

Joint effort

A Middlebury Studio School show offers art from instructors and students. See Arts + Leisure.



Immortalized

A Middlebury Hall of Famer was remarkable on the field and off. Read Karl Lindholm on Page 1B.



Winter Sports

Learn about the two-dozen teams competing at all four local high schools — plus team photos!

ADDISON COUNTY

INDEPENDENT

Vol. 77 No. 50

Middlebury, Vermont ◆ Thursday, December 14, 2023 ◆ 86 Pages

\$1.50





MOUNT ABE SENIORS Hannah Gallivan as the Fairy Godmother and Sarah Heath as Little Bo-Peep rehearse a scene from the Addison Repertory Theater production of "Adrian: The Alternative Panto" on Tuesday. The holiday play will be staged Friday and Saturday at the Hannaford Career Center in

ART goes slapstick for the holidays

Pantomime play uses British template ART actors this this weekend are taking their cue from Monty

By JOHN FLOWERS

one thinks of holiday-themed performances, the mind instantly wanders to "A Christmas Carol" or "It's a Wonderful Life."

But folks at the Hannaford

Career Center's Addison Python, rather that Charles Repertory Theater, known as Dickens. The cast and crew will ART, are straying from Christmas be staging what ART Director convention this year. They're Eric Reid-St. John called a "good thinking outside of the holiday gift box, you might say.

As a matter of fact, the young

ol' English panto" — panto is short for pantomime — that'll (See ART, Page 9A)

ANWSD mulls 5% spending hike

Towns' CLAs seen as pushing school taxes higher

By ANDY KIRKALDY

VERGENNES — The Addison Northwest School District Board took a second look at a draft Fiscal Year 2024-25 budget at a Monday Zoom meeting. Despite a confusing set of new state school funding laws — including new the district's favor. Because the ways to count districts' students, ANWSD board almost certainly

different methods of funding special education, and two new spending caps for district officials to work around — there are clear takeaways for ANWSD residents.

One is that it appears one of those spending caps will work in ANWSD officials said this will the district's favor. Because the probably mean an increase of

will next month approve a budget that raises spending by less than a 10% threshold, the state will cap the district's homestead property tax rate increase at 5%.

Although not set in stone yet,

(See ANWSD, Page 8A)

City voters to weigh in on fire truck bond

By ANDY KIRKALDY

VERGENNES — Vergennes residents next week weigh in on a proposal to bond for up to \$1.75 million, money that would allow the city's fire department to replace a 21-year-old heavy rescue truck

and a 25-year-old ladder truck. Balloting will be held this coming Tuesday, Dec. 19, in the basement of the Vergennes Fire Department from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

The face value of the equipment on the ballot is \$1.125 million

for the heavy rescue truck and \$500,000 for a used ladder truck, plus \$125,000 for radios needed for the new trucks.

That amount is already about \$600,000 less than a bond (See Fire bond, Page 14A)



MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE JUNIOR Irland Metivier explains the process of pollination to kids during the "Pokémon Pop-Up Museum" at Bicentennial Hall this past Saturday. Middlebury students highlighted to community members the real-world inspiration behind popular Pokémon characters through 20 student-designed exhibits. See more photos on Page 19A.

Independent photo/Steve James

Porter eyes a major makeover for its ER

Doubling of its size is part of the plan

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY Medical Center officials are busy planning the institution's top construction priority: A doubling of the size, hopefully within the next two or three years, of the hospital's Emergency Department

(ED) in an effort to make it more friendly for patients, their families and those who work there. Porter's ED underwent its last

substantial update 30 years ago and is in dire need of a makeover, according to Dr. Amanda Young, (See Porter, Page 20A)



Seems like everybody is talking about changes to Vermont's land use law, Act 250. The Vermont Natural Resources (See By the way, Page 10A)

Index

11101011
Obituaries6A
Classifieds8B-9B
Service Directory6B-7B
Entertainment Arts + Leisure
Community Calendar4B
Arts Calendar Arts + Leisure
Sports 1B-3B



Work begins on senior housing in **Little City**

Vergennes Grand build starts with bang

By ANDY KIRKALDY

VERGENNES well-attended ceremonial groundbreaking in mid-October, work began in earnest late last month on the roughly \$25 million Vergennes Grand Senior Living project in the heart of the city and residents can expect its next construction phase, beginning early next week, to be noticeable.

That elderly housing complex, when complete in a little over a year, will house up to 82 seniors, (See Vergennes housing, Page 17A)



Digging into the future

TOWN HALL THEATER Executive Director Lisa Mitchell and Middlebury College President Laurie Patton mark the symbolic start to the next phase of the Middlebury arts institution's growth, as they take part in a THT addition groundbreaking on Tuesday. See more photos on Page 11A.

Independent photo/Steve James

Fourth-grader wins OK to fly the BLM flag at Mary Hogan

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — Elias Urang delivered a master class in social justice and the democratic process at Monday's Addison Central School District (ACSD) board meeting.

And he's only 9 years old.

With dinner and bedtime beckoning, Urang appeared before the board to request that the Black Lives Matter flag be flown at Mary Hogan Elementary School, where he's currently a fourth-grader. He presented the ACSD board with a petition bearing the names of more than 100 fellow students who share his convictions and explained his rationale behind his flag pitch.

"Sometimes, as a Black student at Mary Hogan, I (See BLM, Page 14A)

Student survey explores energyefficiency efforts

By MARIN HOWELL

ADDISON COUNTY — Several students at Middlebury College spent part of their fall semester out in the community rather than inside the classroom, speaking with the owners and managers of nonresidential properties across Addison County.

The students were hoping to hear about the challenges and opportunities those individuals see in decarbonizing their buildings. Through their research, students learned about how factors like costs and building age can hinder nonresidential decarbonization

(See Decarbonization, Page 8A)

Beth Morse takes over Legislative breakfast series

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — Ironically, the coordinator of Addison County's long running legislative breakfast series — featuring lively political discourse about goingson at the Vermont Statehouse — was the person who spoke the

Jim Morse, omnipresent at the weekly sessions, would sit quietly County. Beth Morse called it at a table next to the moderator's podium, glancing at a timer, dutifully ringing a bell if the members the opportunity to lead, speaker exceeded the allotted two the opportunity to learn and the

He was content to listen, gaining "I saw (Jim Morse) as satisfaction from having facilitated one of those people the exchange of who contributed to ideas at a forum community in a quiet first established way that really helped by the Addison County League make our community of Women Voters stronger — especially more than a half- around having a forum century ago. for regular, civil public

always "He said, 'How would the (state) politics." representatives know what we unless

daughter, Beth Morse, said of her dad. "He wanted to be able to give people that opportunity."

discourse around

Shepherding the legislative breakfast series, along with leading Bridport Grange No. 303, will be among his legacies to Addison County. Morse died on Nov. 9, following a hard-fought battle with cancer.

extend and deepen Jim's legacies. Beth Morse has announced she'll succeed her dad in organizing the annual breakfast series, while also serving out his term as master of the Bridport Grange.

national organization was created in 1867 and gave rise to local chapters — including several in Addison a "community-based national organization that provides

ability to make a difference through community service, grassroots legislative advocacy, and educational programs." Jim Morse was

14 years old when he first became involved the Grange in Westfield, Mass. During the 1980s, he joined the — Sen. Chris Bray Middlebury, Vt., which chapter, merged

they talk to the people?" Jim's Bridport Grange No. 303 during the 1990s, according to Beth. The Bridport Grange building, located at 3015 Route 22A, is the last Grange-owned structure in Addison County. It has drainage issues stemming from water runoff from the highway. This has caused moisture and rot in front of the building, limiting its use.

An architect inspected the



LONGTIME ADDISON COUNTY Legislative Breakfasts coordinator Jim Morse recently died, but his daughter Beth, left, has decided to follow in his footsteps. Pictured, at right, is Leslie Morse-Jones, Beth's sister.

Photo courtesy Beth Morse

estimated I'd cost around \$200,000 to make needed repairs and make it ADA-compliant, according to Morse. The group's roughly two dozen faithful are committed to safeguarding the building for future generations.

"Members are excited to raise funds and open the building back up for Grange and community use," Morse said. "This was (dad's) dream, to be able to open the hall back up for things like a farmers market, to be able to use the full stage for things like theater and music."

And legislative breakfasts.

Bridport Grange customarily hosted the season's first breakfast. State Sen. Chris Bray, D-Bristol, has been attending the breakfast series since 2007. He estimates he's been to around 160 of them during his tenure in both the Vermont House and Senate.

Though attendance dwindled through the years, he still sees the legislative breakfasts as an important point of contact between lawmakers and voters.

'There are many ways for legislator to speak with constituents," he said. "To me, the best forum is the one where you sit down with a person and have a

conversation." He lauded Morse for having spent years rising before daybreak on cold winter mornings, driving out to the various hosting venues — largely a collection of churches, town halls, municipal libraries — to set up for the breakfasts. Attendees are offered food at 7 a.m., with the program beginning at 7:30 a.m. and ending at 8:45 a.m., sharp.

Bray said he admired Morse's subdued stewardship style for the long-running series.

To see this week's sales

visit middlebury.coop/shop

"I saw him as one of those people who contributed to community in a quiet way that really helped make our community stronger especially around having a forum for regular, civil public discourse around politics," he said.

Beth Morse continues to sort out the 2024 edition of the legislative breakfast series. At this point, she's looking at two Monday breakfasts per month during the legislative session, beginning the last Monday in January. She expects them to run through April, with a "session wrap-up" gathering in June, and the same program duration (7:30-8:45

Recognizing some folks would like to attend the breakfasts but are unable to do so because of physical frailty or geography, Morse wants to add a virtual component that would allow folks to watch live — and ask questions from wherever they might be.

The Independent will publish a list of the 2024 legislative breakfast schedule when it's finalized.

Once they kick off, it'll be strange not to see Jim Morse seated near the podium, eyes on his bell and trusty timer. But he'd undoubtedly be thrilled to see his daughter sitting in for him.

Bray is looking forward to the new chapter while paying respects to the former.

"The fact that Jim Morse organized these conversations all over the county, for decades, was a huge contribution to helping Vermont maintain a sense of community, and helping legislators better understand the people they work for," Bray said.

Reporter John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.

Company gets ready to bury power line in Lake Champlain

By JOHN FLOWERS

ORWELL — Elizabeth Frank enjoys a nice view of Lake Champlain from her Orwell

A wonderful variety of birds and jumping fish catch her eye. But something far more unusual — and alarming — has commanded her attention during recent weeks: A big red barge with a boom crane carrying large stores of what appear to be construction supplies and equipment. She said the barge temporarily stationed itself near the Chipman Point Marina.

Frank immediately wondered: What's going on?

And after some phone calls and research, she got the answer: It's related to a venture by Transmission Developers Inc. (TDI) — a subsidiary of the Blackstone Group — called the Champlain Hudson Power Express (CHPE), a project designed to bring renewable energy from the Quebec transmission system to New York City.

burying transmission cables in in Lake Champlain over the Lake Champlain, an undertaking summer of 2024 and the project

raised among concerns Addison some residents "Water and County who reside on the ecosystems lake and those who don't recognize use it for recreation. Frank doesn't

like the fact that on maps." Vermont wasn't able to weigh in on the CHPE during its permitting process

just because the project doesn't extensive environmental review bisect the Green Mountain State. Billie Coster is director of

planning & policy with the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources. He confirmed the ANR wasn't involved in the CHPE permitting process.

"The project is in New York, and we had no formal role in reviewing (it)," he said.

Frank believes Vermont should've had a seat at the permitting table.

"Water and ecosystems don't recognize boundaries drawn on maps," she said. "The environmental risks to Lake Champlain aren't worth it to provide the 'city that never sleeps' with yet more electric power to meet their enormous demand for more and less expensive power, so all the huge billboards, skyscrapers and neon signs can stay lit up 24/7. It feels so wrong, unjust and makes me sad to see that once again greed and power win and the natural world takes another hit. Perhaps the 'city that never sleeps' should turn out the lights and get some sleep; the natural world and all of us would be healthier if they did."

The project specifically calls for two, five-inch-diameter cables to be placed underwater or underground and run 339 miles from the U.S.-Canada border, south through Lake Champlain, along and under the Hudson River, eventually ending

Scan to learn more

middlebury.coop/careers

or go to:

at a converter station to be built in Astoria, Queens, N.Y.

Once built, the \$6 billion, privately-funded project is expected to transmit 1,250 megawatts of power — enough to power more than 1 million New York homes, according to TDI officials.

The company's overview of the project — including the route, economics and environmental issues of the undertaking — can be found at chpexpress.com.

The *Independent* reached out to TDI/Blackstone for an interview. The company instead requested that questions be funneled through its public relations representative. Here's how the company responded:

Q - When did the Lake Champlain phase of the project begin, and when is it slated to

A - Preparatory activities including various surveys and location of existing power and communications cables have been performed over the past Part of that project calls for few years. Cable will be installed

> _ is expected to be operational in May of 2026.

Q - Are there any environmental concerns posed by the project? Exactly what kind of infrastructure — Elizabeth Frank is being placed in the lake?

> The underwent

culminating in the issuance of all the permits required to construct the project. This review included studies related to the cable installation in Lake Champlain.

boundaries drawn

By using buried HVDC cables, CHPE minimizes impacts to scenic waterways and landscapes through which the route will pass.

Two five-inch-diameter solid state high-voltage direct current (HVDC) cables will be placed in Lake Champlain. HVDC is a proven technology and similar buried HVDC cables have been used worldwide for nearly 80 years. Some of the first commercial uses for HVDC cable dates back to the early 1950s, and many HVDC cables installed then remain in service today. The cables contain no liquids or fluids or moving parts.

Lake Champlain is the host to many underwater utility lines including those carrying Q. Did Vermont have input

into the Champlain Hudson Power Express project, or was it permitted exclusively by federal/N.Y. authorities?

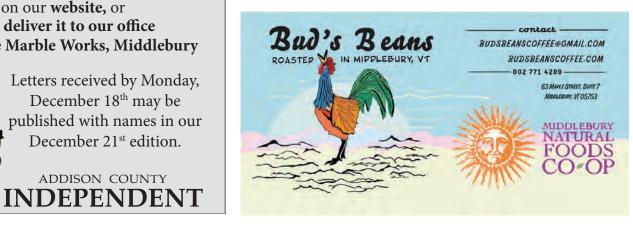
A. The CHPE project is being built entirely in New York and permits were issued by multiple New York State and federal agencies.

It should be noted that the CHPE development team does

CO-OP

(See Power, Page 3A)











Power

(Continued from Page 2A)

have a permitted Vermont project — the New England Clean Power Link (NECPL), which calls for burying two six-inch-diameter cables an estimated 150 miles, all in Vermont. Approximately 100 miles are permitted to be buried under Lake Champlain and the balance buried underground in existing rights of way. The line will end at a converter station to be built at a location in Ludlow, Vt., and connect into the VELCO transmission grid to serve Vermont and the broader New England market. Look for a separate article on the NECPL during the coming weeks.

According to TDI/Blackstone, potentially affected communities

will be given advance notice prior to construction.

Q - What kind of economic benefits might Vermont realize from the project?

A - CHPE will not cross into Vermont at any point, so Vermont will not receive direct economic benefits.

However, the project will result in significant carbon emission reductions, which everyone in the region will benefit from.

Pat Ullom and her family have lived on the lake in Orwell for the last 45 years and have owned the Chipman Point Marina for the

Like Frank, Ullom was taken by surprise by seeing the red barge lumber along their section of the lake earlier this month. She called ANR officials to get the scoop.

"What bothers me is that Vermont didn't have any informational meetings," she said. "Most people didn't know it was happening."

Ullom doesn't buy the notion that Vermont shouldn't have had a say in the CHPE project just because it isn't embedded in Vermont soil.

"It's one lake. We share the lake with New York," she said.

Ulllom is concerned about potential impacts to birds, fish and animals living near the lake. And she noted there's a faulty line under Lake Champlain. Ullom has experienced two earthquakes since they've lived in Orwell. She wonders what an earthquake might do to the transmission line.

"It's frustrating," Ullom said of her inability at this point to influence the project. "I can't imagine what this is going to do to the lake."

Reporter John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.



WORKERS ARE STARTING to mobilize equipment and materials for the Champlain Hudson Power Express project, a 339-mile transmission line that will lay cable in Lake Champlain to bring electricity from Canada to New York. This construction barge was spotted recently near Orwell, and some Addison County residents are concerned.

Photo courtesy of Elizabeth Frank



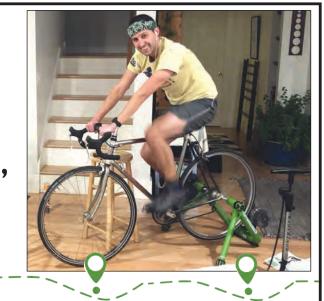
Ilsley update

MEMBERS OF THE public came to an open house at Middlebury's Ilsley Public Library on Saturday to learn about the institution's plans for a big makeover. Above, Chris Huston, an architect with the firm ReArch, explains a detail of the plan as interested viewers look on. At right, **Ilsley Executive Director** Dana Hart reviews plans with the architects during a session in October.
Photos by Joe McVeigh



Just keep pedaling and keep that tire pump close.

Happy Birthday, Brian!





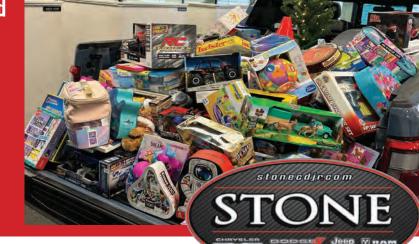






We would like to thank all who helped support our Stuff a Truck Toy Drive for HOPE's Holiday gift shop - 'It takes a village' and we are fortunate to be a part of an amazing village!

Happy Holidays from all of us at G. **Stone Motors and Stone CDJR.**



WWW.GSTONEMOTORS.COM



36 Boardman St., Middlebury VT 05753 802-388-6718 gstonemotors.com

2149 Rt 7 South, Middlebury VT 05753 802-388-9961 stonecdjr.com





ADDISON INDEPENDENT

Editorial

A local shopper's delight

Last Thursday's Midnight Stroll in Middlebury was a local shopper's delight. The downtown was packed with college students getting Middlebury Money and spending it in local stores; most of the downtown's businesses were open until 8 or past, and many were serving free cookies and various beverages. Arms were full of packages, restaurants were full, friends met friends on the decorated streets and good cheer was everywhere.

It's what shopping locally is all about — finding gifts for others, supporting those businesses and the local economy, randomly meeting friends and folks you haven't seen for a while, and finding joy in the season. It happens again this Thursday, and this Saturday the hot chocolate hut and other holiday festivities will be ongoing. Check the calendar of events, and the Arts & Leisure section in today's paper so you don't miss events like the return of Night Fires, as well as other holiday shows, that help define who we are as communities.

It's all possible in towns like Middlebury, Bristol, Brandon and Vergennes because of a few ingredients: organized nights and coordinated events to maximize the experience, including sleigh rides, Santa visits, hot coco and other events to make things fun for the entire family; it feels good to support local stores where you know the owners and managers; and the more local the environment it's a good bet you'll run into people you know which strengthens the community in profound ways.

Naturally, not everything on your shopping lift can be found in Middlebury, Bristol, Brandon or Vergennes, and it might be more convenient to shop online. But before you tap into Amazon, consider this: In spending your money, does it make a difference whether you shop locally or shop out of town?

Without a doubt, it does. Of every dollar spent locally, economists say 67 cents stays in the community. Conversely, of items purchased outside the community about 70 cents leaves the area. Plus, add in the multiplier effect and the impact of shopping locally is vital to keeping local businesses viable and profitable. Knowing that, a good question to ask is whether a gift purchased locally could be a better choice than one purchased out of the area.

For me, a walk through area downtowns is not only enlightening (I sometimes forget what a wide variety of gifts can be found) but infinitely more pleasant. Here are a few ideas I gleaned from a recent stroll in Middlebury

- Books at the Vermont Book Store in Middlebury or the book stores in Bristol, Brandon or Vergennes — for every age on your list. Few things could be better to give or receive.
- Fun gifts and intriguing cards at Sweet Cecily.
- Jewelry or household gifts at Addison West, Danforth Pewter, the new and now expanded Elli Parr Jewelry, and Autumn Gold.
- Outdoor gear at Middlebury Mountaineer or give the gift of an experience with a guided trip.
 - Art supplies at Sparrow Arts Supply.
- Middlebury College apparel as well as sports and outdoor gear at The Middlebury Shop. Bikes and gear at Frog Hollow Bikes.

• Fun and interesting gifts at the Stone Mill Marketplace (and have a

- glass of wine when the wine bar is open). • Fashionable women's clothing at Middleton in Middlebury, plus kids' clothing at Junebug, and several thrift shops that have become the new
- generation's go-to places. • Art at area art galleries throughout the county.
- Cannabis products at Flora (next to the Sheldon Museum), as well as shops in Bristol, Vergennes and Brandon.
- Video, board and many other games at the Game Store in Middlebury.
- Hundreds of gifts at Aubuchon, Martin's, Paris Farmers Union or Agway, and for patrons looking for consumables there's a wide range of prestige liquors and wines at Hare and The Dog (ok, most of those businesses are outside the downtown, so a short drive is likely.)
- If you want to ship a taste of Vermont to family or friends far away, try Middlebury's Vermont's Own, Dakin Farms in Ferrisburgh, Bread Loaf Farms maple syrup and other gifts in Cornwall, Shoreham's Champlain Orchards has gifts, as do most other area orchards and larger sugaring operations
- For an experience, get a few day tickets to the Middlebury Snowbowl or Rikert Outdoor Center (Nordic skiing, snowshoeing or fat biking), or for those who already ski or ride, perhaps sign-up for a lesson. And while we're outside of the downtowns, don't forget a membership at a local fitness center or ask about day passes, sign up with a personal trainer. Or perhaps look into getting a local massage at a spa or a yoga session at one of several local practitioners.
- Unique inns like Blueberry Hill Inn in Goshen sell their famous chocolate chip cookies and will ship them for you, and, for that matter, buying a weekend or mid-week stay to the Swift House Inn or Middlebury Inn, Basin Harbor, Waybury, Brandon Inn, Chipman Inn, Robert Frost Cabins or Blueberry Hill, or others, would make wonderful gifts — plus you can have visiting family nearby, without them being in your home! (Just in case that fits, of course.)
- And for those folks who don't need anything, or so they say, buy a gift card at the Marquis Theater, most retail stores, and all local restaurants. Or you can buy local merchant money — Bristol Bucks, Middlebury Money, or Vergennes Green — from local banks, which allows the recipient to shop in any local store of their choice to get precisely what they want.

If you're still stuck, or maybe you want to add a small gift to the others, here's one last idea: For friends and family buy a subscription to the Addison Independent — that helps build community, too, and keeps the

local newspaper delivering the news you need and want. Whatever you do, shop local. It's the best bang for the buck.

Angelo Lynn

Great dame

IT'S TRADITIONAL FOR a humorous English panto play, which mixes slapstick humor, music, quick costume changes and witty conversation with the audience, to include a man playing an English dame in drag. In the Addison Repertory Theater's panto, "Adrian," which will be staged this weekend, Middlebury Union High School senior Benjo Torres does the honor with his portrayal of Dame Drippington. Independent photo/Steve James

The piano can be a refuge

Ways of

Seeing

By Alice

Leeds

I rarely play the piano anymore, but there are times portrait hung above its low soundboard. Gazing at the it brings me home. If I feel lost, adrift or just in need of reaching deeper but there are no words that will take me there, I climb the stairs and sit at my keyboard, stretch my fingers along its ivories, and see what comes out.

For several years as a child I took lessons. My teacher, a former concert pianist from Eastern Europe, challenged me to the edge of my ability, taught me not just how to play but how to analyze a musical passage, had me playing complex classical

compositions. At formal concerts, students stood at her grand piano and introduced our pieces: "I will now play Piano Sonata in E minor by Edvard Grieg." We played to a

room full of adult strangers who sat in silence and listened closely and at close range. For a shy child like

me, it was beyond intimidating. It was terrifying. I was always amazed when my fingers emerged with Grieg.

This high-level classical training did not line up with my longings at that time. I was drawn to the free sounds of pianists who glided over the keys and made me want to sing and dance. I quit lessons before attaining any depth of ability.

My formal training ended there, but the piano remained. It released some inner valve in a way nothing else could.

Growing up, I often sat at our family's spinet in silence long before and after any notes emerged. It was my centering place. The spinet rested against a wall in our small living room. A reproduction of a Renoir

misty-eyed girl on the wall, I felt at peace. We were both dreamers. She listened without judgement while I played.

In college, I found my way into practice rooms at the music school and borrowed whatever sheet music students left in the piano seat, playing alone for an hour or so. It cleared my head and lifted my spirit. The college pianos were uprights with more resonance than our spinet. I learned to hear and feel the vibrational

quality of sound produced by various instruments.

A talented friend encouraged me to explore rhythms on the piano without worrying about notes. I tried that and found it satisfying. Plunking away almost randomly at first, I experimented with rhythmic

patterns until my fingers found satisfying or discordant intervals. Reaching across the full range of notes offered both physical and emotional release.

The house my husband and I bought thirty years ago came with an old upright. It had a rich sound, but several keys were broken. Their plunk was annoying. Eventually, we gave the piano away. I missed it and bought an electronic keyboard with the full 88. It has good tonal quality and mimics dozens of other instruments.

I feel creative when I sit at that keyboard. Sometimes I fool with its settings and experiment with the kinds of sounds and rhythms I can produce, then move on to explore whatever patterns emerge. I use what little I (See Ways of Seeing, Page 5A)

Forgotten date turns memorable

Mark and I celebrated our 29th anniversary this past weekend. Things did not go the way I had planned. We generally don't make a big deal of our

anniversaries, and I'm good with that. I like the idea of marking the date, but I don't see the need for a huge fuss, like it's some triumph after a hard-fought battle:

"I honestly never thought we'd survive being shackled together for yet another grueling year, darling, but we did it. We did it!"

I can always remember our anniversary date because our wedding was the one day in my life I got to look and act like a fairytale princess. (I assume Mark had a nice time, too, but when's the last time you heard of a man sending

his wedding tuxedo out for long-term preservation?) Most years, I wish him a happy anniversary first

thing in the morning, to allow him to save face in case the date has slipped his mind. This gives him a chance to say it back, or to go out and buy a \$9 greeting card inscribed with a bland, generic sentiment, to which he adds, "Love, Mark."

I've always found the card thing perfunctory, at best. I finally told him if he couldn't be bothered to write something himself, I'd rather he didn't waste the money on a card. So now he doesn't.

This year, we were having dinner with friends on

Saturday, which was Dec. 9. My friend asked whether our anniversary wasn't coming up, and Mark said, "Yes, on the 12th."

Note: Our anniversary is Dec. 10.

I could have corrected him. But in that moment, I remembered that part of the joy of being married

is sticking it to your life partner now and again. So instead, I said, "Wrong."

He was taken aback. "Are you sure?"

I sat smiling, delighting in the evil pleasure of putting him on the spot.

Our friends tried to help. "It wouldn't be the 12th," one

said, "because that would be 12/12, and you'd remember that."

He pondered that for a while and then concluded, "OK, but I'm pretty sure it's in the first half of the month."

I nodded.

Around

the

bend

By Jessie Raymond

"And today's the ninth."

"Yes."

"And I haven't missed it yet." "No."

But I wouldn't give him more than that. He was panicking. And I was loving it.

The next morning, I did not wish him a happy (See Jessie, Page 5A)

(See Letter, Page 5A)

Letters to the Editor School safety has eroded

As concerned parents, my husband and I have recently removed a child from a local school for his safety as the bullying, harassment and constant safety issues have risen and are not being dealt with. Schools are supposed to be safe places for our children to gain an education. As parents we put our trust in the schools to provide this. When constant emails come home about lock downs, fights, and other issues what are we to do? Send our children to an unsafe place where they are put at risk? I'm sorry, but I refuse to do so. It's time for the parents to step up and be heard. As well as the children who feel that they can't get their education safely. There are people who care ready and willing to listen. Anyone who would like to be heard please email tdddad@ yahoo.com. We are working with state representatives to make sure this happens.

> **Trinkett Tanner** Whiting

Education series earns kudos

I want to express gratitude to the Addison Independent for its reporting on children's right to a public education and the laws and safety measures that are in place to ensure that children accused of delinquencies or crimes receive education while keeping both them and all students safe.

Choosing to educate our county instead of fanning flames makes me very proud of this newspaper. Every day behind the scenes our schools are doing this work, and doing it with thoughtfulness and concern for all. Keeping children in their schools and communities while addressing the root of their behaviors is shown to be the most effective route to creating sustainable and lasting improvement and change for a child.

> Jennifer Wagner **Addison County Juvenile Public Defender**

City residents wary of blasting

I am writing in response to the article about the blasting and renovation at the nursing home in Vergennes. A story published on addisonindependent.com this past Friday about the blasting scheduled for this past Monday, Dec. 11, at the nursing home on my block tells us this, in part:

"Dan Hassan [the owner] said the first stage of preparing the site for the new buildings will be blasting 'ledge on the back slope, where the foundation of the new construction will be.' The sound and effects of that blasting will be dampened by large rubber mats placed over each detonation. The Hassans have also notified the roughly 30 potentially directly affected neighbors of what's on the way to allow them to prepare, for instance by taking antiques off shelves as a precaution. 'I don't think they'll vibrate off shelves or anything like that, but they'll certainly feel it,' Hassan said. The Hassans have also taken to social media to inform the larger community of what to expect."

I am one of those affected neighbors. So far, the Hassans' communication with neighbors has been less than complete, to put it generously. I had to pull teeth to get information. The Hassans have never been in touch with me. Only the survey company that was hired by the blasting company to survey homes around the blast has contacted me. When I had questions about this survey and blasting, I found the phone number of the drilling company in Maine and called them several weeks back. No one — from the blasting company to the survey folks — told me anything about risks to me. They assured me I would not hear it and that my house and possessions would be

ADDISON COUNTY **NDEPEND**

Postmaster, send address change to Addison Independent, 58 Maple Street, Middlebury, Vt. • 802-388-4944 • Fax: 802-388-3100 • Web: www.addisonindependent.com E-Mail: news@addisonindependent.com • E-Mail Advertising: ads@addisonindependent.com

Andy Kirkaldy Marin Howell Multimedia: Megan James Front Office: Vicki Nolette

Editor/Publisher: Angelo S. Lynn Assistant Editor: John S. McCright Reporters: John Flowers Advertising Managers: Christine Lynn Jenna Hunsinger Jesse Norford

Business Manager: Elsie Lynn Parini Production Manager: Susan Leggett Graphic Designers: Advertising Representatives Tom Van Sant Sue Miller Circulation: Harris Gerner Driver: Dennis Smith















SUBSCRIPTION RATES: In State — 0 Months \$30.00, 1 real \$30.00, 2 years \$30.00. Out of state — 0 months \$47.00, 1 Year \$60.00, 2 years \$110. All print subscriptions include online access. Discounted rate for Senior Citizens, call for details, 802-388-4944. Online Only — 1 Week \$3.00, 1 Month \$6.00, 6 Months \$25.00, 1 Year \$44.00

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

The Addison Independent USPS 005-380

Letters to the Editor

Vergennes needs a truck traffic solution — fast

Faith Terry's letter printed in the Dec. 7 edition should be a wake-up call for all Vermont politicians who have the power to do something about the trailer traffic through downtown Vergennes. As a relatively new Vergennes resident, I was surprised to learn that the situation has been a longfestering issue that is getting progressively worse.

As the Burlington area experiences significant growth, where most of these trucks appear to be headed, the need for a solution becomes increasingly more urgent. I have been told there is no operative weigh station along the route these trucks take. Any observer can see

that many of these trucks are very heavily laden.

The Planning Environment Linkages Study, which is gathering preferences for a list of possible solutions, has been years in collecting data and does not have the mandate to make anything happen. Their findings will eventually be turned over to those who can do something, i.e. Gov. Scott and his transportation chief, our senators and representatives. Any permanent solution will obviously involve millions for road construction and a new Otter Creek bridge. Vermont most likely does not have the funds that will be needed, hence federal grants will be required.

Do we really have the time for a solution to be accomplished many years in the future? Heavy tractor-trailers rattle the Otter Creek Bridge daily, as well as historic downtown buildings, adding urgency for a solution. Will it take a tragedy for something to be done? Is there a temporary alternative that could be found routing large tractortrailers on other roads other than north 22A that connect to Route

Let the politicians know your concerns. A temporary or permanent solution needs to have their priority.

Ellen Wullschleger Vergennes

Ceasefire with Hamas would send wrong message

A ceasefire in Israel at this time would send the wrong message to all terrorist attack innocent Jewish/Israeli citizens as they did on October Israel for a ceasefire instead of started this ugly war, broke a long adhered to ceasefire and civilians. They are the reason that so many innocent Gazan

Palestinians are in harm's way. They continually use their They build their infrastructure this day they are firing rockets at Israel many times daily

All much-needed humanitarian aide would flow if there wasn't concern that fuel, food and water would just be diverted by Hamas for their terrorist activities and not shared with the general

public, as they have done for years. A ceasefire could happen as early as tomorrow if Hamas would release all the remaining hostages, surrender and give up all its arms. No country in the world would agree to a ceasefire with a group that holds babies, women, and the elderly hostage and continues to call for its destruction (from the river to the sea) until that group was destroyed!

> **Mary Greenberg** Monkton

Time for a regional high school

It's time for us to have a plumbers, nurses and other health conversation about a single high school/tech center for all of Addison County!

The demographic realities are teachers, construction workers,

at the high school level. This is where challenge the providing the technical academic and curriculum, social and mental health services, and professional instructional staff and facilities is the great challenge. lack The of students at the high school level makes it difficult to have enough students in a given class to afford to offer services. those Consequently, the variety of technical and academic class offerings we would

like to offer and

that our students need become too scarce and too expensive to run.

This is especially true when it comes to technical courses that focus on trades that are in short supply right here in Addison County as well as nationwide. We need trained electricians,

care workers like radiologists, for example. And we need HVAC technicians, auto mechanics,

cooks, assistants, personal care services and the list goes Unfortunately, the list of courses in our schools technical centers is not long and access to these programs is usually difficult from funding a transportation and perspective.

So not only do we have a crisis in quality providing education for our children, we also have a problem finding qualified entrylevel employees. To maintain a top quality workforce we need a top quality educational system that will

help our children be ready to go on to higher education, further technical training, or entry to the workforce to support our businesses and the Vermonters our business community serves. We need higher education in the sense of a college degree, as

Forum

This week's writer

is former State Rep.

chair of the Vermont

mechanic and taught

at a career center..

Dave Sharpe of

Bristol, who was

House Education

Committee and

worked as a

well as higher education that is required to be successful in the trades.

In my own trade, auto repair, the world has changed from the 1970s where cars had no computers, to today, where cars have multiple computers that monitor radar proximity to other vehicles, set and control the speed of the vehicle, deliver a precise amount of fuel and air to get the best possible mileage and cleanest air, to monitor tire pressure, and to prevent a car from running off the road. Cars are beginning to drive themselves and a growing number of vehicles are powered with an electric motor rather than the traditional gasoline engine.

The example of automotive technology above is only one example of the changes in nearly all the trades and we need to offer our children the educational opportunities that prepare them for work in the trades.

So, let's get real. We need to redesign our public education system, deliver the academic and technical programs that our children need. The first step is to design and build a modern, full-functioning high school/ technical school for our Addison County children. Let's get the conversation started and let's get the job done for our children, for our businesses, for our democracy, for our nation!

organizations. It would be a gift to Hamas and allow this evil entity to regroup, rearm, and rethe 7th. The world is now asking putting pressure on Hamas who butchered and tortured innocent

civilians as human shields. for terrorism under hospitals, UN schools and Mosques. To

from crowded neighborhoods, hospitals and places of worship.

Letter

(Continued from Page 4A) No one ever told me to take anything down off shelves (much less spoke of antiques). Did anyone from the Addy Indy contact any of those 30 neighbors? Or did they just take it on faith that what Mr. Hassan told them was true? I polled a few people around here, and I have so far found only two that were told about taking things off shelves. In fact, Mr. Hassan apparently sent out people and boxes to help pack up one lucky family. Not me. Other neighbors polled by me were shocked and surprised and had heard nothing about taking things off shelves.

The article alerts us that blasting could start on Monday, Dec. 11. By the time this letter sees print, that "Monday" will have been a few days ago. I have no boxes to pack in or time to secure precious items at this point. Why were some neighbors notified but not others? I am on Front Porch Forum. I have seen no information posted there about what to expect. What social media are they using? No one I polled has seen a thing about this in the media until the Addy Indy article.

Note, too, that I posted about this on Facebook. I got the worrying reply from a friend who lives near where similar

blasting took place off Shelburne Road for a housing development near the golf course. Her cement foundation cracked. She lives nowhere as close to that blasting as we all in the center of town here in Vergennes live with respect to the nursing home. I have lived through earthquakes in my time in California. The picture is not pretty. But now, of course, Mr. Hassan is on the record about his own concerns about damage. It might come back to haunt him. I hope everyone has had surveys done of your homes if you live

Marcia Merryman-Means Vergennes

Ways of Seeing

(Continued from Page 4A) know about harmony and theory to find a bit of pleasant or expressive music along the way.

Somehow the physical act of playing the piano, which involves the whole body, offers a kind of deliverance. When I build up inside, when the news is too much and I don't want to deal with the

daily complexities of my own small life, I can go places I can't get to any other way. I reach across a span of notes and bang out the chaos, the confusion, the hope. I search tentatively for whimsy and joy until finally a peaceful chord says it's time to rest. Riding out the emotions on my keyboard through the energy emerging from

my hands brings me home. It's an internal dance that makes me whole again.

Alice Leeds, of Bristol, taught in a variety of private and public schools and colleges for forty years. Presently retired, she tries to engage in some useful endeavor each day. She enjoys hearing from readers at aleeds@gmavt.net.

essie

(Continued from Page 4A) anniversary. Like a cat with a hapless mouse, I wanted to bat him around for a bit.

Lying in bed, he said, offhandedly, "Hey, you know what today is?"

Had it clicked? I waited. "It's the last day muzzleloading season," he said.

Ha. That poor sap. We had plans to go out to breakfast, and this is where I would get him. I would sneak away from the table and ask our waitress to, the next time she came around with coffee, wish Mark a happy anniversary.

Boom.

I couldn't wait to see the look on his face when I humiliated him in front of her. What a wonderful anniversary gift that would be for me.

Once we got to the restaurant, I charged toward the one empty booth. I needed to secure the rear-facing seat so he'd have to sit romantic with his back to the wait station. My scheme was coming together nicely.

I was about to slide into my seat when I came up short. There was something on the table: a large flower arrangement.

What was this?

Drawing closer, I spied an envelope among the blossoms. And on it, in Mark's handwriting, was one word: "Jessie." I gasped.

It turned out that on Saturday, several hours before posing as a contestant on the "Clueless gameshow Husband" with our friends, Mark had driven this bouquet to the restaurant, arranging with the waitstaff to have it ready when we arrived in the morning.

Caught off guard by this gesture/diabolical ambush, I said the only words that came to mind: "You [expletive deleted]."

Cheering, he ran a victory lap around the restaurant, high-fiving patrons before coming to sit across from me.

And there was more.

While the message in the card ended with the usual "Love, Mark," this time the words were handwritten. Over several paragraphs, they listed all the reasons he loved being married to

Reader: I cried in front of a restaurant full of people.

Fine. He had won — this time. But I promise: next year, I will have my revenge.

Applications open for Vt. Farmer award

MONTPELIER — Applications for the 2024 Eric Rozendaal Memorial Award are being accepted under a new timeline, Applications opened on Nov. 15 and will close on Feb. 29.

This is a change from past years when the award application cycle ran from Jan. 1 through June 30. Farmers can learn more and apply online at vlt.org/eric.

"We hope the new winter deadline of the end of February makes it easier for farmers to apply for the award, as their schedules get increasingly full later in the

year," said Vermont Land Trust Farmland Access Director Maggie Donin, who helps manage the award.

The Rozendaal Award was created to honor the life and legacy of Eric Rozendaal, a thoughtful and enterprising farmer. Known to many as the face of Rockville Market Farm in Starksboro, Eric built community with those around him.

After Eric passed away in 2018, his family and friends raised funds to create an award in his memory, which is now managed by VLT.

The first Eric Rozendaal Memorial Award was given in 2019 and the award will be given annually, through 2028.

Past recipients include Kara and Ryan Fitzbeauchamp of Evening Song Farm in Shrewsbury, Jennifer Rodriguez of Triple J. Pastures in Irasburg, Christine Bourque of Blue Heron Farm in Grand Isle, Amanda Andrews of Tamarack Hollow Farm in Plainfield, Tom Gilbert of Black Dirt Farm in Stannard and Corie Pierce of Bread & Butter Farm in Shelburne and South Burlington.

to the editor

The Addison Independent encourages readers to write letters to the editor. We believe a newspaper should be a community forum for people to debate issues of the day.

Because we believe that accountability makes for responsible debate, we will print signed letters only. Be sure to include an address and telephone number, too, so we can call to clear up any questions.

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

Your Partner in Eldercare



Our nurse Vanessa Wolff (left) provides caring support to every member of our adult day community.

Worried about an older loved one? We have the help you need.



112 Exchange St., Midd., Vt. | 802-388-3983 www.elderlyservices.org

New Haven, VT Homeowner **Recommends Bristol Electronics**

Bristol Electronics designed and installed a photovoltaic system on our house

in New Haven. We could not be more pleased with the staff and the installation of our

system. Right from the start we understood what we were buying and what the installation process was about. The staff filled out all the necessary paperwork required by Green Mountain Power and the State of Vermont. This in itself

made our experience with Bristol Electronics an easy and pleasant one. The installation was professional and clean. The service did not end with installation. We were contacted to insure that everything was satisfactory and if

we had any questions. We highly recommend Bristol Electronics.

Mike and Helen Hanley - New Haven, VT



BristolElectronicsVT.com

FREE SITE EVALUATIONS

Obituaries

Rose Sybil LaBonte, 77, of St. Albans

ST. ALBANS — Rose LaBonte of St. Albans passed away on Nov. 20, 2023. She was born Dec 28, 1945, to Arthur Sr. and Cora (Martin) Billado in Hinesburg, Vt. She is survived by sons James of St. Albans and Robert of Springfield; four grandchildren, Josh, Robert Jr., Andrea and Amy; plus several nephews, nieces, cousins. Rose was predeceased by her parents, brothers Wayne Sr., Arthur Jr. and James Billado.

Rose had a great love of teapots and collected several over the

A celebration of life will be held at a later date. ◊



ROSE SYBIL LABONTE

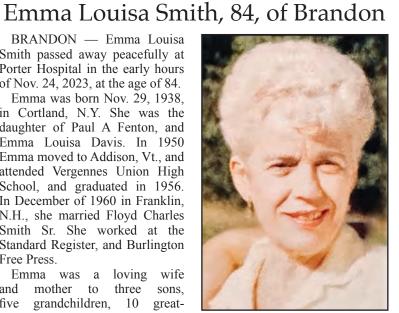
BRANDON — Emma Louisa Smith passed away peacefully at Porter Hospital in the early hours of Nov. 24, 2023, at the age of 84.

Emma was born Nov. 29, 1938, in Cortland, N.Y. She was the daughter of Paul A Fenton, and Emma Louisa Davis. In 1950 Emma moved to Addison, Vt., and attended Vergennes Union High School, and graduated in 1956. In December of 1960 in Franklin, N.H., she married Floyd Charles Smith Sr. She worked at the Standard Register, and Burlington Free Press.

Emma was a loving wife and mother to three sons, five grandchildren, 10 greatgrandchildren, and had many nieces and nephews. Emma loved spending time with her grandchildren, family, going on road trips, cooking, shopping, gardening, and fishing with her son, grandson, and granddaughterin-law.

She is survived by her sister, Mary Choiniere; grandchildren, Sarah Smith, Heather Smith, Tom Smith (wife, Crystal Smith) Cody Smith (wife, Rochelle Sargent-Smith), Emmalee Schroeder Smith; and many great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

She was predeceased by her parents, Paul A Fenton, and Emma Louisa Davis; husband, Floyd



EMMA LOUISA SMITH

Charles Smith Sr.; and sons, Bryon, Floyd, and Paul Smith. Services will be held at Sanderson Funeral Home in Middlebury on Thursday, Dec. 14, at 11 a.m., followed by a burial at Prospect Cemetery in East Middlebury.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to Homeward Bound, or Second Chance Rescue.

A special thank you to the outstanding team at UVMC in Middlebury for all the amazing care that they provided to Emma.

Online condolences at www. sandersonfuneralservice.com ◊

Maureen Burton Kane, 84, of Middlebury

MIDDLEBURY — Maureen Burton Kane passed away Monday, Dec. 11, 2023, at home in Middlebury surrounded by family and caregivers from Addison County Home Health and Hospice.

Being a family of Catholic faith was always number one in Maureen's life. With God's "help" she always made the "Impossible" Possible.

She was born on Jan. 23, 1939, in Ottawa, Canada, to her parents, the late Rose Alma (Lacourt) Burton and Arthur Henry Burton.

Maureen grew up on 182 McGilvary Street, located next to a historic landmark — the Rideau Canal. The canal flowed down to the center of the city in Ottawa, the capital of Canada and home of the R.C.M.P. (Royal Canadian Mounted Police).

Maureen enjoyed every minute of being a kid, skating and cross country skiing on the Rideau Canal with family and friends. In summer time the family always vacationed on a lake close by. Her cousins Carly, Paul, Irene and Judy were great companions swimming at Brentwood Beach.

Maureen enjoyed the competition in being the best in hopscotch. One year, she was the winner of a citywide hopscotch contest. Maureen's only childhood mishap was a broken arm. She fell off of the tin roof of an old shed while playing games with her brother Richard.

In school reading was always her favorite thing to do. She excelled in all subjects, graduated from Immaculata High School and won a two-year scholarship.

Maureen loved to downhill ski. She was a member of the Montreal Ski Club. She was working at the Montreal General Jewish Hospital as a Medical Technologist.

It was January and the ski club journeyed to Stowe, Vt., where Maureen met Frank from Unionville, Conn.

Three dates later they planned to marry the following April. That day in Stowe, neither Frank nor Maureen took a fall — however bother were falling in love.

In 1972, raising a family with children, they decided to move to Middlebury — half way between Connecticut and Ottawa.



MAUREEN BURTON KANE

Maureen was an early supermom, working nights three days a week, finding time for school events, volunteer work, making a family activity for whatever was in season — including biking, hiking, skiing or vacation.

They added another family member in 1977: Maria Susan Kane from South Korea.

That summer of 1977 included a six-week camping trip across the U.S.A.: Niagara Falls, the Badlands of South Dakota, Salt Lake, Malibu Beach, San Diego and a lifetime of memories. Don't forget Sea World with Orca whales!

Maureen was predeceased by her daughter Maria Susanne Kane. She is survived by her husband Francis Thomas Kane; daughter Patricia and her husband Jeff Kelley and their kids Connor, Megan and Sara; son Michael Francis Kane and his wife Jennifer Mooney and their kids Keeley and Althea; son Christopher Burton Kane and his wife Heather and their kids Lily, Chloe and Keegan; Brian Thomas Kane and his wife Julie Davies Kane; son in-law Robert Davinson and his and Maria's kids Alina, Amanda and Aiden; 11 grandchildren and one greatgrandchild.

A funeral Mass will be held at St. Mary's Catholic Church on Thursday, Dec. 21, at 10 a.m. Calling hours will be held at Sanderson Funeral Home on Wednesday, Dec. 20, from 4-7 p.m. Send online condolences at sandersonfuneralservice.com. ◊

Otters among us

By TIG TILLINGHAST

In winter, river otters head upstream into the uplands, seeking areas of fast-moving water that remain open — at least open enough for an otter to slip into a stream in pursuit of fish. You might catch a brief glimpse of an otter along one of these smaller streams, as I did years ago with my two-year-old daughter on the East Branch of the Ompompanoosuc

I found sign of otters the next year a mile upriver, as I stood on a rock in the middle of a frozen waterfall. While taking pictures of the icescape, I spotted otter tracks in the thin layer of snow,

leading to an open patch of water. Lines of four paw prints showed the tell-tale gait of an animal cantering, with dashes between each series of prints made by the otter's long, fat tail. Then, ploop: the tracks ended at a hole in the ice.

Like many other members of the Mustelidae family, including weasels, river otters have high metabolism. They need to eat 15 to 20 percent of their own weight each day. If, when it gets cold, prey becomes scarce in their warm season range, otters move. They are always hunting. traveling from marsh to

beaver pond, and up rivers to tributaries. You might identify them from the way they move: a hobby horsing gait, pushing forward from their back legs, often using their long bodies as springs, which makes their backs compress upwards before releasing. On snow, they will alternate between running and sliding.

On a pound-for-pound basis, otter fur has thermal protection akin to that of a northern fur seal. But air wicks away less heat than denser water, so in the bitter cold, the otters spend most of their time out of the water, husbanding calories. When it gets truly cold, when all the waters in the woods freeze hard, otters can starve for lack of access to the fish beneath. In the coldest times, they stick near marshes and areas of thick water grasses so they can punch through the rotten ice that forms there. Otter mortality in winter is high. Only about half will survive and return to lower waters in the spring; thin, but now playful in the revelry of open hunting waters and a more social existence.

The females will look for a the mother moves them to one Foundation: www.nhcf.org.

of several dens closer to water. There, they'll learn how to swim and hunt. Otter pups learn the best local hunting practices from their mothers. Ecologist Megan Isadore, who studies river otters north of San Francisco, found one otter who figured out how to hunt brown pelicans. The next year, Isadore observed the otter teaching her pups these unique hunting strategies — which are now being shared with new generations.

In Isadore's study area, where the temperatures don't vary much between seasons, river otters don't change habitats seasonally, and the pups remain with their

mothers for almost a

year. But studies conducted here, in northern inland climates, where winter food is scarcer, show family groups typically break up - which some speculate is an adaptation to cover more territory, increasing the likelihood of survival.

I take my kids a longer way to school sometimes, by a backwater where two mother otters return each year with pups. (This detour sometimes causes my children to arrive late, and my daughter, now 13, has suggested that I stop on the way home instead.) The otters may frequent this

oxbow because it's rife with invasive brown crayfish, introduced decades ago by the usual vector: bait buckets. An otter will hold a crayfish straight upwards in its mouth and let gravity push the food down its it rhythmically

maw crunches.

At this site, the otters stay until the ice thickens enough to prevent them from breaking new hunting holes. One group typically leaves a week before the other. In December, it's easy to spot where the otters have been, as their splashing builds ice rims around these holes. Then, one cold morning, the last mother is gone. In the night air, she moved overland, seeking the falling water that will keep the creek open. The pups will hunt the bottoms for a few more days, and then they, too, will move on.

Tig Tillinghast helps run a forest management software firm out of Thetford, Vt. He is a frequent photography contributor to Northern Woodlands. Illustration by Adelaide Murphy Tyrol. The Outside Story is assigned and edited by Northern Woodlands natal den to birth one to three magazine and sponsored by pups. Those young will stay in the Wellborn Ecology Fund of that den for two months before the New Hampshire Charitable

Janice Myrick Whitman, formerly of Middlebury

Celebrating 93 years | 1930-2023

CLEGGS MEMORIALS

Family owned and operated

Addison County's ONLY full

service monument company

WE DO OUR OWN

Drafting • Lettering • Sandblast

Cleaning • Foundations

Setting • Restoration

57 Main St., New Haven | 802-453-3433

ST. ALBANS/MIDDLEBURY - Janice Myrick Whitman, a longtime resident of Middlebury and more recently of St. Albans and mother to Barbara Sawyer, passed away Saturday, Dec. 2, 2023, at the Granville Center in Granville, NY.

A complete obituary with service times will be announced later in the spring of 2024.

Honored to be serving the family of Janice is Rett Heald of the Heald Funeral Home, where messages of condolence are welcome at www. healdfuneralhome.com. ◊

EXPERIENCE



JANICE MYRICK WHITMAN

William H. Moncrief III, 77, of Pittsford

PITTSFORD — William H. Moncrief III, 77, passed away Thursday, Dec. 7, 2023, at Mountain View Center. He was born on June 9, 1946, in Burlington, the son of Barbara Robinson Moncrief Stinson and Major General William H. Moncrief Jr.

He grew up in Bristol, Vt., before moving to Pittsford and raising two children. He attended Bristol High School, graduating in 1964 and went on to attend Norwich University, graduating in 1968. After graduating from Norwich, he went on to attend George Washington University, receiving a master's degree in 1970 specializing in Soviet Studies.

His early years were spent attending Camp Abnaki in North Hero and Keewaydin on Lake Dunmore. While at Keewaydin he went on many canoe trips. He worked for various companies including the Mary Fletcher business office, Dog Team Tavern, Keewaydin, Killington, and Montgomery Wards. In 1981 he started working for Reynolds & Son and retired in 2018. He loved watching sports, especially the New York Giants.

He is predeceased by both of his parents. He is survived by a son, William J. Moncrief and his



WILLIAM H. MONCRIEF III

children Chauncey, Vera, William Jr., Jacob and Jaxton; a daughter, Melissa Manfredi and her husband Tim and their daughter Arabella; and a cousin, Tyler Robinson of Portland, Ore.

A funeral will be held at Brown-McClay Funeral home in Bristol on Saturday, Dec. 16, at 10 a.m., followed by a graveside service at Greenwood Cemetery in Bristol. A celebration of life will be held in the spring of 2024. Arrangements are with Brown-McClay Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers donations can be made to Keewaydin Foundation. ◊

Rene D. Nill, 63, of Vergennes

VERGENNES — Rene D. Nill, 63, passed away peacefully after battling a long-term illness Saturday, Dec. 9, 2023, at University of Vermont Medical Center in Burlington.

She was born on Nov. 14, 1960, in Westerly, R.I., the daughter of Raymond and Harriet (Palmer) Root.

Rene worked as a special education paraprofessional at Vergennes Union Elementary School for over 20 years. She was a parishioner at St. Peter's Church. She enjoyed crafting, crocheting, camping and especially spending time with family at Lake Willoughby. We will all remember her Yorkie companions through the years that she loved so dearly.

Rene is survived by her loving husband of 41 years, Edward F. Nill, 61; her two sons, Edward R. Nill, 35, and Raymond E. Nill,



RENE D. NILL

30; her favorite daughter-in-law, Danielle K. Nill, 29; her sister, Debee R. Cote, 61; and many nieces

and nephews. Visiting hours will be held on Sunday, Dec. 17, from 3 to 5 p.m. at Brown-McClay Funeral Home in Vergennes. In lieu of flowers contributions may be made to Vermont Association For The Blind and Visually Impaired, 60 Kimball Ave., South Burlington, VT 05403. To send online condolences to her family please visit: www. brownmcclayfuneralhomes.com.



BROWN-McCLAY **FUNERAL HOMES**

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



SPREAD THE WORD calendar @ addisonindependent.com

TRADITION

Where Our Roots Are Planted

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

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



Getting into the details

ILSLEY LIBRARY EXECUTIVE Director Dana Hart points out a particular aspect of the plans for a rejuvenated Middlebury library ILSLEY LIBRARY EXECUTIVE Director Datia mail points out a particular appear of the plans.

during an open house at the Main Street institution this past Saturday. More than 90 people came to check out the plans.

Photo by Joe McVeigh

North Country Trail earns recognition

park last week, with the Dec. 8 designation of "Unit Status" for the North Country National Scenic Trail by the National Park Service. It is the nation's longest National Scenic Trail at 4,800 miles, linking eight northern states: Vermont, New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota and North Dakota.

Vermont became the eighth state in 2019 when the long-term goal of linking to the Appalachian Trail was authorized by federal legislation.

The trail runs through the heart of Addison County. It enters Vermont at the Lake Champlain Bridge in Addison, passes through Bridport and Weybridge and joins with the Trail Around Middlebury, which

Area Land Trust. It then crosses scenic public lands including the Moosalamoo National Recreation Area and terminates at the Long Trail in the Green Mountain National Forest.

The North Country Trail is built, maintained, managed and promoted by a partnership between the National Park Service and the North Country Trail Association, or NCTA. The NCTA oversees 30 volunteer chapters across the entire trail, and partners with eight affiliate organizations and numerous others. This network provides on-theground trail development and maintenance. In Vermont, partners include the Middlebury Area Land Trust, U.S. Forest Service, Green

Association.

Unit status provides the North Country Trail, as well as the Ice Age Trail and New England Trail, with official recognition within the National Park Service and access to additional resources and funding opportunities. This corrects inequity, bringing parity of resources with the other national trails like the Appalachian Trail.

'The stewards of these trails have called for unit status for 30 years, so we're thrilled by the National Park Service decision," said Andrea Ketchmark, executive director of the North Country Trail Association in Lowell, Mich. "This is such a win for us, our partners, and our volunteers, who work so hard to

Vermont gained its third national is managed by the Middlebury Mountain Club, and Moosalamoo build, maintain, and protect the trail.'

> Vermont's congressional delegation was supportive of the initiative, signing on to proposed legislation and letters of support.

> 'The NCTA is delighted to have Vermont in the fold after long years of work to achieve the connection to the AT," said Kevin Russell, NCTA board member from Waitsfield, Vt. "And thanks to the unwavering support of Sens. Peter Welch and Bernie Sanders, and Rep. Becca Balint joining their colleagues across the north country, unit status has been achieved, marking the third National Park for Vermont. There are hundreds of people from here to North Dakota who are celebrating this long-term goal achieved."

Lathrop pleads guilty in embezzlement case

Jodi Lathrop on Monday pleaded guilty in U.S. District Court in Burlington to charges of wire fraud and tax evasion, stemming from an embezzlement scheme that netted an estimated \$400,000 from the Claire Lathrop Band Mill in Bristol between June 2014 and April 2020, according to the U.S. Attorney's

U.S. District Judge William K. Sessions III released Lathron on conditions pending sentencing, which is set for April 1, 2024.

It was on Jan. 24 of this year that the U.S. Attorney's Office charged Lathrop with committing a scheme to embezzle from Claire Lathrop Band Mill, which did business as Lathrop Forest Products, a wood-logging and wood-chipping company and co-owned by Lathrop's husband, Jason, and her brother-in-law, Justin Lathrop.

Jodi Lathrop served as the mill's bookkeeper, handling accounts receivable, accounts payable and payroll.

According to statements made in court, Lathrop's almost six year embezzlement scheme included writing unauthorized checks from the CLBM bank accounts to pay her personal credit card bills and making unauthorized charges on CLBM credit cards to pay her personal expenses. For example, in July of 2018, Lathrop charged \$3,466.95 worth of household appliances on a CLBM credit card, knowing the charge was unauthorized, and had the appliances shipped to her personal home, according to federal officials.

Lathrop concealed embezzlement in several ways, officials said. She falsely recorded the unauthorized checks in CLBM's books as checks for legitimate business expenses, wrote false notes on some checks so they appeared to be for legitimate business expenses, and caused CLBM to file false tax returns that falsely deducted Lathrop's personal expenses as legitimate business expenses, according to court records.

Lathrop also filed false personal tax returns for each of the years from 2014 to 2019, and failed to report as income the embezzled CLBM funds — therefore evading payment of personal income taxes she owed to the Internal Revenue Service, according to court records.

The indictment alleges that Lathrop embezzled more than

BRISTOL — Bristol resident \$400,000 from CLBM during the approximately 270.5 acres of land course of the scheme and evaded personal income taxes amounting to around \$141,000, officials said.

> The actual amount of Lathrop's embezzlement and evaded taxes will be determined by the U.S. District Court at sentencing.

As part of her plea agreement, Lathrop agreed

she owns and to use the proceeds to pay any restitution she's ordered to pay the victims of her crimes, according to the U.S. Attorney's

Lathrop faces up to 20 years in prison and three years of supervised release. The actual sentence will be advised by the Federal Sentencing Guidelines and federal law.

U.S. Attorney Nikolas P. Kerest commended IRS Criminal Investigation, Homeland Security Investigations and the Bristol Police Department for their investigation of this case.

The prosecutor is Assistant U.S. Attorney Kimberly Ang. Lathrop is represented by Mark Kaplan, Esq.

ADDISON INDEPENDENT 50 Tears ago this week The 1973 oil crisis was at

ADDIS O NEINDEPENDENT

the front of everybody's minds 50 years ago this week, with speculation about the impacts of

daily life — and Christmas festivities appearing in 19 separate stories in the Addison Independent. Here are some of the top stories that appeared in the Dec. 13,

1973, edition: As OPEC embargo depleted gasoline 🖫 supplies across country, several gas stations Addison County reported running out of gas completely

as fuel suppliers reduceddeliveries increased prices. The Independent polled gas station operators in Middlebury, Vergennes, Ferrisburgh, Shoreham, New Haven and Bristol, all of which said they had had to start closing their pumps in the evenings and on weekends in order to make their supplies stretch. Prices, meanwhile, jumped to as much as 48 cents per gallon. Although one Vergennes business was forced to close due to the energy shortage, and gas station operators in Middlebury agreed to begin rationing their supplies, many of those polled remained optimistic that, at least in Addison County, there would

be enough gas to go around. County school districts debated whether or not to keep their schools closed for several extra days of Christmas vacation in order to save fuel. Faced with conflicting evidence about the severity of the fuel shortage, Middlebury and Vergennes districts decided to extend their vacations, while Bristol opted to reopen schools as planned on

Jan. 2. • Energy-saving tips abounded

as several columns encouraged readers to avoid short car trips, decorate with fewer Christmas lights, stock up on firewood, the nationwide fuel shortage on and give warm sweaters and blankets as Christmas

> gifts in response ongoing oil crisis. Christmas

celebrations

most of the

community

took

calendar Mount Abraham and Middlebury union high schools, Middlebury Community Players, Addison County Community Chorus,

many local churches elementary announced Christmas concerts. festive plays, caroling and nativity pageants to take place in the following weeks.

• The U.S. Department of Labor reported a continuing decline in farm-related jobs throughout New England. As of October 1973, 4.7 million New Englanders — more than ever before — were employed in nonagricultural jobs.

· Boom operator Stanley J. Phillips of Essex Junction died of severe burns after an accident with power lines while on the job in East Middlebury.

 Mr. and Mrs. George Devoid of Salisbury returned home unscathed after the cruise ship they were vacationing on ran aground off the coast of Florida. The couple were two of 606 passengers who were stranded onboard the Federico-C for three days until the U.S. Coast Guard could arrange boats to ferry them safely back to land. Mrs. Devoid told reporters that their experience "didn't discourage us any" from going on another cruise in the future.

– Emma Pope McCright



Advanced Hearing Technologies

www.advancedhearingofvermont.com Marble Works, 63 Maple Street, Middlebury, VI





ANWSD

(Continued from Page 1A) 7.71 cents to the district-wide residential property tax rate from the current rate of \$1.5411 per \$100 of assessed property value to \$1.6182

Still, homestead tax rates are likely to rise by more than that because of the district's low Common Levels of Appraisals, or CLAs. The Vermont Department of Taxes uses CLAs to adjust school tax rates to create equity among Vermont towns with varying accuracy in assessing their real estate. CLAs above 100% — a current rarity in the state — mean lower homestead school tax rates. Lower CLAs cause upward pressure on tax rates.

In the current year, low district CLAs — ranging from 80% to 90% of fair market value, according to state calculations — led to tax rate increases that ranged from roughly 14 to 25 cents in all ANWSD communities except Panton, which had the highest CLA.

New CLAs are not yet available: According to the latest information from the Department of Taxes, they are not expected to be released until after Jan. 1.

Board Chair John Stroup noted the currently projected pre-CLA district-wide \$1.6182 rate is actually lower than every pre-CLA residential ANWSD district rate between FY2017 and FY2021.

PROPOSED BUDGET

The lower expected tax increases come despite a budget draft calling for about 9% more spending — up weight to students who receive

around \$2.47 million to \$27,787

Factors driving spending higher include:

• A 16% increase in the cost of health insurance benefits.

• A 10% hike in transportation • A projected \$4,350 boost in per-

student tuition to the Hannaford Career Center. · Loss of pandemic-related

federal Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funding. • Raises averaging 11% for

teachers, plus more than \$4 an hour for support staff. Both increases are in new contracts and brought wages more in line with neighboring districts.

Pluses include a projected \$1.7 million surplus from the previous fiscal year. The board is leaning toward putting \$500,000 of that into the district's Education Stabilization Fund, which protects ANWSD from unexpected expenses during school years, such as unbudgeted special needs students. The board debated how to handle the remaining \$1.2 million on Monday.

Another plus is that ANWSD, unlike some districts, is not being hurt by the new student weighting system. That's in part because of its more rural nature, Stroup said.

Also, despite the fact a large senior class graduated, the district's weighted pupil count actually grew. The new law gives more

free or reduced-cost lunches. ANWSD Director of Finance and Operations Elizabeth Jennings said district food service staff excelled at making sure more deserving families signed up.

is going to

didn't think

this is going to

happen.' And

they're going

to pull the rug

trust that it is

everybody goes

going to last

five years if

to the 10%.

us. I don't

out from under

say, 'We

"We actually had a large graduating class, that dropped that (student count) number," Jennings said. "But we also at the same time had a huge influx, or increase, in our freeand-reduced lunch eligibility. So you get a huge chunk of money back for that."

Jennings the difference in students between graduating and incoming senior classes was around 30, while 70 new students were added to the free-and-reduced lunch rolls, more than enough to offset the loss of revenue for the lower actual student count.

Another takeaway, said Superintendent Sheila Soule, is that despite the loss of ESSER funding, the budget still supports needed Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) work at the elementary level and intervention and instructional services, notably to bring students lagging in math and reading skills up to speed with their peers.

Educators say the social isolation and educational challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic are still being felt by students, and it is critical to maintain those particular efforts.

Not all ESSER positions were filled, Soule said, although some "My fear is in interventionists were a year or two retained using flexible the Legislature special education funding. She provided on Monday

> was paying off. "They're catching up with their peer group," Soule said. She added the budget includes some support for the upcoming fall 2024 move of the 6th grade to the middle school wing at Vergennes Union High School.

> > described

to show math and

reading intervention

Stroup — Board Member budget priorities in an Mark Koenig earlier interview with

the Independent, also touching on the ESSER funding question.

'We're going to try to keep all the programs that we have," he said. "If we need some intervention specialists at the elementary level, and they were funded by ESSER, then we're going to have to pay for those. But we're not in the worst shape. We don't have massive amounts of people that we would have to cut."

BOARD DISCUSSION

Jennings did make a case for using some of the \$1.7 million surplus for educational purposes. She noted that increasing the budget would not affect the tax rate unless the district exceeded the 10% threshold. She said the board had slightly more than \$1 million of wiggle room and offered a variety of suggestions, including support for the 6th grade move, afterschool and childcare programs, and a number of facilities upgrades at Vergennes Union Elementary

Board Member Laurie Childers noted the 5% cap on a tax hike would hold if the district continued to thread the needle between 5% and 10% spending increases in each of the next five years, and advocated for more budgeted spending on students if needed.

But Childers joined others in also speaking in favor of taking care of the district's buildings.

Board Member Mimi Clark suggested after \$500,000 of the surplus was used to "top off," the education stabilization fund, the remainder of \$1.2 million could go toward capital improvements.

"It would make sense to me to use it for capital spending and make a lasting impact," Clark said.

Childers noted the Facilities and Finance committees had agreed on a \$4.8 million plan to improve and repair district buildings between 2024 and 2029. She noted that, with the ANWSD's Capital

Improvement Fund already flush with about \$3 million, an additional \$1.2 million would go a long way to that target.

"We have a plan in place to take care of our buildings that could use that \$4 million," she said.

Board Member Mark Koenig earlier endorsed Childers's suggestion about the \$1.2 million surplus.

"We're going to come to the taxpayers at some point for that money. If it's already in hand, then I would ask the taxpayers now if we could put some or all of it into the capital improvement fund," he

Koenig also said he understood the wish to add positions while the district could, but that he was concerned about a potential fiscal cliff when the 5% cap vanishes in five years — potentially sooner if too many districts spend heavily because of the cap.

"My fear is in a year or two the Legislature is going to say, 'We didn't think this is going to happen.' And they're going to pull the rug out from under us," Koenig said. "I don't trust that it is going to last five years if everybody goes to the 10%."

Koenig continued.

"I don't want to push it up close to 10% just because we can," he said "(The budget) is in a place where we're meeting student needs, and we can make a good story, a solid story, to the taxpayers that this is what we're doing, this is why we're doing it."

Decarbonization

(Continued from Page 1A) efforts.

Students said the project also provided insight into local climate work and how to collaborate on future efforts.

"The approach that we took was 'We're going to go out into the community and genuinely talk with people about where they're currently at, what they're planning to do, what are the challenges explained facing," Middlebury College student Josh Rosenstein. "I think that approach is really important if you want to actually create impactful change; just going in with an open mind and listening to people, and based on what they tell you, coming back to them with potential solutions."

2018 FORD FOCUS SE

4cyl, auto loaded, 70k miles

\$11,995

2017 TOYOTA HIGHLANDER

\$22,995

AFFORDABLE, SAFE & RELIABLE

USED CARS AND TRUCKS

We also buy cars,

locate specialty orders

& consider consignments

Call Dave for an appointment

how to address climate change. "Decarbonization" is taking steps to change the way a building gets heat and power so it puts less greenhouse gas polluting carbon into the atmosphere.

The research conducted by students this fall is part of a larger "Big Buildings Decarbonization" project led by the Climate Economy Action Center of Addison County, or CEAC. Through the project, the nonprofit organization is learning more about ongoing nonresidential decarbonization work in the county and findng ways to support building owners in their efforts to reduce their greenhouse gas

Middlebury College Associate Professor Julia Berazneva decided The challenge, of course, is the study would be a good fit for

LAST MINUTE XMAS SHOPPING

2012 TOYOTA RAV4

Sport, 4x4, Auto, Loaded, 100k miles

\$14,995

Wimett Trading

Michael Jackman, 51 Years Experience

David Wimett, 38 Years Experience

Mark Grant, 10 Years Experience

at the Big White Barn in Leicester

students in her Climate Change Economics class, which includes having students design and implement an original research project. Berazneva collaborated with CEAC board member Mike Roy to incorporate the study into her class this fall.

Roy worked with representatives of from the Middlebury, Vergennes and Bristol energy committees to identify building owners willing to participate in the survey. In particular, the group sought out owners of nonresidential buildings, such as schools, factories and office buildings.

Through the project, students were able to speak with around 30 owners and managers of buildings nonresidential the county. They spoke with

2016 RAM 1500 TRADESMAN

4X4, Reg Cab, Longbox, V8, Cap, 63k miles

\$23,995

2019 TOYOTA TACOMA

DB Cab, Longbox, V6, auto, loaded, 159k miles

\$27,995

802-465-4688

More than

a decade

interviewees about their current energy inventory, current and planned energy efficiency and infrastructure investments, and owners' attitudes and challenges regarding decarbonization efforts. **SURVEY FINDINGS**

Berazneva noted the class's research isn't intended to draw conclusions about nonresidential

"Moreover,

suggested that

particular, were

more prone to

having such

plans. Higher

foot correlated

with a greater

energy plan."

— Middlebury

Kate Burke

College student

likelihood of

having an

energy costs

per square

landlords, in

our data

building owners and their decarbonization work, largely due the survey's limited sample size. Findings also varied among each group of students.

However, students did have a few takeaways from their conversations with building owners and

Middlebury College student Kate Burke said her group found that those in charge of both paying energy bills and making decisions about efficiency energy were more likely to have an energy plan

to reduce energy use or change energy sources.

"Moreover, our data suggested that landlords, in particular, were more prone to having such plans. Higher energy costs per square foot correlated with a greater likelihood of having an energy plan," Burke

Burke added those findings could have practical implications.

"There's potential for increased adoption of energy plans by targeting individuals who handle both financial and decision-making aspects," she said. "Additionally, landlords emerged as key players, suggesting that outreach and support efforts tailored to their needs could be particularly effective. This could involve workshops, incentives, and recognition for successful landlord initiatives."

Rosenstein and fellow student Dylan Taylor found that the age of a building played a role in the owners' approach to making energy upgrades.

'We noticed that older buildings tended to focus more on climate adaptations, so they focused on weatherization, whereas the newer

buildings tended to focus more on climate mitigation and their energy source, renewable energies, energy Rosenstein storage," said. "Based on our conversations, thought that was due to the age of the building and the cost of doing that. It's really hard for an older building to restructure the entire building to put in an electric heat pump, but it's a lot easier for a newer building to do

CHALLENGES

Taylor added the pair found concerns greenhouse about gas emissions were uniform across the

for the future; for example, plans building owners with whom they spoke.

that."

"It's not that owners of older buildings care less about the environment. Rather, it's primarily a cost issue. There are physical and cost barriers that are preventing them from implementing more renewable or energy-efficient infrastructure," he said.

Taylor said that making available resources and incentives more well known to building owners could help further decarbonization work.

"We talked to this one small business owner about whether anything in the Inflation Reduction Act could help them, and he essentially said, 'I don't think there's a strong understanding as to what's in the IRA or other government policies, and not a lot of owners have the means or time to parse through it all," he said.

Students noted that outside of their survey findings, takeaways from the project included learning about the complexities of decarbonization work, such as

"I found myself learning a lot more about the practical constraints that go into decarbonization. We all know about the value of renewable energy systems like on-site solar, wind, etcetera, but less about how difficult it could be for businesses to implement it," Taylor said. "Even if they're bringing in seven-, eight-digits of revenue each year, their margins could be so thin that they can't justify a major capital expenditure like weatherization, insulation, putting in a new system."

Burke added the project also shed light on ongoing climate work in Addison County.

"What made this project truly exciting was the opportunity to collaborate with the community and engage with local business owners. Witnessing the passion within the community for climate change and energy efficiency was truly inspiring," she said.

NEXT STEPS While students have wrapped up their research and headed home for winter break, the Big Buildings Decarbonization study will carry

Roy is hoping to conduct more interviews with nonresidential building owners in the county. He'd also like to follow up with interviewees who expressed interest in continuing to explore decarbonization options.

"I was encouraged by the number of people who were interviewed who said they were both interested in having follow-up conversations with CEAC about things that they might do, and an even larger number that were interested in having round table conversations among themselves to see how they might learn from each other," he said. "If we double the data set and nobody else raises their hand, we still have an interesting number of people who want to continue talking and digging deeper into what's to be done in this area."



Give gifts that don't take up space. Write a song or craft a poem.

Make gifts. Do it yourself (DIY) gifts minimize packaging.

Wrap in newspaper. Use repurposed packaging to wrap presents.

Support Second Hand. Shop local thrift stores to support a culture of reuse.

Support a local tree farm. Natural trees should not end up in the landfill but plastic trees have to.



ART

(Continued from Page 1A) mix slapstick humor, music, quick costume changes — and even a dancing horse — to put Addison County residents into a merry holiday spirit.

The show's called "Adrian: The Alternative Panto," written by Robert Scott.

The side-splitting script comes through a British company called "Lazy Bee," which specializes in pantos. ART actors were busy earlier this week in dress rehearsals in the buildup to two performances of "Adrian," on Friday, Dec. 15, and Saturday, Dec. 16, both at the ART performance venue in the career center at 51 Charles Ave., Middlebury.

Reid-St. John doesn't want to reveal any spoilers, but he provided the following context for the twohour musical comedy:

"There's a fellow who lives in 'Panto Land' who bemoans the fact that he never gets to have adventures, even though the people around him do," Reid-St. John said.

He's given a chance to have those adventures following an unusual twist of fate.

Sharing Adrian's adventures are a cast of familiar fairytale characters, including Cinderella, Little Red Riding Hood, Belle (from "Beauty & the Beast"), the Big Bad Wolf and Jack of "Jack & the Beanstalk."

Reid-St. John and his students have made little tweaks to the "Adrian" script to make it more relatable to an American audience. For example, the ART actors won't be speaking with British accents.

"It tends to be a lot of work on its own to learn accents," Reid-St. John said. "They'll be speaking in their normal accents. We've with some of them portraying done our best to Americanize the vocabulary as well."

The goal is for "Adrian" to exude a cartoon-like ambiance — and not just any cartoon. If you're older than 60 (or have access to reruns) you'll remember the "Fractured Fairy Tales" cartoon segments that were part of the Rocky & Bullwinkle show on Saturday morning TV. These were essentially parodies of fairy tales, with altered storylines. Episodes included "Slipping Beauty," "Goldilocks and the Three Bears," and "Beauty and Her Beast."

This will actually be ART's second stab at a panto production, and it almost certainly won't be the student company's last.

"We performed one in 2019, and it was my intention to make it an annual thing. But then guess what happened?" Reid-St. John asked rhetorically, alluding to the COVID-19 pandemic that forced the curtain to remain down on performance stages throughout the



ADDISON REPERTORY THEATER'S Sarah Heath plays Little Bo-Peep in "Adrian: The Alternative Panto," a funny, family friendly play to be staged by a cast of Hannaford Career Center students this

"This was the first year (post-COVID) where we thought, 'Let's try it out and see if we can get it going again," he said of the panto genre, which includes occasional exchanges between the actors and audience.

Thirteen ART performers and techs will take spins on the stage, multiple characters. For example, Mount Abraham Union High School's Hannah Gallivan will portray the Fairy Godmother, Sleeping Beauty, Alice and "One-Eared Bill."

"That's been the fun part for our students involved in costuming," Reid-St. John said, stressing the need for quick changes in attire.

"We're calling them 'fairytale chic," he joked of the costumes, some of them colorful and flamboyant.

The entire two-hour play will unfold in front of a Medieval-era peasant village backdrop depicting Bavarian-style structures with halftimbered, exposed wood frames.

"There are actually some jokes made (during the play) at the backdrop's expense, that it never changes — even though the locale is supposed to change," Reid-St. John chuckled.

He's thrilled that the cast and crew are all hitting their marks as we approach showtime. He gave a big shout-out to the folks working behind the scenes, as the panto is a fast-paced affair.

"The technicians I have this year are amazing," Reid-St. John said. "They've finished most of tech elements already. These kids really knocked it out of the park."

ART students are put through a series of paces each academic year to develop their acting, tech and costume-making chops. They begin by staging a children's show, where they get to be bold and expressive. The holiday season gives the actors a more substantial project requiring them to commit to characters for longer stretches. They then move on to more serious, dramatic subject matter during the spring. This current ART cast will take on Shakespeare's "The Tempest" in the new year.

Sarah Heath, a senior at Mount



LITTLE RED RIDING Hood, portrayed by Ella Kozak, and Benjo Torres, aka Dame Drippington, are two in a cast of 13 players in the ART production of "Adrian: The Alternative Panto," a slapstick musical comedy to be staged at the Hannaford Career Center this Friday, Dec. 15, and Saturday, Dec. 16.

Abe Union High School, portrays Little Bo Peep and Belle in the panto. She's been in plays before, but "Adrian" gave her a chance to try something new. She and her fellow actors have been given liberal license to chat, wink or glance at folks in the seats — to great comedic effect.

"I like the part of how characters get to break the 'fourth wall' and talk to the audience," she said. "It's super fun. I think it's funny when they get to connect to the audience on a deeper level."

It's clear Heath has been bitten by the acting bug. She's planning further studies and ultimately a career in the theater.

"It's something that makes me happy and that I enjoy doing," Heath said. "If I could get paid to do that, it would be amazing."

One of the staple characters of a panto is "Dame," a man in drag. Benjo Torres is taking on that role for the ART's production of "Adrian." As "Dame," he'll have a lot of audience interaction. He's a sizeable young man, which makes his performance in women's clothing even more humorous.

And humor is the raison d'être for "Adrian: The Alternative Panto.'

"The humor in the show is over



BEA HOOPER, AKA Cinderella, gets into character during a Tuesday dress rehearsal for ART's upcoming play, "Adrian: The Alternative Panto."

the top; it's large and very broad," Torres said. "It'll be fun trying to figure out how to communicate the size of it in a way the audience can understand."

Torres is a senior this year at MUHS. He plans to take a gap year, followed by studies in writing.

Other members of the "Adrian" cast include Lucas Flinner (MUHS), Ella Kozak (MUHS), Bojan Harris (MAUHS), Bea Hooper (MUHS), Stephen Nuciolo (MUHS), Gabe Schmitt (MUHS), Jude Smith

(MUHS), Evva Dicovitsky (home schooled), Mirabelle Markowski (MUHS), Remy Howe (MUHS) and Arlo Leduc (MUHS).

As the *Independent* went to press there will still tickets available for both performances of "Adrian: The Alternative Panto." The \$15 admission includes a dessert buffet at intermission prepared by the career center's culinary students.

Reporter John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.

2FFFC12

GREAT STORIES, WELL TOLD

MONTHLY MOVIE SCREENINGS AT TOWN HALL THEATER, **MIDDLEBURY**

ADVANCE TICKETS \$14 AT THE DOOR \$16

GET INFO, TRAILERS & ADVANCE TICKETS AT MIDDFILMFEST.ORG



Immediate Family is the story of the brilliant session musicians who worked with the biggest stars of the 1970s and beyond: Danny Kortchmar, Leland Sklar, Russ Kunkel and Waddy Wachtel. They created the "Singer/Songwriter sound" and backed up iconic artists like James Taylor, Carole King, Jackson Browne, Don Henley, Linda Ronstadt, Warren Zevon and many more. An exceptionally lively and entertaining documentary, *Immediate Family* is a fascinating portrait of how this timeless and unforgettable music was made.











Police respond to missing decorations

BRISTOL — Bristol police on Nov. 26 received a report of Christmas decorations being stolen from a yard on South Street. Police are investigating the incident.

Between Nov. 26 and Dec. 2 Bristol police completed 26 foot patrols, conducted five traffic stops and checked security at Mount Abraham Union High School six times, at Bristol Elementary School six times and at local businesses five times. Police also processed nine fingerprint requests and helped one resident get into their locked vehicle.

In other recent activity, Bristol

• On Nov. 26 helped someone on South Street obtain legal assistance.

Bristol

Police Log

- On Nov. 26 responded to a complaint of a barking dog on Taylor Avenue. Police noted it was the owner's first offense and they issued a warning.
- On Nov. 26 responded to a citizen dispute on South Street. Police determined it was a civil issue and that no action rose to the level of an offense.
- On Nov. 27 responded to Lincoln Road for a report of a large piece of wood blocking a lane of

traffic; it had been moved by the time police arrived.

- On Nov. 27 enforced the winter parking ban throughout the village.
- On Nov. 28 helped someone get fuel for their vehicle on Route 116
- On Nov. 30 completed a crash report for a minor two-car collision on School Street.
- On Nov. 30 received a report of a threat on Airport Drive. Police found that none of the information they obtained rose to the level of an offense at this time.

• On Dec. 2 responded to a Munsill Avenue residence for a lifeline activation. Police determined the activation was caused by a phone line issue.

son was looking at inappropriate

material on his phone. Police told

her there were two reasons they

Thanks, Gov.

REPRESENTING THE ADDISON County Republican Party, Middlebury resident Tom Hughes, right, presents former Gov. Jim Douglas with a restaurant gift card in appreciation of his exemplary dedication to serving Vermonters over the past five decades. This past summer, the Addison County Republican Committee voted to endorse Douglas's effort to represent the Mead family legal case against Middlebury College for their decision to remove the name of the donor's family from Mead Memorial Chapel.

Vergennes Police Log

VERGENNES Dec. 4 and 10, Vergennes police helped several residents and the organization Addison Housing Works, took a complaint about aggressive dogs and mediated a family dispute related to rent.

SINCLAIR FAMILY

TREE FARM

Ripton, Vermont

367 Selden Mill Road, Ripton

During those seven days, city police conducted 14 patrols by cruiser, one property watch and eight traffic stops; responded to two false alarms; and also:

On Dec. 4, took a complaint from

PRE-CUT or YOU

CHOOSE & CUT

6 - 8ft. Trees \$27-\$59

could do little to help: one, the phone actually belonged to her ex-husband, and second, it's a civil issue, not a police matter. a woman who was concerned her

On Dec. 5, received an online complaint that two unleashed dogs near a Main Street apartment building had acted aggressively toward a man walking his dog. The man wrote he didn't recognize the dogs' owner, nor could he provide a good description because it was after dark. Police said they couldn't find the dogs, nor the apartment in which they and their owner lived.

On Dec. 6: · Learned that a woman who'd been dropped off at the Valley Vista rehab center had bolted before entering the facility. Police couldn't find her, but believe she might have made her way to another relative's home in Graniteville.

Conducted a background investigation on a job applicant.

On Dec. 7:

• Stood by at a couple Hillside Acres apartments while Addison Housing Works personnel did

couple retrieved their belongings.

On Dec. 8, confirmed for New York authorities that a car's defective equipment had been repaired, thus qualifying the owner to have a conditional fine voided

On Dec. 9, received another in a series of calls from a city resident claiming her apartment had been invaded by ghosts and spirits. Police have tried to convince the caller to seek counseling, but so far without success.

On Dec. 10, helped a caretaker effect the safe return of her special needs charge, who had wandered away from home earlier.

Accident leads to charges for driver

ADDISON COUNTY - After Monday morning's snowfall glazed local roads, a driver and her four young passengers found the car they were in sliding off Route 125 in Cornwall and flipping onto its roof, and the driver later found herself facing charges.

At a few minutes after noon on Dec. 10, Vermont State Police troopers responded to a report of a single-vehicle rollover crash on Route 125 in Cornwall at the bottom of the hill near Hamblin Road. Police believe that Samantha Burnett, 21, of Bridport was driving a 2007 Toyota Camry westbound on a wet highway in the rain when she attempted to pass another vehicle at a high rate of speed. Burnett apparently lost control of her vehicle, which then left the roadway and overturned Vt. State Police Log

multiple times.

Burnett and her passengers were all taken to Porter Hospital for treatment of minor injuries. Two of the passengers, ages 27 and 18, were reportedly not wearing seatbelts. Burnett and the two other passengers, ages 13 and 1 year old, were belted at the time of the crash.

While speaking with Burnett, troopers detected indicators of drug impairment. They screened Burnett for drug impairment, and she consented to provide a sample of her blood as evidence. Burnett was ultimately released with a

citation to appear in Addison County Superior Court, Criminal Division, to answer charges of driving under the influence of drugs, negligent driving, and recklessly endangering her four passengers.

She was also issued tickets for unsafe passing, unreasonable speed and driving without insurance, which together could care fines of \$602 and seven points on insurance.

Troopers were assisted on scene my members of the Cornwall and Middlebury fire departments, and Middlebury Regional EMS.

In the only other release from the New Haven barracks of the state police, troopers on Dec. 1 cited Logan Lewis, 23, of Bristol for driving on Kelton Drive in New Haven with a criminally suspended

some minor improvements, such as replacing fire extinguishers. VERMONT Police said AHW officials were Trade Winds Farm concerned some residents might be uncooperative. • Mediated a dispute between a woman and her boyfriend and the Fresh Maple Squares Fresh Balsam! Maple on Tap! woman's grandmother, who had & Maple Cream Donuts! Trees, Wreaths & Garland been their landlord and had locked Sat & Sun thru Xmas 1. Extra Golden 80 LT them out in a dispute over raising Fill your own 2. Amber Rich their rent. Police stood by while the Hot Cocoa 3. Dark Robust Hot Coffee

802-388-5499



4. Very Dark Strong

Christmas Trees & Wreaths, Maple Syrup & Sugar

Open starting Nov. 24th: Fri., Sat. and Sun. 9-4

Details at sinclairfamilytreefarm.com



884 Rte 74, Shoreham, VT (1 mile east of Rte 22A or 6.7 miles west of Rte 30)

By the way

(Continued from Page 1A) Board (NRB) will host an online public meeting on Thursday, Dec. 14, from 5:30-7:30 p.m., to present its draft legislative report, "Necessary Updates to the Act 250 Program." The draft report can be found at tinyurl.com/2ankhs47, and go tinyurl.com/4kx6hx5r to access the meeting. Act 182 of **2022** and Act 47 of 2023 directed the NRB to issue a report on Dec. 31. Among other things, the board has been asked to assess the adequacy of staffing at the district environmental commissions, whether Act 250 permit fees cover the costs of the program, consider proposed framework for delegating administration of Act 250 permits to municipalities, and determine if increasing jurisdictional thresholds for

housing development to 25 units would affect housing affordability.

The Starksboro Little Free Pantries (located in Starksboro Village and at the Jerusalem Schoolhouse) have transitioned to cold-weather foods only. That's meant a switch from cans and glass containers to dried goods and these pantries this winter, please remember to only place items that are freeze-proof (no glass or metal cans). The First Baptist Church of Starksboro, Starksboro Food Shelf, New Community Project and United Way of Addison County all provide to the Little Free Pantries in the spirit of building community through neighbors helping neighbors. As always, the pantry motto is, "Take what you

need, and leave what you can." For questions about Starksboro's Little Free Pantry program, contact Pete at 802-434-2333, or email antosketchamncp@gmail.com.

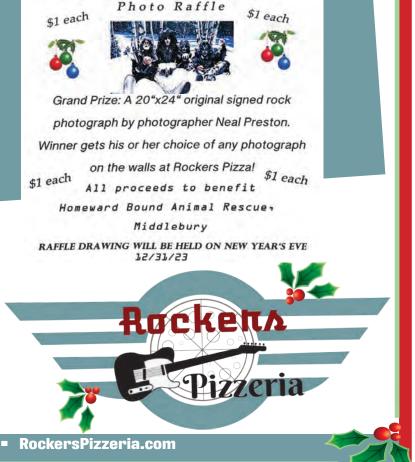
The Middlebury United Methodist Church will present its 13th annual "Christmas Concert and Hymn Sing" on Friday, Dec. 15, at 7 p.m., to items that can withstand freezing benefit the nonprofit Charter temperatures (tuna in foil pouches, House Coalition. For years, "necessary updates to the Act pasta sauce and peanut butter in this concert has featured a 250 program" on or before plastic, etc.). If you donate food to wide variety of musical styles and genres, performed by artists from Addison County and beyond. The event is free of charge, though donations are encouraged to support the Charter House emergency shelter and meals programs. This promises to once again be a rich and beautiful evening to celebrate this season of light, and to help our neighbors in need. The church is located at 43 North Pleasant St., at the corner of **Seminary Street and Route 7.**

> Porter Medical Center needs more Helping Hands Volunteers. These volunteers (individuals, school classrooms and community organizations) are invited to share their artistic talents by making and donating small handmade items that will be given to patients, caregivers and staff at Porter. Some examples of appropriate items include origami, watercolor pictures, paintings, jewelry, clay items, bookmarks, cards, and sewn or crochet/knitted items. Volunteers are also needed to make and donate knitted/crochet hats and mittens for kids who are without them when they come to the pediatric offices. If you're able to help, please contact Kelly Walters, volunteer manager, at 802-382-3444 or PMC-Volunteers@portermedical.

> Average gasoline prices in Vermont have fallen 2.9 cents per gallon during the past week, averaging \$3.39 per gallon right now, according to GasBuddy. Prices in Vermont are 15.1 cents lower than a month ago and 19 cents lower than a year ago. The cheapest station in Vermont was \$3.13 this week, the most expensive \$3.59. Meanwhile, the national average fell 9.6 cents to \$3.11. The national average is down 23.7 cents from a month ago and 10.1 cents from a year ago, according to GasBuddy.



Traditional Pizzas = Sandwiches = Burgers Salads - Appetizers - Desserts **Great Local Beer & Wine Space Outside Patio, Dine-in, Takeout, Delivery**

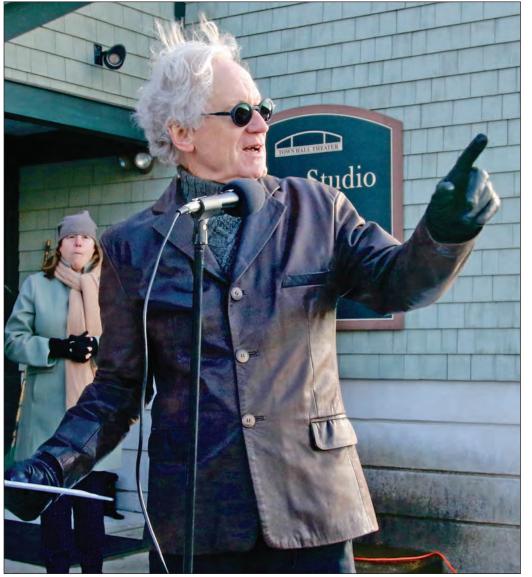


Annual Rock and

Rol1

191 Main Street, Vergennes = 802-870-7341 = RockersPizzeria.com

GROUNDBREAKING





FRIENDS OF THE arts and supporters of Town Hall Theater gathered in the courtyard next to the Middlebury performance and gallery space on Tuesday to symbolically put shovels in the ground and kickoff construction of a new 7,000 square-foot expansion. The new wing, estimated to cost \$7.8 million, will include a rehearsal studio, a scene shop, and a center for education for people of all ages, as well as create an outdoor plaza for performances, food trucks, and a cup of coffee on a summer day.

studio, a scene shop, and a center for education for people of all ages, as well as create an outdoor plaza for performances, food trucks, and a cup of coffee on a summer day.

Gathering for the big day were THT Founder and Artistic Director Doug Anderson, top left, and a group of dignitaries that include Middlebury selectboard chairman Brian Carpenter, Middlebury College Vice President David Provost, THT Executive Director Lisa Mitchell, architect Jim Pulver and Breadloaf Corp. President Mike McLaughlin.

Independent photos/Steve James









NIGHT SKIING, LIVE MUSIC, APRÈS-SKI, FIREWORKS, JOIN THE PARTY!

AND YEAH, WE'RE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15

FESTIVITIES KICK OFF AT 4 P.M.

middle burys nowbowl.com





KIDS! SEND US YOUR LETTER TO SANTA AND WE'LL PRINT IT IN OUR PAPER SO SANTA HIMSELF CAN SEE!

BE SURE TO INCLUDE A RETURN ADDRESS, OR EMAIL AND SEND YOUR LETTER TO:

SANTA, C/O ADDISON INDEPENDENT

58 MAPLE ST., MIDDLEBURY, VT 05753

Dear Santa,

l promise l will be good all year. I thought you could come over but I wanted to write. I will be here in ten. l made my Christmas list sense it is almost Christmas. Please get my Christmas list. I hope you have an amazing Christmas! Have a good Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Thank you. **Brody**

We will have chocolate chip cookies ready

Please let us know how good they were. Can you please help us get Naomi to sleep through the night so she can move into my

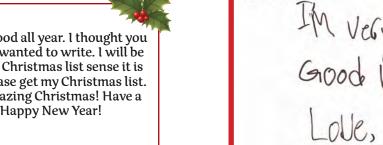
How do you get around the whole world

Dear Santa,

in one night? That's cool! Merry Christmas,

for you.

Love, Elwood





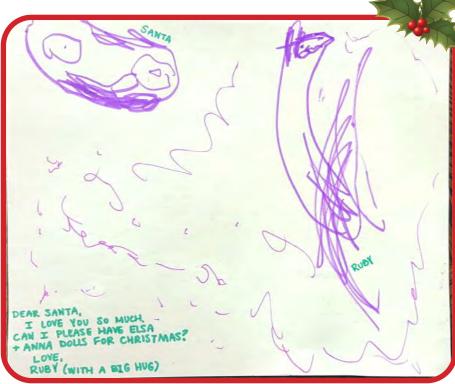
Dear Santa. DEN NOOSHOEN NOOHER DBAND

Dear Santa,

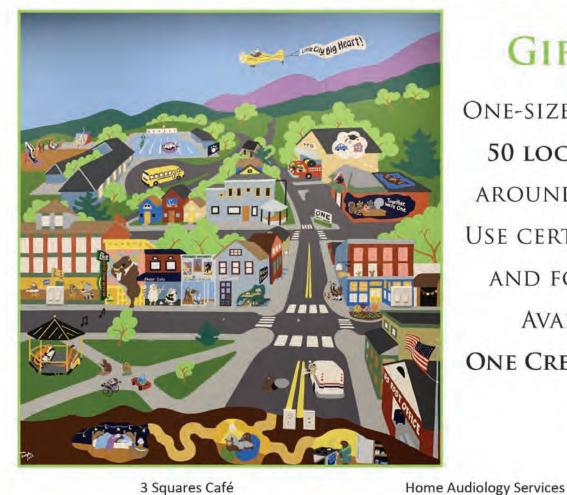


Merry Christmas! I want a Luke Skywalker

costume and a light saber and a marble run and firefighter mask and space tank. Thank you for getting all these things. (If you can't it's still okay).



ERGENNES GREEN



GIFT CERTIFICATES

ONE-SIZE-FITS-ALL, ACCEPTED AT OVER 50 LOCATIONS UP, DOWN AND ALL AROUND MAIN STREET, VERGENNES! USE CERTIFICATES AT SHOPS, EATERIES, AND FOR SERVICES YEAR AROUND. AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE AT ONE CREDIT UNION, 48 GREEN STREET VERGENNES.

802 Print A&D Automotive Adam & Ink Alpha by SC Amy's Hair Design Antidote B J's Farm Supply Basin Harbor Big Barn Home Center Black Sheep Bistro The Clock Shop Comfort Hill Kennel Community Market & Deli Daily Chocolate David E. Congalton, DDS Diddle & Zen FootWoRx

Jackman Fuels The Joy Shop, Casey Arnote JW & DE Ryan Plumbing & Heating Keeping Good Company Kinney Drug, Vergennes Kre8tive Nails & Spa Lily Boutique Linda's Apparel & Gifts Little City Cycles Little City Community Fitness Little City Greens lu·lu ice cream | espresso bar Low Bar MALABAR Maplefields Men's Corner

Park Squeeze Peak Eye Care Precision Print & Copy Rockers Pizzeria **Shear Cuts** Sheun Lee Stone Block Antiques Strong House Inn **Sweet Charity** Ten Stones Emporium Vergennes Animal Hospital Vergennes DDS: Derek Cimler, DDS Vergennes Laundry Vergennes Opera House Vermont Discount Foods **Vermont Pure Essentials** VT Moms Physical Therapy & Performance Your Turn Resale Shoppe





Keeping it local, the Vergennes Green Gift Certificate program is a joint collaboration with One Credit Union and Vergennes Partnership.

WW.VERGENNESDOWNTOWN.ORG

INDEPENDENT

Olsen's Ice Cream

ADDISON COUNTY

sponsored by:

Dear Santa, I promise I will be good all year. I thought you could come over but I wanted to write. I will be here in ten. l made my Christmas list sense it is almost Christmas. Please get my Christmas list. I hope you have an amazing Christmas! Have a good Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Thank you. Love, Brody

List:

- jack in the box • bike
- army brown electric
- scooter •Spidey lego set
- hoverboard
- ·race car
- Lego monster truck remote monster truck
- Paw Patrol toy house
- •slime
- volcano drone
- camera (with print paper) · lab kit (science magic kit)
- ·light-up wheels (for bike)
- · walkie talkie
- karaoke microphone · Blue watch (Five nights at
- Freddies) construction/carpenter
- toys microscope
- telescope
- ·Shishibo
- water balloons ·basketball/hoop
- · superhero caps •airplane launchers
- · light-up Rubik's Cube
- ·skill game or whatever
- money vault
- Mario flowers that bite · army helicopter

Dear Santa, I want some coal, and

3,000 spinners and 10,000 dogs and 2,001 robots. Love, Ben Aita

Dear Santa,

May I please have a fiddler crab? Thank you, Santa. Hunter

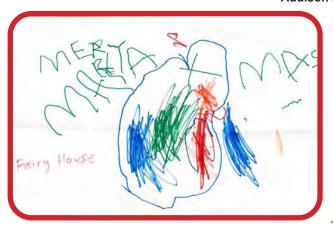
Dear Santa,

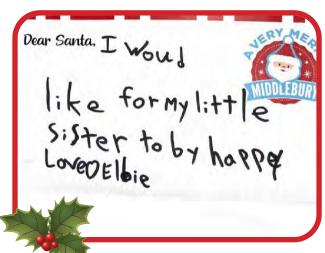
I would like a hoverboard, a monster truck that can go on water and snoe, etc. l wouldlike abig Nerf gun, a bunch of Xbox one games, and the biggest monster truck you can find. Jayden Griffin



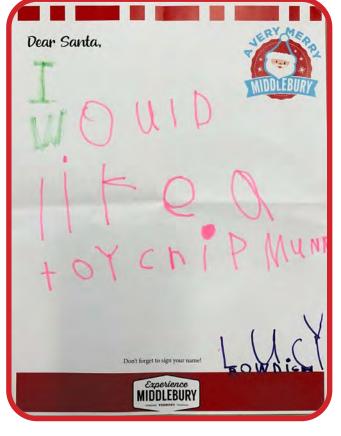
Dear Santa, I want lots of stuff, please. Thank you.











Dear Santa,

I have been a very good boy this year! I love my dad, my mom, my sister, and my dog very much! I can't wait to see your elf. Smidge, again. For Christmas I would really like a video game, a real phone, a snowboard, a Spidey watch to talk to Mom, a PJ mask car (a real one), and a Quad. Will you please bring Millie a toy? She has been a great doggie!

We will leave you some fresh milk and homemade cookies, and some carrots for your reindeer. Hope you have a smooth and wonderful time delivering all the gifts to all the children of the world!

Dear Santa,

- Barbie Skipper bathtub • Barbie Baby Skipper checker shirt
- Barbie Baby Skipper Barbie Baby Skipper mealtime
- Barbie babysitting playset
- Barbie airplane
- · Barbie Baby Skipper playtime playset
- · Barbie clinic · Barbie Baby Skipper
- birthday Doll school accessories
- Smooshy mushy sweet
- scoops Smushy mushy milkshakeWash day clothes
- Barbie accessories • Fidgie mermaid
- Fidge pool party pop it
- Doll care set Doorable
- (There is another page)
- Tennis Barbie Art doll clothing comes with doll
- · Magic Mixie Pixie • Purple Furbie
- Black dolls one with sunglasses and a lip purse and one with dog
- Unicorn mini backpack Rainbocorns
- · Baby doll toy set
- Barbie careers doll baby doctor
- Color changing nail polishBarbie Baby Skipper babysitter playset with
- stroller
- ·\$1,000 • Evi babysitting with bathtub
- Steffi babysitter with 2 babies one with a car seta and one with a holder on Steffi

Tatum Hillman

Dear Santa,

I really enjoyed meeting you! We will have cookies ready for you! Could you bring me a desk and a notebook?

Safe travels! Merry Christmas. Louise

Dear Santa, l love you.

> Dear Santa, Merry Christmas! Love, **Poppy**



THE BLACK SHEEP BISTRO Casual atmosphere • Great Food • Exceptional Value

GIVE THE GIFT OF TASTE

FOR EVERY \$100 WORTH OF GIFT CERTIFICATES PURCHASED, YOU WILL RECEIVE AN ADDITIONAL \$25 VOUCHER ON US! VISIT US AT WWW.BLACKSHEEPBISTROVT.COM OR CALL TO HAVE YOUR GIFT CERTIFICATES MAILED TO YOU! VALID NOW THROUGH 12/31/2023.

SAMPLE MENU

CURRIED PUMPKIN BISQUE toasted pepitas

BLACK SHEEP WALDORF SALAD bacon, cheddar, candied walnuts, dried cranberries, apple

STEAMED PORK DUMPLINGS maple soy demi glace

THAI BROILED HADDOCK toasted almonds, coconut curry sauce, creamed spinach BRIE & BACON CHICKEN BREAST balsamic cream, garlicky green beans

ROSEMARY LAMB MEATLOAF roasted garlic sage demi, roasted broccolini

253 Main Street • Vergennes, VT • 802-877-9991 • blacksheepbistrovt.com TUES. - SAT., 4:00PM - 8:00PM • Reservations Accepted



HOUSE FAVORITES

Bleu 'Shrooms baked mushrooms in blue cheese cream sauce • warm bread

Potato Cheddar Pierogies sauteed spinach • onion butter

Autumn Harvest Salad baby field greens • apples • dried cranberries •

• balsamic vinaigrette

pickles

Saffron Red Lentil Stew saffron rice • curry toasted cashews • vegan coconut

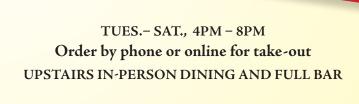
crumbled blue cheese • toasted almonds

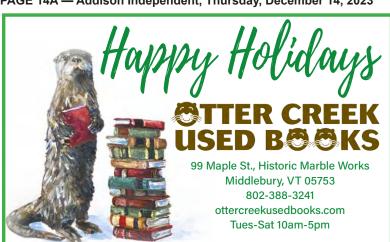
cream spinach Spicy Maple Ribs creamy mac & cheese • cabbage slaw • house-made

The Squeeze Burger pickled onions • roasted peppers • greens • bacon •

HOLIDAY **GIFT**









BLM

(Continued from Page 1A) feel upset because it's hard not having more Black students and teachers in my school," he said, reading from a statement he had written. "This is one of the reasons I would like my school to have a Black Lives Matter flag. For Black students the flag would help us remember that we are not alone. When I see a Black Lives Matter

flag it makes me feel happy and supported. "It's essential want Black students that all of our and teachers at my students at school to feel that too." request Mary Hogan

Urang's came more than two feel a sense of years after Middlebury belonging and Union High School's Coalition Student On Human Rights (SCOHR) group won permission to fly the one more step Black Lives Matter flag on their campus. The ACSD board had spent the previous two years considering that SCOHR request, which was complicated

by the absence of a districtwide policy on flying anything other than the U.S. and Vermont flags on the primary flagpole at the entrance

connection at

school; raising

the BLM flag is

to doing this."

— Mary Hogan

Elementary

Kravitz

Principal Jen

of any ACSD school. Ultimately, during the fall of 2021, the board adopted a policy that allows other flags to be flown on a school's primary flagpole for a limited time, once they've been vetted and endorsed by a supermajority vote of the panel.

The ACSD board on Monday voted overwhelmingly in favor of Urang's request, allowing the Black

Lives Matter, or BLM, flag to wave at the Mary Hogan School through the balance of this academic year. Only one board member voted against — Middlebury's Brian

While he thanked Urang for his flag appeal, Bauer said he believed flying a BLM flag would ironically work against the district's inclusion

> 'Our role as a school board is to promote respect ... Respect for everyone. To focus on one group, to me, is divisive and contrary to our goals of equity and inclusion," Bauer said.

"We're trying to deal with inclusion, not the separation of people ... That's where I'm coming from," he added.

Ellen Whelan-Wuest, the board's Cornwall representative, disagreed.

"Black Matter' is a statement we should all be working towards and asserting. It's very easy for white people to hear 'the most' at the end of that (BLM) statement, or 'more,' and I think, Brian, that's what I interpret to be part of your concern," she said to Bauer. "That's a racist interpretation of a true statement, that our country's history and our country's present have not always upheld. Black Lives Matter has

historically reinforced that." Urang's supporters on Monday included a few of his student colleagues and Mary Hogan Elementary Principal Jen Kravitz.

to be said out loud, because we

have not culturally, politically or

"It would be a good way to express that everyone is welcome," Mary Hogan fifth-grader Heather Remsen told the ACSD board of one of the benefits of flying the BLM flag at school.



THE ADDISON CENTRAL School District board on Monday endorsed a request by 9-year-old Elias Urang to fly a Black Lives Matter flag at Middlebury's Mary Hogan Elementary School, where he's currently a fourth-grader.

Photo courtesy of Sarah and Alison Urang

Kravitz noted Urang had been working on his flag proposal since third grade, seeking advice from educators, peers and school administrators along the way.

"I really encourage you to support his proposal," she said. "He's worked with me to understand the process for why he couldn't just run it up the flagpole. He's been super respectful of that process."

Kravitz added Urang has been "really careful in talking to the faculty and staff at meetings about why he feels (flying the BLM flag) is important," making his pitch to third-, fourth- and fifth-grade classes.

"By raising the BLM flag at Mary Hogan, it will allow our school to continue to live according to our core beliefs of belonging, connection and respect," Kravitz said. "The BLM flag, as Elias says, will make him and others feel more welcome, more acknowledged and more seen. It's essential that all of our students at Mary Hogan feel a sense of belonging and connection

one more step to doing this."

Sarah and Alison Urang, Elias's parents, are among those impressed with their son's recent efforts.

"We are very proud of Elias for taking the initiative to pursue with such passion and courage something that matters deeply to him and others, and that he feels will make his school a more welcoming place," Sarah Urang said. "We appreciate the thoughtful discussion amongst the board members and the support of other students, teachers, his principal, and other community members. We are excited to celebrate the raising of the Black Lives Matter flag at Mary Hogan soon."

ACSD board member Lindsey Hescock told Urang she knew he was a good soccer player but hadn't realized he was also a "powerful leader.

"It took so much courage," she told him. "I'm so proud of you, that you're part of our school community.

Reporter John Flowers is at at school; raising the BLM flag is johnf@addisonindependent.com.

We've Got Mulch!

Addison County Solid Waste Management District is giving away FREE wood chip mulch to District residents on a first-come, first-served basis while supplies last.

Stop by the District Transfer Station, located at 1223 Route 7 South, Middlebury, during our normal business hours (M-F, 7am-3pm and Sat, 8am-1pm) to pick up a load. BYOS (Bring Your Own Shovel), please! You may load your own, or District staff will load your truck or trailer for \$10 per scoop.

The mulch may contain some larger-size pieces of wood, but should be suitable for new tree or shrub plantings, weed control, or trail cover.

The mulch is made from branches, Take a load off brush, and clean dimensional lumber collected at the District Transfer Station

> Questions? Give us a call at 388-2333 or visit AddisonCountyRecycles.org



ADDISON COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT 223 ROUTE 7 SOUTH, MIDDLEBURY, VT 05753

802-388-2333 WWW.ADDISONCOUNTYRECYCLES.ORG

Interested in selling the Addison Independent at your business?

Call 802.388.4944 or email frontdesk@addisonindependent.com.

Fire bond

(Continued from Page 1A) originally proposed for a Dec. 5 vote. That amount was reduced by the Vergennes City Council to the lower face value in light of the community's many other infrastructure needs. That reduction was achieved by focusing on buying a used ladder truck instead of a new one.

Fire Chief Dave DiBiase has said the heavy rescue truck, the only one in northwestern Addison County, also has pumper capacity (he called it "the busiest truck in the station"), while the ladder truck is one of just two in the county, with Middlebury owning the other.

According to the city website, The heavy rescue truck "is the only resource for the towns of Addison, Ferrisburgh, Vergennes, Panton and Waltham for any car accidents,

machinery accidents, industrial accidents and other specialized rescues requiring these specialized tools and equipment."

At an informational meeting hosted by the council this past Tuesday, DiBiase said the cost could end up being lower than \$1.75 million for the residents of the Panton and Waltham

as well as Vergennes, and much of southern Ferrisburgh, including all of that town west of Otter Creek.

That's because, said DiBiase and City Manager Ron Redmond, department leaders will be actively searching for a quality used heavy rescue vehicle. DiBiase noted at the meeting that the department purchased its current truck used in 2009, and it has served the department well.

As for the possible cost to residents if the bond is supported, the current funding system in which the four communities have shared the cost of the Vergennes Fire Department, city officials estimated approval of the fire bond would add a little more than a penny to the tax rate in Vergennes, assuming the full \$1.75 million is

and about

\$5,900 to

Waltham's.

They also estimated at its peak the full bond would add \$23,000 to Ferrisburgh's annual budget, about \$10,900 to Panton's, and about \$5,900 to Waltham's.

But those figures could change: Ferrisburgh and city officials continue to disagree about what Ferrisburgh should pay for coverage from the city department as a first responder.

City officials have indicated a willingness to compromise, with DiBiase saying publicly last month he thought the town's share was probably too high. The city budgeted \$93,900 for its fire department from Ferrisburgh for its current fiscal year. At the same time, city officials also note Ferrisburgh voters approved \$108,234 for that purpose in March 2023 for the current fiscal

On Dec. 8 the Ferrisburgh

selectboard offered \$60,000 a year for five years, beginning on July 1, 2023. The board offered as a rationale that the territory protected by the city department as a first responder is equal to the combined size of Panton and Waltham. The board also said that Ferrisburgh is now spending twice as much per four communities the department capita for fire protection than the serves as a first responder all of other three communities because

it also funds its own department.

They also The letter also estimated question called into at its peak that town's support the bond: for the full bond "The Ferrisburgh would add Selectboard will not \$23,000 to commit Ferrisburgh Ferrisburgh's residents to paying for annual budget, a bond issue without the residents voting to about \$10,900 do so." to Panton's,

City officials when asked at the Tuesday informational meeting made a couple points about the uncertainty. DiBiase said no matter

what the ultimate cost of the bond turns out to be, payments won't begin for a year, giving plenty of time for the communities to work out their differences.

"Negotiations are ongoing with Ferrisburgh. It doesn't necessarily mean we're spending that money today," DiBiase said, adding, "I think the intention here is always to find common ground with our partners to make sure that anything moving forward is in a collaborative method."

Redmond added there is an increasing likelihood the city will look to save money on a heavy rescue truck.

"Our fire department executive staff are starting to have conversations about could we have a used heavy rescue truck," Redmond said.

"What we want to do is leave our options open. We'll have the bond. We'll have approval for it. We'll come back to the council. Whatever decisions we make, we'll have a very robust and transparent conversation about what we're going to do. Right now having this bond gives us the options we need to keep our equipment safe and updated as much as we possibly can."

Stop by any of these 60+ locations for your copy of Addison County's award-winning community newspaper!



ADDISON COUNTY

INDEPENDENT

ADDISON: West Addison General Store

BRANDON:

Brandon Discount Beverage Champlain Farms **Gourmet Provence** Hannaford Jiffy Mart

Junction Store & Deli **Union Street Grocery** Walgreen's

BRIDPORT: Pratt's Store

BRISTOL: Bristol Country Store Bristol Discount Beverage Champlain Farms Maplefields Shaw's

Walgreen's

EAST MIDDLEBURY: Mac's Market | Citgo Maplefields Otter East Bakery & Del

FERRISBURGH: Jiffy Mart

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 **SHOREHAM:** Paris Farmers Union

Rosie's Shaw's

Stone Mill Public Market The Vermont Book Shop **Vermont Field Sports** Vermont's Own

Walgreen's **NEW HAVEN:**

Village Green Market N. FERRISBURGH:

N. Ferrisburgh Short Stop **ORWELL:** Buxton's Store

Village Depot

RIPTON: Ripton Country Store

SALISBURY: Kampersville Store

(seasonal)

Shoreham Service Center

STARKSBORO: Jerusalem 4-Corners

VERGENNES:

BJ's Farm Supply Champlain Farms Kinney Drugs Shaw's Maplefields Vergennes

Vergennes Wine

PAPERS ALSO AVAILABLE AT:

Eastview at Middlebury Porter Hospital/Rehab vear.

NIGHT FIRES













Lincoln school board elects new chair, talks budget

By MARIN HOWELL

LINCOLN — Lincoln School District officials are optimistic that the changes to the state's education funding formula outlined in Act 127 won't have a major impact on the district's budget for Fiscal Year 2025.

Like other Vermont school districts, the Lincoln School District has been weighing the potential budget effects of the new law. Act 127 revises the state's education funding formula by changing the equalized pupil calculation to a measurement of long-term weighted average daily membership and applying new weights to students based on grade level, poverty and English Language Learner status.

The new formula was signed into law in 2022 and is intended to correct inequities in how the state funds the cost of educating students with different needs.

Acting Superintendent Madelyn Crudo Burke told the Lincoln School Board on Monday that based on current numbers, it doesn't appear those changes will have a big influence on the district's FY'25 spending plan.

"We were very fortunate. We really fared very well," she said. "We really don't think that there is going to be any significant impact to the budget that is tentatively being proposed, as a result of the big weight that you got on the long term weighted (average daily membership)."

District officials did not share any budget figures during Monday's discussion, though Crudo Burke did note that the district is currently looking at an around 2.79% increase in overall spending over the current year. Earlier this year, Lincoln voters adopted a district spending plan of \$4,645,130 for 2023-2024.

Crudo Burke said district officials have made some minor changes to the FY'25 budget, such as adding a 0.5 FTE for secretarial support in the main office (which is shared by the district and the Lincoln Community School) and the addition of a paraprofessional, with the details of that position to be determined in collaboration with the district's incoming superintendent.

The school board will continue discussion of the FY'25 budget at a future meeting.

NEW CHAIR

In other activity at Monday's meeting, the Lincoln School Board elected a new board chair. Former chair Jennifer Oldham resigned from the position last month. Oldham had held the post since the board was formed in June of 2022.

On Monday, board members elected Jeanne Albert to serve as chair. Albert joined the board earlier this month following Oldham's resignation. Board members also re-elected Abby Reynolds to serve as vice chair of the board. The other board members are Mary Gemignani, Rob Backlund and Lea Calderon-Guthe.

Smoke and Lola's cooks up comfort food in Bristol

By MARIN HOWELL

BRISTOL — Lincoln residents Abbey LaMay-West and Wayne Johnson are passionate about feeding their community.

It's a shared mission that's played a prevalent role in the pair's friendship and that recently led them to open their own restaurant, Smoke and Lola's, on Bristol's North Street.

"It happened really fast, but (is) something that had been brewing for a long time," LaMay-West said while taking a quick break from the eatery's busy "soft opening" this past Friday.

Smoke and Lola's officially opened up at 28 North St. on Dec. 9. The new eatery offers grab-andgo breakfast and lunch options five days a week.

LaMay-West describes the restaurant's menu as "eclectic comfort food," offering warm beverages, breakfast sandwiches and a variety of hearty dishes, from empanadas to a chicken vindaloo sandwich.

"We tried to think about stuff that was easy to-go," LaMay-West said. "We tried to make it where everyone could enjoy something, whether you're a vegetarian or a meat-eater."

FREE SOUP

LaMay-West and Johnson feel so strongly about ensuring everyone has something to eat that they've decided the restaurant's regular menu will also include "Pat's Soup of the Day," a free soup option for anyone to enjoy. The offering pays homage to Johnson's late friend, Pat Peters, a former chef at Middlebury College, who would whip up free soup for community members on her days off.

The pair is hopeful the menu item will help keep more stomachs full in the surrounding community.

"Hunger is invisible so many times, especially in rural areas," LaMay-West said. "You don't have to wait until 'soup day' to come in, you can come in any time, and you don't have to worry about what that looks like or what that feels like. You're just a

regular customer for us."

Johnson noted that Peters's efforts received a lot of community support, which at times included donated ingredients. The Smoke & Lola's team have received a similar response to Pat's Soup of the Day, with community members and local businesses already offering to provide ingredients or sponsor the menu item.

"People with the means to do so seem to be very excited about participating, and I'm happy and thrilled to make the soup," Johnson said.

While plans for Smoke and Lola's have been in the works for around six weeks, the pair has been brainstorming how to make food for their community for much longer.

LaMay-West said the duo was toying with the idea of opening a catering business when Jones the Boy bake shop announced they'd vacate the spot on 28 North St. this past October.

"Wesaid, 'Well, that's interesting.' They have a commercial kitchen, and we could have this breakfast and lunch café and still be catering as well," she said. "It's just been really hitting the ground running ever since."

RESTURANT TEAM

While opening a restaurant is a newer endeavor, the Smoke and Lola's team brings a wealth of related experience to the table.

Johnson and his son, Skye, will make up the restaurant's kitchen staff. Johnson's culinary background includes stints at Middlebury restaurants Otter Creek Café (now Otter Creek Bakery) and American Flatbread, as well as time abroad learning from chefs in Jamaica and Peru.

Those that stop into Smoke and Lola's can expect to find dishes from other parts of the globe on the cafe's menu.

"I like to do as much global food and keep it to the comfort food aspects of world food. I'm not trying to overpower anybody with something that's going to be unfamiliar," Johnson said of his culinary inspirations. "I love cooking Caribbean food; it's got a beautiful simplicity to it. Just anything that makes people smile. I really enjoy the connection to people."



THE TEAM BEHIND Smoke and Lola's Café in Bristol includes café manager Jess Denny, left; chef and co-owner Wayne Johnson; Skye Johnson and co-owner Abbey LaMay-West. The new eatery opened on North Street last week and will offer grab-and-go breakfast and lunch options five days a week.

Independent photo/Marin Howell

Upon entering the Bristol eatery, visitors can find Smoke and Lola's Café Manager Jess Denny and LaMay-West greeting customers at the front counter. Running a business is familiar territory for LaMay-West, who owns Vermont's Own Gifts & Goods in Middlebury.

As for those looking for the café's namesakes, you aren't likely to run into Smoke and Lola at the restaurant. The eatery is named after Johnson and LaMay-West's puppies, who were born this past spring

"We each kept one. (Johnson's) is Smoke and mine is Lola, so we're Smoke and Lola's," LaMay-West explained.

SOURCING LOCALLY

Despite their diverse experience, LaMay-West said she and Johnson are united in their passion for a few things: food, sharing food with the community and sustainability. They see Smoke & Lola's as an opportunity to blend those interests.

"Sustainability and food go hand in hand," LaMay-West said. "We're really trying to source as locally as possible and try to make smart choices in terms of sustainability when it comes to products."

when it comes to products."

The new owners have inherited compostable to-go containers and other materials from Jones the Boy and will continue carrying some of the bake shop's goodies. Eventually, they'd like to open up the space to

more local producers by creating a community market in part of the restaurant.

"We want to source hyper-locally, so, if somebody's got an abundance of tomatoes," LaMay-West said. "We're going to be putting out calls for really local producers on Front Porch Forum. We want it to be really community-building and community-grown."

The market would be a place for 5-town area producers to sell anything from pickles to homemade preserves. LaMay-West said the team is hoping the space will provide a resource for local producers.

"The kitchen space, we envision having people come in and do their canning in here, having cooking classes at night," she said. "Even though we can't have seating in here, we want to definitely make it a resource for the community."

In the meantime, the Smoke & Lola's team is excited to settle in and start serving the surrounding community.

"We have so many ideas but the foundations of it are that we want to source locally, we want to feed locally and we want to make our community happy," LaMay-West said.

Johnson agreed.

24 Hour Emergency Repair Service

Find us on

Facebook

"I grew up here, so I'm excited to feed my neighbors and friends. It's a pretty cool thing to get to do," he said.

INDEPENDENT DIGITAL marketing

DIGITAL DOESN'T HAVE TO BE HARD

Here at the *Addy Indy* we have always seen it as our job to help connect your business with its clients.

As times change and technology evolves, pairing digital services with your print advertising campaigns is the best way to quickly & efficiently connect with the community.

Independent Digital Marketing can help you better reach our region with:







ONLINE ADVERTISING

DIGITAL DIRECTORY MANAGEMENT

WEB DESIGN & DEVELOPMENT

CONTACT US TODAY TO GET STARTED!

802-388-4944

digital@addisonindependent.com

addisonindependent.com/independent-digital-marketing

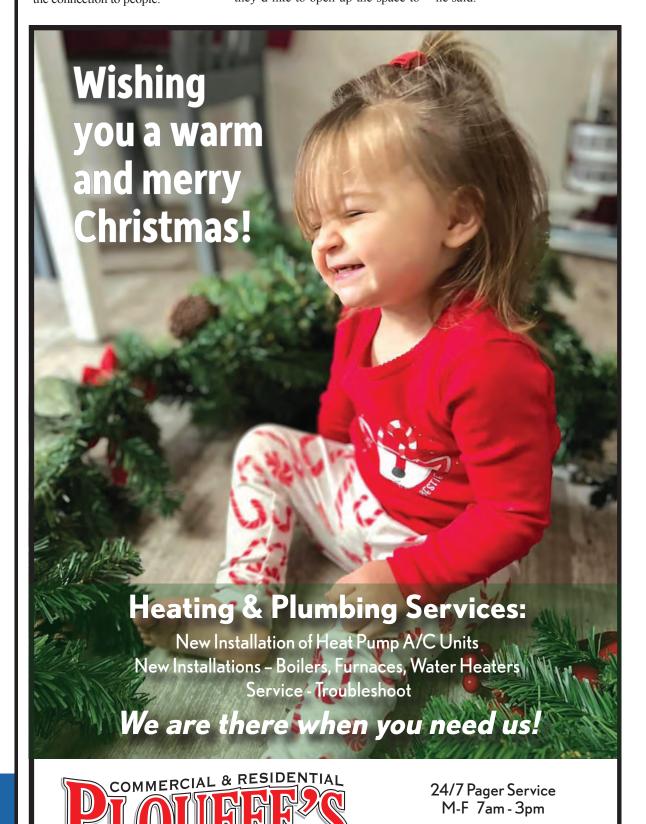


BOILER & MECHANICAL

Heating • Plumbing • Air Conditioning

Heat Pump Installation

RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL



1786 Route 7 South • Middlebury, VT • 802-388-2296



THE REMOVAL OF additions from 34 North St., which is soon to be restored and become part of Vergennes Grand Senior Living, nears the midway point late last month.

Photo courtesy of Vergennes Grand Senior Living

Vergennes housing

"Some of

clapboards)

to be able to

— Dan Hassan

(Continued from Page 1A) mostly of modest means, in a facility fronting the Vergennes green.

It will blend 40,000 square feet of new construction with 10,000-square-foot restored building at 34 North St., formerly known as Vergennes Residential Care.

no doubt caught folks' attention. DeBisschop Excavating used heavy equipment to remove less

historically valuable additions to the 200-year-old building at 34 North St. that (the original fronts the downtown park. That building will be retained and we're going restored.

"The only thing restore, and that is remaining, as required by the some of which Division of Historic is too far Preservation, is the gone." main historic block, which is the square building right up

front," said Dan Hassan; he and spouse, Rebecca Hassan, are the principals of Vergennes Grand.

The next phase, set to begin as early as Monday and take between 10 days and two weeks, could make a bit more noise: It involves explosives.

Dan Hassan said the first stage of preparing the site for the new buildings will be blasting "ledge on the back slope, where the foundation of the new construction will be.'

The sound and effects of that blasting will be dampened by directly affected neighbors of what's on the way to allow them to prepare, for instance by taking antiques off shelves as a precaution.

"I don't think they'll vibrate off shelves or anything like that, but they'll certainly feel it," Hassan said.

The Hassans have also taken to social media to inform the larger community of what to expect.

The demolition work done late last month is related in purpose to the blasting. Dan Hassan said removing a porch from the building's west side as well the addition to the rear helped pave the way for new construction to be attached as well as prepared the historic structure for its restoration.

"They had to clear the site in the back," Hassan said. "They just went right up to the historic block. We just cut a line right around the building They just went in with the big claw and removed it. Then we went in and removed the aluminum siding on the building."

Hassan said stripping the 50-year-old aluminum siding revealed its original clapboards, "some of which we're going to be able to restore, and some of which is too far gone."

Much of the original trim work was removed when that aluminum siding was installed, he said. But during the upcoming restoration and renovation of the original building, Hassan said, "All of that will be replicated and replaced."

Another building, an older duplex to the left of the construction site, that the Hassans purchased from the Clark family, Vergennes Residential Care's original owners, was demolished and removed late in 2022.

LOOKING AHEAD

The project is transforming the former 18-bed facility at 34 North St. into an interconnected 53-room, four-building care home capable of accommodating up to 82 seniors. According to the Hassans it will

also triple the business's employee count from 18 to an estimated 48.

The Hassans are accommodating their current Vergennes residents in their South Burlington facility, with first choice of rooms in Vergennes Grand offered when the project is complete.

Dan Hassan said Vergennes Grand will provide housing That first phase of the project for an "underserved" segment of the senior population, as do the other four such properties the Hassans own and manage in South Burlington, Bradford,

New Hampshire, and Washington, D.C.

He told the Independent their target demographic are seniors with "low to middle income, or sometimes no income, because we use the Medicaid program."

The Hassans' plans have been welcomed city officials and the Vergennes

business community, who see Vergennes Grand meeting a need for area seniors, providing jobs, and bringing patrons to other

According to figures accepted by the Vergennes Development Review Board during the project's approval process, Vergennes Grand was then estimated to add \$390,000 annually in civic and commercial revenue to Vergennes. That figure included property taxes, water/ sewer fees, and visitor and staff purchases at local businesses.

To support the project, the large rubber mats placed over each state has also offered a sales tax detonation. The Hassans have also credit that will upon the project notified the roughly 30 potentially completion funnel about \$180,000 to the city to pay for improvements to its central green and the sidewalks and roads around it.

> If all goes smoothly through a construction phase that will include a number of Vermont and local contractors, Vergennes Grand Senior Living clients could be taking residence in just over a year.

> "We should be opening in January 2025," Hassan said, adding there is already a waiting list:

"We're growing it right now."

AT MIDDLEBURY



DURING THE LATE-NOVEMBER process of removing additions to the original 200-year-old structure at 34 North St. that will become part of Vergennes Grand Senior Living, the first casualty was a porch on its west side, already history in this photo.

hoto courtesy of Vergennes Grand Senior Living



34 NORTH ST. in Vergennes, all of 200 years old, stands alone without its more modern additions as work to remove them is complete late last month. The building will be renovated and become part of Vergennes Grand Senior Living. Photo courtesy of Vergennes Grand Senior Living



SPREAD THE WORD

Email it to: news@addisonindependent.com



51 Ossie Rd, East Middlebury, VT | (802) 989-7220 | OtterEast.com

MEMORY CARE



INDEPENDENT LIVING * RESIDENTIAL CARE *

100 EastView Terrace, Middlebury, VT 05753 * (802) 989-7501 * www.EastViewMiddlebury.com

the equity

create a way

to both have

community and

supporting the

selectboard

bring more

voices into the

conversation."

Bristol eyes equity committee

By MARIN HOWELL

BRISTOL — Bristol officials are looking to hear from residents interested in serving on a new town equity committee. The selectboard the panel, which will help further the Porter Knight, a volunteer who has town's efforts to make

Bristol more inclusive "The idea of and welcoming to all.

Creating an equity committee was among committee the recommendations was to try to included in the report $completed \, at \, the \, end \, of \,$ Bristol's work with an Equitable & Inclusive more people Communities grant the supporting this town received from the work in the Vermont Community Foundation in 2022.

The \$10,000 grant supported initiatives such as reviewing and town forward-facing employees, materials like the but also to town's website and job descriptions for inclusive language conducting and training sessions for town officers and volunteers on issues of

diversity, equity and inclusion. Another goal of the town's work with the grant was to develop a list

and maintaining a welcoming and inclusive community.

"There are a number of things that were on that list, and the equity committee is just one of has started advertising for spots on those things," said Bristol resident

> collaborated with town officials on the grant work. "The idea of the equity committee was to try to create a way to both have more people supporting this work in the community and supporting the selectboard and town employees, but also to bring more voices into the conversation."

Earlier this year, the town received an additional grant from the Vermont Community Foundation to support continued equity and inclusion efforts, including creation of an equity committee in Bristol.

Specific tasks of the committee could

include:

Dr. Singhania brings many years of experience and a strong

received numerous awards for both her clinical and research

both the highest quality of care and a chair-side manner

Call Hannah at (802) 453-3911 ext. 2 to schedule

skills and is committed to working with the community

to raise dental awareness. Dr. Singhania is focused on

defined by compassion and clear communication.

your appointment with Dr. Singhania!

Mountain Community Health

(802) 453-3911 | 61 Pine St. Bristol, VT 05443 | www.mchvt.org

All Will be Merry, Bright & Warm with

CVPH at your Side. Happy Holidays!

• Dependable Delivery • 24-hour Emergency Service

• Free estimates for new installations and renovations

PLUMBING & HEATING

125 Monkton Road

Bristol, VT

802-453-2325

FUEL DELIVERY

185 Exchange Street

Middlebury, VT

802-388-4975

background in all aspects of general dentistry. She has

— Porter Knight

Mountain Community Health Welcomes

Dr. Richa Singhania, our new

Full-time General Dentist

• Creating "All are welcome here" signage to display in town, store of next steps to continue creating windows and homes.

 Creating a forum for community members to provide feedback regarding issues or experiences with inequity and discrimination, as well as suggestions.

Collaborating with other agencies to create and promote restorative justice opportunities in

The equity committee would also be involved in other aspects of the town's work with the Vermont Community Foundation grant, such as community outreach efforts and helping support Bristol in "articulating our community's core values and principles related to equity in municipal governance."

The hope is for a diverse group of Bristol residents to sit on the panel, bringing a variety of perspectives and lived experiences to the table. Knight said that part of the committee's initial work will be exploring how to bring diverse voices onto the panel and other town boards and committees.

"If we end up with new faces and new perspectives and people representing different mobilities and genders and perspectives (on the committee) right from the beginning that's fabulous. But if we don't, one of the first jobs of the committee is to engage and elevate voices of diverse members of our community," Knight explained. "One of the things that's on the list is that we're hoping they'll be looking for ways to do that on every board and committee in the community."

The Bristol selectboard at its Dec. 4 meeting agreed to begin advertising for spots on the committee, which could be made up of five to seven community members. Knight and Tabitha Moore, a professional consultant with experience in identify-based equity and racial justice work, will also help support the committee in its early stages.

Spirited generosity

FELLOW MASONS MATT Moyer, left, and Mike Brown present School Nurse Brenda Barsalou of Mt Abraham Union High School five \$100 Visa Gift cards. Barsalou will distribute them to a needy family in each of the five towns that make up the Union District.

Photo courtesy of Libanus Lodge 47

Monkton

Have a news tip? Call Liz Pecor at 802-453-2180

Christmas at the East Monkton Church: The East Monkton Church Association invites you to the 2023 annual Celebration of Christmas on Dec. 17, 2023, at 2 p.m. at the East Monkton Church, 405 Church Road.

Gather with us around a fire pit to sing Christmas Carols, test your knowledge of carol history and trivia, and enjoy conversation and refreshments. There is no charge for the event, but donations are greatly appreciated. All funds are used for the restoration and maintenance of the building. Please note there are no restroom facilities at the church.

Call 802-453-7575 if you have questions.

There's still time to get your tree or wreath from BSA Troop 525. Located on 265 Mountain

MONKTON — Celebration of Road, just south of the States out for signatures on the table at Prison Hollow four corners, you can select a tree or wreath anytime by the honor system of paying. Or stop in on the weekend and get assistance with your purchase during opening hours of 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Delivery is also available upon request. Call 802-989-3993. Cost of trees are \$55 each; regular wreaths are \$25, large wreaths are \$30. The sale will run while supplies last. BSA Troop 525 thanks you for your support and wishes you Happy Holidays.

2024 Town of Monkton **Elected Positions from Sharon** Gomez, Town Clerk, Monkton: If you are interested in running for an elected office in the town of Monkton, a list of open or expiring terms is shown below.

To have your name appear on the ballot you must submit a petition with the signatures of at least 1% of the registered voters in Monkton (approximately 17, but it's good to be on the safe side and get more in case some signatures end up being deemed ineligible). Forms for petitions are available from the Town Clerk. Petitions should be returned to the Town Clerk or the drop box at the Town Hall. The deadline for submitting a petition is Monday, Jan. 29, at 5

sign, or take it with you to gather songs and make a simple craft. signatures on your own. There are Hope to see you at the library!

the Town Hall.

Positions up for election (these terms start after Town Meeting Day, and run for the term indicated)

• Town clerk: 1-year term 2024-2025 • Town moderator: 1-year term 2024-2025 • Selectboard: 2-year term 2024-2026 • Selectboard: 3-year term 2024-2027 • Constable: 1-year term 2023 - 2024 • Lister: 3-year term 2024 - 2027 • Auditor: 3-year term 2024 - 2027 • MAUSD board: 3-year term 2024 - 2027 • MAUSD board: 3-year term 2024 - 2027 • MAUSD board: 2 years remainder of 3-year term 2024-2026 • Planning commission: 3-year term 2024-2027 • Planning commission: 3-year term 2024-2027 • Russell Memorial Library trustee: 3-year term 2024-2027

Russell Library News and Notes from Deb Chamberlain: At the library we have an ongoing sale of hand knit hats and fingerless gloves. These colorful and warm hats were donated by an expert knitter and all sales benefit the library. Priced at \$20 or less, they make a great and timely gift. There are also some gorgeous cards for sale by local artist Darin Maloney featuring her original artwork.

The second Saturday of the month regular Story Hour is You may leave petitions at the scheduled from 10 to 11 a.m., town hall so people can stop in and where we will read stories, sing



Squishy stuff • Sparkly things Advent Calendars • Candy to eat Games to play • Puzzles to solve



Playmobil & LEGO to build Stuffies to hug, Markers, Clay, Backpacks • Nesting Dolls Giggles and Fun

A GENERAL STORE FOR KiDS and Families

Curbside pick-up, local delivery & shipping available 12 Main St, Bristol • 802-453-6945 • www.simonsaysvt.com



167 Monkton Rd., Bristol • 802-453-2191 • bristolytvet.com



champlainvalleyfuels.com



Jartomain

Art on Main, 25 Main St. Bristol (802) 453-4032 Open: Mon-Sat 10-5 • Sundays 11-3 Walk) and and Dec. 17!

made by your neighbors!



Used, & New Books Puzzles, Board Games Art & Craft Supplies Toys & Gifts Melissa & Doug Thames & Kosmos

Supply Your Imagination

Games & Collectibles

Big Selection of the Best Gift, Books! Cookbooks, History, Puzzle Books Christmas, Classics, Bios, Nature

Acoustic & Electric Guitar Packs! Banjos, Mandolins, Ukuleles

Amps, Pedals, Mics, & Accessories World Drums & Percussion, Kalimbas Harmonicas, Tongue Drums, Didgeridoos Kid's Instruments, Music Books, & More

Full Range of Art Supplies **Best Selection, Best Prices!**

Bristol's Premier Game Shop! Great Selection of Kids Games

Classic Family & Party Games D&D Games, Books, Cards & Dice Co-Op, Strategy, World-Building Legacy, Campaign, Card Games

M-Sat 10-5, Sun 11-4, & By Appt

1 Main St • Bristol • 453-5982 www.recycledreadingofvt.com



It looks like you *can* put a price on comfort.

Stay comfy and reduce carbon emissions with a centrally ducted heat pump. Leases start at \$82/month. (PRICES MY VARY)

vgsvt.com/heatpumps











MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE'S BICENTENNIAL and other popular Pokémon characters this past Saturday, when the public was invited to learn about the real-life inspirations behind the fictional monsters through 20 student-designed exhibits. Visitors and experts at the "Pokémon Pop-Up Museum" included, clockwise from bottom left, Audrey Maxwell explaining antennae; Lucia Snyderman shows off her moth display; Shoreham family Juan and Samantha Brenes and their sons Joshua and Elijah Hope-Tipper and Carlos Brenes donning Charizand costumes; assistant biology professors Greg Pask and Alexis Mychajliw ready for battle; 7-year-old Orion Ronark of Monkton tries his hand at pollination while sister Theia, 4, looks on; student Bella Conety, dressed as Kangaskhan, explains how kangaroos nurse their young; and a Middlebury College biology grad Chad Kim dresses as the Pokémon "Tall

Independent photos/Steve James











Have holly jolly holiday at Sparrow Art Supply!

We're ready to help you find the perfect present for the artist in your life!

CURATED GIFT GUIDES AND BUNDLES

With ideas for easy giving. We have gift cards!

SOMETHING FOR EVERY ARTIST Across all mediums and ages!

UNIQUE ARTISAN GIFTS

Made by over 50 local artists in our gallery! **NEW ONLINE STORE**

For curbside pick up and quick shopping!

HOLIDAY PROMOTIONS

Through the end of the year!

Visit sparrowartsupply.com to check out our WINTER WONDER HANDBOOK to plan the best Yuletide Season ever!

SPARROW ART SUPPLY Local Shop | Gallery 52 Main St, Middlebury, VT 05753 (802) 989-7225

info@sparrowartsupply.com sparrowartsupply.com @sparrowartsupply

Shop Locally

Porter

(Continued from Page 1A) Porter's director of hospital-based services and emergency medicine. The ED — which saw 13.349 patients from Oct. 1, 2022, to Sept. 30, 2023 (around 37 per day) — is wedged into roughly 5,500 square

"If you look at current regulations and recommendations based on customer service and patient satisfaction, then you're looking at an ED that should be more than twice that size to adequately deliver those types of (services)," Young said in a Monday interview.

"And those types of things are important to us as health care providers, and they're important to our community." She said ED staff have fashioned

roughly a dozen areas within the department to treat patients. Some of those spaces are actual rooms, while others are simply curtained

"We have around 10 beds, but if you include hallway beds and the triage room, we probably have 12-14 spaces where we

can see patients," Young said. "But if you add a pandemic, patients with immune deficiencies or immunosuppressants, then we quickly are short on places to adequately address

issues and a litany of

other ailments where

who need them.

Porter officials.

waiting for medical attention isn't

an option. For several years, the

state's hospitals have been asked

to lodge, for indeterminate periods

of time, individuals experiencing

mental health emergencies and/

or what Young described as

"behavioral health." There are

simply not enough beds within

Vermont's overtaxed mental health

system to accommodate all those

And emergency departments are

where hospitals are accommodating

these patients. Older EDs weren't

constructed with mental health

patients in mind, according to

"The current need right now is

humane, those needs." Those needs have actually start evolved through the years and go beyond as opposed to caring for people just holding arriving with cuts, somebody. sprains, breaks, accidentviruses, related injuries, heart

Young

"The current need right now is behavioral health spaces that are private and can to deliver care,

— Dr. Amanda

ED "Every redesign is incorporating this piece into their plans, and it would be foolish not to," she said. "The nice thing is these spaces aren't just for behavioral health, they have flexibility. I can treat an ankle sprain or a sore throat in that room. So if it's not being used, then we can make a use for it."

Flexibility is key in today's hospitals.

"Let's be ready for the next thing that comes down the pike," Young

said. "Everything will be properly addressed in the planning phase so, as best we can, we're ready with whatever we need.

"For our census and behavioral health needs, the current thought is 14 rooms, with two of them being in behavioral health. But rooms, not hallways."

Other upgrades on Young's emergency department wish list: Two trauma rooms (instead of the current single one) where

more complex cases are handled, the capacity to offer telemedicine throughout the floor, TVs in all patient rooms. And more rooms where patient safety and privacy can be ensured.

In essence, no more patient spaces that are delineated by curtains, where private conversations can be heard by others.

"We don't have a family room — we don't have a place for them to receive sensitive information," Young said. "So we're talking about sensitive situations in the common hallway, where people are moving around. We're as careful and thoughtful and sensitive as we can be, but it's still a hallway."

FOR CAREGIVERS Porter officials also want to

make sure ED employees are given the comfort they deserve.

"Staff needs a safe and comfortable place to be, too, and focusing on our staff is going to be part of the rebuild," Young said.



based services and emergency medicine, is helping plan a major expansion and renovation project for the hospital's emergency department.

"We're talking

hallway ...

sensitive as we

can be, but it's

We're as

Photo courtesy of Porter Medical Center

locker room that's down the hall. If they want lunch, they have to leave the area, and it'd be nice to have a down-time room, or a place to process things. Sometimes, we experience for

everyone, and we'd like to debrief them. If we could huddle in about sensitive a room that's close, situations in private, and address the common staff concerns, that would be fantastic."

Young and Porter Financial careful and Chief Officer Scott Comeau thoughtful and acknowledged ED renovation and expansion plan will require enlarging the hospital's footprint, as opposed repurposing current space within the campus.

Construction will take place in a way that doesn't interrupt ED services, they stressed.

So when might we see work begin on a Porter ED project?

It could be a while.

Hospital leaders are working with an architect in hopes of

"Currently, (staff) have a small having a plan completed next spring. Then Porter will have to prepare a Certificate Of Need, or CON, which will essentially be the hospital's pitch to the state's Green Mountain Care Board. That board have a really scary, sad patient will have to endorse Porter's CON

before the project can move forward.

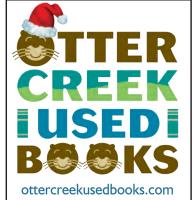
Porter is an affiliate the University of Vermont Health Network. The network brings a lot of resources and expertise to bear on its members' capital projects, but all most compete for limited construction funding, Comeau noted.

Comeau said it's still a hallway." too soon to estimate — Dr. Amanda how much the ED Young expansion/renovation project will cost.

"It'll be a major outlay," he said. "There's a lot of work the network is trying to capitalize. I know this project has a high level of priority.

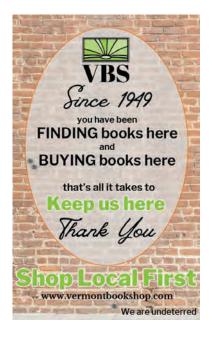
"To get the green light to move forward in 2025 would be great." Reporter John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.





99 Maple Street Historic Marble Works, Middlebury 802-388-3241

Tuesday - Saturday, 10am - 5pm











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

- FREE Set-up
- FREE Removal

ALSO IN THIS SECTION:

- School News • Classifieds
- Legal Notices Police Logs

Panther men drop two games

Hockey team bested by Hamilton, Amherst, now 1-5-2

men's hockey team dropped a Middlebury College team's record

pair of home games over the dropped to 1-5-2, 1-4-1 in league MIDDLEBURY — The Panther weekend to NESCAC rivals. The



PANTHER FORWARD CHRIS Garbe levers the puck into the net's left side to score the game's first goal, but Amherst rallied for the victory against the host Middlebury men's hockey team on Saturday.

This was college teams' final week of action before the Panther athletes sat for final exams and then headed home for the holiday

On Friday Hamilton improved to 6-1 with a 5-1 victory over the Panther men's hockey team. The Continentals scored three times in the first period and outshot Middlebury, 40-22.

Hamilton's Luke Tchor scored with 1:31 gone in the opening period, and Justin Biraben made it 2-0 at 11:41 with a tip-in. At 17:45 Ben Zimmerman added a shorthanded breakaway goal.

Middlebury cut the deficit to 3-1 less than a minute later in the first period, when Jin Lee deked a defender and snuck the puck past Hamilton goalie Charlie Archer.

With four minutes gone in the middle frame, Hamilton's Max Bulawka one-timed a pass home.

The Panthers had a good chance (See Hockey, Page 3B)



MIDDLEBURY SENIOR FORWARD Andrej Hromic tries to stuff the puck past Amherst goalie Connor Leslie in the third period of Saturday's men's hockey home game. Independent photo/Steve James



PANTHER FORWARD WYATT Pastor bursts between two Amherst opponents during Saturday's men's hockey home game.

Independent photo/Steve James

AMHERST GOALIE CONNOR Leslie sprawls to deny Panther forward Dante Palumbo a scoring chance during Saturday's game in Kenyon Arena. Independent photo/Steve James

Commodore giris win, Tigers Iose

recent season-opening high school girls' basketball action, Vergennes won big on the road, but Middlebury was less fortunate away from home.

Mount Abraham was set to debut by hosting U-32 on Wednesday after the deadline for this edition. Otter Valley is slated to open at

Fair Haven on this Thursday. **COMMODORES**

VUHS opened on Dec. 8 by

ADDISON COUNTY — In Commodores got balanced scoring until Jan. 24. and blew the game open by outscoring their hosts by 22-4 in the third quarter.

Ashtin Stearns led the attack with 15 points, followed by Amelia Giroux (12), Ava Francis (8), and Faith McAllister and Tryphene Miguel (7) apiece.

Anna Villenueve paced Fairfax with 14 points.

The Commodores' home game vs.

coasting at Fairfax, 61-25. The Stowe on Tuesday was postponed

TIGERS

On Tuesday host Montpelier got past the Tigers, 40-30, in the opener for both teams. The Solons led after one period, 11-9, took charge by outscoring the Tigers by 13-6 in the second quarter, and still led by nine entering the final eight minutes. Ireland Donahue led Montpelier with 20 points and added eight rebounds.

Solstice Binder scored 15 points for MUHS.

OV, VUHS boys' teams prevail

ADDISON COUNTY — The Vergennes and Otter Valley boys' high school basketball teams won their winter debuts on the road, while the Middlebury boys came up short at home in their lid-lifter.

The Mount Abraham boys were set to open their season on Wednesday at Winooski after

deadline for this issue. **COMMODORES**

On Dec. 8, the Commodores opened by topping host Danville, 54-47. Oakley Francis led VUHS with 14 points, while Andrew

Doncas scored a game-high 19 for

The Commodores' Monday game at Colchester was postponed until

The Commodores were scheduled to host Northfield on Wednesday in their home opener.

OTTERS On Saturday, the Otters rolled past host Mount St. Joseph, 65-26, in their opener. OV led at the break by 13 points before opening the second half with a 23-2 run to settle matters.

The Otters relied on balanced scoring. Drew Pelkey led with 13 points, followed by Logan Letourneau (11 points), Lucas Politano (nine), Connor Denis (eight) and Owen Thomas (seven).

Mason Boudreau paced the Mounties with eight points.

The Otters were set to visit Mill River on Wednesday. **TIGERS**

On Dec. 8, visiting St. Albans coasted past MUHS in the Tigers' home opener, 75-47. Will Hughes (18) and Brady Cutting (16) combined for 34 points for the **Bobwhites**

Cam Whitlock paced the Tigers with 11 points.

The Tigers' Monday game at Essex was postponed until Saturday at 1:30 p.m.

Tiger wrestling bags big wins at tournament

ELLENBURG DEPOT, N.Y. — Middlebury Union High School wrestling coach Ethan Raymond reported strong results for his team at a Saturday tournament hosted by Northern Adirondack Central, including first-place finishes by Avery Carl and Owen Larrow.

Overall, Raymond said, the five Tiger wrestlers who competed compiled a 21-3 record.

Carl went 5-0 in winning first place at 144 pounds, and Larrow went 5-0 in finishing first at 157 pounds. Larrow defeated Mount Abraham's Wesley Husk in his final. Other teams' full results were not available.

Tiger Alex Sperry settled for second at 126 pounds with a 4-1 record, as did Tucker Wright with a 4-1 mark at 150.

Wyatt Kennett, the only Tiger freshman, compiled a 3-1 record in finishing fourth at 165 pounds.



Sports (Mostly)

KARL

LINDHOLM

MacAusland started ski racing at the Franconia Ski Club. At a race was apt indeed in light of this year's at the Snow Bowl, she stole a bib team's undefeated season (21-0) and hung it in her bedroom "as a and National Championship, the source of inspiration.

bore "It blue snowflakes on background," white Edie explained at her Middlebury College Athletics Hall of Fame induction last month. "It symbolized that Middlebury was my first choice of college.'

At Middlebury from 1972-76, Edie not only skied, but also played

field hockey and lacrosse for four years, and in her senior year, foregoing skiing, she and her teammates and friends, "dressed in red sweaters, dungarees, and figure skates" and started a hockey team: "We only played three games, but it was the genesis of a new program."

Edie clearly was an extraordinary athlete, versatility personified, but it was her remarkable skill and success in field hockey that earned her Hall of Fame honor.

In the tenth grade, Edie To celebrate a field hockey player from the program's earliest days sixth in a row.

> Middlebury had a women's ski team for a long time, and women's tennis too, but in the mid-1970s, just after the passage of Title 9 and the formation of NESCAC — and before most of the women's teams at Middlebury were established field hockey

already a competitive intercollegiate sport.

The field hockey team Edie joined when she arrived in 1972 was highly organized and successful, undefeated the previous year. In Edie's four years, the team won 29 games, lost just one and tied three.

That defeat was a one-goal loss to UVM during her senior year. Edie held the field hockey scoring record at Middlebury for more than 20 years with 58 goals in the (See Lindholm, Page 2B)



EDIE PLAYED AT the National Sports Festival in Colorado Springs for the East Team in 1978. She was selected and toured internationally for the U.S. National Team.



EDIE MACAUSLAND MABREY, shown with her 1979 Harvard field hockey team, posted a winning record over six seasons, was nationally ranked and second in the Ivy League standings in 1982

Struggling to find the right color? Let us help guide you through the decision process. California 802-388-2500 M- F 7:30-5:30, Sat. 8-1 DISTINCTIVE PAINT AND INTERIORS 1396 Rte 7 South | Middlebury, VT



14 College St, Middlebury, VT | (802) 388-3371 | OtterCreekBakery.com

Lindholm

(Continued from Page 1B) regular season, until Heidi Howard Allen (who is in the inaugural Hall of Fame class in 2014) broke it in 1997 with 66.

Edie was the captain, high scorer and Most Valuable Player in 1975-76 in both field hockey and

Carolyn Leggett Perine was a senior, a three-year starter in field hockey, in 1972. When called upon to describe Edie as a player, she laughed and said it was ironic that she should be asked. "Edie played the same position I did and she took my spot on the team as a freshman.

"She was impressive from day one. She had amazing stick skills. She would fly down the field and score. I couldn't be mad at her because she was so much fun! She was a breath of fresh air."

Having fun is something of a theme when Edie's name comes up. Another teammate, Susan Storer '75, when told Edie was being inducted into the Middlebury Hall of Fame, said, "It's about time! Edie was a great athlete and was a pleasure to play with. She had no pretensions: she was just one of the team, even though she was better than the rest of us."

Edie stayed at Middlebury for a year after graduating, working in admissions and coaching field hockey as an assistant. She continued to play both field hockey and lacrosse after graduation, field hockey nationally at a high level.

At age 26, Edie was appointed the head field hockey coach at Harvard, coaching full-time for six years (assisting in tennis also). She compiled a winning record at Harvard. In 1982 and '83, her teams were 18-8-4 overall and finished second in the Ivy League with an 8-2-2 record.

She was described in an article in the Harvard Crimson ("Edie MacAusland Takes Charge") as "one of the top 30 field hockey players in the country. She should have a good shot at traveling to Moscow for the Olympics" (alas, those Games in 1980 were boycotted by the U.S. and 60 other countries in protest of Russia's invasion of Afghanistan).

"I loved coaching at Harvard," Edie said. "I lived in a frosh dorm, bought my first car. I'd get tickets to Harvard football games and scalp 'em so I'd have money to go out to dinner."

Kate Martin played four years for Edie at Harvard and is a member of their Athletic Hall of fame. "She made it so much fun." Kate said. "We looked forward to going to practice. Our team was nationally ranked! She saw our potential and brought out the best in us."

"She was the epitome of a players' coach. I knew I was being coached by a great player. When I became a coach, I tried to match her energy."

In 1984, expecting her second child, Edie retired, as the demands of family became her priority. However, she was lured back into coaching at Harvard

in 1989, this time as a part-time assistant in lacrosse. Her 1990 team was unbeaten and won the national championship, defeating Maryland, 8-7, in Princeton, N.J.

When those demands lessened, Edie back went into coaching 13 years (2006 - 2018)the Dana Hall School Wellesley, in Mass. Janet Sullivan (the lacrosse coach and associate athletic director at Dana Hall) was exuberant in her praise of Edie: "She was the best, most talented coach I have ever worked with. We begged her not to retire and we ask her to come back every year.

of Fame celebration November "She 4. Edie was on the field hockey, everything out skiing, and lacrosse teams at of those kids — Middlebury, played high-level and they loved field hockey nationally, and was the head coach of field hockey at her! She always went the extra Harvard from 1979-84. mile. She was coach of the

New England Championships. She was outstanding in all areas as a coach."

Edie was the fifth of six children

in her family living just outside Boston, in Dedham. She described herself as "the tag along, the peewee goalie, the fill-in for (her siblings') sporting endeavors." Η

brother Steve coached her in skiing, her sister Gusta gave her a 'second-hand field hockey stick," her mother's "unwavering support e m b o d i e d what I aspired to as a future coach, she said. Her coach Milton at Academy, D o 1 1 y Sullivan, "taught me a pass travels faster than carrying the EDIE MACAUSLAND MABREY,

Middlebury '76, speaks at her ball." induction into the Athletics Hall Edie and Roy Mabrey, her husband of 41 years, have four adult children, all Photo credit: Todd Balfour whom

played sports

year in our league, took teams to at the college level, and nine grandchildren, and still reside in the Boston area (Needham).

Middlebury

Athletics

HALL OF FAME

In her speech at the Hall of Fame celebration, Edie remembered her "townie roommates," Deb Parton, daughter of the college physician George Parton, and Robin Wonnacott, daughter of the Dean of Students Erica Wonnacott. "They provided a bridge to the local community. Erica's mentorship has been a guiding light."

(Deb died in a tragic automobile accident in 1980. The Deb Parton Memorial Award is given to "a member of a women's team who best exemplifies the spirit and dedication of Deborah Parton '76.)

Edie also cited long-time Dean of Admissions (and ski coach) Fred Neuberger, who "supported our training on the slopes and suggested I go into coaching," and Dottie Neuberger, who "refereed our field hockey and lacrosse games and was an ardent supporter" of those

She also thanked Gary Margolis for "playing a pivotal role as a counselor, mentor, and advisor," when she was writing her poetry thesis in English.

A personal note: Edie graduated from Middlebury in June of 1976: I came to back to Middlebury to work the next month, July of 1976. Edie was an exuberant young colleague working in admissions that year alongside my wife — and we found her infectious spirit irresistible.

She was the social chair of the young Middlebury College professionals and alums that year, a group that met on occasion at Fire & Ice, the liveliest night spot in town then, 47 years ago! She was so much fun.

Contact Karl Lindholm at lindholm@middlebury.edu.



MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE'S 1975 Field Hockey team was 8-1 for the season and played three games in a postseason tournament. Edie MacAusland Mabrey, middle row, second from the left, and Deb Daniels, top row, middle, were selected to play at the national level.



MEMORIAL Ηαρρυ Holidays! **Upcoming Events** Thursday, December 14: 9:00 - 11:00 AM Public Skating Saturday, December 16: 3:00 - 4:30 PM Public Skating Sunday, December 17: Public Skating 2:30 - 4:00 PM Tuesday, December 19: 9:00 - 11:00 AM Public Skating Wednesday, December 20: 3:45 - 5:15 PM Stick & Puck Thursday, December 21: 9:00 - 11:00 AM Public Skating Tuesday, December 26: 9:00 - 11:00 AM Public Skating Skate Sharpening available during all events. Memorial Sports Center 296 Buttolph Drive • Middlebury, VT 802-388-1238 info@memorialsportscenter.org MemorialSportsCenter.org

Score Schedule

HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

Girls' Hockey 12/9 MUHS vs Stowe 12/13 MUHS at Rutland.....Late Boys' Hockey 12/9 MUHS vs U-32.....8-4 Boys' Basketball 12/8 St. Albans vs MUHS75-47 12/8 VUHS vs Danville54-47 12/9 OV vs MSJ......65-26 12/11 VUHS at Colchester......Ppd to 1/29 12/11 MUHS at EssexPpd to 12/16 12/13 Northfield at VUHSLate 12/13 OV at Mill RiverLate 12/13 Mt Abe at WinooskiLate Girls' Basketball 12/8 VUHS vs Fairfax.....61-25 12/12 Stowe at VUHS......Ppd. to 1/24 12/12 Montpelier vs MUHS......40-30

12/13 U-32 at Mt Abe..... Late **COLLEGE SPORTS**

Women's Basketball Men's Basketball 12/6 Midd vs Plattsburgh80-76 (OT) 12/8 Midd vs Skidmore 69-51

12/10 Midd vs Stevens84-77 (OT) Women's Hockey 12/9 Midd vs UMass-Boston......7-0 Men's Hockey 12/8 Hamilton vs Midd.....

12/9 Amherst vs Midd.....

HIGH SCHOOL SPOR	TS
Girls' Hockey	
12/16 MUHS at Hartford	2 PN
12/20 Missisquoi at MUHS	7 PN
Boys' Hockey	
12/16 Rutland at MUHS	7 PN
12/23 MUHS at Colchester	
Boys' Basketball	
12/15 Randolph at Mt Abe	7 PM
12/15 Stowe at VUHS	
12/16 MUHS at Essex	
12/16 OV at Hartford	2:30 PM
12/18 VUHS at Williamstown	7 PM
12/19 Mt. Anthony at OV	7 PM
12/20 Fair Haven at VUHS	7 PM
12/20 Winooski at Mt Abe	7 PM
12/20 MUHS at U-32	7 PM
12/22 Mt Abe at MSJ	7 PM
12/23 Mill River at MUHS	12:30 PM
12/23 OV at Springfield	1:30 PM
Girls' Basketball	
12/14 Fair Haven at OV	7 PM
12/15 VUHS at Peoples	7 PM
12/16 BBA at Mt Abe	
12/16 MUHS at U-32	
12/19 Harwood at MUHS	7 PM

12/22 MUHS at OV......7 PM Nordic Skiing 12/21 MUHS hosts at Rikert......2 PM

12/19 OV at Proctor......7 PM

12/19 Montpelier at Mt Abe...... 7 PM

12/19 Fairfax at VUHS......7 PM

12/22 Williamstown at VUHS......7 PM

Wrestling 12/16.....Local Teams at St. J Tournament



MIDDLEBURY FORWARD ANDREW Seaman tips the puck just wide of the Amherst goal in Saturday's men's hockey home game.

Hockey

(Continued from Page 1B) with 3:27 left in the second period, but Archer gloved Matt Myers' spin-around attempt from between the circles.

The Panthers controlled most of the third period. Their best chance coming with 12:24 to go, when Archer sprawled to deny Andrew Seaman's shot from the right dot. Hamilton added its fifth goal at 15:59 mark on another Bulawka one-timer. Jake Horoho made 35 saves for Middlebury.

On Saturday Amherst (5-3, 3-2 NESCAC) came away with a 3-2 victory in a statistically even game, but one in which the Panthers did not hold a 2-0 lead.

Both teams had chances in the first period before the Panthers took the lead. Middlebury goalie Andrew Heinze stopped Josh Burke on a two-on-one rush in the third minute, and Mammoth goalie Connor Leslie slid to stop Chris Garbe in the 16th minute.

Middlebury scored with 3:36 left in the period: Garbe tucked the puck inside the left pipe on a cross-crease pass from Wyatt Pastor.

The Panthers killed three penalties early in the second

period and nearly scored on shorthanded bid by Myers. Then Lee gave Middlebury a 2-0 lead at 9:01. Lee won the puck, worked his way outside of the crease and

lifted a shot home. The Mammoths quickly made it 2-1 when Connor Guest netted a rebound. Amherst then knotted the contest at 14:40, when Quinton

Fox scored in a scramble. Amherst earned the gamewinning goal with 1:34 gone in the final period. Fox worked his way out front and shoveled a shot home

In the middle of the period Leslie denied back-to-back shots from the left side by Andrej Hromic and Garbe. The Panthers also had an apparent goal that Garbe tucked in disallowed because the play had been blown dead after the official lost sight of a rolling puck.

Over the final 4:50, the Panthers had an extra skater due to a Mammoth penalty, and the also pulled Heinze for the last 1:38. Their best chance came with 51 seconds left, but Leslie padded away a Pastor one-timer from between the circles. Leslie and Heinze each finished with 29

MUHS boys' hockey tops U-32 in its season opener

By ANDY KIRKALDY

BARRE — The Middlebury Union High School boys' hockey team opened the season this past Saturday by topping host U-32,

The Tigers will look to move to 2-0 when they host Rutland on this coming Saturday at 7 p.m.

Coach Jordan Stearns said in an email he was pleased overall with his team's effort in a penalty-filled contest: The Tigers were whistled for nine minor penalties, and the Raiders for eight.

"The team played well and battled hard," Stearns said. "It was a physical game with a lot of penalties on both sides."

Unsurprisingly for an opening game, the coach said he found a few things for the Tigers to work on in practice this week.

"Going forward we are going to look to clean up the defensive zone and the breakouts out of the defensive zone," Stearns wrote. "We also want to make sure to reduce the amount of time that we spend on the PK (penalty kill)."

On Saturday, the Tigers scored three in the first period and then broke the game open with four goals in the second.

Early power-play goals from Toby Draper, assisted by Kellan Bartlett and Iver Anderson, and Adrian Malhotra, from Jake Kadar and Gabriel Quesnel, put the Tigers on the board. Kadar's unassisted strike at 10:09 added their third goal in the opening 15 minutes.

In the first minute of the second, Bartlett scored from Draper and Anderson, and at 7:00 Draper added a shorthanded goal set up by Gavin McNulty. A minute later Brady McDonough netted the sixth Tiger goal, with an assist from Eyon Tembreull. At 11:34 of the middle period, Quesnel struck on a power play, from McNulty and

In the final 15 minutes, McNulty iced the cake, from Quinn Collins and Kadar.

College teams pick up victories

Men's and women's basketball, women's hockey teams enjoying success

By ANDY KIRKALDY

MIDDLEBURY results were mostly positive for Middlebury College teams in their final week of action before the Panther athletes sat for final exams and then headed home for the holiday break.

The men's basketball squad closed the semester with a threegame winning streak, while both the women's basketball and hockey teams won their only

Only the men's hockey failed to come away with a victory (see story on Page 1B).

Men's Basketball

The men's basketball team's three triumphs, two in overtime on the road, improved the Panthers' record to 5-6.

On Dec. 6, the Panthers got past host Plattsburgh in overtime, 80-76, as Noah Osher (26 points) and Tristan Joseph (a career-high 25) combined for 51 points. David Brennan added 11 points and a career-high 28 rebounds.

The Panthers took a 38-32 alftime lead by closing the half on a 13-4 run in which Osher scored six points.

Middlebury pushed the lead to 64-54 with 7:38 remaining on a Joseph floater, but the Cardinals fought back and tied the score at 70-70 on a Jeremiah Smith layup at 0:09.

The Cardinals took advantage of Panther turnovers to twice take two-point leads on Smith dunks in overtime, but Brennan tied the game, 74-74 with two free throws at 1:09. Panther first-year Kuba Cwalini then scored the game's next four points in transition, with assists from Brennan and Smith, to give Middlebury the and Smith scored 16.

against visiting Skidmore on the way to a 69-51 victory.

The Panthers trailed by 14-9 early in the first half before going on a 19-1 run to take charge. As well as strong defense, Middlebury used two Joseph three-pointers and seven points from Evan Flaks in that stretch.

Eventually the run reached 28-5 to put Middlebury up 37-19 at the half. Charley Moore then scored six points early in the second half as the Panther lead reached 20. At one point in the second half the Panthers led by

Flaks led the Panthers' balanced attack with 17 points and six

assists; Moore and Joseph each scored 10, with adding Moore seven rebounds; Osher scored nine with seven boards; Brennan and finished with

eight points and another 20 put the game away by outscoring rehounds

Hakeem Daphnis and Aidan Roy each scored 12 for the 2-7 Thoroughbreds.

Sunday afternoon, On Middlebury got past host Stevens Institute, 84-77 in overtime. The Panthers outscored their hosts by 21-14 in the extra session to snap Stevens' seven game winning streak; the Ducks are 7-2.

Osher (11 points), Joseph and Lamine Cisse (five apiece) combined to score all 21 Panther points in overtime, which Middlebury opened with a 10-2 surge. The Ducks came no closer than five points the rest of the nip-and-tuck from that point, and Joseph eventually went coast-tocoast and sank a reverse layup to tie the game at 63-63 with three second remaining to send the game into overtime.

Osher tossed in a career-high 34 points, Joseph scored 14, Cisse posted a career-best 13 points and added six rebounds, Brennan scored five and hauled in 14 rebounds, and Edward Witherington scored eight and nabbed six boards.

Conor Coffey led four Ducks in double figures with 18 points. Women's Basketball

The Panther women's hoop team wrapped up its semester

on Dec. 6 by coasting Plattsburgh, improve to 5-4. Plattsburgh fell to 3-5.

Middlebury led at halftime, 40-29, and then

the Cardinals in the third quarter 22-7.

The Panthers opened that quarter with a 12-0 surge in which Brooke Collins and Alexa Mustafaj each scored four points. They led by 62-26 by the end of the period.

Mustafaj finished with a gamebest 27 points, marking the sixth time this season she has topped the 20-point plateau and the 39th time in her career. She has also

hit 34 straight free throws. Augusta Dixon chipped in with 10 points, a career-best seven rebounds, three steals and three assists.

Imani Walcott and Julia Greek each scored 11 points for the Cardinals.

Women's Hockey

The women's hockey team on Saturday evening blitzed visiting U-Mass Boston, 7-0, breaking out of a scoring slump while outshooting the Beacons by 51-6. The team entered the holiday break with a 5-2-1 record, while the Beacons dropped to 3-8-3.

Bridget Gray worked a six-save shutout in her first career start for the Panthers, while beleaguered Beacon goalie Leah Bosch stopped 44 shots.

The Panthers took charge by erupting for four goals in the first period before adding one goal in the second and two in the third. Avery McInerny started the party with an early power-play goal, redirecting a Callia Ferraris shot.

Midway through the period Sabrina Kim rifled home a shot from the top of the circles, and shortly afterward Rachel Neyman one-timed home a Cece Ziegler feed for her first career goal. McInerny pinged in a shot off the bar from the left dot to cap the first-period binge.

Just 21 seconds into the second period Molly Macqueen poked a puck home in a scramble. In the third period Kate Flynn tucked a shot under the crossbar, and Ferraris made it 7-0 with another shot that hit the bottom of the crossbar on the way in for her first career goal.

Email it to:

news@addisonindependent.com

Pet of the week

Send us your pet! news@addisonindependent.com

Tiger girls tame **Stowe**, 5-1, in hockey opener

MIDDLEBURY Middlebury Union High School girls' hockey team opened with a 5-1 victory over visiting Stowe on this past Saturday night. The Tigers were looking to

move to 2-0 when they visited Rutland on Wednesday. They are set to visit Hartford on Saturday. Against Stowe, McKenna Raymond led the attack with two goals, and Ireland Hanley, Julia Morrissey and Sawyer Witscher added a goal apiece. Lily Finn, Ellie Wilkinson-Sachs and Kate Kozak chipped in assists, and Tiger goalie Ruby Hubbell made 16 saves.

Stowe's Isabel Donza scored, reaching the 100-point career plateau in the process, and Raider goalie Ella McAllister made 22 saves.

lead. Two Brennan free throws The Panthers led by 31-28 sealed the win. Cwalini finished at the half and stretched the with nine points. Kevin Tabb led advantage to 54-45 at one point Plattsburgh (2-6) with 26 points, in the second half. Stevens responded with a 13-2 run to take On this past Friday, the a one-point lead at 57-56 with Panthers surged in the first half 3:08 remaining. The game was



WINE-BEER-SPIRITS

FIND WINTER FAVORITES AT TWO GREAT LOCATIONS!







A 44-Year Middlebury Tradition of

Trusted & Caring Dental Excellence!

Jennings hired as CVOEO community service worker

has hired Zoraida Jennings to work as a community service worker at the Addison Community Action

provide home energy assistance to people in need.

office and food shelf

offer many resources "We are programs for qualifying individuals thrilled to and families, including welcome housing advocacy, food Zoraida to services, home heating the team, and utility support, weatherization services, and I look financial counseling, forward to tax preparation, Farm to Family Coupons, working alongside 3SquaresVt, and more. "We are thrilled to her to welcome Zoraida to support our the team, and I look community."

Mark Demers, associate director for Addison Community Action. "Together, we will be is open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., able to reach even more people seeking assistance with fuel and energy bills. Her work will make a real difference to help keep people warm in their homes during Vermont's cold weather months. In addition, her compassion combined

forward to working

alongside her to support

our community," said

— The with her competence means she Champlain Valley Office of is well suited to meet our clients Economic Opportunity (CVOEO) where they are while guiding them

toward where they want ADDISON COUNTY

Business News

Prior to joining Addison Community Action, Jennings

office in Middlebury. She will worked at Generac Power Systems in South Burlington, first as a customer service specialist and Addison Community Action and then as a supervisor and trainer. At Addison Community Action Food Generac she learned to navigate Shelf, located at 54 Creek Road, the various expectations of Suite A, in Middlebury, have a external customers and suppliers deep history of providing critical and, in so doing, she acquired support to the community. The skills in conflict mediation and coaching.

"Working people in need of assistance gives me great joy," Jennings said. "Everyone deserves access to the resources they need to thrive. I'm excited to share the skills I've acquired communication, problem-solving and collaborating the team at Addison Community Action and CVOEO. I welcome the opportunity to make a positive impact on the lives of people in my community."

Addison Community Action Monday-Friday, except holidays. The Addison Community Action Food Shelf hours are Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to noon and 12:30 p.m. to 3:40 p.m., except holidays. For more information call 802-





— Mārk

Demers

Addison County Parent/Child Center

- info@addisoncountypcc.org addisoncountypcc.org 388-3171
- Community Playgroups
- Parent Education Classes
- Home Visits
- Pregnancy Prevention Programs
- Parent Training & Child Center

Helping Young Families Get The Right Start



Assumption of the BLESSED VIRGIN MARY ST. MARY'S - ST. BERNADETTE - ST. GENEVIEVE



Solemnity of Christmas

Vigil Mass - Dec. 24, 4 pm - St. Mary's Mass at Night - Dec. 24, 7:30 pm - St. Mary's Mass During Day - Dec. 25, 9 am - St. Bernadette

www.stmary.vermontcatholic.org Parish Office 802-388-2943

Reader Comments

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

A subscriber from Middlebury writes:

"Love it — Would not want to go without it!"

Quotes are taken from reader comments submitted with subscription renewals.



Keep up to date with all the action, read

Arts + Leisure every Thursday in the Addy Indy!



THURSDAY

Advent noonday recital **Middlebury.** Thursday, Dec. 14, 12:15 p.m., St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 3 Main St. The Addison String Quartet will offer a program consisting of a Mozart Viola Quintet K. 174 and Corelli Concerto grosso in G minor "Fatto per la Notte di Natale." Emily Sunderman, Carol Harden and Carter Lee (violins), Joy Pile and Sam Liebhaber (violas), and Tom Dunne (cello). Free. All are welcome.

Midd Night Stroll in Middlebury. Thursday, Dec. 14, until 8 p.m., downtown. Middlebury's downtown stores will be open late with specials, pop-ups, tastings and more. The Cocoa Hut is back at Cannon Park, and be sure to check out the falls, which will be illuminated the entire month of December.

Holiday trains in Middlebury. Thursday, Dec. 14 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. More info: henrysheldonmuseum.org or 802-388-2117.

dec **FRIDAY**

Story Time with Santa in Bristol. Friday, Dec. 15, noon-1 p.m., Holley Hall, 1 South St. Come on down to Holley Hall for story time with Santa. The Jolly Elf will be reading holiday-themed stories.

Bridport Central School spaghetti dinner and basket raffle in Bridport. Friday, Dec. 15, 5 p.m., Bridport Central School, 3442 Route 22A. Help raise funds for an Artist in Residence program at the school. Menu includes spaghetti, salad, bread and dessert. Many raffle baskets to choose from. Dinner pricing is age 3 and under free/3-12 \$5/13 and up \$10.

Benefit concert and hymn sing for Charter House in Middlebury. Friday, Dec. 15, 7 p.m., United Methodist Church, N. Pleasant St. Join in the 13th annual concert and hymn sing to benefit the Housing and Feeding Programs of the Charter House Coalition. Secular as well as traditional Christmas music for all ages. Free but an offering will be taken to support Charter House. Reception in the fellowship hall following the concert. Questions? Contact Tom Colley at 802-388-9405.

SATURDAY

Bixby's Fiber Arts Circle in **Vergennes.** Saturday, Dec. noon-2 p.m., Bixby Memorial Library, 258 Main St. Get cozy on the couches of the Community Room. Bring your own projects, or use the crochet hooks, knitting needles, and yarn provided by the library. Bring cookies to share (though not required!), which all can enjoy with tea while we craft. Show-and-tell portion. Feel free to bring your favorite projects for designated

umen: Celebration of Fire and Light in Bristol. Saturday, Dec. 16, 4-7 p.m., downtown. Come to Bristol and experience fire performers, a lantern party, and fire pits on the Town Green. A Bristol

SUNDAY

rides around Bristol. Sunday, Dec. 17, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Holley Hall, 1 South St. Take a holiday ride in a horse-drawn trolley. Register by calling Bristol Rec at 802-453-5885 starting on Monday, Dec.11, from 8 a.m.-noon. Free, but donations gratefully accepted for future rec programs.

Annual Messiah Sing in Middlebury. Sunday, Dec. 17, 2 p.m., Congregational Church of Middlebury, 2 Main St. Singers and players gather each December for a joyful sing-along of selections from Handel's Messiah. Join in and sing favorite choruses, or play in the orchestra. Open to all, with donations gratefully accepted at the door. More info contact Jeff at 802-382-7493.

Celebration of Christmas in Monkton. Sunday, Dec. 17, 2 p.m. East Monkton Church, 405 Church Rd. Gather around a fire pit to sing Christmas carols, test your knowledge of carol history and trivia, and enjoy conversation and refreshments. There is no charge for the event, but donations are greatly appreciated. All funds are used for the restoration and maintenance of the building. There are no restroom facilities. More info call 802-453-7575.

dec

MONDAY

"Where are We on Health Care Legislation" in Middlebury. Monday, Dec. 18, 5:30 p.m., Ilsley Public Library, 75 Main St. or via Zoom. The Addison County

Democratic Committee December meeting will host a panel discussion on health care with speakers Sen. Ruth Hardy, a member of the Senate Health and Welfare Committee, and Mike Fisher, Vermont's Chief Health Care Advocate. Business followed by the panel discussion at 5:45 p.m. All are invited.



WEDNESDAY

Age Well Community Meal in Middlebury. Wednesday, Dec. 20, 11 a.m., VFW, 530 Exchange St. Menu includes baked penne pasta with beef marina, California blend vegetables, corn bread, dessert and milk. Doors open at 11 a.m. Meal served at noon. Advanced reservations only. Call Michelle 802-377-1419 to reserve. \$5 suggested donation per meal. Open to everyone 60+ and spouse of any age Bring your own place setting. Free transportation may be available - call Tri Valley Transit to inquire: 802-388-2287 at least 48 hours in advance.



Advent noonday recital Middlebury. Thursday, Dec. 21, 12:15 p.m., St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 3 Main St. A Community Carol Sing. Director of Music Robert Ludwig will lead a singalong of favorite sacred and secular songs of the season, including entertaining stories and histories of the



Singing in Christmas

ADDISON COUNTY RESIDENTS have two separate opportunities to celebrate the holidays with song on Sunday, Dec. 17. Middlebury's Annual Messiah Sing will take place at 2 p.m. at the Congregational Church of Middlebury. The East Monkton Church will have carols, trivia and refreshments around the fire pit at 2 p.m. as well.

lans Bachmann, "A Christmas Carol in Lucerne," 1887

carols. Free. All are welcome.

Holiday movie and party in Ferrisburgh. Thursday, Dec. 21, 5 p.m., Ferrisburgh Town Hall, 3279 Route 7. Join the Friends of the Union Meeting Hall for a magical evening creatively designed for holiday fun for the whole family. Come in your PJ's, get your tickets and take a round trip ride on the Ferrisburgh Town Hall Express to the North Pole. Santa will be on site so you can visit and take pictures. Then grab some hot chocolate and cookies and watch a holiday family movie that will show you what it means to Believe. Free and open to the public



FRIDAY

Last Minute Falala in Bristol. Friday, Dec. 22, 5-8 p.m., downtown. Bristol businesses will be open until 8 p.m. with carolers and free hot chocolate to get you through that last-minute shopping.

dec

SATURDAY

Memory Tree lighting in Leicester. Saturday, Dec. 23, 5 p.m., Leicester Meeting House. 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.

dec

SATURDAY

Best Night in Bristol. Sunday, Dec. 31, 3:30-11 p.m., downtown Bristol. Come to Bristol for an afternoon and evening of ringing in the New Year. As the date draws closer, check out bristolbestnight.org for details.

New Year's Eve fireworks and skating in Middlebury. Sunday, Dec. 30, 6:30 p.m., Middlebury Rec Park. Usher out the new year with fireworks, then head on into Memorial Sports Center and enjoy an hour and a half of free skating.

New Year's Eve Dance in Middlebury. Sunday,

Dec. 31, 6:30 p.m.-midnight, VFW, 530 Exchange St. Dance to the tunes of DJ Triple B. Light snacks and desserts on offer, as well as party favors. Tickets \$10. Open to the public.



For a list of online meetings visit vermontalanonalateen.org. Sundays, 7:15 p.m. and Wednesdays, 1:30 p.m. If you'd like to speak to an Al-Anon member, call our answering service (866-972-5266) and an Al-Anon member will call you back.

Gathering of Joys and Concerns in Middlebury.

Gather, 48 Merchants Row, Sundays, 9-10 a.m. Bread Loaf Mountain Zen Community hosts an informal circle in which people can share a joy or a concern, or just listen. It is an opportunity to express feelings in a safe and welcoming space. Followed by coffee and cookies gathering/social hour. People may come in and leave as they

Midday Mindfulness in Middlebury. Gather, 48 Merchants Row, noon-12:30 p.m., Wednesday-Saturday. Bread Loaf Mountain Zen Community hosts this half-hour of mindfulness. No

experience necessary Midday Mindfulness, Wednesday-Saturday, noon-12:30 p.m. Tai Chi classes in Middlebury. Congregational Church, 27 N. Pleasant Street

Fall Prevention Tai Chi, Tuesdays 10-11 a.m., Contact Lindsay Hart lindsayhart09@gmail.com. Fall Prevention Level 1, Fridays, 10 a.m., Ilsley Public Library, 75 Main St. Contact Wendy at wcacovey@gmail.com or 802-238-5217 to leave

Ongoing tai chi practice, Tuesdays, 11:15-12:15 p.m. Contact Lindsay Hart lindsayhart09@gmail.

Yang 24 for Beginners, Mondays 4-6 p.m., starting Sept. 12. Contact Elizabeth Wirls wirlselizabeth@ gmail.com

Tai Chi Classes in Vergennes.

St. Peter's Catholic Church Parish Hall, 85 S. Maple

Fall Prevention Tai Chi Level 1 and 2, Tuesdays and Thursdays 9-10 a.m. starting Sept. 13. Contact Lee Francis Ihfrancis839@gmail.com. Bixby Memorial Free Library (258 Main St.):

Fall Prevention Tai Chi Level 3, Tuesdays and Thursdays 10 a.m., starting Sept. 12. Contact Lee

Francis Infrancis839@gmail.com. Long Form Sun 73, Wednesdays, 10 a.m. starting Sept. 13. Contact Beverly Blakeney

beverlyblakeney@gmail.com Yang 24, Tuesdays 1-2:30 p.m. starting Sept. 12. Contact Beverly Blakeney at beverlyblakeney@

gmail.com. West African dance class in Middlebury. Sundays, 5 p.m., Vermont Sun, 812 Exchange St. Join Soriba "Simbo" Camara for a weekly class and learn traditional dances from Guinea while

getting a great cardio workout. \$20 to drop in. No gym membership is necessary to attend. All are Women's alcohol use virtual support group.

Tuesdays, 5 p.m., Zoom. More info contact Kathy@MountainLakeCounseling.com

Yoga Philosophy virtual discussion with Prem Prakash. Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m., Zoom. Go to IIsley Public Library website to register: ilsleypubliclibrary.org.

ARTSandCRAFTS

Middlebury Writers Workshop Second and fourth Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m., Meeting Room, Ilsley Public Library, 75 Main St. A respectful, engaged group of writers welcoming all skill levels and genres. Look closely at each other's work and help cultivate, inspire strengthen our individual craft. All are welcome. For more info contact Andrea Chesman at andreachesman@gmail.com or Masha Harris at masha.harris@gmail.com.

The Makery Sewing lab. Thursdays, 5-9 p.m., The Makery at Hannaford Career Center, 51 Charles Ave. Get your questions answered and learn new skills from our kind and talented Mentors. All levels are welcome from never used a sewing machine to advanced pattern making. Limit of 4 participants. Registration required. Free, \$5 Drop-In Fee or Membership Cards. Select what works best for you. More info at

BE SURE TO CHECK OUT OUR CALENDARONLINE

hannafordcareercenter.org/the-makery.

addisonindependent.com

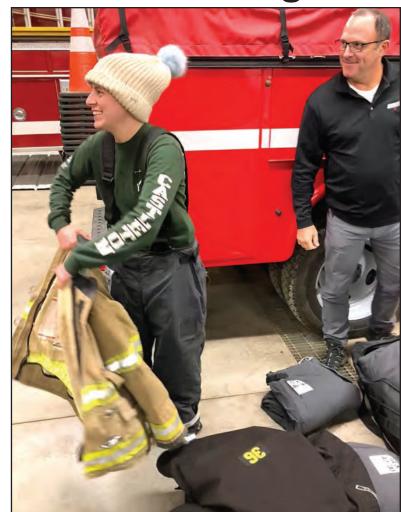


Ripton fire receives new gear

RIPTON — Ripton Fire and Rescue will be receiving four new sets of firefighting turnout gear and helmets through MSA and DuPont's Globe Gear Giveaway, in partnership with the National Volunteer Fire Council. Department members were recently fitted by Globe's distributor, Bergeron Protective Clothing, for the new personal protective equipment. The gear will help ensure responders are safe and protected while they protect their community.

Ripton Fire & Rescue provides fire protection and medical first response to Ripton and participates in mutual aid with surrounding towns. In addition to medical response, fire calls, and motor vehicle crashes, the department provides year-round wilderness rescue for hikers, skiers, and hunters. The department staffs medical and traffic control personnel for town fundraising bike and run road race events, they visit with the elementary school students to talk about fire safety and the importance of smoke detectors, and also hosts the annual town picnic. Last year department volunteer members donated over 1,300 hours of their time to emergency response, training, equipment maintenance and community service.

Firefighting gear is one of the most important pieces of personal protective equipment worn for building fires, vehicle fires, motor vehicle crashes, and hazardous materials emergencies. To meet current standards, fire gear is replaced after 10 years and is a huge expense for the department's



gear sizing set with the help of Bergeron Protective Clothing's Rich Hillsgrove.

Photo credit by Chris Pike

limited annual budget. The four sets of gear have a retail value of over \$15,800 and constitute a significant donation. Inflation, high material and transportation costs, and lack of funding have all made it a challenge to keep department volunteer firefighters

protected with personal protective equipment that meets current standards. Ripton Fire and Rescue is extremely grateful to MSA and Dupont's Globe Gear Giveaway and the National Volunteer Fire Council for making this possible.

Girls on the Run is looking for coaches

WILLISTON — Girls on the Run Vermont, a nonprofit organization that uses a research and physical activity-based curriculum to inspire girls in 3rd through 8th grade to be joyful, healthy, and confident, is excited to announce that coach registration for GOTRVT's 25thanniversary spring season is now open statewide. Using a fully updated and refreshed curriculum, GOTRVT coaches will empower participants to develop critical life skills, build confidence, cultivate positive connections with peers, and stand up for themselves and

others. The ten-week season begins March 18, with teams meeting twice a week for 90 minutes. The twenty-lesson curriculum covers topics such as positive self-talk, friendship, managing emotions and more, all created to nourish participants' social, emotional, and physical well-being. The program culminates with teams participating in one of two non-competitive, celebratory 5K events — one on June 1 at the Champlain Valley Expo in Essex Junction and the other on June 8 at the Manchester Recreation Fields — bringing together family, friends, and community members to celebrate the participants' growth throughout the season.

All coaches will be trained in Girls on the Run Vermont has inspired and impacted the lives of approximately 38,000 girls in Vermont for

person and will receive the materials a n d resources necessary to facilitate lessons for the season. Coaches do 24 years. not need to be runners

but are required to be a minimum of eighteen years old. Students in high school may register to be a Junior Coach. All volunteer coaches must complete a background check and online training modules prior to inperson training. Coach trainings are offered at three locations statewide: Feb. 3 in Brattleboro, Feb. 4 in Castleton, and Feb. 10 in Essex. GOTRVT needs over 500 volunteer coaches to host teams in 2024.

Girls on the Run Vermont has inspired and impacted the lives of approximately 38,000 girls in Vermont for 24 years. This season,

GOTRVT celebrates its 25th starting the week of March 18th. anniversary and will be offered at To learn more or to register to be a

over 110 locations across Vermont coach mentor, visit www.gotrvt.org/



check for the proceeds from the Lions concession booth at the Sept. 15 and 16 event at Field Days. The Benefit Pull organizers will use the money from the Lions to support their charity work.

Photo by David Morse

Lincoln

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

NEWS

Community School and their afterschool program, Creative Spark are looking for donations. Their wish list includes hats, mittens, gloves, snow pants, coats, winter boots, used bike helmets, scooters, skateboards, sleds, an electric griddle and waffle maker. Please contact Deirdre Zele or Maureen Rotax at LCS at 802-453-2119 for drop off information. They thank you in advance for any

donations you might make. Whether you prefer outdoor or indoor activities, the library has something for you. This season, they are again offering snowshoes for daily or weekly checkout. Available are four adult sets in two sizes, and six children's sets of snowshoes. Go outside and explore

winter season.

The library will be closed Monday, Dec. 25, and Tuesday, Dec. 26, for the holiday and Monday, Jan. 1, in observance of the new year.

SAVE THE DATE

Hill Country Holiday will be held the weekend of Feb. 2-4. Hill Country Holiday may seem far away, but you won't want to miss it! This year marks the 60th anniversary of Lincoln Sports. You can look forward to many festive events, including the variety show, parade, tasty meals put on by local groups, jack jumping and other shenanigans that bring us all together mid-winter.

Please reach out to Lincoln Sports at info@lincolnsports.org

LINCOLN — The Lincoln with your family and friends this if you would like to claim a meal to benefit an organization, host a game or activity, share some lore or be involved in making it happen. Details and calendar of events to follow in the new year.

REMINDERS

On Wednesday, Dec. 20, the library will hold another open studio session from 3 to 4:30 p.m. The next senior meal will be held on Thursday, Dec. 21, at Burnham Hall. A Christmas carol sing-a-long will begin at 11:30 a.m. and lunch will be served at noon.

Until next time ... Believe And Achieve. Invest In Yourself, It Pays The Best Interest. You Are Not Your Mistakes; They Are What You Did, Not Who You Are.

UDENT OF THE WEEK **Mount Abraham Union High School**



Luke Mayer MAUHS

Mt. Abe Student of the Week Luke Mayer radiates positivity through the hallways, on stage, the field and the track. He has received the highest academic honors every year. along with several outstanding achievements in Language, Arts and Sciences. Luke has a growth mindset; this year he received the most improved soccer player designation and

he was the rookie of the year for track in 10th grade. Luke

seeks opportunities to try new things; he hopes to be in the

spring musical. Luke transferred from North Branch School to Mt. Abe in 10th grade. He said, "It was a challenge but a good lesson for me as it was hard at first, but I eventually got settled in socially and academically. This has affected me in a positive way because I now know that life is about adapting to change but staying true to yourself through all of it. I would tell underclassmen to not worry about others' opinions, do

what makes them happy, and learn how to accept change."

Luke Mayer

Luke appreciates all of his teachers because they are supportive of his learning and of him as an individual person. Luke has several favorite classes which include: Reading, Writing and the Wilderness, AP Art, Piano, French, and AP Literature and Composition. He is grateful to have teachers that are always willing to help and be there for students.

He currently resides in Lincoln with his mom Amy Mayer, a reading interventionist, and his dad Nick Mayer, an artist; along with his older brother, Roman Mayer, two dogs, Shadow and Toby, and a lizard named Lizzy. Over the summer Luke works for ELP, for a studio artist and caters at weddings and events for Tourterelle. In his free time, he enjoys playing the piano, hanging out with friends, hiking, playing soccer, drawing, skiing and painting.

The Mt. Abe community wishes Luke all the best with his plans of taking a gap year and then attending college.

CONGRATULATIONS STUDENTS!

Telecommunications Sales and Service Data Cabling & Fiber Optic Solutions

802-388-8999 Middlebury

Students of the Week from all area high schools are entered into a raffle to win a \$100 gift card to The Vermont Book Shop. The winner will be chosen at the end of the school year. Students of the Week are chosen by school teachers and administration

Best of luck to all Addison County students!

If you are interested in advertising in Student of the Week contact advertising@addisonindependent.com



Way to go, Luke

64 Jackman Drive • Bristol 802.453.2381 • JackmansInc.com



Luke 877-3118 Vergennes, VT

ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT Well Done!

> We're Impressed!

8 Maple Street • Middlebury, VT • 802-388-4944 www.addisonindependent.com



• Business Law • Wills, Trusts and Estates • Government Contracting • Elder Law • Property and Tenancy Issues

802-489-5099 or Brad@LawDCVT.com 28 North Street - Bristol Village

Congratulations, Luke Kainbow 'ediatrics 802-388-1338

99 Court St., Middlebury, VT



Cheers to the **Students of the Week!**



Open Monday - Saturday 9am - 7pm Sunday 9am-5pm Redemption Closes 1 Hour Prior 21 Prince Lane, Bristol • 453-3990

auto body restoration auto repair auto sales & leasing carpentry/contractors

cleaning services construction duct cleaning

lawn care firewood

AUTO BODY RESORTATION

ALLETOP WELDING AUTOBODYRESTORATION



Agricultural Repair **Commercial Repair**

Rust Repair

restoration

Collison Repair We accept all major credit cards | We accept Insurance claims

Follow our projects on Facebook **f** 802-453-7345 | 138 Hunt Road, New Haven, VT

Collision Experts

Certified



All Makes and Models Working with all Insurance companies



(802) 388-9961

Mon-Fri 8am-5pm 2196 Rt 7 South, Middlebury stonecdjr.com

AUTO REPAIR

Hometown Service from Your Hometown Dealers!

Factory-Trained Technicians Servicing all makes and models



G Stone Motors 36 Boardman St., Middlebury (802) 388-6718 gstonemotors.com

Stone Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram 2149 Rt 7 So., Middlebury (802) 388-9961 stonecdjr.com

ADVERTISE HERE ADDY INDY - 388-4944

AUTO SALES & LEASING

G STONE MOTORS, INC. NEW AND USED CARS AND TRUCKS



Jason R. Kerr 'Bubba" Sales Consultant

We will take anything

Bus: 802-388-6718 Fax: 802-388-7980 jason@gstonemotors.com www.gstonemotors.com

36 BOARDMAN ST | P.O. Box 527 MIDDLEBURY, VT 05753

CARPENTRY/ CONTRACTORS

David Walker Construction

298 Biddle Road Lincoln, Vermont 05443

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

Entry Door & Storm Door Installations Small Jobs Only • Semi-Retired

CARPENTRY/ CONTRACTORS



Handling all phases of residential & light commercial carpentry since 1992

Mark Raymond 388-0742 Middlebury, VT

FULLY INSURED

Golden Ruler Construction Affordable & Honest

Residential & Agricultural Construction

Old Home Renovations • Custom Homes • Barns Painting: Interior/Exterior • General Repairs

> **Call Jonathan Hescock** 2217 Rt. 74, Cornwall 802-462-3737



Vermont Custom Moldings

www.vermontcustommoldings.com

Quaker Village **CARPENTRY**



Maurice Plouffe 802-545-2251

1736 Quaker Village Road Weybridge, VT 05753



fjcbuilders.com

Full service general contractor

J C 802.310.1986

 Turn key construction Kind knowledgeable staff

One call does it all **Christopher Netelkos**

cnetelkos@fjcbuilders.com • Sudbury, Vt.

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

802-349-6163

Residential and Commercial

property maintenance, upkeep and installation. Providing a comprehensive list of every possible need with 24/7 response.

> Contact us today for a free consultation

CLEANING SERVICES



CHECK US OUT ONLINE AT

ADDISONINDEPENDENT.COM

COMPUTERS



The PC Medic of Vermont now offers both on-site and remote computer services for your PC.

Call today to see which type of appointment you need, and get your PC running correctly again!

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

CONSTRUCTION





Salisbury, VT 989-3974 **New Construction**

Additions Renovations **Project Design**

Like us on Facebook!

DUCT CLEANING



Specializing in **Duct Cleaning**

And Duct Work for Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning We use 5,000+ cfm HEPA Vacuum Cleaning Systems

We can design, fabricate, seal, insulate, clean, anything to do with your ducted systems

Buy Local! 802.989.0396

ommercial/Residential • Owner Operated • Fully Insured • Neat & Clea

FIREWOOD

Are you looking for green or seasoned firewood?

Well we've got it all right here in Addison, VT!

We cut, split, and deliver hardwood firewood in 12-24 inch lengths. And we now offer kiln dried firewood! Contact us today for a quote!



Gevry Firewood LLC gevryfirewoodvt@gmail.com or 802-349-0699

ELOORING

FLOOR & UPHOLSTERY CLEANING

Stripping - Waxing - Buffing Carpet Cleaning & **Emergency Water Removal**



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

email: cmulliss@gmavt.net

Wales Floors, Inc.

For a free estimate call 877-8323

Fully insured

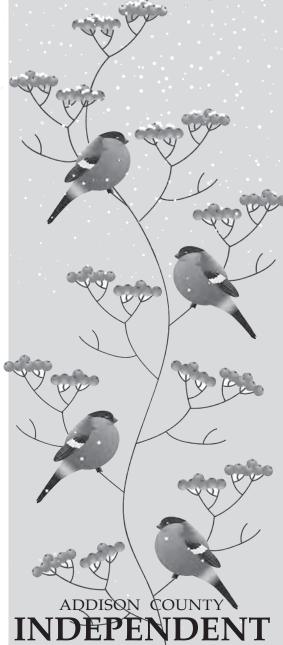
Custom & non-toxic finishes

Installation refinishing & restoration of residential and commercial wood floors

Over two decades experience!



snow time like the present to advertise in the B&S Directory!





masonry painting plumbing renewable energy roofing rubbish & recycling self storage septic & water siding snow plowing surveying taxes tree service window treatments

MASONRY

FINE DRY STONE MASONRY



JAMIE MASEFIELD
CERTIFIED BY THE DRY STONE WALLERS
ASSOCIATION OF GREAT BRITAIN

802-233-4670 jmasefield@gmavt.net

ADVERTISE YOUR HEATING BUSINESS WITH US!



PAINTING

HESCOCK PAINTING



A friendly, professional, and affordable family business.

Interior Painting

462-3737 or 989-9107

Kim or Jonathan Hescock hescock@shoreham.net

PLUMBING



Timothy C. Ryan, P.E.

Serving the Champlain Valley
Since 1887
877-3118
Main St., Vergennes, VT

PLUMBING



J.D. Fuller
Plumbing & Heating, Inc.

Repairs • New Installations
John Fuller, Master Plumber • 388-2019

RENEWABLE ENERGY

Go Solar with AllEarth Renewables

Customer-driven solutions designed, engineered and built in Vermont, with over 3,000 installations in the state.

CALL 802.872.9600 x122 allearthrenewalables.com







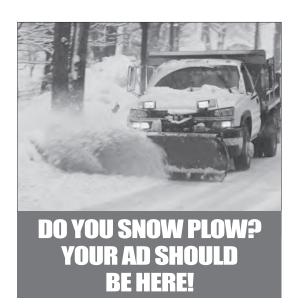
ROOFING



• Slate

Free estimates • Fully Insured mpdoransr@gmail.com

Phone (802) 537-3555



SELF STORAGE

AIRPORT AUTO

Self Storage • Low Rates Also a good selection of used vehicles

44 School House Hill Road, E. Middlebury

388-0432 • 388-8090

SEPTIC & WATER



Celebrating 36 Years

Environmental Consultants – Licensed Designers Steve Revell CPG, LD#178 BW Jeremy Revell LD#611 BW • Tyler Maynard LD#597 B

- Water Supply Location, Development and Permitting
 On-Site Wastewater Design Single & Multiple Lot Subdivisior
 Property Development & Permitting
- State and Local Permitting

Underground Storage Tank Removal & Assessment

Toll-Free: 800-477-4384 802-453-4384

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

SIDING



Windows & Siding
Vergennes, VT
Siding • Windows

Additions • Garages • Decks 802-316-6060 • rbrunet1@myfairpoint.net • 802-877-2640



SURVEYING

Proj

SHORT SURVEYING, INC.

Serving Addison County Since 1991

Timothy L. Short, L.S.

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

ShortSurveyingVT@gmail.com

LAROSE SURVEYS, P.C.

Ronald L. LaRose, L.S. • Kevin R. LaRose, L.S.

*We will take you through the permitting process!"

25 West St. • PO Box 388

25 West St. • PO Box 388 Bristol, VT 05443 Telephone: 802-453-3818 larosesurveys@gmail.com





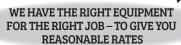
ALTA Surveys • Full Boundary Surveys and Plat Commercial and Residential Subdivisions Light Boundary Work and Boundary Line Staking Easement Surveys • Elevation Certificates LOMA Surveys • Topographic Surveys

(802) 782-9273 • Philo Surveying LLC • Charlotte, VT Philosurveying.com • References available

TREE SERVICE

Serving Vermont for over 42 years!

BROWN'S TREE & CRANE SERVICE



Dangerous Trees Cut & Removed Stumps Removed Trusses Set

Trees Trimmed
Land Clearing

Reasonable Rates • Year-round Service • Fully Insured
(802) 453-3351 • Cell (802) 363-5619

Reasonable Rates • Year-round Service • Fully Insured (802) 453-3351 • Cell (802) 363-5619
24 Hour Emergency Service 453-7014
Brownswelding.com

WINDOW TREATMENTS

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



Vermont Window Treatments LLC



M-F: 8am-5pm Hours by appointment only Visit our Facebook page or check us out on Instagram!

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

JACK OF ATTATIBATIES!

CALL 802-388-4944 OR EMAIL ADVERTISING@
ADDISONINDEPENDENT.COM TO ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS.



Advertise your business on these pages for under \$10 per week. Call 802-388-4944 or email advertising@addisonindependent.com for details.

Services

Public Meetings

AL-ANON OFFERS HELP and hope to anyone who has been affected by a loved one's drinking. Middlebury hosts an online meeting Sunday night 7:15pm and a face to face one Wednesday at 1:30pm at CVUUS (2 Duane Court Middlebury near the high school) that you can also access by Zoom. Visit vermontalanonalateen.org for links and list of other meetings in the region. If you'd like to speak to an Al-Anon member, call our answering service (866-972-5266) and an Al-Anon member will call you back.

ALCOHOLICS ANONY-MOUS in person meetings are available. For a list of local virtual meetings visit http://bit.ly/district9aa. For more information visit https://aavt.org/ or call the 24 hour hotline at 802-802-AAVT (2288).

THE TURNING POINT **CENTER** of Addison County is open for in-person services, Monday through Friday, 10am-4pm, 54A Creek Road, Middlebury. We are available by phone 24/7 at 802-388-4249.

Help Wanted

VERGENNES FREE THINKERS Founded in 1935 on the principle of one alcoholic helping another to achieve sobriety, A.A. is an effective and enduring program of recovery that has changed countless lives. A.A. has always been committed to making its program of recovery available to anyone, anywhere, who reaches out for help with an alcohol problem. The Vergennes Free Thinkers meeting was created in January of this year to maintain a tradition of free expression, conduct a meeting where alcoholics may feel free to express any beliefs, doubts or disbelief they may have, to share their own personal form of spiritual experience, their search for it, and/or their rejection of it, without having to accept anyone else's beliefs or having to deny their own. Meetings are held with a high regard for compassion and inclusion without judgment or exception. If you think we can help, please join us on Thursdays at 6pm by contacting Vergennesfreethinkers@gmail.com for

Help Wanted

ing information.

Zoom and in-person meet-



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.

Opportunities

Opportunities

Public Meetings Public Meetings

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

Services

C+I DRYWALL and plaster ing. Call Joe 802-234-5545.

Help Wanted

Help Wanted



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

specific age and educational requirements are met.

Services

CONSTRUCTION: ADDI-TIONS, RENOVATIONS new construction, drywall, **WE BUY OLD STUFF Es**carpentry, painting, flooring, roofing, pressure washing, tates, collections, antiques driveway sealing. All asetc. Also hunting and fishpects of construction, also ing items Call Frik 802property maintenance. Ste-345-0653.

MELISSA'S QUALITY CLEANING Services. Residential and commercial Fully insured. Great rates. Reliable and thorough

ven Fifield 802-989-0009.

cleaning. 802-345-6257. **ODD JOBS; PROPERTY**

clean up, junk removal, brush cutting, lawn work. Call us today, we do other jobs too! 802-999-2194

Free

DIGITAL ACCESS View obituaries, calendar listings and classifieds online at 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



Water Treatment & Distribution System Operator

The Vergennes Panton Water District is seeking an individual for the full-time position of Water System Operator.

Job Description: This position requires the ability to operate the water treatment facility, read water meters, and maintain and repair the transmission and distribution system. Must be willing to work on a rotating on-call basis. Must have or be able to obtain a 4C State of Vermont Operator's Certificate.

To Apply:

Please email resume and cover letter to Jon Deming at vpwd.main1@gmail.com

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

We're Hiring

Lake Champlain Boat Launch Stewards Vermont & New York

Spend the summer by the water! Seeking multiple stewards to engage boaters, inspect watercraft, and deliver informational messages about invasive species on Lake Champlain.







To apply, send a cover letter & resume to jobs@neiwpcc.org. Scan QR code for more information.

Town of Bristol

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

The Town of Bristol is seeking a part-time **Zoning Administrator.** Duties include implementing the Town of Bristol's Unified Development Regulations, which includes zoning and subdivision bylaws, floodplain regulations, and a downtown design review district; administering the permit and development review process; enforcement actions for noncompliance; assistance to the public; and assistance to the Planning Commission, Development Review Board, Downtown Review Commission, and other Town officials. The position entails evening meetings and flexible daytime work at the Town Office, estimated at approximately 20 hours per week.

A detailed job description is available at www.bristolvt.org. Salary: \$21.00 to \$25.00 per hour, commensurate with experience.

The position is advertised until filled. To apply, please e-mail a cover letter, resume, and three references to townadmin@bristolvt.org with Bristol Zoning Administrator in the subject line or send by mail to:



Bristol Zoning Administrator Search P.O. Box 249 Bristol, VT 05443

The Town of Bristol is an equal opportunity provider and employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, religion, gender, or familial status.

Town of Bristol

TOWN TREASURER

The Town of Bristol is seeking an organized and motivated candidate to serve as its **Town Treasurer.** The 32-hour per week salaried position offers a competitive salary, benefits, a flexible schedule, and the opportunity to work in a vibrant community, (pop. approx. 4.000) located in the Champlain Valley in Addison County, Vermont.

The **Town Treasurer** is responsible for keeping all of the Town's funds, including receipt, investment, and disbursement of funds; keeping a record of taxes voted, billed, and collected; collecting delinquent taxes; collecting other funds received by the Town; and paying orders drawn on Town accounts. The Treasurer provides human resources support and manages employee benefits and payroll; supports the Water Department and Sewer Department with billing and management of accounts; works closely with auditors to annually reconcile Town accounts; adheres to internal controls; and provides support to the Recreation, Police, Public Works, Fire, Lister, and Zoning Departments, the Town Clerk, and the Town Administrator in budgeting, capital budgeting, grants management, and reporting.

A detailed job description is available at www.bristolvt.org. Salary: \$22.00 to \$28.00 per hour, commensurate with experience.

The position is advertised until filled. To apply, please e-mail a cover letter, resume, and three references to townadmin@bristolvt.org with Bristol Town Treasurer in the subject line or send by mail to:



Bristol Town Treasurer Search P.O. Box 249 Bristol, VT 05443

ADDISON INDEPENDENT 58 Maple Street, Middlebury, VT 05753 802-388-4944 addisonindependent.com • email: classifieds@addisonindependent.com

The Town of Bristol is an equal opportunity provider and employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, religion, gender, or familial status.

Help Writing & Reading Mail

Opportunities



A senior resident in Vergennes is looking for help with writing and reading mail. Help would be needed about twice per month.

TOWN OF LINCOLN

Town Highway Apprentice, Garage Assistant,

Minor Vehicle Maintenance & CDL Preparation

This position is established to provide vital assistance to the Highway Supervisor in times of high demand

and stress, related to ongoing and storm-related town highway maintenance. Excellent performance,

creativity, and ambition could lead to Town assistance for obtaining a Commercial Driver's License when

Minimum age for employment is 16 years or other age limit that may be established by state statute or the

Employee must hold a high school diploma or GED or be currently enrolled in a high school program that

will result in a diploma within eight (8) months of employment. Employees wishing to be considered for

Pay commensurate with training, experience, and skills. Position does not include benefits unless ultimately

To apply please e-mail letter of interest to admin@lincolnvermont.org

or mail to Town Office, 62 Quaker Street, Lincoln VT 05443.

Opportunities

advancement to CDL Training and full-time employment shall so state at time of application.

hired by the selectboard, full-time as a Highway Maintenance Worker/ CDL truck driver.

Opportunities

Part-time temporary - 25 hours per week maximum- not eligible for overtime

Please reach out to Amy at amyh@unitedwayaddisoncounty.org to learn more.



Opportunities

Addison Independent CLASSIFIED ORDER FORM

Cash in on our 4-for-3 rates! Pay for 3 issues, get 4th issue free! An ad placed for consective issues runs the 4th time for free!

Name: • Special 4 for 3 rates not valid for the following categories: Services, Address: ■ Notices ■ Work Wanted Phone: ☐ Card of Thanks ☐ Help Wanted **Email:** Personals ☐ For Sale Cars Services ☐ Public Meetings** ☐ Trucks **Or,** submit your classified ad on our website: addisonindependent.com ☐ Free** ☐ For Rent SUVs DEADLINE: Monday at 5 p.m. ☐ Lost 'N Found** ☐ Want to Rent Snowmobiles ☐ Garage Sales ■Wood Heat Boats ☐ Lawn & Garden ☐ Real Estate Wanted • 25¢ per word • minimum \$2.50 per ad

PLEASE PRINT YOUR AD...

Number of words: Cost: # of runs: The Independent assumes no financial responsibility for errors in ads, but will rerun classified ad in which the error oc-Spotlight Charge: curred. No refunds will be possible. Ad-Internet Listing: vertiser will please notify us of any errors which may occur after first publication.

TOTAL:

• \$2 internet listing for up to 4 issues • minimum 2 insertions

Opportunities, Real Estate, Wood heat, Attn. Farmers, For Rent & Help Wanted Att. Farmers

> □ Opportunities □ Animals Adoption

** no charge for these ads Spotlight with large 🗸 \$2

☐ Real Estate Wanted ☐ Vacation Rentals

Help Wanted

resume, cover letter, and 2

letters of reference to info@

mcmcvt.org. We hope to

For Rent

12' X 25' STORAGE

SPACES in Brandon, Call

ALL REAL ESTATE ad-

802-349-4212.

hear from you soon!

For Rent

PANTON: NO RENT/UTIL

ITIES in exchange for pro-

viding companionship and

cooking/sharing meals on

a flexible schedule. Gentle-

man who enjoys animals

and time with family. Un-

furnished bedroom/private

bath. A cat or dog would be

welcome! 802-863-5625 or

HomeShareVermont.org for

application. Interview, refer-

ences, background checks

ROOM FOR RENT. \$200 a

week on Lake Champlain.

Torrey Island in Shoreham,

Vermont, Call 802-417

SUDBURY: SEEKING FE-

MALE to share a home

with avid reader in her 60s

who enjoys volunteering

and classical music. \$500/

month, plus sharing com-

panionship and outdoor

chores. Must be cat-friend-

ly! Private bath; shared

kitchen. 802-863-5625 or

HomeShareVermont.org

for application. Interview,

references, background

VERGENNES VALLEY

VIEW APARTMENTS is

currently taking wait list ap-

plications. 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.

VERGENNES WILLOW

APARTMENTS Is currently

taking waitlist applications

for 1 and 2 bedroom apart-

ments. No smoking/no

pets. Income limits ap-

ply- Rent rate based on

income. Equal Housing

Opportunity 802-247-0165

TTY: 800-253-0191. www.

Wood Heat

DRY OR GREEN firewood

for sale. Delivery available.

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 in-

WHITNEY'S CUSTOM

FARM WORK Pond agi-

tating, liquid manure haul-

ing, drag line aerating. Call

for price. 462-2755, John

formation.

Whitney.

SummitPMG.com.

802-758-2007.

SummitPMG.com.

checks required. EHO

required. EHO

5334, prefer text.

Addison Independent CLASSIFIEDS

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

Help Wanted



Addison County Parent/Child Center

Join the Parent/Child Center Team **EARLY INTERVENTIONIST**

We are seeking an Early Interventionist to work with young families as an outreach worker on our highly skilled, creative and energetic team.

You will work in coordination with parents in the home, community, and in our program in Middlebury in order to ensure that children are growing healthy and strong.

Candidates must have a solid understanding of child development, early intervention Part C, family systems, communication skills and flexibility. A minimum of a Bachelor's degree in a related field is

Please contact Donna Bailey dbailey@addisoncountypcc.org



Addison County Parent/Child Center

Join the Parent/Child Center Team CHILDCARE WORKER/PARENT EDUCATOR

Childcare Staff Position: We are seeking a childcare worker who will work with children and parents in our therapeutic program. This is a full-time position with generous benefits. We are a therapeutic childcare program that supports children birth through 5 and their

Strong candidates must have knowledge of child development, family systems, excellent communication skills, and want to work with young families. Flexibility and collaboration are a must. Experience with children and families wanted: a minimum of a Bachelor's degree preferred.

Please send a resume and cover letter, along with 3 references to Donna Bailey at dbailey@addisoncountypcc.org

AGWAY

Positions offer generous, twice a year

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 or fill out an

application at Middlebury Agway, 338 Exchange Street, Middlebury VT.

Please no phone calls.

Middlebury Agway 338 Exchange St. - Middlebury, VT.

pounses as well as an employee

discount on all products!

Help Wanted

LOOKING FOR FARM **HELPER** in Ferrisburgh. General farm chores. Experience with equipment not necessary. Room available, if needed. Call Steve at 802-324-9879 if interested.

PART TIME PERSONAL

Help Wanted

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

MIDDLEBURY UNION **HIGH SCHOOL**

COACHING POSITIONS

Middlebury Union High School is seeking coaches for the following:

 Varsity Dance Assistant Track & Field (2) JV Girls' Lacrosse

Applicants must possess a strong knowledge of coaching principles with previous coaching experience preferred. Must possess strong organizational skills and the ability to communicate and relate to student athletes.

Interested parties should send a letter of interest, resume, and three current letters of reference to:

> Sean Farrell/Athletic Director Middlebury Union Middle School 73 Charles Avenue Middlebury, VT 05753

Applications will be accepted until the position has been filled.

Addison County

VAN DRIVER JOB OPENING

Addison County Parent/Child Center

We are seeking a van driver who will transport children, youth,

Strong candidates must have a clean driving record and experience

Great working environment and benefits. This is a 20-hour

Please contact Donna Bailey at dbailey@addisoncountypcc.org

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.

To learn more, please visit silvermapleconstruction.com,

email hr@silvermapleconstruction.com,

or call our office at (802) 989-7677.

• 7 Paid Holidays

Commuter + Mileage

• Life, Disability And Accident

Reimbursement

• Paid Parental Leave

Insurance

• And MORE!

position with hours split between mornings and afternoons.

and parents to our center from around Addison County.

with children and families.

Competitive Weekly Pay

(based on experience)

Comprehensive Medical,

Dental, and Vision Plans

• 401k Retirement Plan +

• 15 days Paid Time Off

Maple/(Construction

Company Match

Parent/Child Center

Help Wanted Help Wanted

every week for 3 hours. Help with light housekeeping, cooking, and chores. \$25/hour. Contact Ellen at: eresnik@rcn.com.

For Rent

(MCMC) is expanding its staff, and is seeking an enthusiastic and motivated

THE MIDDLEBURY COM-

MUNITY MUSIC Center

Summer Camp Coordinator to support our 2024 summer camp program, and a Music Together Teacher for our parent/child and inschool classes. If you are interested in learning more or applying for the positions please visit www.mcmcvt org/careers and send your

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.

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORUNITIY

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 as amended which makes it illegal advertise preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, national origin, sexual orientation, or persons receiving assistance, or an intention to any make such preference, limitation or



Real Estate

ermont



10-12 Main Street, Bristol -\$430,000

Excellent investment property in a great location on the sunny side of the street, with great visibility. Currently fully rented and producing income from two street-level retail businesses and three upstairs professional offices. All in immaculate condition with 5 new heat exchange pumps, and recent renovation of the children's store ground floor.

MLS #4976415

Christine Fraioli Emilo Real Estate, LLC

cfvt@gmavt.net 802-989-2234 vermonthomeproperties.com



vertising 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 Tollfree at 1-800-424-8590. For the Washington, DC area please call HUD at 426-3500.

ATTRACTIVE 1 BED-**ROOM** 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.

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.

MIDDLEBURY 2BD/1.5 BA DUPLEX, no smoking or pets. Heat/elec not incl. \$1250/mo + sec dep. References. Available Jan. 802-388-6938.

MIDDLEBURY, OFF CAM-PUS HOUSING available. 802-388-4831, AJ Neri Property Rentals.

Trucks



2015 SILVERADO TRUCK 1500 LS 2 door, 1/2 ton, 4 WD 8 cylinder, bench seat, near 88,400 miles. Newly inspected and in great shape. \$20,500, sold as is. TEXT 802-355-6892 or 802-989-9941.

Wanted



P: 802-775-2859 C: 802-236-7213

discrimination."

This newspaper will not knowingly accept advertisement for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity To complain basis. of discrimination, call HUD Toll-free at 1-800-424-8590. For the Washington, DC area please call HUD at 426-3500.

Real Estate

Apply Today!

Looking for

Our schools need substitute teachers.

You can help!

Substitute Teachers

- Are essential to our schools! • Help our schools operate at their full potential during staff vacancies and illness.
- Ensure consistency and support for all students.

This could be a great fit if you:

- Love supporting kids! • Have and want a flexible schedule
- Are energetic, curious, inclusive, and kind.
- Are considering a career as a teacher or paraprofessional.
- Want to get involved and support





Payscale:

Substitute Teachers and ACSD retire \$160 per day for 5 days \$150/day for 4 days

\$140/day for 3 days \$130/day for 2 days \$120/day for 1 day

Unlicensed Substitute Teachers: \$150 per day for 5 days \$140/day for 4 days \$130/day for 3 days \$120/day for 2 days

\$110/day for 1 day School Nurse substitutes begin at \$140/day





addisonindependent.com

ADDISON COUNTY **INDEPENDENT**



ADDISON COUNTY

RT. 125 • EAST MIDDLEBURY, VT

Monument Farms 103 2.80 \$288.40 Total Beef - 223 Total Calves - 228

Savello

D. Phillips

TOWN OF WALTHAM, VERMONT WWW.WALTHAMVT.ORG

Notice is hereby given to the residents of Waltham that at the January 8, 2024 Selectboard Meeting, Per 24 VSA §§ 1972, the board will be voting on a Speed Limit Change for all roads of the Town, found in Article Four of the Waltham Traffic Ordinance and shall read:

No person shall operate or drive a motor vehicle upon any of the roads of the town, at any time, at a rate of speed greater than 35 miles per hour, unless otherwise posted.

Signs indicating the speed limit shall be posted conspicuously within the highway limits at the point where such speeds become effective under this ordinance and as provided for by law.

The meeting will be held at the Town Offices at 7:00pm and is open to the public. For more information contact the Town Clerk by phone at 802-877-3641 or by email at clerkwalthamvt@gmail.com.

THE INDEPENDENT MAKES A GREAT GIFT! CALL 388-4944

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:

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

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.

Man cited for domestic assault

MIDDLEBURY — Middlebury police on Dec. 7 cited Cyrus Smith, 38, of Middlebury for two counts of felony first degree aggravated domestic assault, a felony count of first degree unlawful restraint, and interference with access to emergency services (misdemeanor). The charges were filed after police were called to a Weybridge Street residence this past Thursday at 3:20 a.m. to investigate a report of a domestic dispute.

In addition to conducting frequent checks on the houseless population that's been camping under the Cross Street Bridge off Bakery Lane, Middlebury police last week:

- Assisted Porter Hospital officials with an out-of-control patient on Dec. 4.
- Responded to a report of an outof-control man at a Birchard Park residence on Dec. 4. Police said the man was calm and cooperative when they arrived.
- Arrested Tracey A. Martel, 44, of Middlebury, on an outstanding Probation and Parole warrant, in the Elm Street area on Dec. 4. Police said they transferred Martel to the custody of the Addison County Sheriff's Department, who took her to the Chittenden County Correctional Regional Facility, where she was held without bail.
- Assisted Vermont State Police in executing a search warrant at a Route 7 location on Dec. 4.
- · Responded to a trespassing complaint on Middlebury College

Middlebury Police Log

campus on Dec. 4.

- Logged several calls about a person experiencing a mental health crisis in the Abbey Pond Road area between Dec. 4 and 8. Police helped assisted Middlebury Regional EMS on scene after another.
- Enforced the town's overnight winter parking ban on Dec. 4, 5 and
- · Provided a local woman with information on mental health services on Dec. 5.
- Investigated a report of a man and woman dancing on Main Street while drinking in public on Dec. 5.
- Assisted Middlebury Regional EMS on an emergency call to the Cedar Court area on Dec. 5 · Were informed that a laptop
- had been stolen from an unlocked vehicle parked off Court Street on Received a report about a local
- self-harm on Dec. 6. • Investigated a report of unlawful mischief in the Bakery Lane area on

woman believed to be considering

- Checked on a report of an injured deer on Route 7 South on
- Dec. 6. Police said the deer was dead upon their arrival. • Conducted several sex-offender
- registry compliance checks on Dec. Assisted Porter Hospital
- officials with an out-of-control patient on Dec. 7.
 - Helped the driver of a disabled convenience store on Dec. 11.

vehicle in the North Pleasant Street area on Dec. 7.

- Checked on a local person said to have been contemplating selfharm on Dec. 7.
- · Received a report about a missing Middlebury Union Middle School student on Dec. 7. Police said the youth was soon found by a
- family member. · Collected presents on Dec. calm the person after one call and 7 for an ongoing Christmas gifts program.
 - · Assisted Porter Hospital with a patient on Dec. 7.
 - Investigated a report of two intoxicated people on Seymour Street on Dec. 8. Police said they later found the two people at their home.
 - · Served a temporary restraining order on a local person on Dec. 8.
 - Assisted the U.S. Forest Service checking on an encampment at the trailhead off Abbey Pond Road on Dec. 9.
 - Received a report of a suspected retail theft in the Court Street Extension area on Dec. 9.
 - · Assisted Brandon police in investigating an assault complaint at a Grove Street residence on Dec.
 - · Took, to Rutland to receive detox services, a "heavily intoxicated man" who had been causing a disturbance in downtown Middlebury on Dec. 10.
 - · Responded to an illegal dumping complaint at a Mill Street business on Dec. 10.
 - Turned a drunken man over to a sober person on Dec. 10.
 - · Responded to a report of an intoxicated person allegedly trying to steal alcohol from a Court Street

TOWN OF FERRISBURGH NOTICE **DECEMBER 5, 2023**

The legal voters of the Town of Ferrisburgh, Vermont are hereby NOTIFIED and WARNED that the Ferrisburgh Select Board intends to sell two parcels of land owned by the town located at the intersection of US 7 & VT22A, Town Tax parcel 15/01/22.4. One to The Champlain Valley Grain Center, LLC consisting of a 5.206acre lot and an undivided half interest in a 25.34-acre lot conserved by the Vt. Land Trust for the sum of \$213,906. Also, a 4.16-acre lot and an undivided half interest in the 25.34-acre conserved lot to Douglas Sweets for the sum of \$171,094.

State law requires the Selectboard to give notice of the terms of any proposed conveyance by three public postings and notice in the newspaper at least 30 days prior to the date of the proposed conveyance. The conveyance will be made unless a petition signed by five percent of the legal voters of the town is presented to the Town Clerk within 30 days of the date of this notice. If a petition is received, the question of whether the town shall convey the real estate shall be considered at a special town meeting called for that purpose.

TOWN OF MIDDLEBURY SELECTBOARD MEETING

ROOM 116 - LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM

TOWN OFFICES – 77 MAIN STREET

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2023 - 7:00 P.M.

Also available via Zoom:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85869726885

By Phone: +1 646-558-8656 (not toll-free)

Webinar ID: 858 6972 6885

For those wishing to watch but not participate:

Selectboard meetings are livestreamed to MCTV's YouTube Channel:

https://www.youtube.com/user/MCTVVermont

and also broadcast live on Comcast Channel 1071

AGENDA

3.a. Approval of Minutes of the December 12, 2023 Regular

3.c. Applications for Liquor Licenses, Outside Consumption Permits, and Entertainment Permits (if any)

3.e. Town Manager's Report

4. **Citizen Comments (Opportunity to raise or address issues not

6. *Emmalee Cherington, Director of Public Works Planning, with updates and recommendations from the Infrastructure Committee

6.a. *Line Striping Equipment - Recommendation on Funding and

6.c. *Update on Replacement of Fire Utility Truck (if Chief Shaw is

6.b. *Urban Forestry Management Plan – Approval for Grant

7. *Fire Chief David Shaw with an update on Replacement of Utility Fire

8. *Dana Hart, Library Director, and Joe McVeigh, Ilsley 100 Project

• Kathleen Ramsay, Town Manager, Update of Latest Draft of Budget

9. *Approval of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Climate Economy Action Center of Addison County for Assistance with the Implementation of the Town's Municipal Energy Resilience Program

10. **Continued Review of Draft FY25 General Fund Budget

 Presentation - Tri-Valley Transit – Proposed Town Funding 11. **Review of First Draft of Draft Warning for Town Meeting
12. *Agenda Placeholder

17. **Action on Matters Discussed in Executive Session

Selectboard Meeting
3.b. Acceptance of Selectboard Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

Dated at Ferrisburgh, Vermont this 5th day of December, 2023.

By the Ferrisburgh Select Board

**Call to Order

2. *Approval of Agenda

3. *Approval of Consent Agenda

3.d. Consent Agenda Placeholder

otherwise included on this agenda)

meeting of December 14, 2023

Timing of Purchase

Truck (to be confirmed)

13. *Agenda Placeholder

14. *Approval of Check Warrants **15.** **Board Member Concerns

16. **Executive Session – Not Anticipated

** Possible Decision

(MERP) Grant

18. *Adjourn

* Decision Item

8:30

not available for next item) **6.d.** **Project Updates

Team, with updates from Project Team Meetings

5. **Agenda Placeholder

Clark Hinsdale III James Benoit Chris Campbell Michael Muir

TOWN OF BRISTOL Accessible Recreation Design for Town Parks Request for Proposals

The Town of Bristol is seeking proposals from qualified professionals for design of accessible recreation on three municipal parks: Eagle Park, Sycamore Park, and Memorial Park. Though beautiful with access to local rivers, these Town parks are underutilized by the public and are nearly impossible to access for people with varied mobility. The Town of Bristol seeks to improve these three parks to create accessible recreation areas for all of our citizens while protecting the natural resources showcased by the parks.

Proposals may be provided in either paper or electronic form. A detailed scope of work and submission requirements is available at www.bristolvt.org.



Questions: Contact Town Administrator Valerie Capels at (802) 453-2410 or townadmin@bristolvt.org. The Town of Bristol is an equal opportunity provider and employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, religion, gender, or familial

PROPOSED STATE RULES

By law, public notice of proposed rules must be given by publication in newspapers of record. The purpose of these notices is to give the public a chance to respond to the proposals. The public notices for administrative rules are now also available online at https://secure.vermont.gov/SOS/rules/. The law requires an agency to hold a public hearing on a proposed rule, if requested to do so in writing by 25 persons or an association having at least 25 members.

To make special arrangements for individuals with disabilities or special needs please call or write the contact person listed below as soon as possible.

To obtain further information concerning any scheduled hearing(s), obtain copies of proposed rule(s) or submit comments regarding proposed rule(s), please call or write the contact person listed below. You may also submit comments in writing to the Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules, State House, Montpelier, Vermont 05602 (802-828-2231)

Vermont Fire Service Training Council Rules. Vermont Proposed Rule: 23P048

Probate Court Subtotal

AGENCY: Vermont Fire Service Training Council

CONCISE SUMMARY: The Vermont Fire Service Training Council maintains rules pertaining to fire service training requirements, standards for courses, issuance of certifications, and waivers related to the training requirements for firefighters. This rule filing makes corrections to typographical errors, clarifies the annual date by which the Council may modify recertification requirements, and eases the requirements for granting firefighter certification through reciprocity from applicants who received their certification from other states.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT: Michael Skaza, Chief of Training,

VT Dept of Public Safety, Division of Fire Safety, Vermont Fire Academy, 93 Davison Drive, Pittsford, VT 05763 Tel: 802-483-2754 Fax: 802-483-2464 E-Mail: michael.skaza@vermont.gov URL: https://firesafety.vermont.gov/academy/ vermont-fire-service-training-council.

FOR COPIES: John Marcus, Vermont Fire Service Training Council, University of Vermont, 284 East Avenue, Burlington, VT 05405 Tel: 802-656-4363 E-Mail: jmarcus@uvm.edu.

WARNING

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MIDDLEBURY SUMMER FESTIVAL ON-THE-GREEN, INC.

The officers, directors, and all parties interested in the Middlebury Summer Festival on-the-Green, Inc. are hereby warned and notified to meet virtually on Zoom at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, January 17, 2024, to transact the following business:

- 1) Approve the minutes of the last Annual Meeting;
- 2) Hear reports from Festival Committees;
- 3) Elect Directors/Officers for 2024;
- 4) Discuss unfinished business from 2023; 5) Discuss new business for 2024.

Community members interested in attending should email midfog@gmail.com to request the Zoom link.

Dated at Middlebury, Vermont December 14, 2023 Patricia A. Boera. Secretary Middlebury Summer Festival on-the-Green

TOWN OF LINCOLN

PUBLIC NOTICE

Wednesday, January 3, 2024, beginning at 6:30 pm at the Town Office (62 Quaker Street, Lincoln, VT) and virtually using Zoom

The Lincoln Development Review Board will hold a Sketch Plan Meeting for: Subdivision Application #23-095 as requested by Deina & Patrick Olstad for their property located at 296 West Hill Road, Lincoln, VT, Parcel I.D. 06070333.00.

- and continue hearings for: 2. Waiver Application #23-074 as requested by John and Stacey Dobek for the construction of a 16'x16' timber framed shed located within setback requirements for their property located at 484 Mill Road, Lincoln, VT, Parcel I.D. 05100151.000.
 - 3. Conditional Use Application #23-087 as requested by Josiah Jackson on behalf of Lincoln Sports Inc. for the creation of a multi-use trail network to improve access to the 55 acres that they manage which is located at 40 Gove Hill Road, Lincoln, VT, Parcel I.D. 09070187.000.

Participation in the local proceedings is a prerequisite to the right to take any subsequent appeals. Please call the Town Office at (802) 453-2980 to arrange a time to view the complete applications.

The Zoom link will be included in the agenda which can be found on the Town's website the week prior to the hearing: https://lincolnvermont.org/agendasminutes

Nicole Lee, Lincoln DRB Chair

WARNING

COUNTY OF ADDISON ANNUAL BUDGET MEETING

Pursuant to 24 V.S.A Section 133(3)(a), the taxpayers of the County of Addison are hereby given notice that the annual meeting to discuss the final budget for 2024-2025 will be held at 10:00 am on Friday, January 19, 2024. The meeting will be held in the County Clerk's office at the Frank Mahady Courthouse in Middlebury. More information and extra copies of the budget may be obtained by contacting the Addison County Clerk at 802-388-1966 or addisoncountyclerk@gmail.com.

Patricia Ross, Assistant Judge & Nicole Wilkerson, Assistant Judge 2024-2025 **EXPENSES CONTINUED**

County Tax 0.00511115 Estimate	\$307,219.00	Sheriff's Building	
Interest Earned	\$130.00	Bldg & Grounds	\$11,500.00
Miscellaneous Income	\$15.00	Capital Improvements	\$2,500.00
Passports	\$7,000.00	Custodial	\$2,500.00
Wills for Safekeeping	\$8,000.00	Inspections	\$1,500.00
Total Income	\$322,364.00	Insurance	\$6,500.00
	φο ΣΣ ,004100	Utilities	\$18,500.00
EXPENSES		Sheriff's Building Subtotal	\$43,000.00
Court			V 10,000100
Contingency	\$200.00	Sheriff's Department	
Contracted Services	\$5.900.00	Insurance/Bonds	\$20,000,00
Dues & Membership	\$1,350.00	Radio	\$1,000.00
Insurance	\$2,715.00	Office Supplies	\$600.00
Passport/Budget Advertising	\$1,800.00	Telephone	\$4,200.00
Offices Expenses	\$2,400.00	Training	\$30,000.00
Court Personnel	, ,	Valcour/Spillman	\$3,500.00
Benefits	\$6,338.00	Personnel	. ,
Salaries	\$73,954.00	Total Benefits	\$12,537.00
Audit	\$8,000.00	Total Salaries	\$83,720.00
Court Subtotal	\$102,657.00	Subtotal	\$155,557.00
Probate Court		Sheriff Capital Reserve	\$20,000.00
Contingency	\$470.00	·	
Dues	\$235.00		
Training & Education	\$420.00		
Supplies/Equipment	\$25.00	Total Expenses	\$322,364.00

\$1,150.00

Public Notices

Public Notices for the following can be found in this ADDISON INDEPENDENT on Page 10B.

Addison County Courthouse (1) Bristol (1)

Ferrisburgh (1)

Lincoln (1) Middlebury (1)

Middlebury Festival on the

Green (1)

Vergennes (1)

State of Vermont (1) Waltham (1)

Email your Public Notices to

legals@addisonindependent.com and Jenna makes sure it gets in the paper



J. Hatch 1035 1.10 \$1138.50 1910 .98 \$1871.80 P. Livingston Blue Spruce 1665 .95 \$1581.75 Nea-Tocht 1885 .94 \$1771.90 1475 .91 \$1342.25 H. Dodge COST CALVES LBS. /LB C. Phelps 109 5.80 \$632.20 H. Degraaf 108 5.50 \$594.00

We value our faithful customers. Sales at 3 pm - Mon. & Thurs. call 1-802-388-2661

94 5.00 \$470.00

107 3.00 \$321.00



Middlebury Studio School's Executive Director Sarah Briggs stands with Timothy Fisher's "Flying Woman," Marcia Dixon Parker's "Large Red Pot," and "Sculptures" by Marshall Eddy. The exhibit "Learning Together" features work by more than 40 MSS students and instructors, and will be on view now through Dec. 22 at the Jackson Gallery in Middlebury.

NDEPENDENT PHOTO / ELSIE LYNN PARINI

Students and instructors 'learn together'

iddlebury Studio School's mission is on terrific display right now through Dec. 22 at the Jackson Gallery in the lower level of the Town Hall Theater in Middlebury. The exhibit "Learning Together" is a showcase of student and instructor work that highlights the school's

BY **ELSIE** Lynn parini mission to "promote the creative process and community through art and craft

education for people of all ages and abilities."

On view are more than 40 works in all sorts of mediums — showing the breadth of artistic methods taught at the school to people of all

ages and abilities.

"This diverse and colorful show illustrates just how much activity happens in that creative space [MSS]," said Gallery Manager Ellie Friml. "It was a delight to work with them on this exhibition and to bring attention to such a great community resource."

Viewers will learn about MSS programs, while getting to know the artistic voices of our Middlebury community.

"I asked each artist to include a quote about their artistic process or their relationship to the school," said Studio School Executive Director Sarah Briggs, in the gallery early this week. "I wanted this show to be about the artists and their voices."

Briggs was pleased with the turnout for the opening back in mid-November and hopes viewers will come see the work before the show closes on Dec. 22.

"It was a great way for us all to mingle together and for artists and the community to know who we are at MSS," Briggs said. "Some exhibitors are professional artists who exhibit regularly; for others, this is their first time showing their work, and that's a really courageous thing to do."

The youngest artist represented is 7 years old.

SEE TOGETHER ON PAGE 3

Classic one-act opera returns to Salisbury for the holidays

ARN OPERA (which recently expanded its reach to more Vermonters by launching Opera Vermont) is thrilled to announce a continued campaign of community engagement, both by expanding geographical reach of our production by having performances in both Salisbury and Williston and reducing the cost per ticket to a standard \$10 ticket, regardless of age or socioeconomic standing.

BARN OPERA has developed a reputation over the past four years for their heartwarming and poignant, "Community-Christmas-Card," production of "Amahl & the Night Visitors" at the Salisbury Congregational Church.

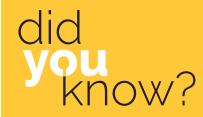
The acclaimed production is to be headlined by the dream team of Sopranos Helen Lyons and Ambrose Cusick, Baritones (and Music Director/Associate Director of BARN OPERA) Cailin Marcel Manson, Nicholas Tocci, Tenor (and Artistic Director of BARN OPERA) Joshua Collier, and Cameron Wescott, with Kristen Carr leading the production from the piano."

In addition to the annual two performances (5:30 and 7:30 p.m.) at Salisbury Congregational Church on Dec. 21, Williston Congregational Church will be welcoming BARN OPERA into their sanctuary for one day of performances as well, Dec. 22, at 5:30 and 7:30 p.m.

CAST:

Amahl's Mother — Helen Lyons Amahl — Ambrose Cusick King Balthsazar — Cailin Marcel Manson King Melchior — Nicholas Tocci King Kaspar — Joshua Collier Page — Cameron Wescott Piano — Kristen Carr

Information and tickets are available now at barnopera.com/tickets.



AMAHL AND THE NIGHT VISITORS

was the first opera to be broadcast to

a national television audience, which catapulted the work to national fame and recognition. The premiere was on Dec. 24, 1951 and was broadcast by NBC. The story concerns a young handicapped boy and his mother, who live in a poor village that is on the route for the three kings to travel to meet the Christ-child after his birth. The kings arrive, weary from their journey and they stop for the night, enjoying the hospitality of Amahl and his Mother. There is a great disparity in the wealth of the kings and Amahl's mother, and socioeconomic conflict ensues, with a beautiful and altruistic resolution at the end.





Holiday Open Hours

at the studio and home of DEBORAH HOLMES

24 Garfield Street

Bristol, Vermont

Saturdays
December 9th, 16th
and 23rd, 10-4

Come enjoy hot cider and cookies and do some holiday shopping.

GIFTS, PRINTS, CALENDARS, ORNAMENTS, & MORE!

802.453.8511

deborahholmesart@gmail.com

DEBORAHHOLMESART.COM





Subscribe today!
THANK YOU!

802-388-4944

ADDISONINDEPENDENT.COM

TOGETHER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

We can skip the question about who's oldest...

Regardless of age, the Middlebury Studio School community takes pride in being open to people who are a beginner at

something. You'll notice this quickly, when a name in the exhibit stands out to you as a familiar instructor, but then you notice they're exhibiting as a "student."

"We are all beginners at somethings and experts at other things," mused Briggs who leans toward plein air watercolors for her art form. "To have a space here at the Jackson Gallery to share that is a really wonderful thing."

"SOME EXHIBITORS ARE PROFESSIONAL

ARTISTS WHO EXHIBIT REGULARLY; FOR OTHERS, THIS IS THEIR FIRST TIME SHOWING THEIR WORK, AND THAT'S A REALLY COURAGEOUS THING TO DO."

— Middlebury Studio School Executive Director Sarah Briggs It's an especially wonderful thing during this time of holiday gifting.

"Some artworks are for sale, others are not — that was up to each individual artists," Briggs explained. "Any of these pieces would make a wonderful and unique holiday gift."

If you'd rather give a donation instead of taking home a piece of art, that's great too. Briggs, a 2014.5 graduate from Middlebury College, reminded us

that MSS is a nonprofit and a very large portion of its funding comes from individual contributions.

"Donations help make our free programming and scholarships possible," she said. "This is our main time for fundraising efforts and we appreciate every dollar."

To learn more or donate visit the MSS website at middleburystudioschool.org.



Weybridge Elementary and MSS student Mayu Comacho stands with her painting on exhibit through Dec. 22 at the Jackson Gallery in the lower level of Town Hall Theater.



"Learning Together" opened with a well-attended reception in mid-November at the Jackson Gallery. The show will be on view through Dec. 22. Proceeds benefit the artists.



This collaborative painting of the MSS garden in the Marble Works was done by the MSS Plein Air Painting Summer Camp students.

Ages ranged from 7-11.

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

'SELDOM' SEEN' WORKS PRESENTED IN BRANDON

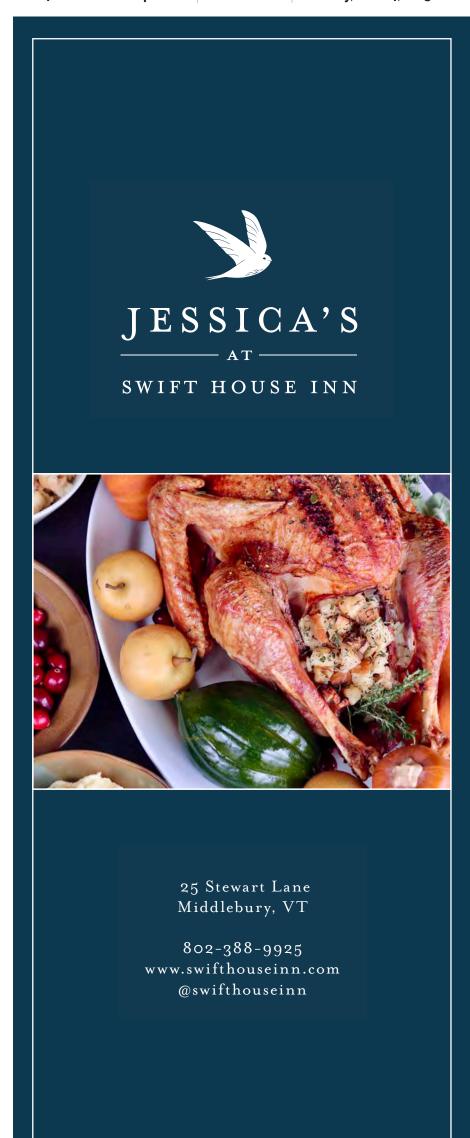
Last week, a group exhibition featuring local and statewide artists Fran Bull, Carolyn Shattuck, Tom Merwin, Sandy Mayo, Joan Curtis, Bob Hooker and Dorothea Langevin, opened at the Conant Square Gallery in Brandon. This exhibit is a holiday cornucopia of unique art, books and accessories.

Curated by gallery director Sandy Mayo, visitors will enjoy a range of artworks true to the exhibition title, "Seldom Seen," from the rare macrame art of Bob Hooker to the dazzlingly clever book art of Carolyn Shattuck — and everything in between.

On Saturday, Jan. 6, from 4:30-5:30 p.m., the artists will gather for an Art Talk from 4:30-5:30 p.m. The gallery's previous Art Talk with Warren Kimble, Sandy Mayo and Fran Bull, proved to be a very spirited event.

"What I'd like to convey is a sense that some alchemy prevailed, an unexpected magic held sway," remarked Bull after the previous Art Talk. "Somehow, we dropped down — all of us in that room — into a deep place of serious, respectful and even loving contemplation. We let our hair down and spoke about our lives as artists, our passions and concerns. We spoke of things crucial and relevant to all in the room, artist or not."

The show will be on view now through Jan. 5, with the Art Talk event following on the 6th. All are invited. The gallery is located at 4 Conant Square in Brandon, and is open Wednesday, Friday, Saturday from 2-6 p.m. For more info call 802-558-0874.





'Immediate Family' screens at Town Hall Theater, Dec. 21

The Middlebury New Filmmakers Festival 2023-24 season of MNFF Selects, will present its next monthly screening of "Immediate Family" on Thursday, Dec. 21, at 7 p.m., at the Town Hall Theater in Middlebury.

Back by popular demand following its sold out MNFF9 screening, "Immediate Family" is the story of the brilliant session musicians who worked with the biggest stars of the 1970s and beyond: Danny Kortchmar, Leland Sklar, Russ Kunkel and Waddy Wachtel. They created the "Singer/Songwriter sound" and backed up iconic artists like James Taylor, Carole King, Jackson Browne, Don Henley, Linda Ronstadt, Phil Collins, Stevie Nicks, Warren Zevon and many more. A lively and

enormously entertaining documentary, featuring many candid interviews, "Immediate Family" is a fascinating portrait of how this timeless music was made. A wonderful trip down memory lane!

The MNFF Selects series began in October and will conclude in May. MNFF Selects has chosen a "Great Stories, Well Told" theme this season and will feature eight films in total that tell remarkable stories with exceptional skill and insight.

Additional information, including each film's trailer, and tickets can be found at middfilmfest.org/selects-2022-23. Individual advance tickets are \$14; walk up tickets at the door are \$16.



Middlebury New Filmmakers Festival Selects will screen "Immediate Family" on Thursday, Dec. 21, at 7 p.m., at the Town Hall Theater in Middlebury.

COURTESY PHOTO





CONANT SQUARE GALLERY

4 Conant Square in Brandon For more info call 802-558-0874.

"Seldom Seen," a new exhibit featuring local and statewide artists Fran Bull, Carolyn Shattuck, Tom Merwin, Sandy Mayo, Joan Curtis, Bob Hooker and Dorothea Langevin. This exhibit is a holiday cornucopia of unique art, books and accessories. On view through Jan. 5, 2024, with an Artist Talk on Saturday, Jan. 6, at 4:30 p.m.

EDGEWATER AT THE FALLS

1 Mill Street, Middlebury Visit edgewatergallery.com, call 802-458-0098 or email 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, call 802-989-7419 or email 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

JACKSON GALLERY

68 S Pleasant St, Middlebury Visit 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.

NORTHERN DAUGHTERS GALLERY

221 Main Street, Vergennes

Visit 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.

Cosmic Forecast

Gift cards available,

ARIES: March 21/April 20. This week you may be interested in unusual art forms or creative things in nature, Aries. Therefore, try to enjoy outings that

may bring you to exhibits by local artists or craft shows.

TAURUS: April 21/May 21. Taurus, an old friend may come to visit for the holidays and you can rekindle your relationship after many years. Even though it's been some time, you'll be glad to see one another.

GEMINI: May 22/June 21. An unexpected invitation comes your way, Gemini. It may include a short trip to visit someone or a brief vacation to a place you've always wanted to see.

CANCER: June 22/ July 22. New career opportunities are available to reawaken your ambition, Cancer. You might come across some possibilities this week that you hadn't imagined.

LEO: July 23/Aug. 23. The excitement of making arrangements for a journey may actually excite you more than the trip itself. However, once you get to the destination, your enthusiasm will grow.

LIBRA: Sept. 23/Oct. 23. This week you may learn something new that you never realized about your spouse or current partner, Libra. It can

> be exciting realizing wonderful things about the one you love.

SCORPIO: Oct. 24/Nov. 22. Scorpio, exciting new developments will arise in your career. A solution may come to light or plans you've been making will suddenly



We're Ready to Help You Celebrate the Holiday FLORAL Season! GIFTS Wreaths & **Poinsettias** are here! Mon.-Fri. 9-5:30, Sat. 10-2 • Rt. 7 So., Middlebury 388-2800 • www.middleburyfloralandgifts.com





SAGITTARIUS:

come to fruition.

Nov. 23/Dec. 21. Your desire to travel may have awakened a new interest in you, Sagittarius. This could inspire you to make plans to visit far off lands in the year to come.

CAPRICORN: Dec.

22/Jan. 20. Welcomed, but unexpected communications from a close friend could come your way, Capricorn. This may segue into a journey or some social occasion.

AQUARIUS: Jan. 21/ Feb. 18. Aquarius, you may desire to keep your distance from certain individuals, but they manage to find you anyway. Keep things cordial until you can once again move on.

VIRGO: Aug. 24/Sept. 22. After a visit from a friend or family member who you haven't seen in a while, long-forgotten memories are recalled. This will be an interesting trip down memory lane.

PISCES: Feb. 19/March 20. You are receptive to new ideas, Pisces, and that may mean you could relocate for a new and promising career. Keep all of your options open.

FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

DEC. 15 — Freeman Dyson, mathematician (d) DEC. 16 — Jane Austen, novelist (d)

DEC. 17 — Pope Francis, head of the Catholic church (83)

DEC. 18 — Paul Klee, artist (d)

DEC. 19 — Edith Piaf, singer (d)

DEC. 20 — Sandra Cisneros, writer (69)

DEC. 21 — Samuel L. Jackson, actor (75)

DEC. 14-24 2023



THURSDAY, DEC. 14

GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB HIKE IN CHARLOTTE. Thursday, Dec. 14, Charlotte Wildlife Refuge. Easy 3.1mile hike through woodlands and farms. The 290-acre property includes 2.25 miles of gravel trails winding through fields with beautiful views of Lake Champlain and the Adirondacks. Elevation gain is about 200 feet. Pets are not allowed on this hike. Contact trip leader Ken Corey at kencorey53@ gmail.com for questions and to register. More at gmcbreadloaf.org.

HOLIDAY TRAINS IN MIDDLEBURY.

Thursday, Dec. 14, 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. More info: henrysheldonmuseum.org or 802-388-2117.

FRIDAY, DEC. 15

STORY TIME WITH SANTA IN BRISTOL. Friday, Dec. 15, noon-1 p.m., Holley Hall, 1 South St. Come on down to Holley Hall for story time with Santa. The Jolly Elf will be reading holidaythemed stories.

"ADRIAN: THE ALTERNATIVE PANTO" IN MIDDLEBURY. Friday, Dec. 15, 7 p.m., Addison Repertory Theatre, Hannaford Career Center, 51 Charles Ave. ART presents an English-style panto this holiday season. Panto, a holiday tradition in the UK, takes a well-known fairy tale, adds in a good

deal of parody, song and dance, and a number of Monty Python-esque elements for a family-friendly and laugh-filled evening. Tickets \$15, includes dessert buffet. More info at addisonrepertorytheater@gmail.com or 802-382-1012.

BENEFIT CONCERT AND HYMN SING FOR CHARTER HOUSE IN

MIDDLEBURY. Friday, Dec. 15, 7 p.m., United Methodist Church, North. Pleasant St. Join in the 13th annual concert and hymn sing to benefit the Housing and Feeding Programs of the Charter House Coalition. Secular as well as traditional Christmas music for all ages. Free but an offering will be taken to support Charter House Reception in the fellowship hall following the concert. Questions? Contact Tom Colley at 802-388-9405.

NIGHT FIRES IN MIDDLEBURY.

Friday, Dec. 15, 7:30 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. A Winter Solstice Celebration of our time. Rooted in ancient traditions, an "opera" with poetry and dance, a pageant rich in color, image and spirit. . Tickets \$27/\$22/\$17 available at townhalltheater.org.

SATURDAY, DEC. 16

WINTER ENCAMPMENT IN TICONDEROGA, N.Y. Saturday, Dec. 16, Fort Ticonderoga. Get immersed in the daily life of December 1775 at Ticonderoga. Join in with soldiers who work as carpenters to build new bunks. See horsepower, ox-power, and manpower in action as they move, load and test cannon. Learn about the science of gunnery, preserved in Fort Ticonderoga's massive cannon collection and archives. Explore the simple luxuries enjoyed by American Continental officers and learn more about what they ate, where they slept, and other details of daily life. More info at Tickets at www.fortticonderoga. org or upon arrival.

GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB HIKE

IN LINCOLN. Saturday, Dec. 16, Willard's Woods Town Forest. An easy to moderate paced hike in a network of about 2 miles of trails with elevation gain of about 200 feet. Some local history of prior land use and a stunning view of Mt. Abe. Dress for winter (no cotton, please.) Poles yes and possibly traction. Limited to 6. May include a short public road walk. Contact Cecilia Elwert at ceciliaelwert@vahoo.com or 802-377-7196 for more info and to register. More at amcbreadloaf.org

LUMEN: CELEBRATION OF FIRE AND LIGHT IN BRISTOL. Saturday, Dec. 16, 4-7 p.m., downtown. Come to Bristol and experience fire performers, a lantern party, and fire pits on the Town Green. A Bristol Core event.

KING PEDE CARD PARTY IN

FERRISBURGH. Saturday, Dec. 16, 6 :30 p.m., Ferrisburgh Town Hall, 3279 Route 7. A sandwich supper and then on to an evening of fun and games. King Pede is a game that involves "trick-taking" such as in Hearts and Spades or Pitch. This is a game of fun and skill so come prepared to use your strategic thinking.

"ADRIAN: THE ALTERNATIVE PANTO" IN MIDDLEBURY. Saturday, Dec. 16, 7 p.m., Addison Repertory Theatre, Hannaford Career Center, 51 Charles Ave. See Dec. 15 listing.

NIGHT FIRES IN MIDDLEBURY.

Saturday, Dec. 16, 7:30 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. See Dec. 15

SUNDAY, DEC. 17

TROLLEY RIDES AROUND BRISTOL.

Sunday, Dec. 17, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Holley Hall, 1 South St. Take a holiday ride in a horse-drawn trolley. Register by calling Bristol Rec at 802-453-5885 starting on Monday, Dec.11, from 8 a.m.-noon. Free, but donations gratefully accepted for future rec programs.

ANNUAL MESSIAH SING IN

MIDDLEBURY. Sunday, Dec. 17, 2 p.m., Congregational Church of Middlebury, 2 Main St. Singers and players gather each December for a joyful sing-along of selections from Handel's Messiah. Join in and sing favorite choruses, or play in the orchestra. Open to all, with donations gratefully accepted at the door. More info contact Jeff at 802-382-7493.

NIGHT FIRES IN MIDDLEBURY.

Sunday, Dec. 17, 4 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. See Dec. 16

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

MCTV SCHEDULE Channels 1071 & 1091

MIDDLEBURY COMMUNITY TELEVISION: P.O. Box 785, Middlebury, Vt. 05753

Please see the MCTV website, www.middleburycommunitytv.org, for changes in the schedule; MCTV events, classes and news; and to view many programs online. Submit listings to the above address, or call 388-3062.

MCTV Channel 1071 Friday, December 15 Through the Night: Public Affairs

7:30 a.m. Congregational Church 9 a.m. Gov. Scott Selectboard, Public Affairs 10 a.m. Montpelier Happy Hour 3 p.m. 4 p.m. Memorial Baptist Church Green Mountain (GM) 5:30 p.m. Care Board

Saturday, December 16

Through the Night: Public Affairs 5 a.m. GM Care Board 7:36 a.m. Dr. John Campbell Montpelier Happy Hour 8 a.m. 9 a.m. Gov. Scott Selectboard, Public Affairs 10 a.m. Memorial Baptist Service 4 p.m. 5:30 p.m. Eckankar Energy Week 6 p.m. Catholic Mass 7 p.m. Abled and On-Air 7:30 p.m. Montpelier Happy Hour 8 p.m. 9 p.m. Press Conferences

Sunday, December 17 Through the Night: from the Archives 4:30 a.m. Dr. John Campbell.

Public Affairs 8:30 a.m. Abled and On-Air

Catholic Mass 9 a.m. Press Conferences 9:30 a.m. 11 a.m. Memorial Baptist Service 12:30 p.m. Gov. Scott. Public Affairs Montpelier Happy Hour 3 p.m. Congregational Service 4 p.m. 5:30 p.m. Gov. Scott 6:30 p.m. **Fckankar** Catholic Mass 7 p.m. 7:30 p.m. Public Affairs from the Archives

Monday, December 18 Through the Night: from the Archives 5 a.m.

Press Conf., Public Affairs Selectboard, Public Affairs 10 a.m. Press Conf., Public Affairs 4:30 p.m. 9:30 p.m. Eckankar GM Care Board 10 p.m. Tuesday, December 19

Through the Night: Public Affairs 5:30 a.m. Mont. Happy Hour 6:30 a.m. Mont. Happy Hour 9:30 a.m. Fckankar Selectboard, Public Affairs 10 a.m. 4 p.m. Congregational Service Selectboard, Public Affairs 7 p.m.

Wednesday, December 20 Through the Night: Public Affairs 7:05 a.m. State House Tree Lighting 7:30 a.m. Memorial Baptist Service

Selectboard, GM Care Board 10 a.m. 7 p.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs Thursday, December 21 Through the Night: Public Affairs 5 a.m. Selectboard Congregational Service 8 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 12 p.m. State House Tree Lighting 8:05 p.m. 8:30 p.m. Montpelier Happy Hour 9:30 p.m. Eckankar

Dr. John Campbell

Catholic Mass

Channel 1091 Friday, December 15

9:30 a.m.

10 p.m.

5 a.m. All Things LGBTQ Music In the Morning Poets & Authors: From the 6 a.m. 8:25 a.m. Archives - Howard Frank Mosher 9:30 a.m. Food & Cooking Programs Recent School Board Meeting/s 1 p.m. Howard Frank Mosher 5 p.m. 6:05 p.m. Moccasin Tracks 6:50 p.m. Sefakor Komabu-Pomeyies

Book Launch - I'm Able

Me2/Burlington Orchestra Fall 7:10 p.m. Concert 9:30 p.m. All Brains Belong

Music in the Morning 5 a.m. 7 a.m. All Things LGBTQ 8 a.m. Moccasin Tracks 8:44 a.m. Me2/Burlington Orchestra The Parkinsons Pantomime 10 a.m. Project School Board Meeting/s 12 p.m. 4:30 p.m. 5:30 p.m. All Brains Belong Authors & Poets 8:30 p.m. Moccasin Tracks 9:15 p.m. Parkinsons Pantomime Sunday, December 17

Saturday, December 16

Music through the Night 12 a.m. School Board Meeting/s 10 a.m. 3 p.m. Parkinsons Pantomime 6 p.m. All Things LGBTQ Harwood Winter Concert 7 p.m. 7:30 p.m. Moccasin Tracks 8:14 p.m. Parkinsons Pantomime 9:30 p.m. All Brains Belong Vermont 10:30 p.m. Poets and Authors

Monday, December 18 5 a.m. Music in the Morning 7 a.m. All Things LGBTQ 8 a.m. Moccasin Tracks

10 a.m. Yoga 11 a.m. Food & Cooking Programs 12 p.m. School Board Meetings

All Brains Belong VT 8 p.m. 9 p.m. Authors and Poets Tuesday, December 19 Music in the Morning 5 a.m. All Things LGBTQ 7 a.m. 8 a.m. Moccasin Tracks 10 a.m.

Food & Cooking Programs 11 a.m. School Board Meeting, State Board of Education 12 p.m. 8 p.m. All Brains Belong VT 9 p.m. Authors and Poe Wednesday, December 20 Authors and Poets Music in the Morning 5 a.m.

Chair Yoga 7 a.m. School Board, State Board 8 a.m. All Brains Belong 6 p.m. Authors and Poets 7 p.m. Thursday, December 21

5:30 a.m. Chair Yoga Food & Cooking Programs 6:30 a.m. Poets and Authors 7:30 a.m. Ethan Allen Homestead 12 p.m. 3 p.m. All Brains Belong Vermont 4 p.m.

School Board Meetings 5 p.m.

TUESDAY, DEC. 19

GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB HIKE IN HANCOCK. Tuesday, Dec. 19, Middlebury Snowbowl, Route 125. *RESCHEDULED FROM DEC. 12." Hike the lost trails of the Snowbowl. Great views. Moderate pace and difficulty. About 2 miles round trip up the mountain with 1,000 feet of elevation change. Microspikes and/or snowshoes are required. Dog friendly. Contact Morris Earle at morrisearle@ gmail.com or 802-734-0984 for information or to register. More at gmcbreadloaf.org.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 20

"FLORENCIA EN EL AMAZONAS" IN MIDDLEBURY. Wednesday, Dec. 20, 11 a.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. See the live-streamed premiere of Daniel Catán's 1996 opera. Inspired by the magical realism of Gabriel García Márquez, this is the enchanting story

of a Brazilian opera diva who returns to her homeland to perform at the legendary opera house of Manaus and to search for her lost lover, who has vanished into the jungle. Tickets \$26 adults/\$12 students, available at townhalltheater.org.

WINTER LANDSCAPE PAINT & SIP IN MIDDLEBURY. Wednesday, Dec. 20, 6-8 p.m., Middlebury Studio School, 63 Maple St, Suite 8A. Bring a beverage of your choice to Middlebury Studio School in the Marble Works, and join a social evening in this fun single session class. Students will learn the basic elements of working with acrylic paints and mixing primary colors as they paint the winter landscape. Beginner, 21+/BYOB. Cost \$45. Register at middleburystudioschool. org. Fee includes all materials needed.

THURSDAY, DEC. 21

GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB HIKE IN

WEYBRIDGE. Thursday, Dec. 21, North Country Trail. Easy hike on the blue trail that branches off the Trail Around Middlebury (TAM). This hike is about 5 miles over level terrain with a mixture of field and forest. At the halfway point of the hike we will check out Bittersweet Falls. Microspikes and snowshoes required depending upon conditions. Contact trip leader Ken Corey at 802-349-3733 or kencorey53@gmail.com for questions and to sign up. More at gmcbreadloaf.

WINTER SOLSTICE CELEBRATION IN MIDDLEBURY. Thursday, Dec. 21, 4 p.m., Town Hall Theater and surrounds, 68 S. Pleasant St. In the third annual solstice pageant, "A Winter's Carol," actors, dancers, puppets and revelers bearing lanterns will lead the audience in a ritual celebrating the shortest day of the year and the coming of the light. Free. For all ages.

HOLIDAY MOVIE AND PARTY IN

FERRISBURGH. Thursday, Dec. 21, 5 p.m., Ferrisburgh Town Hall, 3279 Route 7. Join the Friends of the Union Meeting Hall for a magical evening creatively designed for holiday fun for the whole family. Come in your PJ's, get your tickets and take a round trip ride on the Ferrisburgh Town Hall Express to the North Pole. Santa will be on site so you can visit and take pictures. Then grab some hot chocolate and cookies and watch a holiday family movie that will show you what it means to Believe. Free and open to the public.

"AMAHL AND THE NIGHT VISITORS" IN SALISBURY. Thursday, Dec. 21, 5:30 and 7:30 p.m., Salisbury Congregational Church, 853 Maple St. Come see the story a young boy and his mother, who host the three kings as they travel to Bethlehem. There is a great disparity in the wealth of the kings and Amahl's mother, and

SEE CALENDAR ON PAGE 9

TOP PICK-

BRISTOL IS GOING TO BE HOPPING THIS WEEKEND WITH FIRE PERFORMERS, AND A LANTERN PARTY AT LUMEN ON SATURDAY, AND HORSE-DRAWN TROLLY RIDES ON **SUNDAY. GET INTO THE SEASONAL** SPIRIT WITH THESE FREE EVENTS!

DONATIONS WELCOME.



Cirque de Fuego performing in Bristol back in 2016.

PHOTO / CHAWNA COTA





Friday, Dec. 22 • 6pm-11pm • Free Event **Happy Valley Orchard**

Mountain Mac cider • Pies • Donuts • Cookies • Hot cider • Bonfire Live Music by the band Soulstice • Performance by Cirque De Fuego





until Christmas





217 Quarry Road, Middlebury • 802-377-7402

UPCOMING

Kat & Brett bring 10th anniversary show to Middlebury's Town Hall Theater on Dec. 22

On Friday, Dec. 22, at 7 p.m., Middlebury's Town Hall Theater presents Kat Wright & Brett Hughes, two of Vermont's most beloved songbirds, for their 10th annual holiday show. Joined this year by Tyler Bolles on standup bass and Will Seeders on pedal steel, banjo and fiddle, you can look forward to a decidedly non-denominational holiday romp.

decidedly non-denominational holiday romp, replete with Hughes' originals, that plumb the depths of our collective seasonal longing and sentimental optimism, and great holiday classics, brought to life in a wholly unique and heartfelt new way. It's a beauty of a show, intimate and funny, sad, sentimental, and joyful all at once.

"This show is a holiday gift and the launch of THT's winter music series featuring high-quality artists sure to cure the winter blues. We're thrilled to welcome back Kat & Brett and celebrate their 10th anniversary holiday show in THT's intimate lounge formation, flickering with candlelight." said THT Executive Director Lisa Mitchell. "Future winter performances include New Year's Eve with Mihali (Twiddle's co-founder), The Miles Donahue Quartet, the Vermont Mandolin Trio, Swedish fiddle legend Lena Jonsson, and more!"

Showcasing what Kat and Brett are known far and wide for — soaring harmonies, intimate

MORE TUNES-

BLUES WITHOUT BORDERS TO PERFORM ON DEC. 21 & 22

Catch Blues Without Borders perform on Dec. 21 at South Mountain Tavern in Bristol and again at Low Bar in Vergennes on Dec. 22.



Kat Wright and Brett Hughes will perform a special 10th anniversary holiday concert at the Town Hall Theater in Middlebury on Friday, Dec. 22, at 7 р.т. соиятем рното

tender moments, brilliant songwriting and arranging, and expert showmanship, it's easy to see how for a decade the Kat & Brett Holiday Fête has had audiences singing along, throwing their heads back in knowing laughter and of course wiping away a

sentimental tear or two.

Tickets available online at townhalltheater. org or by calling 802-382-9222. Tickets are \$25, or \$35 for a table seat. Cash bar available throughout the show.



Free Winter Solstice performance lights up Middlebury

he third annual solstice pageant, "A Winter's Carol" will be presented for free at THT on Thursday, Dec. 21, at 4 p.m. Actors, dancers, puppets and revelers bearing lanterns will lead the audience in a ritual celebrating the shortest day of the year and the coming of the light. Once again, we are teaming up with No Strings Marionettes to assist in the making of music, lanterns and puppets.

Throughout December, families and friends ages six through adult are crafting lantern puppets of all sizes that will be guiding the audience through multiple installations outside around THT and ultimately inside the theater to warm-up with hot cider and a solstice blessing. The event is free and especially designed for the whole family.

"Through this pageant, we want to celebrate community," said THT Education Director Lindsay Pontius." We encourage our audience to bring a lantern if you have one. We will also have some fun light sources on hand so we can really make this parade sparkle."

An ensemble of revelers ages 9-13 are currently rehearsing historic dances and poetry to bring to life the story of the Holly King passing the torch and making way for the Sun Queen to re-ascend to her throne. Actors that join the puppeteers include: Adelynn Leonard, Bodhi Kenna, Zara Trump, Aliza Hurlburt, Deborah Sherry, Viviene Rafferty, Rory Cate, Sara Miranda-Ngaiza, Joni Houghton, Matilda Boyce, Lenni Clinton-White. For more information contact the THT Box Office or visit townhalltheater.org.



"A Winter's Carol" will be presented at the Town Hall Theater in Middlebury on Thursday, Dec. 21, at 4 p.m. This free community show is designed for the whole family with hot cider and a solstice blessing.

COURTESY PHOTO

CALENDAR

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

socio-economic conflict ensues, with a beautiful and altruistic resolution at the end. Tickets available at barnopera.com

"IMMEDIATE FAMILY" ON SCREEN IN MIDDLEBURY. Thursday, Dec. 21, 7 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. Immediate Family is the story of the brilliant session musicians who worked with the biggest stars of the 1970s and beyond: Danny Kortchmar, Leland Sklar, Russ Kunkel and Waddy Wachtel. They created the "Singer/Songwriter sound" and backed up iconic artists like James Taylor, Carole King, Jackson Browne,

Don Henley, Linda Ronstadt, Warren Zevon and many more. A lively and entertaining documentary, "Immediate Family" is a fascinating portrait of how this timeless music was made. An MNFF Selects offering. Tickets \$14 advance/\$16 walk-up/\$75 for 7 films, available at townhalltheater.org

FRIDAY, DEC. 22

KAT & BRETT HOLIDAY SHOW IN MIDDLEBURY. Friday, Dec. 22, 7 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. Kat Wright & Brett Hughes get together once again this December for their 10th annual Vermont Holiday Tour. Joined this year by Tyler Bolles on stand-up bass and Will Seeders on pedal steel, banjo and fiddle, you can look forward to a decidedly nondenominational holiday romp. There will be a cash bar and the option to purchase drinks throughout the show. Tickets \$25/\$35 with one drink ticket, available at townhalltheater.org

SUNDAY, DEC. 31

STEVE SAWYER TRIO IN MIDDLEBURY. Sunday, Dec. 31, 2 p.m., The Residence at Otter Creek, 350 Lodge Rd. Free and open to the public.

BEST NIGHT IN BRISTOL. Sunday, Dec. 31, 3:30-11 p.m., downtown Bristol. Come to Bristol for an afternoon and evening of ringing in the New Year. As the date draws closer, check out bristolbestnight.org for details.

NEW YEAR'S EVE FIREWORKS AND SKATING IN MIDDLEBURY. Sunday, Dec. 30, 6:30 p.m., Middlebury Rec Park. Usher out the new year with fireworks, then head on into Memorial Sports Center and enjoy an hour and a half of free skating.

FROM VENICE TO VERMONT IN BRANDON. Sunday, Dec. 31, 7 p.m.midnight, The Brandon Inn, 20 Park St. Barn Öpera's annual New Year's Eve gala returns, More info and tickets at barnopera.com

NEW YEAR'S EVE WITH MIHALI IN MIDDLEBURY. Sunday, Dec. 31, 7:30 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. Ring in the New Year at Town Hall Theater with Mihali, Vermont-based solo singer, songwriter, guitarist, artist, and Twiddle co-founder. Join THT on New Year's Eve and bring the whole family. Ring in 2024 early with a countdown somewhere between 9:30 and 10 p.m. ET, and the price of an adult ticket includes a champagne toast. Tickets \$40 adults/\$20 children under 12, available at townhalltheater.



SPARROW ART SUPPLY

fiese, has lignificant the most suming a appoint-

TRAL 5hare p 1400 — 1380 1360 1340 1320

ACROSS

- 1. Mimic
- 4. Payroll firm
- 7. Perform in a play
- 10. Opine: __ philosophical
- 11. Crony
- 12. Political action committee
- **13.** 1991 Wimbledon winner
- 15. Affirmative
- 16. Exclamation of disgust
- 19. Action of connecting
- 21. A way to calm
- 23. Especially fine or decorative clothing
- 24. Walked proudly
- 25. Group of people

related through male

- 26. Supplemented with difficulty
- 27. Soft touch
- 30. Erases
- 34. Spanish river
- 35. A princess can detect it
- **36.** Clouds of gas
- 41. A way to get through
- 45. Part of a book
- 46. Southwestern US
- 47. Fields where rice is grown
- 50. Area in Ghana
- 54. Sayings
- **55.** Involve deeply
- 56. Compels to act

- 57. "Ignore all rules"
- 59. Indoor entertainment space
- 60. Born of
- 61. Back muscle
- 62. Sea dweller
- 63. Tools that resemble an axe
- 64. Prefix denoting class or kind
- 65. Tooth caregiver

DOWN

- 1. Inspiring
- 2. Put into a box
- 3. Breathes out
- 4. Pacify
- 5. Patriotic society for women
- 6. Fell down
- 7. Clothing

		1	2	3		4	5	6		7	8	9		
		10				11				12				
13	14					15				16			17	18
19					20			21	22					
23								24						
			25					26						
27	28	29						30				31	32	33
34												35		
36			37	38	39	40		41	42	43	44			
			45					46						
47	48	49						50				51	52	53
54								55						
56						57	58			59				
		60				61				62				
		63				64				65				

8 1 9 3 7 5 3 9 4 1 2 6 6 8 4 1 2 9 8 7 5 9 5 3 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

8. Dishwasher detergent brand

- **9.** Former French republic
- **13.** Single lens reflex
- 14. Men's fashion accessory
- 17. Consumed
- 18. Marry
- 20. __ up: intensifies
- 22. Body of water
- **27.** People of southern Benin
- 28. Decorate a cake

with frosting

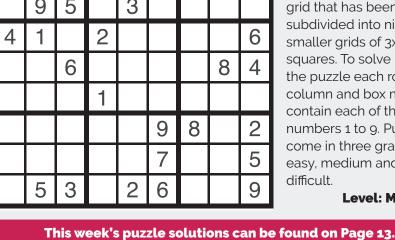
- **29.** Snag
- 31. Yearly tonnage (abbr.)
- 32. Records brain activity (abbr.)
- 33. Car mechanics
- group 37. Brought up to snuff
- **38.** __ faire: Economic
- **39.** Phil __, former CIA
- 40. Affixed

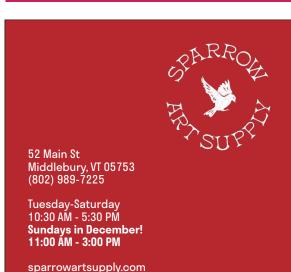
approach

41. Period of

adolescence

- 42. Substance
- 43. Danced
- 44. Baked without its shell
- **47.** Parts per billion (abbr.)
- 48. Satisfaction
- 49. Balkans river
- **51.** Christmas carols
- **52.** Partner to tonic
- 53. "The Godfather" character Johnny
- 58. Swiss river





@sparrowartsupply





Not sure what to get your artist?

SHOP OUR CURATED GIFT GUIDES!

For each medium, we picked our favorite materials and shared why any artist would be thrilled to receive them as a present. Check out the guides on our blog at sparrowartsupply.com





CAPPUCCINO





ella is a sweet 10-year-old, 68-pound senior. She loves her toys and all the yummy treats! Bella really enjoys going out for walks with our volunteers and playing in the yard. She is a bit insecure

when being introduced to new dogs and needs time to feel comfortable around them. She is good around children but is not a big fan of cats.

Bella is very affectionate and likes to be near people. She is strong on a leash, but is easy to manage with the right walking gear. Bella enjoys car rides and going swimming in the lake. She is excellent at solving puzzle toys and will do so with a wagging tail. Bella came to the shelter with fello pup, Mika. They can be adopted together or separately.

For questions about Bella or to schedule an appointment to meet her, call Homeward Bound, 802-388-1100, ext. 110, or email canine@homewardboundanimals.org.





At Paris, we have everything you need for your pets and animals!

- Dry or Wet Dog & Cat food
- Dog & Cat beds, toys, cleaning supplies & accessories
- Fish, bird, small animal & reptile supplies and live feeder insects
- Wild bird & Squirrel supplies
- Backyard animal feed & supplies
- And friendly, knowledgeable staff to help guide you!

1438 Route 7 South • Middlebury, VT • 802-388-3139 www.parisfarmersunion.com



Pefs In Need HOMEWARD BOUND

Addison County's Humane Society



Cleo is a 12-year-old people-friendly feline who loves head rubs. She could benefit from some dietary restrictions! She is very playful and has lived with dogs. We were told that she used to get along with the other cat in her home until they moved to a different place to live. Cleo then acted out against the other cat, which could have been caused by stress. Young children scare Cleo so living with older kids would be a better fit. She enjoys having a quiet space to retreat to.

Denny

Denny is an 8-year-old who has a perpetual grumpy look but is, in fact, quite a sweetheart who loves attention. He will pat you gently with his paw for more pets. Denny is FIV positive. FIV is an infectious disease spread to other cats through bites and scratches. There is no treatment required, and FIV-infected cats have a normal life span.

It is recommended that FIV-positive cats be indoor cats.



Hogan is 2 months old. He came to us feral and has made a lot of progress. He still hisses and doesn't seek attention, but he really loves the other cats in the community room. With time, patience, and other cats in his new house, he will continue to thrive and blossom.



L E

Lucy Lu

Lucy Lu is part of Homeward
Bound's 3rd Party Adoption listing for
privately owned Vermont animals.
She is a 2.5-year-old spayed Pit Bull
Terrier mix weighing 35 pounds. Lucy
Lu is very active, lovable to family,
friendly to visitors, and a great snuggler.
She has been around children ages 10+,
interacts appropriately, and is affectionate

with them. She has had no experience living with cats or other small pets, however, she will chase squirrels and lunge at cats. Lucy Lu is dog-selective and with those particular dogs, she plays well. She is reactive to most other dogs. Lucy Lu would do best with a family working from home and a yard where she can play freely outside.



Stretch is also part of Homeward Bound's 3rd Party Adoption listing. Stretch is a mixed-breed neutered male who weighs 40 pounds. He is estimated to be 3-4 years old. Stretch was a Puerto Rican street dog and is still learning to trust. He had a hard life before being taken off the streets, but very much responds to love and attention. He is beautiful and graceful, fast and funny, and loves to cuddle with his people. The best home situation for Stretch would be with active people who are willing to walk him

Want to learn more?

every day and keep him mentally stimulated. He loves other

Call or check our website. We may have a pet for you! 802-388-1100 | HomewardBoundAnimals.org 236 Boardman Street | Middlebury, VT



PRINT & WEB SUBSCRIPTIONS!



THE MORE YOU GIVE,
THE MORE YOU SAVE!



LOCK IN THE BEST RATES NOW!

1-year in state \$50; Senior \$45; 1-year out of state \$60; Senior \$55

AGREAT CIRCLE

GIVE THE ADDY INDY THIS HOLIDAY SEASON!

1ST SUBSCRIPTION		\$2 OF
Name of recipient:		
Address:		
Town:	State:	Zip:
Email address (required): _		
2ND SUBSCRIPTION Name of recipient:		\$3 OF
Address:		
Town:	State:	Zip:
Email address (required):		
3RD SUBSCRIPTION Name of recipient:		\$4 OF
Address:		
Town:	State:	Zip:
Email address (required):		
RETURN TO: The Addison Independent, 5 by mail or in person, or order		
Credit Card #		
Exp. Date CVV		
	O _j	ffer ends Dec. 31, 202.
	QUESTIONS?	10.6

CALL: 802-388-4944, EXT. 104
EMAIL: SUBSCRIPTIONS@ADDISONINDEPENDENT.COM

ADDISON COUNTY
INDEPENDENT



The weather is chilly, but the market isn't!

Give us a call and we'll help you connect with Addison County homebuyers, sellers & professionals.

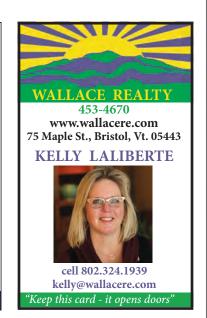
ads@addisonindependent.com



IRENE POOLE, REALTOR®



802-989-5563 | IreneVTRE.com



EQUAL HOUSING **OPPORTUNITY**



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 1-800-669-9777.

the REAL ESTATE COMPANY VERMONT

100 Comfort Hill Road, Vergennes

2 bedroom, I bath ranch home on a country lot with pastoral views. A large eat-in kitchen sits on the northern side with a spacious living room with natural wood accents and 2 walls of windows on the southwest comer allowing for plenty of light. The bedrooms and large bathroom sit at the back of the home. The 2 car garage, lean to, and sheds offer plenty of space for vehicles and storage. Surrounded by a neighboring farm that is conserved with the VT Land Trust. New 2BR septic to be installed prior to closing. Visit our website and check out the 3D tour.

MLS No. 4978845 | \$ 289,000



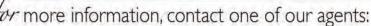
78 Bristol Cliffs Drive, Bristol

This 3 Bedroom home has been in same family since construction in 1978. The spacious kitchen is open to the dining area, and brings in the natural light from the sliding door off the back deck. At the front of the home, theliving room is grounded by pine flooring and features a bay window with southeastern exposure of the front yard and circular driveway. The 2.4 acre lot offers level land for gardening, and the surrounding natural tree buffer enhances the privacy of the lot. With a little vision, this house can easily become your home with new flooring, paint and your personal touches. Be sure to check out the 3-D virtual tour on our website!











Jill Fraga Broker/Owner/Realtor®



Danelle Birong Broker/Realtor®



Orion Lazo Agent/Realtor®



Tammy Petersen Agent/Realtor®





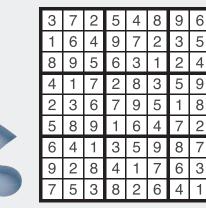
www.theRealEstateCompanyVT.com THREE MAIN STREET | BRISTOL, VERMONT 05443 | 802.453.6161

DEC. 14, 2023

ADD YOUR PIECE!

BE THE NEXT SPONSOR OF THE PUZZLE PAGE.

EMAIL CHRISTY@ADDISONINDEPENDENT.COM TO FIND OUT HOW.



		Α	Ρ	Е		Α	D	Р		Α	С	Т		
		W	Α	х		Р	Α	L		Р	Α	С		
S	Т	1	С	Н		Р	R	0		Р	s	Н	Α	W
L	1	Ν	K	Α	G	Е		Р	L	Α	С	Α	Т	Е
R	Е	G	Α	L	ı	Α		Р	Α	R	Α	D	Е	D
			G	Е	N	s		Е	К	Е	D			
F	ı	Ν	Е	s	s	Е		D	Е	L	Е	Т	Е	S
0	С	Α										Р	Е	Α
N	Е	В	U	L	Α	s		Р	Α	S	S	Α	G	Ш
			Р	Α	G	Е		U	Т	Α	Н			
Р	Α	D	D	ı	Е	s		В	0	М	ı	N	G	0
Р	Η	R	Α	s	Е	s		Е	М	В	R	0	ı	Г
В	Α	ı	Т	s		ı	Α	R		Α	R	Е	N	Α
		N	Е	Е		L	Α	Т		Е	Ε	L		
		Α	D	z		Е	R	Υ		D	D	s		

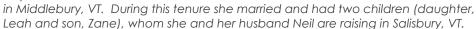


IPJRE Welcomes Jamie Warner!

Meet Jamie! She grew up locally in Addison, Vermont with her family on lands carved out of her grandparent's dairy farm.

She attended Vergennes Union High School and went on to attend Keene State College in Keene, NH to earn her Bachelor's Degree of Science where she also played goalie for the Varsity Women's Lacrosse team from 2001-2004, earning the ECAC championship berth on graduation day.

After graduating Jamie returned to her Vermont roots and started her nearly 20 year career at American Land Title



You can often find Jamie immersed on the sidelines of her kid's sporting events including soccer games, in various hockey arenas and also at gymnastics meets throughout the state and beyond. More recently she picked up the hobby of coaching her kids' soccer teams, as well as futsal in the winter months.

Jamie is looking forward to making new connections across the community and growing those with IPJRE clients she's had the pleasure of working with in a previous capacity. She's also excited to learn the other side of real estate in this new chapter.

Jamie began working in the IPJRE office in early December as Office Manager and Transaction Coordinator. Please stop by to say hello!





II MLS

MIDDLEBURY NEW LISTING! 16 NEDDE LANE

MLS #4979500 | \$486,000 2 BD | 3 BA | 1466 SF | CONDO

There is plenty of space in this center unit to live comfortably for many years to come. On the main living level you have direct entry in to the mudroom from the attached garage. The kitchen is fully equipped with plenty of counter top, a plethora of cupboards, room for a small table, pantry space, and a desk/tv nook. Open living and dining rooms with a fireplace to add ambiance and warmth. Step outside in the warmer months onto the south facing deck and bask in the sun or hop on the TAM! Primary suite offers two walk-in closets and a private bath with a shower, soaking tub and double vanities.

ipjrealestate.com

34 Main Street, downtown Middlebury 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

52 Main Street, Middlebury Visit sparrowartsupply.com or call 802-989-7225 for more info.

"Home Is Where the Art Is," an artisan market for holiday giving featuring creations by over 50 local artisans. On view from Nov. 17-Jan. 13.

SUPPORT THE ARTS

SUBSCRIBE . DONATE . ADVERTISE

ADDISONINDEPENDENT.COM







nbmvt.com • 1-877-508-8455 Bank NMLS #403372

ASK A MASTER

THINK OUTSIDE THE FLOWER BOX THIS HOLIDAY



Amy Simone is a UVM Extension Master Gardener from South Burlington.

f you have a gardener in your life and need some help selecting a gift, read on for some ideas that should please even the choosiest of gardeners.

Most gardeners would be so pleased to receive a gift card to their favorite garden center or nursery. How will you know what that is?

BYAMY

SIMONE

Simply recall a prior conversation as your

gardener carried on about a purchase of 20 new perennials at a certain nursery sale last spring. Offering a gift card to the coveted store allows the gardener to select the plants, seeds or supplies needed.

For a more personal experience, you could give a gift of an outing together to select a specialty houseplant. Local garden centers now offer citrus trees, a wider selection of orchids and some rare varieties of houseplants. These unique plants can be a bit pricier than a typical houseplant, and thus, they make a thoughtful gift.

To pursue another gift idea, simply follow the light, the reading light over the head of your gardener friends, that is, while they peruse the seed and bulb catalogues. If you are guick enough, sneak the catalogues away while they are not looking. Then simply follow the trail of earmarked pages and circled products showing you exactly what they would be happy to receive as gifts.

Gardeners tend to be patient people who enjoy the anticipation that accompanies the wait for future benefits. Therefore, offering them tickets to a regional flower show within the next few months, or a trip to a botanical garden during the upcoming season, will likely be met with much enthusiasm and anticipation.

Or you can simply bring the beauty of plants and gardens to them directly with a book. Your dahlia-loving friend would thoroughly enjoy poring over the pages of a photo book with pictures of dahlia varieties, for example.

Perhaps your garden enthusiasts have

expressed an interest in learning a new skill, such as seed saving, or would like to bring more native plants into their gardens. Gift them a book that can teach them the new gardening technique that they want to master or can serve as a reference guide.

Webinars and local in-person seminars also are an excellent idea for the knowledgeseeking gardener. Another option would be to sign you and your friend up for a botanically inspired workshop so that you may enjoy the experience together.

Many gardeners are so busy planting and tending their gardens that they sometimes forget the décor. A gift of a garden statue for the perennial gardener, a solitary bee house for the vegetable gardener, or a decorative stake for the houseplant gardener are just a few ideas to add even more beauty to those lovely spaces.

Whatever the gift, your gardeners will appreciate your support of their passion for plants.

Garden sculptures and statuary, available for purchase at many nurseries and garden centers, will add beauty to a perennial gardener's flowerbeds. PHOTO / AMY SIMONE

BHHS REALTORS WORKING FOR YOU ALWAYS, LISTING AND SELLING



NEW TO THE MARKET

If you're looking for an investment opportunity, this 3 unit home is just one block away from downtown. You could live in one unit and rent the other two out to help pay the mortgage. This property has incredible potential and is priced at the current appraised value. Don't wait on this one

3 EAST STREET, VERGENNES, VT 05491 MLS: 4979267 Price: \$314,000









JUST SOLD

This Chalet Style Home boasts beautiful sweep-

ing views of the Adirondacks. The first floor offers

a kitchen with dining room as well as a spacious

living room. A half bath is included on this level.

Susan Burdick, Realtor/Admin, SusanBurdick@VTReGroup.com 802-989-9058

MLS: 4976188

BERKSHIRE **HATHAWAY**

ean Dye, Managing Broker/Realtor SeanDye@VTReGroup.com, 802-338-0136

Vermont Realty











= GOLD SPONSORS: =















= SEASON SPONSORS: =







UPCOMING SHOWS

New shows announced each month!

VISIT PARAMOUNTVT.ORG FOR THE COMPLETE LISTING



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16 | 1 & 6 PM



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17 | 3:00 PM



2 Shows! SAT, JAN 20 | 5:30 & 8 PM



FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16 | 7:30PM



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17 | 7:00 PM



WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21 | 7:30 PM



FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23 | 7:30 PM



FRIDAY, MARCH 1 | 7:30 PM



MONDAY, MARCH 4 | 7:30PM



FRIDAY, MARCH 8 | 7:30 PM



SATURDAY, MARCH 9 | 7:00 PM



WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20 | 7:30PM



FRIDAY, MARCH 29 | 7:30 PM



SATURDAY, MARCH 30 | 7:00 PM



FRIDAY, APRIL 5 | 7:00 PM



THURSDAY, APRIL 11 | 7:30 PM



FRIDAY, APRIL 12 | 7:30PM



An Evening with David Sedaris

SATURDAY, APRIL 20 | 7:00 PM



FRIDAY, MAY 3 | 7:00 PM



More shows added monthly!



30 CENTER ST. RUTLAND, VT 802.775.0903





HERITAGE FAMILY ONLINE BOX OFFICE

