals and is now available for bookings through Airbnb.com. It’s just steps from Main Street, downtown Middlebury.

**Call 802-989-2234 for more information.**

### Real Estate

### Att. Farmers

**HORSE BLANKET WASH** and repair. Accepting non-leather (for now) horsewear of all kinds for cleaning and repairing at my Weybridge location. Call or text Sue Miller at 802-377-5945 or email svdwmiller@icloud.com with “horse” in the subject line for more information.

**WHITNEY’S CUSTOM FARM WORK** Pond agitating, liquid manure hauling, drag line aerating. Call for price. 462-2755, John Whitney.

### Wanted

**OLD & USED GUNS WANTED**

Rifles, Hand guns, Shot guns  
**Top prices paid.**

**P: 802-775-2859  
C: 802-236-7213**

**More Help  
Wanted ads  
can be found  
on Page 8B &  
9B.**

### For Rent

## Auctions



### MARKET REPORT ADDISON COUNTY COMMISSION SALES

RT. 125 • EAST MIDDLEBURY, VT  
Sales for 11/22/23 & 11/27/23

		COST		
BEEF	LBS.	/LB	\$	
Nea Tocht	1670	1.34	\$2237.80	
Westminster Farm	1975	1.07	\$2113.25	
Blue Spruce Farm	1840	1.05	\$1932.00	
Cornerstone Dairy	1555	1.02	\$1586.10	
F. Grabowski	1470	1.02	\$1499.40	
Goodrich Farm	1345	1.00	\$1345.00	
H. Sunderland	1420	1.00	\$1420.00	

		COST		
CALVES	LBS.	/LB	\$	
Gosliga Farm	104	7.20	\$748.80	
Barnes Bros	95	7.00	\$665.00	
Gilead Farm	95	7.00	\$665.00	
Savello Farm	91	7.00	\$637.00	
P. Livingston	90	6.20	\$558.00	
H. Degraaf	102	6.00	\$612.00	

**Total Beef - 144 Total Calves - 297**  
We value our faithful customers.  
**Sales at 3 pm - Mon. & Thurs.**  
call 1-802-388-2661

### CITY OF VERGENNES WARNING

The legal voters of the City of Vergennes, Vermont, are hereby notified and warned to meet at Vergennes Fire Station, 50 Green Street, in the City of Vergennes on Tuesday, December 19, 2023, between the hours of nine o'clock (9:00) in the forenoon (a.m.), at which time the polls will open, and seven o'clock (7:00) in the afternoon (p.m.), at which time the polls will close, to vote by Australian ballot upon the following Article of business:

#### ARTICLE I

Shall general obligation bonds or notes of the City of Vergennes in an amount not to exceed One Million Seven Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$1,750,000), subject to reduction from the receipt of available state and federal grants-in-aid, be issued for the purpose of financing the cost of a heavy rescue truck, a used ladder truck and replacing radio systems, the estimated cost of such improvements being One Million Seven Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$1,750,000),?

The legal voters of the City of Vergennes are further notified that voter qualification, registration, and absentee voting relative to said special meeting shall be as provided in Chapters 43, 51 and 55 of Title 17, Vermont Statutes Annotated.

The legal voters of the City of Vergennes are further notified that an informational meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 12, 2023, at the regularly scheduled meeting of the Vergennes City Council, Vergennes Fire Station in the City of Vergennes at 5:45 pm, for the purpose of explaining the proposed article.

### STATE OF VERMONT

#### SUPERIOR COURT ADDISON UNIT

#### CIVIL DIVISION DOCKET NO: 37-2-19 Ancv

THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON, FKA THE BANK OF NEW YORK, SUCCESSOR IN INTEREST TO JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, N.A. AS TRUSTEE FOR STRUCTURED ASSET MORTGAGE INVESTMENTS II INC., BEAR STEARNS ALT-A TRUST, MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2005-8

PLAINTIFF

VS.

AMY E. BRONS; ANDREW J. BRONS; MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC., AS NOMINEE FOR CTX MORTGAGE COMPANY, LLC AND OCCUPANTS RESIDING AT 555 PLANK ROAD, FERRISBURG, VT 05456

#### NOTICE OF SALE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Amy E Brons and Andrew J Brons, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as Mortgagee, as nominee for CTX Mortgage Company, LLC, dated May 13, 2005, and recorded in Book 114, at Page 118, of the Town of Ferrisburgh Land Records, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder by Assignment of Mortgage recorded in Book 153, Page 14, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction at December 15, 2023 at 03:00 PM at 555 Plank Road, Ferrisburg, VT 05456 all and singular the premises described in said mortgage,

To Wit:

**Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed to Andrew J. Brons and Amy E. Brons by Warranty Deed of Donald L. Sapir and Janet Sapir dated May 13, 2005 and recorded May 16, 2005 in Book 114, at Page 116 of the Town of Ferrisburgh Land Records and further described therein.**

**The description of the property contained in the mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.**

The public sale may be adjourned one or more times for a total time not exceeding 30 days, without further court order, and without publication or service of a new notice of sale, by announcement of the new sale date to those present at each adjournment or by posting notice of the adjournment in a conspicuous place at the location of the sale. Terms of Sale: \$10,000.00 to be paid in cash or by certified check by the purchaser at the time of sale, with the balance due at closing. The sale is subject to all liens, encumbrances, unpaid taxes, tax titles, municipal liens, if any, which take precedence over the said mortgage above described.

The Mortgagor is entitled to redeem the premises at any time prior to the sale by paying the full amount due under the mortgage, including the costs and expenses of the sale.

Other terms to be announced at sale.

The Bank of New York Mellon, fka The Bank of New York, successor in interest to JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. as Trustee for Structured Asset Mortgage Investments II Inc., Bear Stearns ALT-A Trust, Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2005-8

/s/ Caryn L. Connolly

Caryn L. Connolly, Esq.  
BROCK & SCOTT, PLLC  
1080 Main Street, Suite 200  
Pawtucket, RI 02860  
VT\_Noticesofhearing@brockandscott.com





AN ATLANTIC PUFFIN enjoys the waters off Hog Island on the coast of Maine. Otter Creek Audubon Society is offering scholarships for an educator and a teen interested in attending a session there in the summer of 2024.

Photo courtesy of OCAS

## Hog Island camp scholarships available

MIDDLEBURY — Otter Creek Audubon Society is announcing their annual \$1,000 scholarship to the renowned Hog Island Audubon Camp, available to an Addison County educator or teen. Located off the scenic coast of Maine, the camp is run by the National Audubon Society and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. Every summer they offer sessions for adults and teens, each lasting about five days. The spectacular surroundings and excellent instructors offer a truly enriching experience. Read all about it at [hogisland.audubon.org](https://wp.me/pt0Pq-2i3).

The scholarship for educators is for the session entitled “Sharing Nature: An Educator’s Week.” This unique week is especially designed for educators committed to engaging their students with nature. The scholarship for a teen (age 14-17) who is especially keen on birding is for the session “Coastal Maine Bird Studies for Teens, Session 2.”

The applications for both sessions are posted on <https://wp.me/pt0Pq-2i3>. Deadline for submission is Dec. 31. The scholarship recipient will be notified by Jan. 6.

Questions? Email Carol at [cgramsmac@mac.com](mailto:cgramsmac@mac.com). Additional scholarships may be available from



DEB MARTIN, A Mary Hogan preschool teacher, was the OCAS scholarship recipient for the Hog Island Audubon Camp in 2023.

Photo courtesy of OCAS

National Audubon. Applications for these National Audubon Society Ambassador Scholarships

must be made by Feb. 1. For details and a National Audubon scholarship application refer to: <https://hogisland.audubon.org/programs/scholarships> Most importantly, OCAS urges people to share this scholarship information with any students or educators passionate about birds and the natural world.

# Police are asking for your help

## Bristol

### Police Log

BRISTOL — Bristol police are trying to learn more about a Nov. 6 incident in which they say a truck unsafely passed multiple vehicles on West Street.

Police have issued tickets and ask anyone who witnessed the incident that Monday, or was passed by a blue Ford truck with New York license plates, to call the department at 802-453-2533.

Between Oct. 15 and Nov. 18, Bristol police completed 101 foot patrols and one car patrol, conducted seven traffic stops, and checked security at Mount Abraham Union High School 29 times, at Bristol Elementary School 25 times and at local businesses 25 times.

Police also processed 59 fingerprint requests, verified three vehicle identification numbers, conducted two welfare checks, responded to one false alarm, and facilitated the return of one wallet and one lost dog.

In other recent activity as reported by Chief Nason last week, Bristol police:

- On Oct. 16, heard a report of an unleashed dog attacking another dog near Morgan Horse Lane. Police issued the owner of the unleashed dog a citation for a dog at large and further action may include a vicious dog hearing with the Bristol selectboard.
- On Oct. 16, received a motor vehicle complaint about an incident on Briggs Hill Road. An investigation is ongoing.
- On Oct. 18, received a report of a theft from a vehicle on West Street during which a wallet and shotgun were taken. An investigation is ongoing.
- On Oct. 18, investigated a suspicious phone call made to the Mount Abraham Unified School District, which police determined was a prank.
- On Oct. 20, received a report of a vehicle break-in on West Street. An investigation is ongoing.
- On Oct. 20, received a report of someone searching through vehicles on Lovers Lane, though nothing was reported missing. Police are investigating the incident.
- On Oct. 20, checked on an empty vehicle on Burpee Road. Police determined the vehicle was disabled, and the owner had arranged for it to be moved.

• On Oct. 22, received a report that a package was stolen from a porch on South Street. An investigation is ongoing.

• On Oct. 23, were informed that a vehicle had been stolen in Stowe had been found on Devino Lane. A Vermont State Police officer helped Bristol police recover the vehicle.

• On Oct. 25, responded to a minor two-car collision on Main Street.

• On Oct. 26, cited a minor for being in possession of tobacco on Airport Drive.

• On Oct. 27, responded to a panic alarm activation on Pine Street. Police found someone was yelling in the lobby of the business about a parking lot incident.

• On Oct. 28, responded to an East Street residence for a potential theft of a bicycle. The bicycle was recovered and returned to the owner.

• On Oct. 29, responded to a suspicious incident on North Street. Green Mountain Power advised police that a transformer fuse had popped in the area.

• On Oct. 30, helped a driver with their disabled vehicle at Sycamore Park.

• On Oct. 30, responded to a report of a shooting on North Street. Bristol police requested assistance from VSP. As previously reported by the *Independent*, VSP investigation resulted in the arrest of Hussein Mohamed, 14, of Burlington on a charge of second-degree murder.

• On Oct. 31, responded to Prince Lane for a report of people doing drugs in a parked vehicle. The vehicle was gone when police arrived.

• On Oct. 31, assisted with traffic control and pedestrian crossings during Halloween.

• On Oct. 31, helped a social service organization in attempting to locate someone on North Street. Police determined the individual no longer lives in the area.

• On Oct. 31, entered a North Street juvenile into a state database as a missing person. The youth was found on Nov. 7.

- On Nov. 1, helped a person get gas for their vehicle and provided the individual with the contact information for social service agencies for further assistance.
- On Nov. 2, responded to a one-car accident on Route 116 North.
- On Nov. 3, responded to a report of dogs at large in the area of Route 17 and Route 116 North. The dogs were gone when police arrived.
- On Nov. 4, received a report of vandalism to a lawn by a vehicle on North Street. Police had not identified any leads on the incident as of Nov. 22 and noted the public is encouraged to contact the department to report aggressive driving.
- On Nov. 5, helped a motorist with their disabled vehicle on Lower Notch Road.
- On Nov. 5, received a cell phone that was found at Bristol Discount Beverage and Redemption. The owner had not been located as of Nov. 22.
- On Nov. 5, helped someone on Prince Lane in need of transportation.
- On Nov. 6, at around 4 a.m., responded to Mountain Street on a report of someone knocking on a door. The individual was gone when police arrived.
- On Nov. 6, issued a no-trespass notice on a person for a West Street location.
- On Nov. 8, helped with traffic control for a disabled vehicle in the intersection of Main and North streets.
- On Nov. 10, received a complaint about speeding on Rockydale Road. Police noted more traffic patrols will be conducted in that area.
- On Nov. 11, responded to a motor vehicle complaint on Main Street. Police located and warned the driver.
- On Nov. 15, responded to School Street on a report of individuals breaking glass on private property. An investigation is ongoing.
- On Nov. 17, helped the Vermont Department for Children and Families with a welfare check on South Street.
- On Nov. 17, responded to a report of someone driving erratically on East Street. Police located the vehicle and warned the driver.

## Archery, muzzleloader season runs through Dec. 13

VERMONT — Hunters will still have several days of archery and muzzleloader deer hunting

in Vermont after the regular deer season, which ended Nov. 26.

Archery deer hunting continues Nov. 27 through Dec. 15, and muzzleloader deer hunting will occur Dec. 2 to 10.

An archery deer license and a

hunting license are required to hunt during the archery season. An antlerless deer, or a legal buck, if you did not take one earlier, are allowed during this season.

A muzzleloader deer license and a hunting license are required to hunt during the muzzleloader season. A legal buck may be taken if you did not take one earlier, and an antlerless deer may be taken in a designated Wildlife Management Unit if you have a muzzleloader antlerless deer permit and you have not already reached your annual limit. A few of these permits may still be available on Vermont Fish and Wildlife’s website.

Vermont has an annual limit of four deer during its deer hunting seasons, including only one legal buck annually during those seasons.

A 2023 Deer Season Hunting Guide with regulations is available on Vermont Fish and Wildlife’s website.

Vermont has an excellent hunting safety record, in part because hunters and hikers are urged to wear a fluorescent orange hat and vest.



### INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE ADDISON COUNTY

#### PRELIMINARY PROPOSED BUDGET MEETING

The Assistant Judges of Addison County invite the public to a meeting to discuss the proposed county budget for FY 2024-2025(July 1, 2024-June 30, 2025).

The meeting will be held on Monday, December 11, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. in the County Clerk’s office at the Frank Mahady Courthouse in Middlebury.

Any questions, please contact the county clerk at [addisoncountyclerk@gmail.com](mailto:addisoncountyclerk@gmail.com) or 802-388-1966.

Patricia Ross, Assistant Judge  
Nicole Wilkerson, Assistant Judge

### TOWN OF LEICESTER NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Leicester Development Review Board will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, December 12, 2023, at the Leicester Town Office at 6:00 p.m. to consider the following applications:

(31-23-DRB) Cory and Tammi Lumbr, 108 North End Point for 26’ x 32’ 2 car garage (setback waiver). Section 2.4.3(e) of the Leicester Unified Regulations. Parcel ID #212146, 108 North End Point, Lakeshore District 1, submitted by Cory and Tammi Lumbr. This application requests a boundary line setback of 15’ 9”. (The standard in L-1 is 25’.)

Applications are available for inspection at the Town Clerk’s Office, 44 Schoolhouse Rd., Leicester, VT during regularly scheduled hours.

Participation in this proceeding is a prerequisite to the right to take any subsequent appeal.

Jeff McDonough  
DRB Chairman

### WARNING ANNUAL MEETING OF THE VERGENNES-PANTON WATER DISTRICT, INC. DECEMBER 12, 2023 \* CORRECTED\*

The legal voters of VERGENNES-PANTON WATER DISTRICT, INC. are hereby notified and warned to meet at the V.P.W.D. business office building on 63 School Street in the City of Vergennes in said District, on the 12th day of December, 2023 at 7:00 P.M. in person to transact the following business to wit:

**ARTICLE I:** To elect by ballot the following officers:

- (a) a moderator
- (b) a clerk
- (c) a treasurer

**ARTICLE II:** To hear and act upon the reports from the officers of the VERGENNES-PANTON WATER DISTRICT, INC.

**ARTICLE III:** To have presented by the Board of Commissioners of the VERGENNES- PANTON WATER DISTRICT, INC. their estimate of expenses for the ensuring year and to appropriate such sum as it, the VERGENNES-PANTON WATER DISTRICT, INC. deems necessary for said expenses together with the amount required to pay the balance, if any, left unpaid expressing said sum in dollars in its vote.

**ARTICLE IV:** To establish salaries for the Commissioners and other elected officers of the Water District.

**ARTICLE V:** To see whether the voters of said Water District will authorize its Board to borrow money pending receipt of water rents, by issuance of its notes or orders payable not later than one(1) year to date.

**ARTICLE VI:** To transact any other business proper to come before said meeting.

Dated at Vergennes, Vermont, this 9th day of November, 2023  
Maria L. Brown, Clerk  
VERGENNES-PANTON WATER DISTRICT

## Public Notices

can be found on **Pages 11B and 12B.**

### TRI-TOWN WATER DISTRICT NO. 1 P.O. BOX 85 BRIDPORT, VERMONT 05734-0085 802-758-2202 | [tritownwater@gmavt.net](mailto:tritownwater@gmavt.net)

The Legal Voters of Tri-Town Water District No. 1, a municipal corporation, are hereby warned and noticed to meet at the business office of Tri-Town Water District No. 1 at 14 Crown Point Road in Bridport, VT on December 5, 2023 at 6:00 PM to transact the following business:

Article 1. To elect the officers for the ensuing year

- a.) Moderator
- b.) Clerk
- c.) Treasurer

Article 2. To hear and act upon reports of the District.

Article 3. To see if the District will authorize the Board of Water Commissioners to borrow money to pay debts and expenses in anticipation of revenue receipts, if necessary, for the ensuing year, said money to be paid to its Treasurer.

Article 4. To approve projected budget for the 2023-2024 fiscal year.

Article 5. To transact any other business thought proper to be done at this time.

Tri-Town Water District No. 1  
Mark Pumiglia, Clerk-Treasurer

### CITY OF VERGENNES NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Development Review Board will hold a public hearing on December 18, 2023, as the first item of new business, for the following purpose:

Site plan and conditional use review of application #2023-43 to construct a garage and waive setback requirements at 19 South Water Street. Reviews will consider Article VII, Article VIII, Section 1603, and Section 1402.

Please note that the hearing will be held as a “hybrid meeting”, with participation either in person, by Zoom, or by phone. The in-person meeting will be held in the conference room at City Hall.

Join by computer: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84252901890>, meeting password: 689859.

Join by phone: Dial 1 (929) 205-6099; Meeting ID: 842 5290 1890; Meeting Passcode: 689859.

For participants joining by phone:

To raise your hand during the meeting, press \*9.

To mute/unmute during the meeting, press \*6

If you experience any difficulty in accessing this meeting, contact Zoning Administrator Peter Garon at 802-377-9527.

You must participate in the public hearing either in person or in writing, in order to take any subsequent appeal. The City of Vergennes is an “on the record” appeal municipality with regard to appeals to Environmental Court from Development Review Board decisions. This means that the Environmental Court shall only consider testimony or information provided during public hearings on the application. Interested parties should therefore assure that their participation in the public hearing proceedings is complete and represents the totality of their desired considerations.

A copy of the application is available for public review by contacting Peter Garon at [pgaron@vergennes.org](mailto:pgaron@vergennes.org).  
November 21, 2023

Peter Garon  
Administrative Officer

### STATE OF VERMONT SUPERIOR COURT PROBATE DIVISION ADDISON UNIT DOCKET NO.: 23-PR-06846

#### IN RE ESTATE OF: LINDA THERESA VONDLE NOTICE TO CREDITORS

To the Creditors of: Linda Theresa Vondle, late of Shoreham, Vermont. I have been appointed to administer this estate. All creditors having claims against the decedent or the estate must present their claims in writing within four (4) months of the first publication of this notice. The claim must be presented to me at the address listed below with a copy sent to the Court. The claim may be barred forever if not presented within the four (4) month period.

Dated: 11/20/23

Victoria Vondle  
773 Witherell Road  
Shoreham, VT 05770  
802-349-8572  
[victoria.vondle@yahoo.com](mailto:victoria.vondle@yahoo.com)

Publication: Addison Independent  
Publication Date: 11/30/23  
Address of Probate Court:  
7 Mahady Court  
Middlebury, VT 05753

### ADDISON COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

#### NOTICE OF ADOPTED 2024 RATE CHANGES

The Addison County Solid Waste Management District Board of Supervisors adopted its 2024 Annual Budget, including the Rate Schedule for Calendar Year 2024 on November 16, 2023. The new rates will take effect on Jan. 1, 2024.

The rate changes at the District Transfer Station in Middlebury are:

- (1) \$148/ton for Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) & Construction/Demo Debris (C&D);
- (2) Clean Wood: \$7/load for Residential, up to 1 regular pick-up truck or small trailer;
- (3) Food Waste: \$1/ea. for Businesses, containers up to 5-gallon;
- (4) Motor Oil: \$2/gallon of Business any amount or Residential >10 gallons, uncontaminated only;
- (5) Composting Supplies: \$68/ea. for a compost bin; \$138/ea. for a Green Cone Solar Digester

For a copy of the 2023 Annual Report and/or CY2024 Rate Sheet, please call the District at 802-388-2333, or e-mail the office at [acswnmd@acswnmd.org](mailto:acswnmd@acswnmd.org). Both are also available on the District’s website at [www.AddisonCountyRecycles.org](http://www.AddisonCountyRecycles.org).



# ARTS+LEISURE

The Addison Independent

November 30, 2023



Asa Baker-Rouse, a senior at Middlebury Union High School, plays one of Bob Cratchit's sons in the classic Dickens tale "A Christmas Carol." This year's production by Middlebury Acting Company will open on the Town Hall Theater stage in Middlebury Dec. 1.

INDEPENDENT PHOTO / STEVE JAMES

## It's beginning to look a lot like Dickens!

Middlebury Acting Company's fresh new way to watch 'A Christmas Carol'

**F**rom the magical moment just before Christmas of 1843 when Charles Dickens released his novella "A Christmas Carol," it was an instant bestseller. Everyone knows the story of Ebenezer Scrooge and how he was transformed from a grinchy, grumpy miser into the cheeriest champion of Christmas joy and giving.

Within weeks, the text was adapted to the London stage, and since then has inspired more than 100 productions, including plays, films, operas, ballets, TV shows and even a Muppet movie.

Now a creative revival of this story will appear live on the Town Hall Theater stage in Middlebury, presented by the Middlebury



BY **DAVID**  
WEINSTOCK

Acting Company. The play is unique. Playwrights Gary Smith and Mary Adams-Smith felt that much of the impact of Dickens' powerful narrative voice was lost in translation into ordinary dialogue, and they found a way to pull the author's vivid narration back into a script in the form of an onstage chorus, surrounding, supporting and echoing

the main characters.

When the ghost of Scrooge's late partner Jacob Marley appears, instead of dragging a clanking steel chain of "cash-boxes, keys, padlocks, ledgers, deeds, and heavy purses," he is bound to a chain of human actors embodying the words of the original.

Throughout the play, in each scene, a chorus supplies the emotional and physical background of Scrooge's life and memories, becoming his inner thoughts and physical surroundings. In a constant dance, they transform themselves from people to bedposts to curtains to walls to clouds. Melissa

SEE CAROL ON PAGE 3



# The Vermont Mandolin Trio strikes a chord at Burnham Hall

**T**he trio of Jamie Masefield, Will Patton and Matt Flinner brings together three of Vermont's finest mandolinists for an eclectic mix of bluegrass, jazz and roots music featuring the music of Bill Monroe, Django Reinhardt, J.S. Bach and everything in between. All performed with the flair of virtuosity and originality. They will be joined by Pat Melvin on bass for a concert at Burnham Hall in Lincoln on Saturday, Dec. 2, at 7:30 p.m.

## ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Grammy-nominated mandolinist **Flinner** has made a career out of playing acoustic music in new ways. Flinner's style and compositional ability have established him as one of the most accomplished and musically diverse mandolinists in the world. Starting out as a banjo prodigy who was playing bluegrass festivals before he entered his teens, Flinner later took up the mandolin, won the National Banjo Competition in Winfield, Kan., in 1990, and won the mandolin award there the following year. Flinner currently lives in Ripton.

Mandolinist **Masefield** began playing on the tenor banjo when he was 11, learning traditional New Orleans jazz. This continuously influenced his approach to playing the mandolin over the years on his way to becoming one of the most widely-recognized jazz mandolinists in the country. Masefield is perhaps best known for his groundbreaking group, the Jazz Mandolin Project, which toured the U.S. extensively from 1996 to 2006, and helped carve out new territory for the mandolin in jazz while bringing the instrument to wider audiences in both the jazz and jam band scenes. When he's not out playing the mandolin, Masefield is a highly-respected dry stone mason, creating projects around the northeast for civic use as well as artistic display. Masefield currently lives in Monkton.



*The Vermont Mandolin Trio will perform for Burnham Presents in Lincoln on Saturday Dec. 2. The trio features, from left, Jamie Masefield, bassist Pat Melvin, Matt Flinner and Will Patton.*

**"I'VE BEEN VERY FORTUNATE  
IN BEING ABLE TO PLAY THE  
MUSIC I LOVE."**

— Will Patton

**Patton** has been playing music since the age of 6, starting on piano and taking up guitar at age 12. Mandolin and bass soon followed, and he's been leading bands since he was thirteen. He studied at Middlebury College in Vermont and discovered a deep connection with the rural landscape there. During the last 20 years he has been visiting and playing in Paris, and his collaborations with legendary gypsy guitarist Ninine Garcia as documented on his

recordings have received critical acclaim both in the U.S. and abroad.

"I've been very fortunate in being able to play the music I love, and to find wonderful, inspired musicians to join me in exploring some new ways of looking at acoustic music," Patton added.

The last time this group played at Burnham Hall it was a sold out show, so naturally, advance tickets are recommended.

Doors open at 7 p.m., and the music will begin at 7:30 p.m. with two sets. Admission: general \$15 to generous \$20/\$25 or pay what you can. All proceeds benefit the performers. Home made refreshments will be available at the break. Tickets, info and more at [burnhampresents.org](http://burnhampresents.org) or call 802-349-3364.

# Vergennes gallery prepares to close doors; Bristol studio opens

## VERGENNES:

Don't miss this **"Last Call" at Northern Daughters Fine Art Gallery** in Vergennes. The Main Street gallery will close its doors after seven years at the end of the year. A celebration will be held Saturday, Dec. 9, from 5-8 p.m.; the exhibit will run through Dec. 24.

"Last Call" is the gallery's final exhibit featuring the work of Anne Cady, Bonnie Baird, Maria Flores Galindo, Chelsea Granger, Julia Jensen, Rose Umerlik, Hannah Sessions, Pamela Smith,

Carla Weeks, and Hannah Secord Wade.

"The last seven years have been a true gift," the gallery owners Justine Jackson and Sophie Pickens. "It has been a joy to represent an outstanding group of artists, to work with wonderful clients and to be a part of downtown Vergennes."

## BRISTOL:

Bristol painter **Deborah Holmes will open**

**her home studio** for a Holiday Open House several times next month. This coming weekend, Dec. 2 and 3, will kick off the show; then she'll open her studio again each Saturday through the month of December.

The open houses will run from 10 a.m.-4 p.m., at 24 Garfield Street in Bristol. The event will feature new paintings of domestic and barnyard animals. Holmes offers paintings, prints, holiday ornaments, painted boxes, cards, calendars and more. There will also be refreshments.



# CAROL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Lourie, co-directing this production with playwright Gary Smith, enjoys orchestrating the complexity of the action. "It is very painstaking, and a lot of work, but it's also fun."

Scrooge himself is played by Jordan Gullikson, who has come to appreciate his character's reclaimed humanity. Scrooge, instructed and corrected by the four visiting

spirits, finally steps out of self-imposed isolation and selfishness to return, humbly, to the world. "One moment says it all — when he goes over to the home of his only living family member, his nephew Fred. He knocks and says, 'It me, your Uncle Scrooge, I have come to dinner. Will you let me in?'"

Middlebury Acting Company hopes to let everyone in. In the spirit of seasonal generosity, supported by generous local donors, all tickets for all performances are priced at whatever you wish to pay.



Emrys Yarborough, 8, of Ferrisburgh, plays Tiny Tim in this year's MACo production of "A Christmas Carol." Standing with him are his 11-year-old twin brothers Elke (left) and Beowulf (right). Jordan Gullikson (far right) stars in this holiday classic as Scrooge. The show opens Dec. 1 at Town Hall Theater in Middlebury.



Bob Cratchit will be played by Eric Reid-St. John.

## DETAILS

**"A CHRISTMAS CAROL"**  
Adapted from Charles Dickens by Gary Smith & Mary Adams-Smith  
Directed by Gary Smith and Melissa Lourie

**TOWN HALL THEATER**  
68 SOUTH PLEASANT STREET  
MIDDLEBURY

**DEC. 1 AND 2 (7 P.M.)**  
**DEC. 3 (2 P.M.)**  
**DEC. 7 & 8 (7 P.M.)**  
**DEC. 9 & 10 (2 P.M.)**

FOR TICKETS AND INFORMATION, CALL 802-382-9222 OR VISIT **TOWNHALLTHEATER.ORG.**

INDEPENDENT PHOTOS / STEVE JAMES



**MIDDLEBURY PERFORMING ARTS SERIES**  
FALL 2023 SEASON



December 1 ■ 7:30 PM  
**Brandee Younger Trio**  
Live and streaming  
\$25/20/15/10/5

802-443-MIDD (6433) [go.middlebury.edu/pas](https://go.middlebury.edu/pas)



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**DEBORAH HOLMES WATERCOLORS**



Please come to a  
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at the studio  
and home of  
**DEBORAH HOLMES**  
24 Garfield Street  
Bristol, Vermont

**December 2 & 3, 2023**  
**Sat. & Sun, 10-4**

New paintings, prints,  
calendars, cards, ornaments...  
featuring new work with  
images of domestic  
and barnyard animals!

**REFRESHMENTS!**  
**802.453.8511**  
[deborahholmesart@gmail.com](mailto:deborahholmesart@gmail.com)  
**DEBORAHHOLMESART.COM**





JESSICA'S  
— AT —  
SWIFT HOUSE INN



25 Stewart Lane  
Middlebury, VT

802-388-9925  
www.swifthouseinn.com  
@swifthouseinn

# Holiday exhibits open downtown Middlebury

Edgewater's two galleries in downtown Middlebury will open two new exhibits for the holiday season in December. "Home for the Holidays" at Edgewater Gallery at the Falls and "Reflections" at Edgewater Gallery on the Green.



VICTORIA BLEWER

## "HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS"

On view Dec. 7 - Jan. 9, 2024.

**Edgewater Gallery at the Falls**  
Vermont attracts artists of all kinds. Its natural beauty, open spaces and slower pace of living allows for creative minds of all kinds to flourish. This holiday season Edgewater celebrates local visual artists in "Home for the Holidays," a group show of small works by Victoria Blewer, Joe Bolger, Jane Davies, William Hays, Woody Jackson, Sara Katz and guest artist Carrie Ade.

In the mediums of photography, block print, and paint, the artists will exhibit pieces that are impactful within the definition of "small works." This genre requires that the artist edit and highlight elements of the composition in order to bring significance within a small space.

Guest artist and naturalist, Carrie Ade's small botanical and landscape paintings on panel provide a vivid and lyrical snapshot of local species of vegetation and wildlife. She has worked for over 20 years with

national parks, botanical gardens, and environmental conservation organizations nationally and internationally, helping to expand the knowledge and appreciation of native ecosystems and merging her environmental education with art.

## "REFLECTIONS"

On view Dec. 1-31

**Edgewater Gallery on the Green**  
The "Reflections" exhibition will feature the work of the 23 artists selected from a group of emerging artists throughout the U.S. who submitted entries in both 2-D and 3-D. This is an exciting opportunity for Edgewater's audience to be introduced to the perspectives of a new generation of artists. The show will feature each artist's interpretation of the theme in paint, photography, clay, wood and mixed media. As the year draws to a close we will be energized and inspired by the innovative approaches to art-making that will emerge in this exhibition.

The exhibition will be juried by John and Gillain Ross, owners of Gallery Twist, Lexington, Mass. An opening reception will be held on Thursday, Dec. 7, from 5-6:30 p.m. The reception is free and open to all. First, second and third place winners of the competition will be announced at the opening reception. Light refreshments will be served.

For more information visit [edgewatergallery.com](http://edgewatergallery.com).



CARRIE ADE



# ART ON EXHIBIT

## EDGEWATER AT THE FALLS

1 Mill Street, Middlebury

Visit [edgewatergallery.com](http://edgewatergallery.com), call 802-458-0098 or email [info@edgewatergallery-vt.com](mailto:info@edgewatergallery-vt.com) for more info.

**"Home for the Holidays."** A group exhibition of small works by Vermont artists including Victoria Blewer/Joe Bolger/Jane Davies/William Hays/Woody Jackson/Sara Katz and guest artist Carrie Ade. On view Dec. 7 - Jan. 9, 2024.

## EDGEWATER ON THE GREEN

6 Merchants Row, Middlebury

Visit [edgewatergallery.com](http://edgewatergallery.com), call 802-989-7419 or email [info@edgewatergallery-vt.com](mailto:info@edgewatergallery-vt.com) for more info.

**"Reflections"** will feature the work of the 23 artists selected from a group of emerging artists throughout the U.S. who submitted entries in both 2-D and 3-D. This is an exciting opportunity for Edgewater's audience to be introduced to the perspectives of a new generation of artists. The show will feature each artist's interpretation of the theme in paint, photography, clay, wood and mixed media. Jurors: John and Gillain Ross. On view Dec. 1-31, with an opening reception, Thursday, Dec. 7, from 5-6:30 p.m.

## JACKSON GALLERY

68 S Pleasant St, Middlebury

Visit [townhalltheater.org/jackson-gallery](http://townhalltheater.org/jackson-gallery) or call 802-382-9222 for more info.

**"Learning Together,"** is an exhibition of MSS student and instructor work, showcasing the breadth of artistic mediums taught at the school to people of all ages and abilities as well as the joy of the creative process. On view Nov. 10-Dec. 22.

## MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE MUSEUM OF ART

72 Porter Field Rd, Middlebury

For more info visit [middlebury.edu/museum/exhibitions](http://middlebury.edu/museum/exhibitions).

**"Tossed: Art from Discarded, Found and Repurposed Materials."** "Tossed" brings together — both from Middlebury's collection and from other private and public collections — nearly 20 works that make use of discarded materials. On view through Dec. 10.

## NORTHERN DAUGHTERS GALLERY

221 Main Street, Vergennes

Visit [northerndaughters.com](http://northerndaughters.com) or call 802-877-2173

**"Last Call."** This is the final exhibition at Northern Daughters, and will feature the work of Anne Cady, Bonnie Baird, Maria Flores Galindo, Chelsea Granger, Julia Jensen, Rose Umerlik, Hannah Sessions, Pamela Smith, Carla Weeks, and Hannah Secord Wade. On view Nov. 4-Dec. 31. The gallery will close at the end of December 2023. A closing party will be held on Saturday, Dec. 9, from 5-8 p.m.

SEE EXHIBITS ON PAGE 15

# Cosmic Forecast

**ARIES:** March 21/April 20. Aries, if you work or spend time with an introvert, reach out to him or her and strike up a conversation. This person may only need a little nudge to become a good friend.

**TAURUS:** April 21/May 21. Taurus, a friendly competition that may have started out lighthearted is now starting to transform into something a bit more competitive. Dial it back a bit.

**GEMINI:** May 22/June 21. Gemini, things are starting to slow down in your life, and your to-do list has gotten shorter. Expect things to ramp up again soon enough, but enjoy the break for now.

**CANCER:** June 22/July 22. This is a good week to begin something that you've been thinking about tackling, Cancer. You'll have pep in your step and others willing to lend a hand if it is needed.

**LEO:** July 23/Aug. 23. Leo, someone may offer you some honest feedback that is a little too raw for your ego at this point in time. You will simply have to take it with dignity and lick your wounds elsewhere.

**VIRGO:** Aug. 24/Sept. 22. You need to be the driving force on a project that will pop up, Virgo. Even though you're not sure of your readiness for this type of work, you can give it a good attempt.

**LIBRA:** Sept. 23/Oct. 23. Whatever you tackle this week, it shouldn't revolve entirely around money, Libra. Finances may have gotten in the way of things for some time; focus now on relationships.

**SCORPIO:** Oct. 24/Nov. 22. Don't let a dream you had put you all in a tizzy. That was just your subconscious working through some things and not a prediction of things to come.

**SAGITTARIUS:** Nov. 23/Dec. 21. Don't be shy about receiving credit for something that you did, Sagittarius. You deserve the recognition no matter how large or small the task. Celebrate all your victories.

**CAPRICORN:** Dec. 22/Jan. 20. You may be coveting something of late, Capricorn. However, only when you stop actively wanting that thing or person will you finally get what you desire.

**AQUARIUS:** Jan. 21/Feb. 18. Aquarius, your positive attitude is an asset in life. Even as challenges come your way this week, you can prove the naysayers wrong by maintaining your rosy outlook.

**PISCES:** Feb. 19/

March 20. Pisces, standing up for yourself this week is challenging, but you need to do it to get your point across. Don't worry, you have many supporters in your corner cheering you on.

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## FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

DEC. 1 — Zoe Kravitz, actor (35)  
DEC. 2 — Gianni Versace, designer (d)  
DEC. 3 — Jean-Luc Godard, filmmaker (d)  
DEC. 4 — Marisa Tomei, actor (59)

DEC. 5 — Margaret Cho, comedian (55)  
DEC. 6 — Judd Apatow, filmmaker (56)  
DEC. 7 — Noam Chomsky, linguist (95)



CALENDAR

NOV. 30-DEC. 8  
2023



THURSDAY, NOV. 30

**"THE ARCHITECTURE, CULTURE, SPIRITUALITY FORUM'S CRITICAL CONVERSATIONS PROJECT: SPIRITUAL APPROACHES TO THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT" ON SCREEN IN BRANDON.** Thursday, Nov. 30, 7 p.m., Brandon Town Hall, 1 Conant Sq. This film explores the spiritual dimension of the built environment and its impact on everyday life. Free.

**"POLAROID STORIES" ON STAGE AT MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE.** Thursday, Nov. 30, 7:30 p.m., Seeler Studio Theater, Mahaney Art Center, 72 Porter Field Rd. This play features 10 actors playing characters ranging from Echo, Eurydice, Orpheus and Narcissus to Skinhead Girl, Kaos, Melody and Disappear. They operate in a dangerous world where myth-making fulfills a fierce need for transcendence, where storytelling has the power to transform a reality in which character's lives are continually threatened, devalued and erased. Tickets at [middlebury.edu/college/box-office](http://middlebury.edu/college/box-office).

FRIDAY, DEC. 1

**GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB HIKE IN SHOREHAM.** Friday, Dec. 1, Lemon Fair Sculpture Park, Route 74. Easy 1.5-hour walk among the sculptures. Minimal elevation gain and relatively even paths. Contact leader David Andrews at 802-388-4894 or [vtrevda@](mailto:vtrevda@)

[yahoo.com](mailto:yahoo.com) for meeting time and other details. More at [gmcbreadloaf.org](http://gmcbreadloaf.org).

**PHOTOGRAPHY OPENING IN MIDDLEBURY.** Friday, Dec. 1, 4-7 p.m., Photoplace Gallery, 3 Park Street. Opening reception for the show "Water."

**"A CHRISTMAS CAROL" IN MIDDLEBURY.** Friday, Dec. 1, 7 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. Join Middlebury Acting Company for a new holiday tradition in Middlebury as it brings to you its imaginative and theatrical version of this classic tale. Starring Jordan Gullikson again as Scrooge with a talented ensemble of newcomers and previous cast members and new updates. In the spirit of the transformed Scrooge, we offer this holiday show on a pay-as-you-can basis. Tickets \$5-\$30 in advance available at [townhalltheater.org](http://townhalltheater.org) or make a donation of your choice at the door.

**CHRISTMAS MUSIC NIGHT IN NEW HAVEN.** Friday, Dec. 1, 7 p.m. New Haven United Reformed Church, Route 7. Join in for a time of Christmas songs, readings and refreshments to prepare for the holiday season. More info: contact Liesbeth at 802-989-4139.

**BRANDEE YOUNGER TRIO IN MIDDLEBURY.** Friday, Dec. 1, 7:30 p.m., Robison Hall, Mahaney Art Center, 72 Porter Field Rd. This sonically

innovative harpist is revolutionizing her instrument for the digital era. Over the past 15 years, she has worked relentlessly to stretch boundaries and limitations for harpists. Her trio's Vermont debut at Middlebury will include jazz standards and original works. Tickets at [go.middlebury.edu/tickets](http://go.middlebury.edu/tickets) or 802-443-MIDD (6433).

**"POLAROID STORIES" ON STAGE IN MIDDLEBURY.** Friday, Dec. 1, 7:30 p.m., Seeler Studio Theater, Mahaney Art Center, 72 Porter Field Rd. See Nov. 30 listing. Post-show talkback and discussion following the performance.

SATURDAY, DEC. 2

**SANTA COMES TO TOWN IN MIDDLEBURY.** Saturday, Dec. 2, 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 South Pleasant St. Very Merry Middlebury 2023 kicks off in its usual fashion with Santa's arrival, horse and wagon rides, the hot cocoa hut and other festive activities in downtown Middlebury.

**ART ON THE TRAIL IN BRISTOL.** Saturday, Dec. 2, 10 a.m.-noon, Bristol Trail Network. Explore the world of nature and art journaling with BTN Artist-in-Residence Charon Henning. Bring a sketchbook with pens and/or pencils to begin your journal. Free, but registration is required. All ages and skill levels are welcome. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Email

[oddangelllc@gmail.com](mailto:oddangelllc@gmail.com) to register and for workshop location.

**SHELDON MUSEUM OPEN HOUSE IN MIDDLEBURY.** Saturday, Dec. 2, 10 a.m.- 4 p.m., Henry Sheldon Museum, 1 Park St. Admission to the museum is free and the model trains will be running from 10:30 am to 3:30 pm. The annual holiday trees and wreaths raffle will be on view as well as other festive activities throughout the day. For more information visit [henrysheldonmuseum.org](http://henrysheldonmuseum.org) or call 802-388-2117.

**TWIST OF WOOL GUILD MEETING AND HOLIDAY PARTY IN MONKTON.** Saturday, Dec. 2, 10 a.m., Monkton Town Hall, 92 Monkton Ridge Rd. Come and join us for a gathering of fiber crafting. No previous experience needed. We will be playing a game of Yankee Swap. Please bring a gift in a sealed brown paper bag (so they all look alike). The value shouldn't exceed \$20, and should be fiber related. Come even if you choose not to participate in the gift exchange.

**"A CHRISTMAS CAROL" IN MIDDLEBURY.** Saturday, Dec. 2, 2 and 7 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. See Dec. 1 listing.

**THE VERMONT MANDOLIN TRIO IN LINCOLN.** Saturday, Dec. 2, 7:30 p.m.,

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

MCTV SCHEDULE Channels 1071 & 1091		MIDDLEBURY COMMUNITY TELEVISION: P.O. Box 785, Middlebury, Vt. 05753		Please see the MCTV website, <a href="http://www.middleburycommunitytv.org">www.middleburycommunitytv.org</a> , for changes in the schedule; MCTV events, classes and news; and to view many programs online. Submit listings to the above address, or call 388-3062.					
<b>MCTV Channel 1071</b> <b>Friday, December 1</b> Through the Night: Public Affairs 5:30 a.m. Racial Disparities Advisory Panel 7:30 a.m. Congregational Church 9 a.m. Energy Week 10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 3 p.m. Montpelier Happy Hour 4 p.m. Memorial Baptist Church 8 p.m. Green Mountain (GM) Care Board <b>Saturday, December 2</b> Through the Night: Public Affairs 7:30 a.m. Dr. John Campbell 9 a.m. Energy Week 10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 4 p.m. Memorial Baptist Service 5:30 p.m. Eckankar 7 p.m. Catholic Mass 7:30 p.m. Racial Disparities Advisory 9:30 p.m. Montpelier Happy Hour 11 p.m. Gov. Scott <b>Sunday, December 3</b> Through the Night: Public Affairs 4:30 a.m. Dr. John Campbell 5:30 a.m. GM Care Board 9 a.m. Catholic Mass 9:30 a.m. League of Women Voters Speaker Series - The Electoral College & the Popular Vote		11 a.m. Memorial Baptist Service 12:30 p.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 3 p.m. Montpelier Happy Hour 4 p.m. Congregational Service 6:30 p.m. Eckankar 7 p.m. Catholic Mass 7:30 p.m. Electoral College/Popular Vote 8:35 p.m. Selectboard <b>Monday, December 4</b> Through the Night: Public Affairs 5 a.m. Press Conf., Public Affairs 10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 2:30 p.m. Racial Disparities Advisory 4:30 p.m. Press Conf., Public Affairs 9:30 p.m. Eckankar 10 p.m. Electoral College/Popular Vote <b>Tuesday, December 5</b> Through the Night: Public Affairs 5:30 a.m. Electoral College/Popular Vote 6:35 a.m. Montpelier Happy Hour, Public Affairs 9:30 a.m. Eckankar 10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 3 p.m. Energy Week 4 p.m. Congregational Service 7 p.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs <b>Wednesday, December 6</b> Through the Night: Public Affairs 6:30 a.m. Energy Week 7:30 a.m. Memorial Baptist Service 9:30 a.m. Catholic Mass 10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs		2:30 p.m. GM Care Board 6 p.m. Gov. Scott 7 p.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs <b>Thursday, December 7</b> Through the Night: Public Affairs 5 a.m. Selectboard 8 a.m. Congregational Service 12 p.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 8:30 p.m. Montpelier Happy Hour 9:30 p.m. Eckankar 10 p.m. Dr. John Campbell <b>MCTV Channel 1091</b> <b>Friday, December 1</b> 5 a.m. All Things LGBTQ 6 a.m. Poets & Authors 9 a.m. Food & Cooking Programs 1 p.m. School Board Meetings 5:50 p.m. Brattleboro Literary Festival 7 a.m. All Things LGBTQ 7:45 a.m. Moccasin Tracks 10 a.m. Yoga 11 a.m. Food & Cooking Programs 12 p.m. School Board Meetings 4 p.m. Green Mountain Book Festival 8 p.m. All Brains Belong VT 9 p.m. Poets and Authors <b>Saturday, December 2</b> 6 a.m. Tip Top Couture Fall Fashion Show 7 a.m. All Things LGBTQ 7:45 a.m. Moccasin Tracks		9 a.m. School Board Meeting/s 3 p.m. All Brains Belong 4 p.m. SnapShot - South Korean Cinema 5:30 p.m. Alfred Hitchcock &The Art Of Suspense 7:06 p.m. Moccasin Tracks - Rick Hunt 7:46 p.m. Bridgeside Books 8:01 p.m. First Tuesdays - The Lobby of The Dream Hotel 9 p.m. The Harvard Computers: Hidden Figures In Astronomy <b>Sunday, December 3</b> 6 a.m. Alfred Hitchcock 7:36 a.m. The Lobby of The Dream Hotel 8:31 a.m. SEPAC - How We Teach Literacy 10:04 a.m. School Board Meeting/s 4:30 p.m. Tip Top Couture 5:30 p.m. All Things LGBTQ 6:15 p.m. Moccasin Tracks 6:30 p.m. St. Johnsbury 1850 Band 8:01 p.m. Maiden Vermont 9:20 p.m. South Korean Cinema <b>Monday, December 4</b> 6 a.m. The Harvard Computers 6:57 a.m. FMP Night Owl Club 7:58 a.m. St Johnsbury Academy Fall Concert 9:02 a.m. School Board Meeting/s 3 p.m. Tip Top Couture 4 p.m. Maiden Vermont		5:20 p.m. FMP Night Owl Club 7 p.m. How We Teach Reading 8:33 p.m. All Brains Belong Vermont 9:30 p.m. State Board of Education 11:06 p.m. Poets and Authors <b>Tuesday, December 5</b> 5 a.m. Music in the Morning 7 a.m. All Things LGBTQ 7:45 a.m. Moccasin Tracks 10 a.m. Yoga 11 a.m. Food & Cooking Programs 12 p.m. School Board Meetings 4 p.m. Green Mountain Book Festival 8 p.m. All Brains Belong VT <b>Wednesday, December 6</b> 6 a.m. Chair Yoga 7 a.m. Green Mountain Book Festival 12 p.m. State Board of Education 1:36 p.m. Alfred Hitchcock 6 p.m. School Board Meetings 10 p.m. Poets and Authors <b>Thursday, December 7</b> 5:30 a.m. Chair Yoga 7:30 a.m. Green Mountain Book Festival 1:24 p.m. Alfred Hitchcock 3 p.m. All Brains Belong Vermont 4 p.m. Yoga 5 p.m. School Board Meetings 9 p.m. Green Mountain Book Festival	



Burnham Hall, 52 E. River Rd. The trio of Matt Flinner, Will Patton and Jamie Masfield brings together three of Vermont's finest mandolinists for a rare evening of bluegrass, jazz and roots music in the unique setting of three mandolins. Joined by one of the best bassist around, Pat Melvin, the group performs music of Bill Monroe, Django Reinhardt, J.S. Bach, and everything in between, all with the flair of virtuosity and originality. Doors open at 7 p.m. Refreshments available. Tickets a general to generous sliding scale fee \$15/\$20/\$25 or pay what you can, available at burnhampresents.org.

**"POLAROID STORIES" ON STAGE IN MIDDLEBURY.** Saturday, Dec. 2, 2 and 7:30 p.m., Seeler Studio Theater, Mahaney Art Center, 72 Porter Field Rd. See Nov. 30 listing.

## SUNDAY, DEC. 3

**VERMONT TROMBONE CHOIR IN VERGENNES.** Sunday, Dec. 3, 2 p.m., Vergennes Opera house, 120 Main St. Led by Robert Wigness, professor emeritus at UVM, this ensemble of amazing trombonists welcomes the holiday season with flair. Tickets \$15 adults/\$5 students, available at vergennesoperahouse.org.

**"A CHRISTMAS CAROL" IN MIDDLEBURY.** 2 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. See Dec. 1 listing.

**DEAD CREEK REEDS IN MIDDLEBURY.** Sunday, Dec. 3, 2 p.m., The Residence at Otter Creek, 350 Lodge Rd. Free and open to the public.

**"FROM SPAIN WITH LOVE" IN MIDDLEBURY.** Sunday, Dec. 3, 2

p.m., Champlain Valley Unitarian Universalist Society, 2 Duane Ct. The Opera Company of Middlebury's Youth Opera Company in Midd will present its first program as a merged organization in a semi-staged production that weaves Spanish and Latin American art song with selections from Zarzuela, the Spanish operetta genre, into a story of love lost and found in a village in 1950s Spain. Admission is by donation to OCM's educational programs.

**MIDDLEBURY COMMUNITY CHORUS CONCERT IN MIDDLEBURY.** Sunday, Dec. 3, 5 p.m., Robison Hall, Mahaney Arts Center, 72 Porter Field Rd. Come hear the beloved Community Chorus sing many favorites and new pieces under the direction of Ronnie Romano '20. Featuring voices from the campus and community joined in song. Watch the livestream of the performance at youtube.com/@robisonhall. Free.

## MONDAY, DEC. 4

**AUDITIONS FOR "VANYA AND SONIA AND MASHA AND SPIKE" IN MIDDLEBURY.** Monday, Dec. 4, 7-9 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. The Middlebury Community Players hold open auditions for this comedy by Christopher Durang involving late-middle-aged siblings Vanya and Sonia who bicker and complain about the circumstances

of their lives in Bucks County, Penn., when suddenly their movie-star sister, Masha, swoops in with her new 20-something boy toy, Spike. More info at middleburycommunityplayers.org/vanya-sonia-masha-spike-winter-2024.

## TUESDAY, DEC. 5

**GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB HIKE IN WARREN.** Tuesday, Dec. 5, Mad River Glen to Stark's Nest. Beautiful open views, strenuous hike, 5 miles round trip with 2,000-foot vertical gain. Microspikes and/or snowshoes are required. Contact Morris Earle at morrisearle@gmail.com, or 802-734-0984 for information or to register. More at gmcbreadloaf.org.

**POETRY READING IN MIDDLEBURY.** Tuesday, Dec. 5, 12:15-1 p.m., Feminist Resource Center, Chellis House, 56 Hillcrest Rd. In "Writing Without Apology," local poet David Weinstock will read from his work. A free lunch will be served.

**FRANÇOIS CLEMMONS TALK AND BOOK SIGNING IN MIDDLEBURY.** Tuesday, Dec. 5, 3 p.m., The Residence at Otter Creek, 350 Lodge Rd. Co-sponsored by The Vermont Book Shop, François Clemmons will discuss his book, "Officer Clemmons." Free and open to the public.

**"EAT, POOP, DIE: HOW ANIMALS MAKE OUR WORLD" IN MIDDLEBURY.** Tuesday, Dec. 5, 6 p.m., Reference Room, Ilsley Public Library, 75 Main St. Ilsley and the Vermont Book Shop present the next installment of the Vermont Authors Series with Joe Roman, a fellow and writer in residence at the Gund Institute for Environment at the University of Vermont. Roman's "Eat, Poop, Die" takes readers on a global adventure, revealing the remarkable ways in which the most basic biological activities of animals make and

SEE CALENDAR ON PAGE 15

# December in the Vergennes Opera House

**Vergennes Holiday Stroll**  
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**Fun throughout the city.**  
**Santa's Land at the Vergennes**  
**Opera House opens at 1pm**  
**VergennesPartnership.org for info**



**Vermont Trombone Choir**  
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# TOP PICK

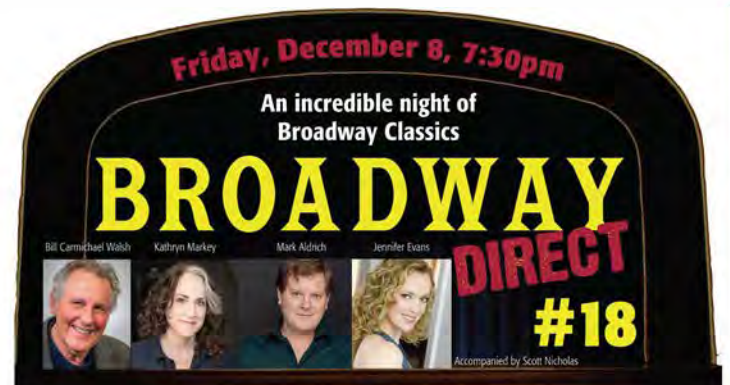
**WRITING WITHOUT APOLOGY**  
POETRY READING BY LOCAL AUTHOR DAVID WEINSTOCK

**Tuesday, Dec. 5, 12:15-1 p.m., Feminist Resource Center at Middlebury College's Chellis House**

David Weinstock lives, writes, and teaches in Middlebury, where he leads the long-running Otter Creek Poets workshop at Ilsley Public Library. His poems have appeared in Zig-Zag Lit Mag, Moment, Riding the Meridian, Modern Haiku, The Journal of the American Medical Association, Lyric, and Monterey Poetry Review, and in his chapbook "The Amalek Poems." The Otter Creek Poets workshop is free and open to all. To visit or join, contact david.weinstock@gmail.com. A free lunch will be served.



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PUZZLES

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ACROSS

1. Old English letters  
5. Sculpture  
11. Showing up again  
14. Tie the knot again  
15. Washington city  
18. Stiff structures in invertebrates  
19. Mark over a vowel  
21. Explosive  
23. Popular race: \_\_ 500  
24. Pile up  
28. Mint  
29. Commercial  
30. A minute amount (Scottish)  
32. Small Eurasian deer  
33. Baseball stat

35. Numbers cruncher  
36. Japanese masked drama  
39. Gasteyer and de Armas are two  
41. Blood group  
42. Assist in wrongdoing  
44. Language spoken in Cameroon and Chad  
46. Grayish-white  
47. A woolen cap of Scottish origin  
49. Microorganism  
52. Place under prohibition  
56. Calm, dependable  
58. Congressman  
60. Force  
62. As a result of this

- document  
63. One of two main branches of Islam

DOWN

1. Make a mistake  
2. Gordon and Snider are two  
3. Geographical region of Finland  
4. Ejected saliva  
5. A way of performing  
6. Scotland's longest river  
7. One of the six noble gases (abbr.)  
8. Body art  
9. Two-toed sloth  
10. Electronic counter-countermeasures

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9	10		
11				12							13	
14								15			16	17
	18								19			20
				21		22					23	
					24		25	26	27		28	
				29			30			31		32
				33		34		35				
36	37	38		39			40		41			
42			43		44			45				
46								47		48		
49				50	51				52		53	54
	56					57		58				59
				60				61				
											63	

		1						
	6	5	8		4			
4				7	5			
		7	4					5
				9				3
	8							
9	3				8		7	4
		2		4	9			1
					2	6		

Sudoku

Each Sudoku puzzle consists of a 9x9 grid that has been subdivided into nine smaller grids of 3x3 squares. To solve the puzzle each row, column and box must contain each of the numbers 1 to 9. Puzzles come in three grades: easy, medium and difficult.

Level: Medium

12. Foolish person (Brit.)  
13. Of the wind  
16. Grand home  
17. Sound  
20. English river  
22. Symbol indicating ownership  
25. Exclamation of surprise  
26. Pouch  
27. Apart from  
29. Satisfaction
31. The bill in a restaurant  
34. Sea bream  
36. Port in southern Japan  
37. Double-reed instruments  
38. Center  
40. South Dakota  
43. An orderly crowd  
45. Indicates position  
48. \_\_-pedi  
50. Nonsense (slang)
51. Republic of Ireland  
53. Nocturnal flyers  
54. American state  
55. Clusters in fern fronds  
57. Patriotic women  
58. A person's brother or sister  
59. Breed of sheep  
61. Popular film "Despicable \_\_"

This week's puzzle solutions can be found on Page 13.



52 Main St  
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(802) 989-7225

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Sundays in December!  
11:00 AM - 3:00 PM

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# Pet of the Week



It'sssssss Bobby!

Bobby is an albino Burmese python, and he is very, very big because I took very good care of him by feeding him well. He is approximately six years old. He eats frozen rats that I buy from a snake food dealer. He is 14 feet long and weighs 80 pounds. I bought him from a breeder, in Oklahoma, when he was just a hatchling.

**Frank Fuller**  
Essex Junction



**Pet of the WEEK**

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**Grey**

**Grey** is a 1.5-year-old who came to us in mid-November. He was so painfully shy at the shelter that we found a foster home for him to chill out in and help him get used to the transition to a new place and people. Grey is doing really well in foster with patient and calm interactions. He is becoming affectionate and seeking human closeness and attention.



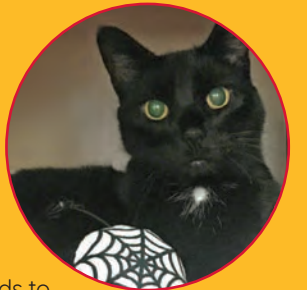
**Simba**

**Simba** is a loving, chatty 9.5-year-old. He loves people and high places and gets along with other cats. His most favorite thing in the world is FOOD! He recently needed dental work and doesn't have as many teeth left, but it doesn't stop him from chowing down!



**Zoe**

**Zoe** is a sweet and gentle 12-year-old. She is understandably nervous here at the shelter but has been very loving and talkative. Zoe has not lived with cats or dogs and has seemed cautious with the cats at the shelter. cats and dogs. Leroy is on a prescription diet urinary diet and needs to continue that in a new home.



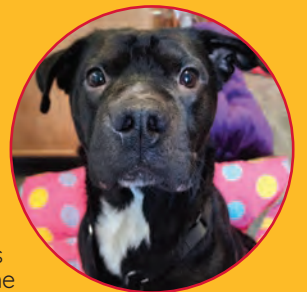
**Cassie**

**Cassie** is a 20-pound Jack Russell Mix. She is estimated to be 2.5 years old. Cassie prefers men over women and we think she would do best in a very quiet home with one person. She is scared of strangers when first introduced, but warms up quickly especially if high-value treats are involved. Cassie is housebroken and crate-trained. She is very treat-motivated and eager to learn new tricks. In the previous home, Cassie guarded some of the stuffed toys she had shredded, and guarded the family's young daughter's bed. For this reason, she should live in a child-free home. She does not get along with other dogs, but is very snuggly with her people and likes to bury herself in blankets.



**Enzo**

**Enzo** is approximately 2 years old. He is a 35-pound pit mix with a happy wiggly tail. Enzo came to the shelter as a stray, so we don't have any background information on him. He loves being around people, and will happily sit and give his paw for treats. Enzo walks well on a leash and seems to be housebroken. We are unsure if he can live with other dogs or cats. Enzo is being treated for his dry, irritated skin.



**Want to learn more?**

Call or check our website. We may have a pet for you!  
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236 Boardman Street | Middlebury, VT



# WHAT'S HAPPENING NEXT DOOR

## Krampusnacht presents stories of light & dark

Bald Mountain Theater will once again present "Krampusnacht" for the Winter Solstice at the outdoor amphitheater in Rochester on Friday, Dec. 8 and Saturday, Dec. 9, at 7:30 p.m.

An eclectic mix of original material and seasonal traditions from around the world, "Krampusnacht" will be presided over by Krampus himself, the dark companion of St. Nicholas who punishes naughty children in European folklore. Bald Mountain's most popular event of the year, this show celebrates the dual nature of the season — reflecting on both the longest night of the year as well as the hope of brighter days to come.

"There will be original stories exploring some of the darker and wilder elements of midwinter; a Russian folktale; and a musical blend that will include Georgian & Faroese folk songs, shape-note singing, drumming, and original songs," said producer Killian White. "This show provides a fun and

contemplative alternative to the usual holiday fare. Santa won't be making an appearance, but his colorful, mischievous counterparts from pagan and lesser-known Christmas traditions just might."

**"THE SHOW PROVIDES A FUN AND CONTEMPLATIVE ALTERNATIVE TO THE USUAL HOLIDAY FARE."**

— Killian White

This evening of story and songs is suitable for any age with parental discretion, but contains scary and adult themes. It will be performed outdoors, with bonfires, fire spinners, and complimentary treats. Audiences are welcome to stay and enjoy the fire after the show. Bring chairs and dress in warm layers. Purchasing tickets in advance is highly recommended — this show will sell out.

Performances will be held rain or shine. Tickets are \$15, available at [baldmountaintickets.ludus.com](http://baldmountaintickets.ludus.com). All performances at 185 Brandon Mountain Rd., Rochester or streaming online through TheaterEngine. Visit [baldmountaintheater.org](http://baldmountaintheater.org) for more information.



"Krampusnacht" will be performed in Rochester again by Bald Mountain Theater on Dec. 8 and 9, at 7:30 p.m.

PHOTO / ALBO SÜDEKUM

## FILM SCREENING



### LA SYNDICALISTE SCREENS DOWNTOWN BURLINGTON

Thursday, Dec. 7, at 7 p.m.

Main Street Landing Film House, Burlington

A political thriller based on a true story, Jean-Paul Salome's "La Syndicaliste" is powered by a towering lead performance from the great Isabelle Huppert. Set in the world of nuclear power and corrupt politics, "La Syndicaliste" follows the story of Maureen Kearney (Huppert), an experienced union rep who turns whistleblower when she discovers international backroom dealings, exposing secrets that rock the French nuclear sector. The story takes a harrowing turn when Maureen, fighting to bring the scandal to light, is violently sexually assaulted in her own home. As the attack is investigated, the police start to see Maureen as a suspect, not a victim, and she must fight to clear her name.

While Huppert's uproarious comic turn in Francois Ozon's "The Crime Is Mine" was a highlight of the 2023 Vermont International Film Festival, "La Syndicaliste" is an entirely different animal. Anchoring nearly every scene, Huppert delivers an intense, contained, beautifully calibrated and deeply moving performance... add it to the list.

For more information and to book tickets visit [vtiff.org/events/la-syndicaliste](http://vtiff.org/events/la-syndicaliste).









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**HUBBARDTON *NEW LISTING!***  
**17 COTTAGE ROAD**  
**MLS #4978398 | \$199,000**  
**3 BD | 1 BA | 1380 SF | 10.10AC**

This is a unique property and also a great opportunity. 17 Cottage Road is a converted barn on 10+ private acres. A truly peaceful and rustic retreat. The home has three bedrooms and one full bath with a soaking tub that looks out over your own country property. The original woodwork adds a charming touch, and having unfinished space for a future living space, workshop or studio is a fantastic opportunity for customization. A newer wood stove will keep you toasty all winter long as you look out over your winter wonderland. While the house/ barn needs some updating, it's a perfect project for those with vision.



**SUDBURY *NEW LISTING!***  
**669 VT ROUTE 73E**  
**MLS #4978332 | \$549,000**  
**5 BD | 2 BA | 3592 SF | 31.70 ACRES**

In the same family for 62 years, this charming farmhouse has been lovingly maintained. Sitting atop a rise on over 30 acres, on the north side of the road sits the house and 2 car garage (new in 2011) with lovely stone walls and mature maple and apple trees. Across the road is the additional acreage with original milk house-enjoy that meadow view with woods beyond or add an outbuilding. (or other development possibilities!). The home welcomes you through a covered porch into the mudroom and great room beyond. This part of the home was an addition, built by the McKernon Group in 1995. Loads of windows let the natural light in, and a soapstone wood stove keeps it cozy. The farmhouse kitchen was remodeled at the same time and has custom cabinetry and a beautiful fireplace. A formal dining room is at the front of the home, with bay window and fireplace. This leads out to the sun porch—a great place to read and relax! Other improvements include all new windows, and a new boiler and hot water heater in 2011. The house is conveniently located just over 5 miles to the Village of Brandon.



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info@ipjrealestate.com | 802.388.4242

**EXHIBITS**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

**PHOTOPLACE GALLERY**

3 Park Street,  
Middlebury  
For more info visit  
photoplacegallery.com.  
"Water," is a juried

photo exhibit that captures the experience of water: beautiful, wondrous, fearsome, or all of these. Juror Laura Moya selected approximately 35 images for exhibition in the Middlebury gallery, and 40 more for the online gallery. On view Dec. 1-22.

**SHELDON MUSEUM**

1 Park Street, Middlebury  
For more info visit henrysheldonmuseum.org

"From Homespun to Couture: Fashion in Historic Middlebury," curated by Eva Garcelon-Hart, features local advertisements, newspapers, fashion magazines, photographs, trade cards, catalogs, and all manner of documentation from the Henry Sheldon Museum's archives, revealing what Middlebury residents wore, bought, and sold during the 19th and early 20th centuries. On view through Jan. 13, 2024.

"Stellar Stitching: 19th Century Vermont Samplers." Features textiles as a learning tool through needlework samplers made exclusively by young girls in the 19th-century depicting alphabets, numerals and decorative elements. On view May 13-Jan. 13, 2024.

**SPARROW ART SUPPLY**

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# CALENDAR

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

remake the world — and how a deeper understanding of these cycles provides us with opportunities to undo the environmental damage humanity has wrought. Please enter through the library's front door.

**AUDITIONS FOR "VANYA AND SONIA AND MASHA AND SPIKE" IN MIDDLEBURY.** Tuesday, Dec. 5, 7-9 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. See Dec. 4 listing.

## WEDNESDAY, DEC. 6

**WINTER LANDSCAPE PAINT & SIP IN MIDDLEBURY.** Wednesday, Dec. 6, 6-8 p.m., Middlebury Studio School, 63 Maple St., Suite 8A. Bring a beverage of your choice to Middlebury Studio School Marble Works, and join us for a social evening in this fun single session class. Students will learn the basic elements of working with Acrylics and mixing primary colors as they paint the winter landscape. Beginner, 21+/BYOB. Cost \$45. Register at middleburystudioschool.org. Fee includes all materials needed.

**MIDDLEBURY COMMUNITY WIND ENSEMBLE IN BRISTOL.** Wednesday, Dec. 6, 7:30 p.m., Mt. Abraham Union High School, Airport Dr. The 40 musicians of the Middlebury Community Wind Ensemble celebrate many local connections in their winter concerts, including "Ilsley's March" to salute the centennial of Middlebury's Ilsley Library, "Madlyn's March" written by Vermont composer Ken Bagley, soprano Gwen Delgadillo singing two Gershwin favorites, and works by Debussy and Grofé that have been transcribed by two Midd Winders, Jack Clay and Jerome Shedd. Free.

## THURSDAY, DEC. 7

**ART OPENING IN MIDDLEBURY.** Thursday, Dec. 7, 5-6:30 p.m.,

Edgewater Gallery on the Green, 6 Merchants Row. Opening for "Reflections," a juried show of work by emerging artists. Free and open to all.

### HOLIDAY TRAINS IN MIDDLEBURY.

Thursday, Dec. 7, 5-8 p.m., Henry Sheldon Museum, 1 Park St. The Henry Sheldon Museum's model trains will be operating during the Midd Night Stroll from 5 to 8 p.m. with free admission to the museum and the store will be open for your holiday shopping. More info at henrysheldonmuseum.org or call 802-388-2117.

### MAKE A CITRUS STAMPED TEA TOWEL IN MIDDLEBURY.

Thursday, Dec. 7, 6 p.m., Ilsley Public Library, 75 Main St. Stop in at the library on your Midd Night Stroll and join in on an evening of crafting. These towels can be used like any kitchen towel. Everything you need to make a towel will be provided. Space is limited. Register at ilsleypubliclibrary.org/citrus-stamped-tea-towel or talk to Renee.

### "A CHRISTMAS CAROL" IN MIDDLEBURY.

Thursday, Dec. 7, 7 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. Join Middlebury Acting Company for a new holiday tradition in Middlebury as it brings to you its imaginative and theatrical version of this classic tale. Starring Jordan Gullikson again as Scrooge with a talented ensemble of newcomers and previous cast members and new updates. In the spirit of the transformed Scrooge, we offer this holiday show on a pay-as-you-can basis. Tickets \$30/\$20/\$15/\$10/\$5 in advance available at townhalltheater.org or make a donation of your choice at the door.

### JAZZ SHOWCASE IN MIDDLEBURY.

"CANCELED" Dec. 7, 7:30 p.m., Lower Lobby, Mahaney Arts Center, 72 Porter Field Rd.

## FRIDAY, DEC. 8

### HOLIDAY GIFT WORKSHOP: HANDMADE SOAPS IN MIDDLEBURY.

Friday, Dec. 8, 4-6 p.m., Middlebury Studio School, 63 Maple St., Suite 8A. Come to Middlebury Studio School in the Marble Works to make a special gift while you're guided through the melt and pour process of making glycerin soap. Add fragrance, dried flowers and color to customize your soap and explore the process of making a variety of shapes using molds. Register at middleburystudioschool.org All levels/ Ages 10+.

### CANDY CANE HUNT AND S.D IRELAND HOLIDAY CEMENT TRUCK IN BRISTOL.

Friday, Dec. 8, 5:30 p.m., downtown. Bundle up and head to Bristol to help Santa find his lost candy canes. Santa will be arriving at the Town Green with his friends from SD Ireland at 6 p.m. Prizes awarded to kids who find 10 candy canes, special prize to the person who finds the golden candy cane. Free and open to the public.

### "A CHRISTMAS CAROL" IN MIDDLEBURY.

Friday, Dec. 8, 7 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. See Dec. 7 listing.

### MIDDLEBURY COMMUNITY WIND ENSEMBLE IN MIDDLEBURY.

Friday, Dec. 8, 7:30 p.m., Robison Hall, Mahaney Arts Center, 72 Porter Field Rd. The 40 musicians of the Middlebury Community Wind Ensemble celebrate many local connections in their winter concerts, including "Ilsley's March" to salute

the centennial of Middlebury's Ilsley Library, "Madlyn's March" written by Vermont composer Ken Bagley, soprano Gwen Delgadillo singing two Gershwin favorites, and works by Debussy and Grofé that have been transcribed by two Midd Winders, Jack Clay and Jerome Shedd. Free.

### BROADWAY DIRECT IN VERGENNES.

Friday, Dec. 8, 7:30 p.m., Vergennes Opera House, 120 Main St. A holiday favorite produced by creator and Broadway Professional Bill Carmichael (Walsh). He brings his performing friends together for another powerhouse show to the Little City, featuring singers/actors directly from the Broadway stage, and some local student talent as well. Tickets \$20 adults/\$10 students, available at vergennesoperahouse.org.

### "KRAMPUSNACHT: STORIES OF LIGHT AND DARK FOR THE WINTER SOLSTICE" IN ROCHESTER.

Friday, Dec. 8, 7:30 p.m., 185 Brandon Mountain Rd. Performed in an outdoor amphitheater, Krampusnacht is an eclectic mix of original material and seasonal traditions from around the world presided over by Krampus himself, the dark companion of St. Nicholas who punishes naughty children in European folklore. Bald Mountain's most popular event of the year, this show celebrates the dual nature of the season — reflecting on both the longest night of the year as well as the hope of brighter days to come. Rain or Shine. Tickets are \$15, available at baldmountaintickets.ludus.com. Streaming available through TheaterEngine.com. More info at baldmountaintheater.org.



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The Bridge Restaurant, a long time favorite is now for sale! This property offers both a 1-2 bedroom home and a commercial building. This established family style restaurant is awaiting it's next entrepreneur. An updated 2-bedroom home is adjacent to the restaurant. There are many upgrades at the restaurant. This is an amazing opportunity!  
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Price: \$649,999      MLS: 4954360



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