



5-Town fixture

A Bristol resident is honored for her dedication to music, theater and young people. Arts+Leisure.



Reloaded

The three-time NCAA D-III champion Panther women's lacrosse team is off and running. Page 1B.



ART work

A suspenseful student-written play will debut at the Hannaford Career Center. See Page 2A.

ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT

Vol. 79 No. 12

Middlebury, Vermont ♦ Thursday, March 20, 2025 ♦ 46 Pages

\$2.00

Vt. schools eyeing cuts to Dept. of Ed

Funding for crucial programs at risk

By MARIN HOWELL

ADDISON COUNTY — When the U.S. Department of Education (DOE) announced last week that it would fire more than 1,300 (nearly 50%) of its employees, it marked another step in line with President Donald Trump's plans to ultimately dismantle the agency.

It would be fair for local school officials to be holding their breath right now.

"We have cautious optimism that for FY27 we wouldn't see dramatic changes, but that remains to be seen," said Wendy Baker, superintendent of the Middlebury-area Addison Central School District.

While fully abolishing the

Education Department would require congressional approval, Republicans in Congress have shown no inclination to block the president. And Trump has repeatedly said he wants to close the department, and he has already terminated some probationary staff, contracts and grants in just two months.

The agency's responsibilities include distributing funds that help school districts serve students in low-income communities and pupils with disabilities.

What do such changes at the federal level mean for Vermont students? It's not yet clear what the impact will be, but state and school (See Education Dept., Page 14A)



'Afterlife'

THE MOUNT ABRAHAM Union High School auditorium will take on a ghostly tint this weekend as the school presents the comedic "Beetlejuice JR – The Musical." Shown in a Monday rehearsal are Rhiannon Andrews, left, and Hazel Stoddard as Beetlejuice clones; Charlie Prouty as Beetlejuice; and Alina Donaldson as Lydia Deetz. See more photos on Page 15A.

Photo by Buzz Kuhns

Wanted: more civic volunteers

County towns see many vacancies

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — Addison County is made up of 23 municipalities, all of which offered a variety of public service opportunities to residents through the March 4 Town Meeting Day elections. Sadly, the election ballots in the vast majority of towns featured zero contested elections. Many ballots displayed various posts — ranging from delinquent tax collector to selectboard — with no takers.

(See Volunteers, Page 11A)

Outlook for Ripton school is bleak

April 1 emerges as key deadline

By JOHN FLOWERS

RIPTON — For more than 200 years, Ripton schools have rated high marks among local citizens for the way they've nourished local

children intellectually, emotionally and in intangible ways.

The last of what were once seven Ripton schools, located at 753 Lincoln Road, has survived

multiple floods and a pandemic.

But a simple case of math could be on the verge of forcing its undoing — maybe before the end of this year.

Addison Central School District Superintendent Wendy Baker

met with Ripton leaders and community members on Monday, seeking input on how public education might continue in the small mountain town in the face of a declining school population (See Ripton, Page 14A)

State eyeing major Snake Mt. land deal

Public keeps access to 1,300 acres

By ANDY KIRKALDY

ADDISON/WEYBRIDGE — A major land and timber-rights transaction approved — or at least not opposed — by selectboards in Weybridge and Addison has paved the way for the transfer of hundreds of acres of land and timber rights on Snake Mountain in both Addison and Weybridge to the Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife (F&W).

F&W plans to buy outright two parcels of land owned by Bristol's A. Johnson Co. and two by The Nature Conservancy and add them to its existing Wildlife Management Unit, or WMA, on Snake Mountain.

F&W will also buy from A. Johnson 949 acres of timber rights on land F&W already owns on the 1,287-foot peak on

the border of the two Champlain Valley towns.

When the deal is completed, sometime in 2026 (if all goes well), the WMA will include just over 1,313 acres, according to F&W Land Acquisition Coordinator Will Duane. And F&W will own all of its timber rights, as it does in most of its other roughly 100 Vermont WMAs.

Public access to what Duane said is F&W's most popular WMA will be maintained. The purchase will include the most commonly used hiking trailhead, and F&W will allow all current uses except mountain biking and motorized vehicles.

"We typically provide (in WMAs) an access point, a parking area and an information kiosk," Duane said. "And from (See Snake Mtn., Page 16A)



Workin' on a play

PHOEBE RAPHAEL (ON the phone) plays Judy and Gina LaBeau plays Violet in a rehearsal for this week's Vergennes Union High School production of "9 to 5." The show runs Thursday and Friday nights, and Saturday afternoon, at the school auditorium. See more photos on Page 13A.

Photo by Jesse Brooks

No run-off needed for library seat

BRISTOL — Bristol officials no longer need to warn a runoff election for a spot on the Lawrence Memorial Library Board of Trustees that two candidates tied for on Town Meeting Day, since one of those candidates has withdrawn from the contest.

Audrey Beckwith and write-in candidate Peter Hewitt both received 253 votes for one of two, two-year terms on the board that were up for grabs on March 4. Elizabeth Guilbeault was the top vote-getter in the contest for the two seats, earning 406 votes. Jill Danyow (139 votes) and Ashley "Boots," Bennett (73 votes) finished out of the running.

Following the election, Bristol Town Clerk Sharon Lucia noted that according to state statutes, the (See Bristol, Page 16A)

"Typically we allow folks to just enjoy the WMA property in its natural state for any kind of low-impact kind of recreation."

— Will Duane



By the way

Two prominent cliff sites on the Green Mountain National Forest's Rochester and Middlebury Ranger Districts are once again temporarily closed to protect critical nesting habitat for peregrine falcons. Beginning on March (See By the way, Page 11A)

Group in Bristol aims to support local moms

By MARIN HOWELL

BRISTOL — Motherhood can be overwhelming, and finding support to help navigate the highs and lows of parenting isn't always easy.

With that in mind, Bristol resident Kelly Bessette is launching The Blooming Circle, a mom-to-mom support group that she's hoping offers local mothers a space to share their experiences, learn from one another and get more of the assistance she believes they need.

"I just really want to see people finding connections," Bessette told the *Independent*. "There already is a lot of that in our community with the library, story time, play dates, that kind of thing. But just finding that strong connection with other women, there's something in that message that we are not alone."

Bessette has a background in social work and is currently a stay- (See Support, Page 18A)



Chocolate magic

MIDDLEBURY UNION HIGH School senior Jacques Snell becomes Willy Wonka on the MUHS stage this weekend in the school's senior play, "Willy Wonka Jr." You'll see Silas Quinn as Charlie (pointing right) and all of your favorites from the movie — including, of course, a stage full of Oompa-Loompas. See more photos on Pages 14A and 17A.

Photo by Jason Duquette-Hoffman

Index

Obituaries.....6A-7A
Classifieds.....10B-11B
Service Directory.....8B-9B
Entertainment.....Arts + Leisure
Community Calendar.....6B
Arts Calendar.....Arts + Leisure
Sports.....1B-3B



7 18122 07300 9



ADDISON REPERTORY THEATER'S Lucas Flinner, left, and Jeremy Holzhammer act out a scene while a group of castmates network at the side of the stage during a recent rehearsal of ART's original scary play, "I'll Tell You a Secret," to be staged at the Patricia Hannaford Career Center March 27-29.

Independent photo/John Flowers

Student-written play goes back to the '70s

ART's 'I'll Tell You a Secret' offers cautionary message for contemporary kids

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — The Patricia Hannaford Career Center's Addison Repertory Theater, known as ART, has always prided itself on giving its students a solid foundation for pursuing careers in all aspects of stage and film.

This year — ART's 30th — is no different. The state's first (and now only) career & technical education theater program is turning back the clock to 1977 for an original play that'll conjure fear, catchy dialogue and a cautionary message for audiences. It's called, "I'll Tell You a Secret," and will be staged at the ART's performance venue in Middlebury at 51 Charles Ave.

Performances are slated from March 27-29. Go to theaterengine.com/productions/2847 for tickets and more information.

Here's ART's tease for the play: "On an autumn evening in 1977, a group of high school friends meet together ... in the abandoned Russell house for a party. As the night wears on, secrets come to light with devastating consequences."

Rumor has it that those who write their secrets on the walls

inside the abandoned house can receive relief and/or absolution.

The *Independent* caught part of Monday's rehearsal and got a chance to interview three of the young actors in a cast of 14 who breathe supernatural life into "I'll Tell You a Secret." Together, and under the able tutelage of ART instructor Eric Reid-St. John, the students co-wrote the script for the 90-minute production. They're now getting the joy of transforming their own words into movements and emotions that will be laid bare for friends, family and strangers to see on stage.

None of the ART actors were even a gleam in their parents' eyes in 1977. In fact, it's likely their parents have few memories of that bell-bottomed epoch. So, the "I'll Tell You a Secret" crew mined pop culture info, slang and other '70s references from their grandparents and the internet.

So you'll probably hear '70s throwback words like "gnarly," "cool," "rad," "jive turkey" and "gimme some skin." But since the fictional abandoned house is located in Addison County, Reid-St. John also urged his students to add some woodchuck jargon.

That means at least one "jeezum crow" exclamation during the show, noted cast member Phoebe Raphael, a Vergennes Union High School junior.

This reporter confessed to being 15 years old in '77 and was able to offer a little wardrobe advice to the cast: Platform shoes, flared jeans, a rugby shirt with white collar and horizontal stripes, and a puka-shell necklace. I remember my puka-shell necklace complemented the blond hair that I lost in the late-1980s.

Reid-St. John said selection of 1977 was also a tip-of-the-cap to the enduring cultural phenomenon that is the original "Star Wars" movie. I saw it that year at a drive-in movie theater in Bridgton, Maine. I have no regrets for taking my R2-D2 action figure out of its original packaging back then, but I do feel an occasional twinge of remorse for having destroyed the toy with my Daisy BB gun.

Based on samples of the play offered in Monday's rehearsal, it's clear the "I'll Tell You a Secret" cast did its homework — not only in capturing the spirit of the 1970s, but also some of the tropes of supernatural horror flicks. "I'll Tell

You a Secret" borrows from some of those themes, but only to lead the audience to the deeper message of "nothing stays secret," even in an era predating social media and the now-ubiquitous smartphones.

Cast member Bea Hooper, a Middlebury Union High School senior, is very pleased with the way the play is coming to life after many weeks of crafting the script. In addition to writing her own character's lines, she was instrumental in knitting the characters' dialogue together to form seamless exchanges.

"It's been amazing to see what we wrote come to life," Hooper said.

Cast member Lucas Flinner, an MUHS senior and aspiring musician and composer, also wrote an original song and is putting together a soundtrack that'll be played during the performances.

"It was an awesome opportunity for me to bring music into the story," Flinner said.

Raphael, Hooper and Flinner were careful not to disclose spoilers. They did offer some general clues about the characters they'll portray.

"It's pure, teenage, under-developed frontal lobe," Raphael said with a grin ...

"... combined with alcohol," Flinner added, finishing the thought.

The interviewees had to tap dance around some of the reporter's questions for fear of revealing too much.

"A lot of bad decisions are made," Flinner simply said.

A crew of set designers, lighting technicians and wardrobe folks are working behind the scenes to make sure "I'll Tell You a Secret" rings with authenticity. The audience will also enjoy some special effects to enhance the supernatural ambience.

THINKING BIG PICTURE

ART's founders, Steve Small and the late Candace Burkle, would be proud of where the program



ADDISON REPERTORY THEATER'S latest production, "I'll Tell You a Secret," will provide smiles and chills as it leads the audience to a deeper message. Standing, left to right, are cast members Nel Stein, Gabe Schmitt and Carowyn Maceno; Torrey Hanna (seated) looks on.

Independent photo/John Flowers

has gone since its creation in 1995. Burkle and Small saw it as a vehicle for students to approach technical theater and performance as a career path.

And this isn't the first time ART students have authored and acted their own work. Each budding actor annually writes and performs a one-act play. Then, during the early spring, they take on a more robust project that often requires building a show of their own. And they've already set a precedent for original, macabre subject matter: "A Shadow on the Wall," a Victorian-era ghost story, staged in 2023.

In 2023, Reid-St. John had mapped out the concept for "A Shadow on the Wall" and essentially asked his students to fill it in with dialogue and their ideas. But with "I'll Tell You a Secret," he merely conveyed an era, a genre

and a fitting conclusion, and told his charges to have at it.

"This play is very character-based. All I knew at the start of this was the last thing I wanted to see in the play. I had a final image in mind, and it was about building backwards. 'Why did this happen?'" Reid-St. John said.

Sharing that final thing in this article would be a no-no.

Reid-St. John is pleased with the way his students have taken to the project.

"They are crafting a fun and compelling story that I'm sure will provide a frighteningly good time," he said.

Do any of the "I'll Tell You a Secret" jive turkeys buy a one-way ticket to a dirt-nap after chillin' and drinking some (faux) brewskis?

You'll need a ticket to find out. John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.



TORREY HANNA, LEFT, and Mary Beth Cosgrove share an exchange during a recent rehearsal for Addison Repertory Theater's play, "I'll Tell You a Secret," to be staged at the Hannaford Career Center March 27-29.

Independent photo/John Flowers

Do you see what I see?

I smell it, too!

HARE AND THE DOG

Legendary WINE • BEER • SPIRITS

MIDDLEBURY, VT
VERGENNES, VT

WWW.HARE.DOG

Lincoln to hold special town meeting on tax exemptions

LINCOLN — Lincoln residents will gather on Thursday, March 27, for a special town meeting to weigh in on a couple of questions.

The meeting is to approve the tax exempt property tax status for the Lincoln Volunteer Fire Company and Lincoln Cooperative Preschool, which is authorized every five years and was brought to the board's attention after the town report was printed for town meeting.

Article 1 on the special town meeting warning asks residents

if the town should vote to "exempt the Lincoln Volunteer Fire Company from municipal and state property taxes," per 32 V.S.A. § 5404a(a)(4).

Article 2 on the warning asks whether the town should vote to exempt the Lincoln Cooperative Preschool from "paying municipal taxes for a period of 5 years and to pay the state education tax due as a voted exemption," per 32 V.S.A. § 5404a(d).

The meeting is set to take place on at 5 p.m. at the Town Office.

\$3.00 OFF

ANY LOCAL BAKING PRODUCT

(minimum purchase \$3.00)
(Expires Thursday, 3/27/25)

9 Washington St | 802.388.7276
middlebury.coop

CO-OP WEEKLY SALE 3/20 - 3/26

MNFC Deal	BULK	MNFC Deal
<p>\$13.49 <small>-\$21.49/ea</small></p> <p>Local Organic Non-GMO Shaker Maple Quarts Dark Maple Syrup</p>	<p>\$11.99 <small>-\$14.99/lb</small></p> <p>Bulk Local Organic Back Roads Maple Pecan Granola</p>	<p>\$4.49 <small>-\$5.99/ea</small></p> <p>Local Co-op Made Cabot 2lb Yogurt</p>

Scan the QR code or see in-store flyer!

CO-OP MEMBER DEALS

Members Take an Extra 20% Off

Mar 20 - Mar 26

Citing financial stability issues, Valley Vista to leave Vergennes

By PETER D’AURIA and
ETHAN WEINSTEIN
VTDigger.org

VERGENNES — Valley Vista, the state’s largest substance use disorder treatment provider, will shut its Vergennes women’s facility by the end of the month and consolidate all patients at its Bradford location. The closure will result in the loss of 20 jobs.

The rehabilitation center’s chief operating officer said Monday that the decision comes amid state concern about the company’s financial sustainability.

Starting Tuesday, the Vergennes location no longer accepted patients, Chief Operating Officer and Co-owner Rick DiStefano told VTDigger in an interview. Newly admitted residents will go directly to the rehab’s Bradford location. Valley Vista hopes to cease its Vergennes rehab program at the end of March, he said.

DiStefano said the consolidation would save money and improve residents’ access to services.

“It makes a great deal of sense to consolidate these services,” DiStefano said. “So that all of the resources — our medical resources, psychiatric resources, clinical resources and administrative resources — will all be able to be located in one campus.”

Between Bradford, where the facility treats male patients, and Vergennes, Valley Vista currently has 90 beds, according to its website, a number that will stay roughly the same through the

shift. The Vergennes location opened in 2017. Prior to that, both men and women were treated in separate wings of Valley Vista’s Bradford facility — a practice that, DiStefano said, will now resume.

As of Monday, 18 patients were living at the Vergennes site, according to DiStefano. The facility hopes they will all be able to complete their stints in Vergennes before it closes at the end of March, he said, but it’s possible a handful will move to the Bradford location at the end of the month.

The company’s consolidation in Bradford will save it an estimated \$60,000 a month or more, DiStefano said.

“The downside, obviously, of losing some dedicated, hard-working, good people is something that’s hard to measure. I feel terrible about it. I’ve had a few sleepless nights,” DiStefano said. “But I think overall, for the services, for the sustainability of what we do now and opportunities to enhance the program even further, that this is the best move for Valley Vista.”

The consolidation is not the only cost-saving move taken by the facility in recent months. In December, Valley Vista said it would no longer accept patients on methadone, saying the cost

of transportation to and from methadone clinics — which could run up to \$400 a day — was no longer affordable.

‘NOT FINANCIALLY SUSTAINABLE’
The Vergennes closure comes amid concerns about the company’s finances, according to court records obtained by VTDigger.

A lawsuit filed in July by TLC Nursing, a Vermont health care staffing agency, alleges Valley Vista owes the company more than \$2 million for services provided between August 2023 and June 2024. The two companies have had a contract since 2018, court records indicate. A lawyer for TLC Nursing did not immediately respond to a request for comment Monday evening.

Valley Vista has received multiple deadline extensions to file an answer in court, with a response due this week.

In a letter sent Jan. 28 to Valley Vista’s leadership, Agency of Human Services Secretary Jenney Samuelson painted a concerning picture of the rehab center’s finances, but affirmed that the state is committed to helping keep the company afloat. TLC Nursing included the letter in its lawsuit.

The state originally sought

to “resolve all of Valley Vista’s debts,” Samuelson wrote, but an investigation by the agency determined that the amount of debt and number of creditors “significantly exceeds” the state’s initial expectations.

According to the letter, an accountant who reviewed Valley Vista’s finances found the company’s expenses outpaced its revenues, and that its current structure was “not financially sustainable.”

Despite the worrying assessment, Samuelson wrote that the state remains “committed to providing extraordinary financial relief within a limited amount.” And she acknowledged “recent positive steps” toward a better financial future, including reducing contracted staff and increasing occupancy rates.

AN ‘IMPORTANT ROLE’

DiStefano said TLC’s lawsuit was “completely separate” from Valley Vista’s consolidation.

“We’ve been in communication with them, and we have a settlement plan,” he said.

Asked about Samuelson’s letter, DiStefano said it stemmed from a request from Valley Vista for emergency funding. Even though Vermont did not grant that request, state officials have been “nothing but cooperative,” he said.

In an email, Ted Fisher, a spokesperson for the Agency of Human Services, acknowledged that Valley Vista plays an “important role” in the state and that the agency recognized that “temporary consolidation” may be necessary.

“We are aware they are facing

financial challenges, and are supporting them in making difficult decisions to get to financial sustainability,” Fisher wrote. “We support them taking this temporary step; this will allow them the time that they need to evaluate their programs more generally and make sure they are sustainably structured going forward.”

The closure of the Vergennes facility does not necessarily mean the center will be permanently shuttered, according to DiStefano. Valley Vista administrators have been considering other uses for the facility, including, potentially, as a less-intensive “step-down” unit — something that advocates say Vermont desperately needs.

“We’re not giving up on Vergennes,” he said.



MAKE
YOUR
HOME

LIVE
YOUR
PASSION!



The Cottages
at Otter Creek

True independence for seniors, in a village setting.

- Two-Bedrooms
- Two-Bath
- Sun room & Garage
- In-unit W/D
- Walking Paths
- Housekeeping & Landscaping
- Access to campus amenities
- and more!

Call to learn about this rare availability
and ask about our special Cottages rate.

350 Lodge Road, Middlebury
802-483-4657 | residenceottercreek.com

Also offering Independent, Assisted & Memory Care Living



Blood moon

AN EERIE MOON hovers over the Congregational Church of Middlebury just after 3 a.m., during the lunar eclipse this past Friday.

Photo by Jonathan Blake

Addison County's Hometown Dealer



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



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

Editorials

Scott’s ‘affordability’ is not solving problems affordably

Before Vermonters label Gov. Scott heartless for denying “children, pregnant women, disabled Vermonters, veterans, and those fleeing domestic violence” from the motel voucher program set to expire on April 1, voters should consider the Governor’s position. For the past several terms he has run on the mantra of “affordability,” not aiding Vermonters in need nor addressing their problems.

So, it is in character that Gov. Scott vetoed H.141, a mid-term budget adjustment act he considered excessive. That much of the funding he rejected does make living in Vermont more affordable for those in need (young families, for instance), he has a point that Vermont taxpayers can’t afford every good idea proposed. His blanket approach to denying those “good ideas” has earned him solid support throughout the state, though we suspect voters forget all the ideas he rejects and focus instead on what has become his administrative and campaign catchword: affordability.

But like Trump’s MAGA slogan, Scott’s “affordability” has many blind spots and unintended consequences.

His latest rejection is one. In a conciliatory letter to Scott following his veto, Democratic leadership eliminated all \$14.9 million the governor asked for. That funding would have helped build more affordable housing, helped communities recover from flooding, and used \$1.8 million to extend a winter program to keep houseless Vermonters in motels.

The only thing Democrats asked of the governor was to extend the motel voucher program to the most vulnerable Vermonters using “existing funds” through June 30.

Without the extension, nearly 600 adults and over 160 children could lose their access to motel-based shelter on April 1. Scott objected. He called it a “failed program” that’s too expensive to continue. The program is no doubt imperfect, yet true to form Scott and his team have not proposed any solution.

“We have been asking the Governor for four years to develop a plan to transition away from the hotel/motel program and create a long-term solution to homelessness,” said Rep. Robin Scheu, D-Middlebury, Chair of the House Committee on Appropriations. “For four years, we have received nothing. Instead of working with us on a path forward, he vetoed the BAA over three more months of shelter for people who have nowhere else to go.”

Since Rep. Scheu’s statement, Scott thought better of his stance and agreed with Democrats to allow families with children to remain housed in the program, but not so for pregnant women, disabled veterans or those fleeing domestic violence. Heartless, yes, but not pointless.

The governor’s decision to reject most of the motel program isn’t without political consideration. He’s popular largely because the public has bought into a mistaken aura: that’s he’s been a good leader by virtue of saying no to spending. Scott knows the motel program isn’t popular with a majority of voters, and it’s a way for him to show he’s tough on keeping Vermont “affordable” by denying a pittance of spending.

The far more difficult challenge, of course, is to solve problems affordably. That he has done so little to lead the state in solving its many challenges, and yet remained so popular, is what Democrats in the Legislature find so frustrating. But until voters recognize the difference between “solving problems affordably” and an “affordability agenda,” Scott can toss the most vulnerable Vermonters out in the street while too many Vermonters continue to applaud.

Angelo Lynn

Forgive the Fox News viewer

Forgive the Fox News viewer for having a dim view of Democrats. If that’s where you get your news, how could you not?

Consider one example: Trump appointed Tom Holman as his border czar. Holman began his career as a police officer, then a Border Patrol Agent, then a Special Agent investigating criminal organizations that smuggle aliens or traffic in females and children. From that modest background, Trump elevated him in his first term as the tough-talking ICE Director, who also harbored rabid conspiracy theories.

That role, naturally, gave Holman a rightwing audience and millions of Fox News viewers have seen him claim (over and over) through much of 2024 that Americans are living, as journalist Josh Levs says in his newsletter, They Stand Corrected, “in a dystopian society in which the horrific scourge of sex trafficking increased a whopping 600%” during President Biden’s presidency.

It’s Holman’s standard talking point on illegal immigration. Perhaps you’ve heard it. Perhaps you believed it. If so, you got suckered.

Levs debunks much of Holman’s storyline: first, exact numbers are hard to pin down, but what’s known is the number of sex-trafficking convictions were either up or the same from 2012-2020, but declined precipitously during 2020, the last year Trump was in office in his first term. The decline is not likely because of a lack of incidents, but rather prosecutors that relaxed their focus on the crime. Under Biden, the number of incidents jumped in 2021 to the prior 8-year average, and hit a 10-year record in 2022, the latest year figures are available.

Moreover, 95% of those convicted were U.S. citizens. Only 3.4% were “undocumented non-U.S. citizens” — almost the opposite of what Holman so often claims. And of those convictions, 58% were listed as white, while only 18% were Hispanic. As Levs notes, that’s certainly “not the image you get from hearing Holman constantly discuss (sex trafficking) in the same breath as illegal immigrants.”

Now, extrapolate the point: Why would Fox News viewers support Democrats if the Dems are failing so epically on sex-trafficking?

“This is just one example of how the media’s ‘open mic nights’ for liars create seismic problems,” Levs says. “It’s not just that Trump and his team amass power through lying. It’s that people who want to build a better society aren’t given the information they need to be productive... To tackle any problem, you have to start with the facts.”

Trump has been masterful at one thing: capturing the political right’s attention and inuring it to his daily diet of lies, misinformation, distractions, wild conspiracies and utter nonsense to the point they are a sponge for anything he says without the energy to think critically.

Media literacy, or learning to tell the difference between political lies and what’s accurate, is one of America’s most pressing challenges. Suffice it to say, Trump and his team won’t be in a hurry to help.

Angelo Lynn



Spring awakens

BEFORE THE FOLIAGE has peaked out of this willow in Middlebury, these furry red catkins raised their heads to survey the fast receding winter this week. The first official day of spring is today, March 20!

Independent photo/John S. McCright

Taking action, but talking kindly

Like so many of us, anxiety for the future of our nation often haunts my sleep. I have nightmares of Trump’s Toadies and Musk’s Maggots crawling over the landscape, destroying everything I cherish as they go. They seem like the plagues of Egypt. Then I waken with a start and berate myself for not being able to see that of God in them, for feeling self-righteous that I can make such clever allusions, by turning MAGAs into maggots, for feeling certain that I am right and they are wrong.

When we were raising kids, we were careful to make a sharp distinction between calling out bad actions and calling a person bad. It’s very clear in my mind that the actions now being taken by the Republican Administration in Washington are, for the most part, very, very bad. Yet it is also clear that I am participating in the sandbox mentality of bullying and name calling, when I refer to people in derogatory terms.

I was having a hard time imagining how people could have voted for the devastation of our beautiful country and the wonderful people in it. But recently I had two experiences that help me understand I also deserve part of the blame.

The first was participating in “Buy Nothing Friday” on Feb. 28. People committed to abstaining from credit card use or purchasing anything that wasn’t local. The hope was such a boycott would dramatically reduce income to credit card companies and big corporations, reinforcing that those of us who are not billionaires still have an impact on the economy. It seemed simple and straightforward. I thought “Buy Nothing Friday” would be a breeze. After all, it was only one day, I had cash reserves in case I needed something, and I was grateful

we have local stores like the Middlebury Natural Food Co-op and a wonderful local bank.

Yet I came away with the uneasy feeling I might not be able to sustain a long boycott of institutions owned by the American Oligarchs. Even now, I haven’t weaned myself from Facebook, owned by META and Mark Zuckerberg, or the Washington Post, owned by Jeff Bezos, let alone not buying beans from Goya Foods, a major contributor to the Trump Campaign. If I can’t make those simple changes, I’m still contributing to a culture that values convenience, stuff and money over caring human relationships.

Ways of Seeing

By Cheryl Mitchell



were interpreting it differently than I was. Perhaps they were living in fragile and scary circumstance in which the words “America First” meant that Trump would take care of people here at home — with better housing, better health care, better wages — before taking care of people in other parts of the world.

Perhaps they come from communities whose members had turned to military service as the only viable job option, and their families had been decimated by death, injury, and mental illness. Perhaps they thought if America no longer positioned itself as the defender of the free world, people back home would have better jobs. I was chagrined. She was certainly right that my assumptions about those who

(See Ways of Seeing, Page 5A)

A hobgoblin is driving me crazy

Lately I keep losing things, only to have them show up in places I’ve already looked.

I did some online research and now know what is happening: we have a hobgoblin in the house.

What a relief.

This phenomenon goes beyond misplacing objects; I’ve been doing that my whole life. That’s because, at any given time, my brain is juggling five to seven competing ideas, and rarely do they have anything to do with the current task.

If my hands are doing something routine, like making a sandwich, my mind will be off pondering Groucho Marx or Iron Age roundhouses or taxes. If I can’t find the mayo in the fridge, it’s because, in my reverie, I put it on the counter moments earlier.

But this is different.

For example, the other day at lunchtime, I once again couldn’t find the mayo. I expected to find it already on the counter. But it wasn’t.

I then checked to see if I had stuck it in the pantry (nope) or the freezer (nope) or the dish cupboard (nope). These are just my top three go-to wrong locations; there are many others.

After a full mayo hunt in all my likely absent-minded put-away spots, including the upstairs bathroom and the car, I opened the fridge one last time. And there it



Around the bend

By Jessie Raymond

German *kobold*, which wears a pointy, red hat and can shapeshift; or a *bwbach*, a Welsh elf that, as far as I can tell, steals vowels.

It could also be a *domovoi*, a *haltija*, a *tomte*, a *nisse*, or any one of many mischievous beings that have, throughout history, gaslighted people into checking under the bathroom sink for the mayonnaise.

Hobgoblins and other house spirits can play pranks (hiding objects being their favorite) or, if angry, wreak

(See Jessie, Page 5A)

Letters to the Editor

Group creates ‘moral panic’

I am disappointed that the Statehouse played host to “Detransitioner’s Awareness Day” on March 12. Public opposition to gender-affirming taking part in a moral panic for significant financial gain. Chloe Cole, who was scheduled to speak on Zoom, makes up to \$200,000 appearing at these kinds of events.

Even taking these concerns at face value, I am advocating for the Statehouse to host Knee Replacement awareness day, as knee replacement surgery has a higher regret rate than trans affirming care.

Al Harder-Hyde Vergennes

Trump: Do as I say, not as I do

Last week I prepared my tax return.

I carefully checked household expense receipts. I double-checked the numbers on my W-2. I gathered bank forms showing earned interest. I made a spreadsheet to check my math and make sure all expenses/income were correctly sorted and verified.

Then I stopped and asked myself: Why? Why am I taking all this time and care to file my taxes correctly when the current occupants of the White House proudly proclaim they don’t pay any taxes? Why should I pay when they use every loophole and expensive lawyers to avoid paying any taxes?

Then I thought about the current un-Constitutional dissolution of government agencies and illegal freezing of funds as appropriated by Congress. Where would my taxes even go? My dad needs his Social Security check, but who’s left to process it? What are my taxes paying for, if USAID, the CDC, the FAA, the CFPB, the EPA, the DOE, the Treasury, Social Security, Medicaid and Medicare are being shut down? There’s the military, of course, but that budget is exempt from DOGE, an illegal non-governmental department, scrutiny, at least thus far.

The IRS is itself being dismantled, so who is left to process my tax filing?

The Republican’s budget proposal raises taxes for me and everyone I know, while billionaires’ taxes will go down.

Why are we paying federal taxes? What will we get for them, if they are even processed and deposited somewhere?

Allison Rimmer Vergennes

Supreme leader played for fool

IN THE END. An explicit, unambiguous example of devastation and frustration: Watching the Supreme Leader deceive the unconscious public, as if he did not actually function on behalf of a foreign agent. He “operates” openly, out of ignorance, fear, ego, conviction, or for profit, although the concealed record is even more impressive.

The maintenance of democracy has proven to be burdensome. Turns out the old KGB capabilities are more than adequate to defeat the west. The great global confrontation is virtually over. We lose, and without much resistance.

Alec Lyall Middlebury

Health pros aim at Trump moves

This Healthcare Letter of Concern is a public letter from Indivisible-Middlebury signed by Vermont and New Hampshire healthcare workers who are deeply concerned about the Trump administration’s assaults on our public health system and healthcare worldwide. We believe that silence is complicity.

We have circulated this letter in Vermont and New Hampshire

(See Mayer letter, Page 5A)

ADDISON COUNTY
INDEPENDENT

Periodicals Postage Paid at Middlebury, Vt. 05753

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
Editor/Publisher: Angelo S. Lynn

Published every Thursday by the Addison Press, Inc. Member Vermont Press Association; New England Press Association; National Newspaper Association.
SUBSCRIPTION RATES: All print subscriptions include online access. 1 Month \$10.00, 1 Year \$120.00. Discounted rate for Senior Citizens and students call for details. 802-388-4944.
Online Only – 1 Week \$3.00, 1 Month \$8.00, 1 Year \$75.00
The Independent assumes no financial responsibility for typographical errors in advertisements but will reprint that part of an advertisement in which the typographical error occurred. Advertiser will please notify the management immediately of any errors that may occur.

The Addison Independent USPS 005-380

Letters to the Editor

Ripton supports school as potential closure looms

Is it inevitable that the Ripton Elementary School (RES) will close in the near future? Yes. Why? This is due to policy, maneuvering, and circumstance. The ACSD School Board has set a policy saying that the minimum class size is ten students. This is reasonable, but results in Grades K-1 being eliminated from RES and a teacher reassigned elsewhere in the district. Recently, at the end of a Friday school day

just before vacation, another classroom teacher, who has been teaching at RES for 21 years, was handed a letter notifying her that she would be reassigned elsewhere at the end of this school year. This leaves four grades in two classrooms with only one teacher. Like many schools in Vermont, RES has a declining student population due to the circumstances of an aging population and the housing crisis. The large percentage of land in

Ripton owned by Middlebury College and the Green Mountain National Forest also is a contributing factor. Make no mistake, the town community and the school community do **not** want the school to close. The town has always supported the school and the citizens realize that without the school the town will not be the same.

Jane Phinney
Ripton

Mayer letter

(Continued from Page 4A) and have gathered more than 200 signatures, with more coming in every day.

We will send this letter, with the signatories, to the White House and to several newspapers, National Public Radio and other media outlets hoping that publicity will encourage other states to emulate this expression of concern from our healthcare workers and bio-medical researchers. Signatories are a wide range of healthcare workers, including bio-medical researchers, nurses, providers, social workers, psychologists, administrators, staff, health educators, physical therapists, occupational therapists, care givers, healthcare students, etc. — anyone involved in health care and bio-medical science. **VT. AND N.H. HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS ARE CONCERNED** We are healthcare workers concerned about the consequences of the Trump administration’s attempts to restrict or eliminate critical healthcare programs. We believe that the following issues are of paramount importance for our population’s health. By signing this letter

(with a simple email response to indivisiblemiddlebury@gmail.com), Vermont and New Hampshire’s healthcare workers are expressing our deepest concerns about these issues:

- 1) National Institutes of Health funding of scientific research is the foundation of our efforts to control and combat significant ills in America. NIH funding is the lifeblood of scientific research. These funds cannot be turned on and off like a spigot. Science and scientists suffer.
- 2) World Health Organization membership: It is the WHO that protects us against pandemics and other world-wide health crises. Though not without its challenges, on balance, WHO provides critical, integrated knowledge and responses to health crises.
- 3) Vaccines are our lifeboats in a microbial sea. Loss of trust in vaccines and the elimination of school vaccine mandates will allow parents to opt out of vaccine programs and lower our herd immunity. This will increase the likelihood and seriousness of outbreaks of infectious diseases like measles, which we are already experiencing.
- 4) We call for healthcare

facilities to be a safe space, free from fear of ICE apprehension and deportation. Vermont’s dairy industry depends on our migrant workforce, some of whom are undocumented.

- 5) USAID is a vital force for good in the world. It extends assistance to countries recovering from disasters, ameliorates poverty, and engages in democratic reforms. USAID feeds starving children and works to prevent infectious diseases such as polio and epidemic diseases. It deserves our support.
- 6) Protection of vulnerable populations such as LGBTQ+, immigrants, and BIPOC.
- 7) Fully funding the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to carry on its lifesaving public health initiatives. Censorship of communication and information must end.
- 8) Protecting Medicaid Signed:

**Jack Mayer, MD, MPH
Middlebury
and 193 other health care professionals**

Editor’s note: To see the full list of 194 signatories of this letter, read it online at addisonindependent.com.

Jessie

(Continued from Page 4A) havoc. But they can also protect the family and help with housework. I’m not sure if we got a semiretired one or what, but ours hasn’t so much as unloaded the dishwasher yet. Then again, it hasn’t killed our livestock either, so we must be doing something right. Legend says I can get on the hobgoblin’s good side by putting out a bowl of cream for it at night or possibly sacrificing a rooster. I’m leaning more toward the cream at this point. But if grocery prices keep going up, the rooster better start looking over his shoulder. The hobgoblin doesn’t target Mark at all. I’m not surprised. Mark moves with the swiftness of

a tectonic plate and focuses on only one thing at a time. Because I tend to ricochet around the house like a mongoose after a third espresso, the hobgoblin has more opportunities to snatch my things without my noticing. There are ways to get a hobgoblin to move out, the most common being to make it a set of clothes, which it finds insulting. I’m not doing that, not just because I can’t find my good scissors (though I can confirm they are not in the freezer). It’s more because I need the

hobgoblin here to be my personal scapegoat. I get annoyed that several times a day my phone disappears, only to show up minutes later right where I set it down. But if I choose not to believe that a hobgoblin is sneaking around playing tricks on me, I’ll have to conclude that I’m losing my grip. Sure, the hobgoblin comes with the danger that, in a fit of elfin pique, it might kill our livestock, or worse. It still beats the alternative.

Transparent governing remains vital

As the days are getting longer and snow is melting it is fitting that this is Sunshine Week — an annual celebration of government records and information as the cornerstone of government accountability and transparency. A government “of the people, by the people, and for the people,” as President Abraham Lincoln famously stated in his Gettysburg address, means people must have access to authentic and reliable records and information.

Without this, we’re in the dark. As we face an increasingly complex landscape of disinformation and misinformation, access to authentic, reliable and trustworthy government records and information is more important than ever.

Sunshine Week coincides with a poignant time in our history. It is alarming that our fundamental rights as Americans are currently under threat from an unprecedented dismantling of the Federal agencies and unauthorized destruction of Federal records and information. Both are critical for ensuring government accountability and transparency, fiduciary responsibility to taxpayers, and the public’s right to know. The effectiveness of all government programs and services relies on authentic and reliable information. Further, the public’s trust in these programs and services relies on transparency, accountability, and civic engagement.

Yet, authentic and reliable records and information are being removed from Federal websites, despite being an efficient and cost-effective way to provide publicly available information and actively engage Americans in the Federal programs and services they rely on. Federal civil servants responsible for the management, technologies and use

of Federal records and information are being fired or have “voluntarily” resigned or retired. Those recently affected include employees at the National Archives and Records Administration, United States Digital Service, 18F (a digital services team within the General Services Administration), and key Federal agencies dedicated to data collection and research. All told, the recent and ongoing loss of institutional and expert knowledge is staggering.

For Sunshine Week 2025, it is crucial to shed light on Vermont’s laws for a transparent and open government. The State of Vermont’s commitment to manage and safeguard its local and state government records and information, especially from unauthorized destruction, was established by state law in 1937. Following the

Watergate scandal of 1972 and subsequent Congressional action to further ensure government accountability and transparency, while also balancing individual rights to personal privacy, state legislatures – including the Vermont General Assembly – shored up state laws to require the same. Today, government accountability and transparency are governed by what is called the Vermont Public Records Act (1 V.S.A. §§ 315 – 320) and its importance cannot be overstated: access to authentic and reliable government records and information is a fundamental right.

The Secretary of State’s Office, through the Vermont State Archives and Records Administration (VSARA), fulfills a relatively simple, yet essential, role in the Vermont Public Records Act. VSARA is charged with supporting Vermont government in systematically managing its records and information “to provide

ready access to vital information, to promote the efficient and economical operation of government, and to preserve their legal, administrative, and informational value.” (1 V.S.A. § 317a). The archives, records and information professionals at VSARA rise to this challenge without fanfare.

The baseline VSARA sets for Vermont public agencies is compliance with all six parts of the Vermont Public Records Act – Policy, Access, Exemptions, Management, Procedure, and Enforcement – and with the specific laws and rules that govern each individual agency’s records and information. This work is done in collaboration with managers, technologists, legal counsel, and other agency stakeholders. The outcomes are effective policies and procedures for managing and safeguarding Vermont records and information and publicly available documentation of what types of records and information are created or received by each public agency. Full transparency. Full accountability.

Why is this important? Full transparency and accountability of what records and information are created or received and the requirements relating to their management are critically important, especially for legal certainty of their authenticity, reliability, and trustworthiness. Government programs and services depend on them and the public does too. We, as a nation, stand to suffer profoundly if our nation’s “freedom of information,” “public records,” and “right to know” laws falter for any American.

The Secretary of State’s Office is doing, and will continue to do, everything in its power to ensure that the public’s access to authentic, reliable and trustworthy government records and information is neither disrupted nor prevented. This includes preserving Vermont’s rights to a transparent and open Federal government as well.

Ways of Seeing

(Continued from Page 4A) voted for Trump were not based on asking them but rather on projecting my own view of the world. So now I’m working on changing my own behavior, trying to refer respectfully to those with whom I don’t agree, reducing the ways in which I contribute to the culture that has spawned so many harmful and immoral actions. We are lucky in Vermont to have a Legislative Delegation that is actively engaged

in helping to make things better for people during these trying times. They suggest staying informed, selecting one area that most concerns you, and learning to resist effectively. As for me, I am giving close attention to the impact of actions in D.C. on young children. When children are separated from their families, when Medicaid and SNAP funding are slashed, when parents are fired for no reason, when any child is threatened by the actions

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

Letters can be found on Pages 4A, 5A and 7A

Letters to the editor

The Addison Independent encourages you to write letters to the editor. We print signed letters only. Include an address and telephone number, too, so we can clear up any questions. Send it to: Letters to the Editor, Addison Independent, 58 Maple St., Middlebury, VT 05753. Or email to news@addisonindependent.com.

CHIN UP, IT'S ALMOST SPRING!



HARE AND THE DOG
Legendary WINE • BEER • SPIRITS

Middlebury ♦ Vergennes
www.Hare.dog

Your Partner in Eldercare



Our nurse Laurie Earle (center) provides caring support to elders and families.

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



Elderly Services
Supporting Elders and Families since 1981

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



At Home Senior Care
Your Care~Your Way

WE ARE HIRING!



Scan QR Code to apply!

Join Our Team of Professional Caregivers! Caregiving isn't just a job—it's heart work. At Home Senior Care is built on trust, respect, and compassion, not just for our clients, but for our caregivers too. If you're kind, reliable, and looking for meaningful work where you can make a real difference, we'd love to hear from you!

Why Join AHSC?

- TRAINING PROVIDED FOR ALL EXPERIENCE LEVELS
- OPPORTUNITIES FOR GROWTH
- SUPPORTIVE TEAM ENVIRONMENT
- FLEXIBLE SCHEDULES TO FIT YOUR LIFE
- COMPETITIVE PAY AND BENEFITS

APPLY NOW!

Call (802) 768-8565
Visit: athomeseniors.net/employment



ADDISON
COUNTY

Obituaries

Julie M. “Windsong” Kervick, 87, of Ferrisburgh

FERRISBURGH — Julie M. “Windsong” Kervick gently journeyed home to Spirit, with her family and friends around her, on Feb. 21, 2025.

Windsong was born on April 4, 1937, in New York City to a young mother unable to care for her. She was placed in an orphanage, where she lived for a year before she was adopted. In an article written about her life, Windsong said her experience at the orphanage served to make her “a compassionate person who could, firsthand and with clarity, understand what abuse and neglect can do to one’s mind and body.” As an adult, Windsong dedicated her life to assisting others in their healing journeys, holistically.

Adopted by Chester T. and Persis McCleennen Lane, Windsong spent her early years in McLean, Va., and Nyack, N.Y., where she studied piano from a young age with Jho Waxman. As a teen she designed sets for school and local theatre productions, performed in numerous musical and non-musical plays and was voted “Most Artistic” upon her graduation from Nyack High School in 1955. The family spent summers on Pleasant Bay on Cape Cod, where she was enrolled privately at a young age with renowned artist Vernon Smith. While further pursuing her art at Skidmore College and the Boston Museum Art School, she studied sculpture and began her lifelong love of pottery. She was an integral part of the community at Shelburne Craft School for many years and a longtime craft seller at the Waldorf Christmas Fair.

After college, she toured the country in a VW bus with her first husband before they settled in Vermont. They parted when their child, Tucker, was two, and Windsong parented her son alone. Being mother to Tucker was Windsong’s pride and joy. They shared a love of adventure and travel and had wonderful trips together over the years. She often spoke of how proud she was of his accomplishments and that he was a great husband to Natalya and a fabulous dad to Zander. Windsong was so delighted to spend time with Zander during the almost-five years of his life journey so far, delighting in the video photo album set up by his parents for her.

While raising her son, Windsong became a respected mind-body practitioner and was a leader and organizer in Vermont’s holistic health movement in the ‘60s and ‘70s. Drawn to working with her hands, she studied massage and Trager Psychophysical Integration, and along with Don Wright, started the Vermont Institute of Massage in 1976. Her body-mind approach was influenced by the work of Ron Kurz, founder of the Hakomi method of body-centered psychotherapy. In 1978, Windsong, Wright and Bea Bookchin founded Pathways to Wellbeing in Burlington, the first holistic health center on the East Coast. It was here Windsong met Paul Kervick, who would become her lifelong beloved spouse and



JULIE M. “WINDSONG” KERVICK

co-creative partner.

During the many years of its existence, Pathways’ practitioners offered massage, Roling, homeopathy, naturopathy and psychotherapy for all ages. Windsong invited practitioners of new modalities to the state, organized speakers and holistic health fairs, and offered workshops to the medical and lay communities. Windsong helped found the Vermont Women’s Health Center in Burlington, the first women-run legal nonprofit clinic to perform abortions in the United States. Windsong was the cofounder and director of the Awakening Center in Shelburne, also a holistic healing center. With her husband, Paul, she cofounded the Awakening Sanctuary non-profit educational and healing center for community upliftment at their property in Monkton, Vt.

Windsong had a particular passion for conscious language and its effect on physical and spiritual dimensions. She would point out to friends and family the power of words and taught classes on the subject. In addition to pottery, Windsong held a reverence for dance and for many years hosted monthly full-moon circle dance gatherings at the Awakening Sanctuary. Windsong and Paul also became ordained ministers through the Universe Brotherhood Movement and conducted sacred ceremonies, marriages, civil unions and passing to spirit ceremonies.

Windsong was an adventurer and loved visiting different cultures around the world. She was the first woman in the United States to achieve a black belt in the Korean Taoist Qigong practice — Kuok Sun Do — and she solo climbed a sacred mountain in Korea and visited and assisted villagers in northern Thailand. In the Vermont winter, you could find her cutting a hole in the ice in Lake Champlain in February, while practicing Qi Gong breathing until she regulated her body temperature.

Her gardens were her happy place, and she would spend long hours creating beauty not just with plants but with natural fences and trellises and thoughtful placements of stumps, shells, rocks and gemstones. Her and Paul’s crowning achievement on their land at their home in Ferrisburgh was a labyrinth they both created and built together.

Windsong’s favorite word was “yes,” which formed the logo for their Awakening Sanctuary. Yes to life and living one breath at a time. Windsong helped midwife the awakening and healing of thousands of community members and people from around the planet during her 22 years at Awakening Sanctuary and throughout the 87 years of her life. She was a true creator of beauty and love in this world. More recently, she was a key inspiration and support for Paul and a new project in their lives of co-creating a nonprofit low-power community radio station in Bristol, Vt. WVVTV (Fireside Radio: the Voices of Vermont) will give voice to and support local communities in creating the world we all want in our hearts. Paul and co-founders, Jim Holway and Jonathan Corcoran, are so very motivated to share this with the world.

Windsong was predeceased by her parents, Chester T. Lane Sr. and Persis McCleennen Lane, and her brother Chester T. Lane Jr. She is survived by her husband, Paul; her son, Tucker (Natalya) McLane and grandson, Zander; Paul’s children, Colby (Garth Allen) Kervick, Robyn (Sean Balon) Kervick, Drew (Elizabeth) Kervick; and grandchildren, Turner, Declan, Abigail, Henry, Sam and Charlie; Paul’s sister, Lindsay, and brother, Bob, and his family (Jan, Kris, Tara, Kelly, Jake, Jimmy, Emma); and Windsong’s sister, Dinah (John Ketchum) Lane; brother David Lane; nieces and nephews, Clover, Oakley, Allegra, Hannah, Cory, Rachel; and many great-nieces and nephews. Windsong also stayed close with Tucker’s fathers’ family and will be missed by many McLanes: Gigi, Towner, Katie, Duncan; Bonnie, Jessica and Elizabeth Foz.

A celebration of life gathering will be held later this summer. People may reach out by email to songlight@gmavt.net if they are interested in being notified once a date and location have been decided.

Donations in Julie “Windsong” Kervick’s memory and supporting her life’s passion for creating inspiration and a beautiful world, may be sent to either or both of the following organizations: WVVTV - Fireside Community Media in Bristol, Vt., at <https://wvvvt.org/windsong/> or the Shelburne Craft School at <https://shelburnecraftschool.org/donate> ◇

Marlene Ann Thornton, 75, of Shoreham

SHOREHAM — Marlene Ann Thornton passed away on March 12, 2025, surrounded by her loving family, after a long battle with brain cancer.

She was born in Manchester, N.H., April 24, 1949, to parents Thomas F. Thornton and Lorraine C. Lord. Marlene attended school there and then graduated from the University of New Hampshire in 1971.

Marlene lived in the Portsmouth, N.H., area for several years, eventually moving to Denver, Colo., where she earned a master’s degree in public administration, leading to working in the court system there and traveling to various locations around the country.

In the late 80’s she moved back east, to be closer to her parents and family, settling in Amesbury, Mass. Within a year, she moved to the nearby city of Newburyport, where she changed careers and lifestyle, working for herself, refinishing furniture and accessories.

She soon met her future husband and life soulmate, Norton Latourelle, and the couple quickly moved to Shoreham, Vt., where they, together, established an art gallery featuring his work. She successfully managed their business until the fall of 2024, when they were forced to close due



MARLENE ANN THORNTON

to her illness.

Marlene helped design and build a new home, which was settled on 40 beautiful acres on the shores of Lake Champlain. The small farm setting became a dream come true, with a steer named Clarence, a small flock of sheep and various cats and kittens that just seemed to appear. She welcomed all into her family in an effort to make their lives peaceful and healthy. Marlene had a special gift and unwavering energy for protecting all living things.

She was a prolific gardener. Her gardens featured a large variety of vegetables and flowers. There were tomatoes, cucumbers, beets, onions, potatoes, and squash and

Richmond Gorham Littlefield, 97, of Salisbury

SALISBURY — Richmond G. “Dick” Littlefield passed away at Porter Hospital on March 13, 2025. He was a warrior and fought health challenges for many years.

He was born in Providence, R.I., on Feb. 2, 1928, a son of Mary Richmond Seabury Littlefield and Alden Llewellyn Littlefield. He graduated from Pawtucket East High School and magna cum laude from Bryant College in 1950. He was a member of the National Guard and served in the Occupation of Germany as a Master Sergeant in the U.S. Army. He was a member of the 43rd Division, 169th Antiaircraft Battalion from 1950 to 1952. He then entered Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration, from which he graduated in 1954 and passed the CPA exam soon afterwards.

He worked for Ernst & Ernst Accounting Firm in Rhode Island, BIF Industries in Rhode Island, and as a Financial Analyst at Mobile Chemical in Macedon, N.Y., before coming to Middlebury, Vt., and working for Middlebury College for 30 years. He retired as the



RICHMOND GORHAM
LITTLEFIELD

Assistant Treasurer in 1997, and was known for his diligence and integrity.

Dick played drums in high school and continued his love for music — especially jazz — all his life. He coached youth hockey and maintained a backyard ice rink for his children — and was a regular at hockey games. He looked forward to spring — and couldn’t wait to start seeds in the house for his vegetable garden. He found great

a well-maintained asparagus bed surrounded by rhubarb, garlic and herbs, gently cascading down the back yard toward the lake. There were lilies and lilacs, zinnias and poppies and many, many plantings that brightened every corner of the gallery and barn buildings. Marlene loved to weed her garden and to capture bugs and release them to safer territories.

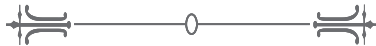
Throughout her life she maintained and began new friendships. Marlene had friends from grade school, college and throughout her years in Vermont. She taught exercise classes, Tai Chi, and danced the tango. Eating well and exercising were always a top priority.

Marlene lived a life that was an inspiration to all. We will miss her deeply!

She is survived by her husband of 35 years, Norton Latourelle; her brother Michael Thornton, sister Janice Sanzo, and brother Thomas Thornton; and many nieces, nephews, family and friends.

Contributions in her name can be made to her favorite charities; Charter House Coalition, 27 North Pleasant St., Middlebury, Vermont 05753; and Addison County Home Health and Hospice, PO Box 754, Middlebury, Vermont 05753.

A celebration of Marlene’s life will be held at a later date. ◇



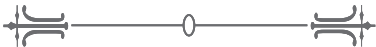
pleasure tending to his garden and whistling with the birds.

Dick is survived by his wife, Eleanor Raybold Roberts, of 66 years and four children: Robin Forest Littlefield, Gretchen Raybold Littlefield Maginnis, Duncan Alden Littlefield and Thatcher Waterman Littlefield. Six grandchildren, Maegan Paradee, Shannon Maginnis, Kirsten Littlefield, Alden Littlefield, Oprea Littlefield and Hartley Littlefield, also survive him, as well as one great-grandson, Levi Paradee.

He was predeceased by his parents, his 9-year-old son, Bradford Seabury Littlefield in 1970, his brother, Charles Seabury Littlefield, in World War II in New Guinea, and his sister, Elizabeth Alden Buxton.

Dick was a member of the Society of Mayflower Descendants.

Calling hours will be held Saturday, March 29, from 3-5 p.m., at Sanderson/Ducharme Funeral Home, 117 South Main Street, Middlebury, Vt. A Buffet will follow at 5:30 p.m. at Kirk Alumni Center, Golf Course Road, Middlebury, Vt. ◇

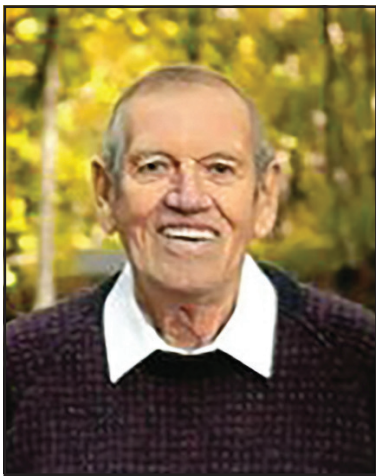


Tom ‘Tjamme’ Dykstra, 78, of New Haven

NEW HAVEN — Tom “Tjamme” Dykstra, surrounded by his loving family, went to be with his Lord and Savior on March 17, 2025, after his second battle with cancer.

Born in Tirns, Friesland, the Netherlands, Sept. 4, 1946, he was the son of the late Frank and Ann (Vis) Dykstra. Tom immigrated with his family to the United States in 1959, living in Alburgh, Vt., Phillipsburg, N.J., and settling in New Haven, Vt., in 1967. He spent his life on the family farm until he was diagnosed with cancer in 2008. He lovingly and selflessly cared for his parents, making it possible for them to live the remainder of their lives at home. He was a faithful member of Champlain Valley Christian Reformed Church in Vergennes, Vt.

Tom will be remembered as a kind, gentle, loving soul with an unmistakable laugh. His life was a true testament to his faith in God.



TOM “TJAMME” DYKSTRA

He will be dearly missed by his family and friends.

Tom is survived by three sisters, Clara deJong and husband Dirk, of Herkimer, N.Y., Fetje Visser-Brickey of Palmetto, Fla., and Emily VanDeWeert of New Haven, Vt., as well as many nephews, nieces, and great nephews and nieces.



Every Connection Counts

Phonak Audéo Sphere™ Infinio Hearing Aids can help you get MORE out of life!

Free Hearing Test & Hearing Aid Trial

With more than 50 years of experience and dedicated, personalized service, you can trust Bernie to help you find the path to better hearing.

Life’s too short — don’t delay! Call Bernie today!

802-233-2345

Hearing Aid Sales & Service



TESTING • CLEANING • PROGRAMMING • BATTERIES

63 Maple Street, Middlebury, VT 05753 (in the Marble Works)
advancedhearingofvermont@comcast.net

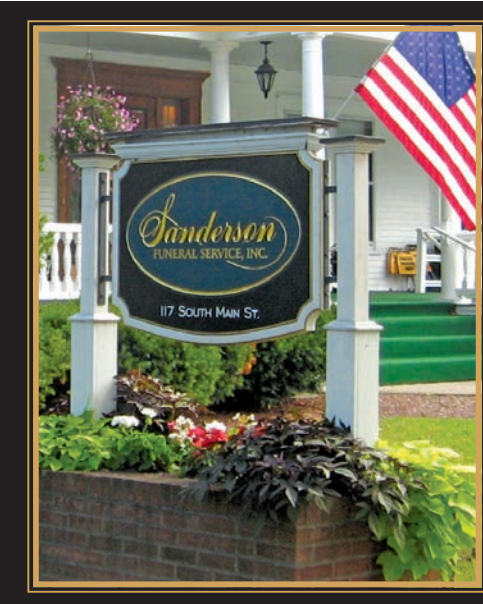
www.advancedhearingofvermont.com

FUNERAL
MEMORIAL
SERVICE
CREMATION
PRE-PLANNING
SERVICES



BROWN-McCLAY
FUNERAL HOMES

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



Peace of Mind

*is Knowing Your Loved One
Never Leaves Our Care*

**Affordable Cremation
& Burial Plans**

The only on-site crematory in Addison County.
Locally owned & operated by Walter Ducharme

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

Obituary Guidelines

The Independent will publish paid obituaries and free notices of passing. Paid obituaries cost 25 cents per word and will be published, as submitted, on the date of the family’s choosing. For those who do not wish to purchase an obituary, the Independent offers a free notice of passing up to 100 words, subject to editing by our news department. Photos (optional) with either paid obituaries or free notices cost \$10 per photo. Obituaries may be emailed to obits@addisonindependent.com. Submissions must be received by 11 a.m. on Wednesday for publication in the Thursday paper. Email obits@addisonindependent.com or call 802-388-4944 for more information.

Obituaries

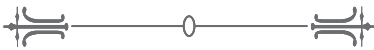


BARBARA ANDREWS

Barbara Andrews celebration of life

Sept. 19, 1933 — Nov. 11, 2024

MIDDLEBURY — Please join us for a celebration of life in loving memory of Barbara Andrews, who died Nov. 29, 2024, on Saturday, April 5, from 2 to 4 p.m., at the Residence at Otter Creek, 350 Lodge Rd, Middlebury, VT 05753. For more information contact Meg Gonzalez (209) 613-2672. ♦



Scott K. Malinowski, 60, of Brandon

BRANDON — Scott K. Malinowski, 60, of Brandon, Vt., passed away on March 10, 2025 at Rutland Regional Medical Center. He was born May 11, 1964, in Proctor, Vt., to George and Doris (English) Malinowski, and grew up in Leicester, Vt.

Scott loved hunting, fishing, camping, and spending time with his friends.

He is survived by his parents; children Jordan, Dustin, and Corrin; grandchildren Scotty, Kolby, and Aubreanna; sister Tammy (Ed) Earle; brother Jay (Gayle); numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, and nephews; and his beloved dog Tiara. Scott is predeceased by his brother Doug. No services are planned.♦

Paine’s ‘Crisis’ a roadmap for now

On December 23, 1776, American patriot Thomas Paine published this essay: ‘The (American) Crisis.’

The first line is ‘These are the times that try men’s souls.’ (At the outset I would like to make a simple amend to say “these are the times that try (wo)men’s souls.”)

The essay in its entirety can be read at tinyurl.com/Paine-crisis.

Here are several of Paine’s core principles:

- 1. the necessity of perseverance
- 2. the value of freedom
- 3. the importance of unity
- 4. the dangers of tyranny
- 5. the need for action.

If we are to survive this constitutional crisis this is no time for despair. Rather it’s a time for perseverance, unity, and action —to preserve our freedom from tyranny and the rights we have under the Constitution.

If you have been observing what’s going on since Trump took office, please do not, for a minute, take that freedom and those rights for granted.

If you value your freedom — if you value your rights — find a way to use your voice. Find a way to band with others in protest. (Re) Educate yourself about the dangers of tyranny: About the Roman Empire under Julius Caesar, Nazi Germany, Stalin’s Soviet Union, the Khmer Rouge in Cambodia, Russia under Putin, North Korea under Kim Jung Un ... the U.S. under the three stooges — Trump, Musk and Vance.

Find a way to do something. Anything! Write letters. Call your legislators. March. Make signs. Send emails. Talk to others. Go to your local select board meetings. Find an action. Participate in a protest.

Find a way to do something. Anything! Several years ago I had the opportunity to travel to Poland. Beautiful country. Amazing food. Gorgeous amber.

During my time there I got to walk the perimeter of the Warsaw

Letters to the Editor

Gov. Scott, compromise is needed

The following letter was sent by Senator Philip Baruth and Speaker Jill Krowinski to Vermont Attorney General Charity Clark. The letter outlines the Legislature’s compromise to Governor Scott on H.141 – An act relating to fiscal year 2025 budget adjustments.

In light of Governor Scott’s veto of the FY25 Budget Adjustment Act (H.141), we write to offer a compromise proposal. We will acquiesce to his requirements that we remove the following appropriations in H.141:

- \$27,800 in funding for an additional position in the Attorney General’s Appellate Unit
- \$39,700 in funding for two positions with the Human Rights Commission
- \$1.6 million in funding for grants to municipalities who were impacted by flooding events
- \$8.6 million to Vermont Housing and Conservation Board (VHCB) for construction of housing units
- \$2.8 million to VHCB for a housing pilot program for disabled Vermonters
- \$1.8 million to extend the cold weather exemption through June 30th*

To speak frankly, we have very significant concerns about eliminating funding for the construction of affordable housing

units and for essential funding for municipalities that suffered flood damage. We understand, however, that Governor Scott is firm in his demand regarding removing those funds.

We ask only one thing in return. Our one remaining ask is that Governor Scott not exit children, pregnant women, disabled Vermonters, veterans, and those fleeing domestic violence from the hotel motel program on April 1st.

Given that the Administration has stated that the Department for Children and Families has existing resources — and in light of the need to reserve every dollar possible in response to uncertainty from the federal level — we are offering to remove the \$1.8 million and ask that the Department’s existing funds be used to extend the winter weather exemption through June 30th.

Our compromise proposal accepts all of Governor Scott’s FY25 BAA requests and significantly reduces the price tag below his most recent proposal.

We hope that in the interest of true compromise and protecting the most vulnerable, Governor Scott will accept our offer.

**President Pro Tempore
Philip Baruth
Speaker of the House
Jill Krowinski**

Are we becoming another Russia?

I have been trying to understand the Republican vision for our country — how will a “great again” country will look. It seems to me it will look a lot like Russia — an oligarchy led by an autocrat. There will be no free press and criticism of the government will be treated as treason. Our only role in the world will be military. We will have no friends among other countries (except perhaps Russia). Our northern and southern neighbors become our enemies and are threatened with invasion or annexation. We have abandoned our support for our own citizens who have fallen through the cracks

of our economy. We respect only white heterosexual Christian men.

It is hard for me to believe that this is what most Republicans envision, but it is clearly where we are headed. I hope that I am wrong and that responsible Republicans will redirect this heading.

I am a liberal Democrat, but I welcome debate and collaboration with anyone to address the serious issues we face, like immigration, housing, and the conflicts in Ukraine and Israel. I hope we can find the space to do so.

**Douglas Way
Middlebury**

Faith communities, work together to speak out

In a previous Letter to the Editor I quoted from the Old Testament Book of Daniel. “Daniel” becomes, as it progresses, a series of visions. The visions are frightening, which many Christians have interpreted as literal end-of-the-world scenes coming soon.

At heart, and as a Christian, I believe the visions are a graphic description of what was literally happening in Daniel’s time. Daniel was exiled as a captive, with the other Israelites, to Babylon.

Daniel’s visions are once again graphic pictures of what is happening today in the United States.

The first vision was of four giant beasts, each one more terrifying than the one before. The fourth, and most frightening was “hideous, with extraordinary power and with massive iron teeth ... it ate and crushed, its feet smashed whatever was left over ... it had ten horns...(and) another small horn came up between them. Three of the earlier horns were ripped out to make room for it. On this new horn were eyes like human eyes and a mouth that bragged and bragged.” (Daniel 7:1-8, Common English Bible)

In the end the fourth beast is destroyed. In its destruction I find hope and courage for what we

Niemoller’s lessons apply today more than ever

Once upon a time in Germany almost 90 years ago there lived a complex human being, a Protestant pastor named Martin Niemoller holding strongly antisemitic beliefs as well various social positions currently labelled as “right wing.” Drawn to the Nazi party’s claim to want to re-Christianize Germany and generally improve the morals of the German people, when that party was up for election in 1933 he enthusiastically voted for them and their leader. It didn’t take long for the pastor to become disillusioned when the party rapidly began involving itself in church policy by supporting a renegade ultra-conservative branch seeking to cleanse “Jewish elements” from Christianity by portraying Jesus as an Aryan, discarding most of the Old Testament and busily trying to rewrite parts of the New Testament as well.

Niemoller began leading those opposed to the party’s attempts to control the inner workings of the churches. In 1934 he discovered that his phone was being tapped. Soon he was a highly active leader in the Protestant church’s active opposition to the regime that he had helped vote into existence. As a consequence, in 1937 he was arrested and locked up in Sachsenhausen (a concentration camp on Berlin’s outskirts). He was there until 1941, at which time he was moved to Dachau, where he remained until 1945, when the Allies liberated all concentration and extermination camps.

In 1946 he began touring what was then only West Germany, talking fervently to fellow citizens about his own failures to speak up during Hitler’s reign, and what he regarded as a massive failure on most people’s parts, repeatedly using such phrases as “we did not speak out,” or “we preferred to keep silent.” He suggested that all Germans needed to accept responsibility for what had eventually occurred. (Amazingly, eventually, Germany did. Our country — from whom the Nazis got their ideas of concentration camps after learning how we “handled” the “problem” of so many native people living in “our uninhabited discovery” — has taken much longer to publicly and after that actively admit culpability and offer minimal reparation

regarding the evils of reservations, enslavement, Japanese internment camps, etc.)

At some point or other a quote ascribed to him began to appear in Germany and then around the world — the words of which many readers may recognize:

“First they came for the Communists and I didn’t speak out because I wasn’t a Communist.

Then they came for the Jews and I didn’t speak out because I wasn’t a Jew.

Then they came for the trade unionists and I didn’t speak out because I wasn’t a trade unionist.

Then they came for me, and there was no one left to speak out.”

Since then, many people all over the globe have used the basic insight and implied sentiment of that quote to make similar points in regard to various vital dilemmas.

On a visit to Berlin in the early nineties to meet an extraordinary member of what had been the German resistance — with the hope of writing a play about her — I visited Sachsenhausen. On the wall of what had been his cell we saw inscribed Niemoller’s famous words.

No doubt every one of us could write our own, most-apt-for-us version of them.

May we get all together as we are already beginning to: those who voted “left,” those who voted “right,” those on the left tired of what Rebecca Solnit has called the ‘perpetual puritanical unwelcoming committee’” of many progressives (i.e. “if you don’t think exactly as we do you’re not ‘one of us’”), and dismayed by the current limpness of most (though not all by a long shot!) Democratic liberals and moderates; those in the Republican middle and right who didn’t vote for the current regime; those who did vote for it and are beginning to realize that it doesn’t give a damn about them or much else but rather that, as someone said recently, the current resident of the White House appears now not just trying to get instant revenge against his myriad designated “enemies” but at the entire American people.

Perhaps we can join forces by agreeing where we can — to protect things we all care deeply about, working together with confidence and vigor (in Anand Giridharadas’ words) as two very

well-known American women did in public last fall: two people on polar sides of the “political fence” but not the moral and decent one.

If not, it may not be long before there is no one left to speak out.

When a complex system is far from equilibrium, small islands of coherence in a sea of chaos have the capacity to shift the entire system to a higher order.

— Ilya Prigogine
(Nobel-winning chemist)

Surely the most effective of such “small islands of coherence” will consist of folks who care similarly, rather than those who all voted similarly or think/feel identically. I can’t recall who it was who once wrote: “A country divided itself cannot long endure?” We’ve been a long time divided.

First they came for trans people, but I’m not trans so I didn’t speak out...

Then they came for the farmers and the migrants (many of them also mutually dependent on one another) but I’m neither one of those, so I didn’t speak out...

Then they came for the Muslims but I’m not Muslim so I didn’t speak out...

Then they came for the veterans but I’m not a vet so...

Then they came after Medicare and Medicaid but I don’t need those...

Then they came for federal workers of all kinds and all descriptions but that’s not me...

Then they came for those who live on Social Security but I don’t, so...

Then they came for the schools, but...

Then, with their tariffs, they came for those barely living from paycheck to paycheck but I’m not living from paycheck to paycheck...

Then they came for information about our private lives, our personal correspondences and details...

Then, with the tariffs, they came for small businesses

Then, then, then...

**Marianne Lust
Lincoln**



HARE AND THE DOG

260 Court St, STE 3
Middlebury, VT
(802) 458-8060

211 Main Street
Vergennes, VT
(802) 877-6312

www.Hare.dog

We care about your job as much as you do

Business you can trust, and quality you can count

Come experience the difference

Welcoming John Duclos to the team!



DPi

DISTINCTIVE PAINT AND INTERIORS

802-388-2500 | M- F 7:30-5, Sat. 8-1
1396 Rte 7 South | Middlebury, VT
distinctivepaintandinteriors.com
Located next to 7 South Sandwich Company

Addison County Home Health and Hospice is hosting Grief Support Groups beginning on March 26th continuing for eight weeks on Wednesdays until May 14th


These meetings will be held **in person** at Addison County Home Health and Hospice headquarters located at 254 Ethan Allen Highway (Rt 7) in New Haven, VT 05472 from 3:00pm-4:30pm.

We welcome all community members whether or not they or a loved one have had care from us in the past. Thanks to generous donors, the groups are being offered free of charge. Rev. Stephen Payne, ACHHH Chaplain and Stephanie Corliss, LICSW, will lead the groups.

Come and receive practical advice and tools for moving through grief, and make connections with others in your community.

Please call the ACHHH office at 388-7259 to complete a brief screening process and to sign up.

254 Ethan Allen Highway, New Haven (Route 7) | P.O. Box 754, Middlebury 05753 | 802-388-7259 | ACHHH.org



ADDISON COUNTY
HOME HEALTH & HOSPICE
Your nonprofit VNA since 1968

Middlebury author finalist for Vt. Book Award

Carolyn Keubler’s debut novel tapped for best in fiction category

MIDDLEBURY—A Middlebury author is among the finalists for the Vermont Book Awards named this week.

Carolyn Keubler’s debut novel, “Liquid, Fragile, Perishable,” was published this past May. It’s a finalist in the Fiction category.

The Vermont Book Awards are annual prizes for outstanding literature by Vermont authors, presented by Vermont Humanities and the Vermont Department of Libraries. Every year, prizes are awarded for books written by Vermont authors and published in the previous calendar year in four categories: Poetry, Fiction, Creative nonfiction, and Children’s literature.

The public is invited to “Vermont Book Awards: A Celebration of Vermont Writers” on May 3 in Montpelier. The 7 p.m. event will take place in the historic chapel in College Hall, at 36 College St. in the state capital. A dessert reception with cash bar will be followed by a brief program revealing the four winning authors, with a spotlight on Vermont Humanities’ next Vermont Reads pick and a keynote speech from Ripton author Bill McKibben.

The 2024 Finalists are:

Creative Nonfiction

William Homestead – “Not Till We Are Lost: Thoreau, Education, and Climate Crisis”; Lucy Ives – “An Image of My Name Enters America”; Adrie Kusserow – “The Trauma Mantras: A Memoir in Prose Poems”; Ethan Tapper – “How to Love a Forest: The Bittersweet Work of Tending a Changing World.”

Fiction

M.T. Anderson – “Nicked”; Maria Hummel – “Goldenseal”; Carolyn Kuebler – “Liquid, Fragile, Perishable”; GennaRose Nethercott – “Fifty Beasts to Break Your Heart.”

Poetry

Julia C. Alter – “Some Dark Familiar”; Kellam Ayres – “In the Cathedral of My Undoing”; Margaret Draft – “Nowhere Was a Lake”; Alison Prine – “Loss and Its Antonym.”

Children’s Literature

Emma Hunsinger – “How it All Ends (Middle grade graphic novel)”; Kekla Magoon – “The Secret Library (Middle grade novel)”; Tanya Lee Stone – “Remembering Rosalind Franklin (Picture book).”

Keynote Speaker Bill McKibben is founder of Third Act, which



CAROLYN KUEBLER

organizes people over the age of 60 for action on climate and justice. A well-regarded and widely published author, his 1989 book “The End of Nature” is probably the first book for a general audience about climate change, and has appeared in 24 languages. He’s gone on to write 20 books, and his work appears regularly in periodicals from the *New Yorker* to *Rolling Stone*. He serves as the Schumann Distinguished Scholar in Environmental Studies at Middlebury College.

Vergennes bypass meeting on tap

VERGENNES — People interested in the proposal to build an alternative truck route around downtown Vergennes are invited to learn the latest at an open house.

The final public presentation of results from the Vergennes Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) Study — the evaluation of alternatives to reduce truck traffic in downtown Vergennes — will take place Wednesday, April 2, 3-7 p.m. at American Legion Post 14. The post is on Armory Lane in the Little City.

The format of the presentation

will be an open house. Attendees can explore the options recommended for advancement at their own pace. Study team members will be available to answer questions.

The Vergennes Planning and Environmental Linkages Study has been a three-year evaluation of transportation alternatives that could reduce the impact of large truck traffic on Route 22A as it passes through Vergennes.

The study considered the economic vitality, environment, and quality of life of proposed alternatives on the northern

Addison County communities of Vergennes, Ferrisburgh, Pantton, Waltham, Addison, New Haven and Weybridge. The products, analyses and decisions developed during the PEL study can be incorporated into subsequent permitting documents, saving time later if the Vermont Agency of Transportation chooses to advance the project.

PEL projects are relatively new to Vermont. The Vergennes PEL study is the second such study. The first, the Burlington Railyard Enterprise Project, was completed in 2020.

Letters to the Editor

Thanks to all who made Ilsley move a success

I just visited the Ilsley Public Library at its temporary new home in the Duclos Building for the first time. Kudos to the imaginative folks who created a welcoming space with all the elements of the Ilsley on which so many of us depend.

The logistics of the move must have been formidable. The set-up is nothing short of impressive. It maximizes both function and the beauty of this historic Middlebury space. To those familiar with the children’s area of the Ilsley at 75 Main St., have no fear: The bathtub made the move! (If you know, you know.)

Thank you to those who made this happen. Your hard work and dedication are deeply appreciated.

Kathryn Haralambous
Middlebury

Boys & Girls Club to take a pause

VERGENNES — The Boys & Girls Club of Greater Vergennes announced on March 19 that is would be pausing its services effective March 31, as part of a strategic effort to reimagine and restructure the Club’s future. The last day of service for youth will be March 28.

According to a statement by its Board of Directors, the decision comes after careful evaluation of financial and operational challenges. “By pausing services, BGC Vergennes will be able to focus on identifying sustainable solutions that will best serve local youth and families moving forward,” it said in the statement. “Our goals are to not only create a more sustainable organization but increase access to new and innovative programs and engage more community youth.”

“We remain deeply

committed to the mission of Boys & Girls Clubs and to the youth of this community,” continued the statement. “This pause provides us with the opportunity to reflect, assess our path forward, and develop a sustainable model that can have a lasting impact on the children in our area. We are excited about the potential opportunities ahead and look forward to keeping the community informed as we move forward.”

During this transition period, the Club will work closely with families, supporters, and community partners to explore solutions and ensure resources are available for youth who need them. More updates will be shared as plans evolve. Updates and more information, will be available at <https://www.bgcvergenes.org> or at info@bgcvergenes.org

Humans aren’t the only sugarmakers

By SAM BLAIR

As steam rises from sugarhouse cupolas and early morning coffee pots, sugarmakers are working overtime to turn maple sap into golden syrup. But as it turns out, they aren’t alone: other living things are sugaring too, and their stories affect the syrup that is poured on your pancakes (or into your morning coffee).

Many sugarmakers’ most familiar — and troublesome — non-human coworkers are red squirrels, which chew holes in the soft plastic lines of sugarbush tubing networks to get at the sap inside. In a 1992 study, biologist and author Bernd Heinrich found that red squirrels are not just sap thieves: they also “tap” their own sugar maples, biting through the trees’ outer bark and returning to lick up partly-dried streaks of candied sugar and syrup. Heinrich noticed that his local red squirrels had much in common with human sugarmakers: they selected sugar maples almost exclusively, got up early to check their taps, and sugared only on warm days in late winter and early spring.

Some winter birds, including the evening grosbeak, Bohemian waxwing, and cedar waxwing, also enjoy maple sap, which they sip from the broken ends of sugar maple twigs — but only as part of a balanced winter diet. Grosbeaks eat a healthy mix of tree seeds, buds, and overwintering insects, while waxwings have a serious sweet tooth (or beak?) for the fruits of trees such as crabapple, hawthorn, and cedar.

Yellow-bellied sapsuckers, our most creatively-named woodpeckers, excavate rows of shallow “wells” in the bark of a few favored tree species. Their taste in trees changes through the year, and in late spring, maples are on the menu. During frequent visits, they renew their wells, lap up sap, and gobble insects trapped within it.

As sapsuckers seem to understand, insects are probably the biggest group of sap-eaters in our northern forests. One Canadian study documented 28 species of winter-active beetles, caddisflies, fireflies, and moths at sap pails, including multiple owl moths in the family Noctuidae. Although the noctuids, which some sugarmakers call “sap moths,” are dressed in unassuming browns and grays, they have a remarkable trick up their sleeves: flying and feeding in near-freezing temperatures, even though they are cold-blooded. In another study, Heinrich found that noctuid moths were shivering themselves up to temperatures as hot as 95° Fahrenheit, and then using their dense, fuzzy coats and clever circulatory systems to hold onto the warmth. If you’re a moth, this is a pretty good trick, as most of your avian predators

are still on vacation in late winter and early spring.

All this maple drama is visible to the naked eye, but put a drop of maple sap beneath a microscope, and you’ll find a whole world of very small organisms enjoying their own maple feast. Studies find that bacteria and yeasts with names like *Pseudomonas tolaasii* and *Mrakia gelida* live on maple bark and inside the tubing of sap collection networks. As the days warm, these microorganisms proliferate, eventually turning sap brown and mucky and spoiling late season syrup.

But the maple microbiome isn’t all bad! Many of those wonderful, elusive flavors — the ones that evoke notes of vanilla, pine, butter, and even flowers — get their start when microorganisms break the sucrose in maple sap into other forms of sugar like glucose and fructose, as well as aromatic compounds like vanillin and syringaldehyde. While these names may sound strange, they taste delicious; and they’re important enough that they explain much of the change in syrup flavor and color, from “golden-delicate” to “dark-robust,” as spring progresses.

Maples also derive surprising benefits from the microorganisms in their sap. Research shows that some strains of bacteria and yeast in maple sap act like a biological band-aid, proliferating

at the site of injuries and staunching the “bleeding” of broken sap vessels until the tree can heal. This response can be frustrating if you’re a sugarmaker and the

injury is a freshly-drilled taphole, but as far as the tree’s concerned, it’s just what the doctor ordered!

As the sugaring season continues, remember you’re not the only one enjoying the bounty of maple trees, and take a moment to think of the yeasts, birds, squirrels, and moths. While some might be stealing a taste of maple sap, others have helped give your syrup that special, nuanced flavor.

Sam Blair is a graduate student at the Yale School of the Environment, where he is pursuing a master’s of environmental science. Illustration by Adelaide Murphy Tyrol. The Outside Story is assigned and edited by Northern Woodlands magazine and sponsored by the Wellborn Ecology Fund of New Hampshire Charitable Foundation: nhcf.org.



Adelaide Murphy Tyrol

SENTINEL FARMS SUMMER CAMPS

Farm play builds compassion and self esteem!



Sentinel Farms Celebrates 20 years of Agriculture, Arts & Equestrian Summer Camps!

Farm-Based, Horse-Centered, Confidence Building activities, for all youth ages 5 to 17 interested in learning.



Unbound Grace Re-Roots youngsters, out of doors, back into Vermont’s traditional agricultural skills and values!

“It has been amazing to see my daughter’s confidence soar! Transformative life skills she’s learned have made a huge impact in her day to day school life. She has really come out of her shell.” – Dani Waters

Join us this summer and embark on the adventure of a lifetime with Unbound Grace!

Visit: unboundgrace.org/summer-youth-camps
Call/text Kerry Kurt at (802) 377-1066

ANNIVERSARY SALE! THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



2019 SUBARU OUTBACK
Premium AWD, Auto, Loaded, 93k miles
\$16,995



2022 HONDA CIVIC
EX, 1.5 Turbo 4cyl, Loaded, 47k miles
\$25,995



2012 TOYOTA RAV4
4X4, Auto, Sunroof, Loaded, 97k miles
\$13,995



2011 TOYOTA TACOMA
Access Cab, 4X4, V6, Auto, Only 79k miles!
\$20,995



2019 TOYOTA TUNDRA
DB Cab TRD, 4X4, 5.7 V8, Loaded, 122k miles
\$30,995

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

Wimett Trading Company
at the Big White Barn in Leicester
Michael Jackman, 52 Years Experience
David Wimett, 39 Years Experience
Mark Grant, 11 Years Experience

802-465-4688
2668 Route 7 • Leicester, VT 05733 • wimetttradingco@gmail.com

15 years of delivering quality!



Contact Your U.S. Senators
Sen. Bernie Sanders
1-800-339-9834
SRC-2 United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510
www.sanders.senate.gov

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



U.S. Congressman
Rep. Becca Balint
1-888-293-9874
1510 Longworth House Office Bldg
Washington, DC 20515
BalintPress@mail.house.gov





Diminutive visitor

A RED-BREADED NUTHATCH, more elusive than his larger cousin the white-breasted nuthatch, pauses to look around after visiting a feeder in Weybridge recently.

Photo by Susan Humphrey

Little City gets started on 2025-26 budget

By ANDY KIRKALDY

VERGENNES — The Vergennes City Council on March 11 took its first steps to crafting a budget for the city’s 2025-2026 Fiscal Year (FY26), as City Manager Ron Redmond presented a preliminary administration budget that called for a decrease in spending of about \$18,000 to \$595,753.

Unlike every other community in Addison County, in Vergennes the elected body — in this case the council — sets spending without direct approval by vote of residents. The council must do so and set a tax rate to support municipal spending on or before June 30.

In upcoming meetings, councilors will review Redmond’s proposed administration budget and proposed FY26 spending for the police, fire, sewer, recreation and public works departments. They will also review projected revenue and miscellaneous expenses before making their final decisions in June.

Most notable in Redmond’s draft proposal is the savings of \$64,000 by the elimination of the treasurer position, instead relying

on an assistant treasurer and the accounting software and expertise provided by the New England Municipal Resource Center. Redmond said that arrangement has already been working well

Redmond’s draft also proposes to expand the hours of the zoning administrator to 32 per week at \$32 per hour, which would also qualify the position for benefits.

OTHER BUSINESS

The council on March 11 also formalized in writing a verbal agreement that allows a corner of Cornerstone Solutions LLC’s two condominium buildings at 1-3 West Main St. next to the Otter Creek bridge to protrude 1.5 feet into the city’s road right-of-way.

The deal was a condition of Cornerstone’s April 2024 Act 250 permit, which had been long delayed while the family-owned company appealed the fact that a permit was required.

The development, known in the city as the Portage Project, includes a five-unit building further from the road and the four-unit building that touches the right-of-way.

Cornerstone halted construction on the structures in late June of 2023, when company owners said they learned for the first time their plans required an Act 250 permit.

Four of the condominiums, many of which have views of Otter Creek, are on the market for between \$415,000 and \$469,000, according to online listings.

Councilors also did some work on the financing for the amended fire truck bond purchase residents approved on March 4. Both the Vermont Bond Bank loan to pay for the new trucks and the department’s new used trucks themselves are expected to arrive in late July or early August, according to meeting documents.

The council voted to use proceeds from the sale of two existing used trucks from the city fire department, one a 2002 heavy rescue/pumper vehicle, the other a 1998 ladder truck/pumper, to pay a \$15,455.27 interest payment due to the National Bank of Middlebury. The bank is carrying a short-term loan for the city until the Vermont Bond Bank loan comes through.

MAUSD exploring ‘Portrait of a Learner’

Group taking different approach to understanding student needs

BRISTOL — Since the fall of 2024, UP for Learning, a Waterbury nonprofit education transformation organization, has been partnering with Mount Abraham Unified School District on a multi-phase journey to create a “Portrait of a Learner” that will ultimately guide and inspire a revitalized strategic plan for the district.

This grassroots effort is stewarded by a dedicated group of forty youth and adults who represent a wide cross-section of the MAUSD community. The MAUSD Portrait of a Learner team meets at regular intervals throughout the year, with membership spanning from elementary, middle, and high school students, classroom teachers, student support professionals, substitute teachers, nurses, board members, parents/ caregivers, community members and administrators, ensuring a rich range of perspectives and experiences.

United by a shared mission as community researchers, their charge is to engage directly with their schools and local communities to gather valuable insights from students, caregivers, educators, and community members about the values and aspirations that will positively shape the future of learning in the district for all students.

From the outset, the MAUSD leadership knew they wanted to depart from the status quo and approach strategic planning differently than they have in years past. “After starting to revise our strategic plan with a group of adults we decided we wanted to approach strategic planning differently than we have in years past,” said Patrick Reen, Superintendent at MAUSD. The district vision is to develop “a North Star” that guides the district forward, one that is truly rooted in the values and aspirations of the entire community and developed alongside youth in authentic partnership.

This Portrait of a Learner effort took off in earnest in October with the first team retreat at Holley Hall in Bristol, followed soon after by a district-wide in-service presentation that gave the entire MAUSD staff an opportunity to learn about the process, provide input, and deepen their involvement. Since then, the Portrait of a Learner team has been trained and mobilized to collect data across the district, all centered around one, essential question: What are the skills, characteristics, and experiences that are most essential for MAUSD students to thrive in learning and in life?

This community-driven data collection has taken many forms: At Beeman Elementary School in New Haven, every student completed a survey in the polling booths during their school’s mock election. At Robinson Elementary, a group of determined sixth

graders took the initiative to interview every kindergartner, ensuring that even the youngest voices were heard. The Bristol Elementary team created two surveys designed to capture youth perspectives, one of which invited students to express their hopes and dreams for their school through a drawing exercise. This team is now preparing to present their findings at an upcoming staff meeting, encouraging teachers to complete their own surveys as well. The Monkton Central School team has successfully gathered input from every student at their school, and students from their team are currently preparing to deliver an update to the entire school community at an upcoming assembly. The Mount Abraham MS/HS and Community teams are working hard to get the word out during school advisories and lunchtimes, as well as at concerts, basketball games, and school plays to maximize engagement.

In recent weeks, teams have reconvened at Holley Hall to analyze their initial data sets and are starting to identify some key themes emerging that will shape the Portrait of a Learner.

One of the great benefits of this undertaking is that the process itself is just as powerful and meaningful as the outcome. Calvin, a fifth grader at Bristol Elementary, shared with enthusiasm what he loves most about the work: “I get to come here and hang out with

people that I don’t know, and I end up learning so much about them.” Pat LaRose, a community member and substitute teacher at Robinson Elementary said, “After the last meeting, it occurred to me that there are all these adults who make it their life’s work to support our young people. It’s just amazing.”

Sara Audy, a literacy interventionist at Robinson, said, “I adore the partnership with students,” noting how listening to and amplifying their voices and advocacies has been personally transformative.

The effort has been about more than just developing a “Portrait of a Learner,” it is about an entire community working together to ask each other, “What is it that we want for all learners?” In lifting up youth voice and youth-adult partnership in the process, MAUSD is laying the groundwork for a district-wide cultural shift that will positively impact the school community for years to come.

Elise, a sixth grader at Beeman Elementary said that the work has strengthened her resolve to strive for the best in her community. “This is what I want to say to people,” she offered, “Don’t stop wanting more when there is more to want.”

A final report to the community will be developed and shared sometime in late spring.



STUDENTS FROM AROUND MAUSD gathered at Holley Hall in Bristol as part of the district’s Portrait of a Learner project.

Photo courtesy of Kim Callahan

Putting Girl Scout cookie profits to use



GIRL SCOUT TROOP 30066 in North Ferrisburgh is working to make the world a better place. They recently made granola and Chex mix to put into goodie bags to distribute to the homeless. Proceeds from Girl Scout Cookie sales funded the purchase of the bags, which they printed with their troop number. Also included in the bags were a water bottle, a pair of warm socks, a toothbrush and tube of toothpaste, deodorant, a rain poncho, a small packet of tissues, crackers, granola bars, beef sticks, and a Burger King gift card.

Photo courtesy of Ginger Kozlowski

www.addisonindependent.com
CHECK IT OUT!



Vermont State Maple Open House Weekend March 22-23, 2025

10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

486 Cider Mill Road, Cornwall | 802-373-7000

Plenty of fresh products for sale!

- Maple Cream Donuts
- Maple Fudge & Candies
- Maple Popcorn & Cotton Candy
- and Coffee, of course!



Come walk the sugarwoods trail and enjoy our springtime tradition!

Raising Healthy Kids in a Culture of Dependence

A Community Discussion for Parents and Guardians
Dinner Provided

Special Guest:
Bestselling Vermont Author
Jessica Lahey



Middlebury Union High School
March 27, 2025 (5:00 - 7:00pm)

Register at
unitedwayaddisoncounty.org
and you'll have a chance to
take home a free book!



Brought to you by:





THE MT. ABRAHAM Rowing Club crew in Gail Parsell grits out the final strokes of their race at the 44th Annual Snow Row in Hull, Mass., on March 15.

Photo by Tamzen Chapman

Locals compete in the annual Snow Row

HULL, Mass. — Two Lake Champlain Maritime Museum adult crews and two Mount Abraham Union High School Rowing Club crews traveled to Hull, Mass., for the 44th annual Snow Row on Saturday, March

15. The race featured a LeMans-style start, leading into a 3.75-mile triangular course. The adult crew that rowed the four-oared St. Ayles Skiff Perseverance took first in their category with a time of 41:15.

This was the first time that the St. Ayles Skiffs have been recognized as their own category at this race. The other adult crew rowed the six-oared pilot gig Frank Beckett and placed 8th of 12 with a time of 42:42.

The two Mt. Abe crews rowed four-oared pilot gigs Gail Parsell and Charlie Burchard and placed 2nd and 4th of four in their category with times of 40:28 and 56:29, respectively.



THE LCMM ADULT crew of Perseverance pulls toward the finish line at the 44th annual Snow Row in Hull Mass. On March 15. The Perseverance took first place in their category.

Photo by Tamzen Chapman

New college dorm nears completion

By MARIN HOWELL

MIDDLEBURY — Crews are nearing the end of constructing a new residence hall at Middlebury College.

The 87,000-square-foot building will eventually replace the seven-decade-old Battell Hall, which currently houses around 40% of the college's first-year class.

"The new residence hall is in the final stages of construction and startup and testing of new systems with all work to be completed in late May," said Mike Moser, associate vice president for operations at Middlebury College. "The building will be occupied this summer in support of our Language School programs and then for our incoming first year class in Fall 2025."

The college broke ground on the 298-bed residence hall in the summer of 2023. The Middlebury Board of Trustees that year approved construction of the building, with project costs not to exceed \$51.5 million.

It is located at the northern end of Battell Beach, a 12-acre lawn on the north side of Route 125 and surrounded by academic and dorm buildings, including the older Battell Hall.

The board of trustees at its Feb. 7-8 winter meeting approved the recommendation of the Building, Grounds, and Lands Committee and the Resources Committee to name the new dormitory "Battell Hall," keeping the name of the older

residence hall it will ultimately replace.

STEWART HALL UPGRADE

At the meeting, trustees also approved spending up to \$13 million for the renovation of Stewart Hall, another first-year dormitory on campus.

"The timing of this project is driven by two important factors: First, significant improvements are needed, including bathrooms, HVAC and building envelope systems, accessibility and life safety systems, and a new elevator serving all five floors," reads a Feb. 20 release summarizing the meeting. "Second, during the renovation period there is an opportunity to house students in the existing Battell Hall before it is torn down. This critical housing space would not be available if the project is delayed to sometime in the future."

Moser told the *Independent* the Stewart Hall renovation project will begin this June and wrap up in June 2026.

The older Battell Hall will house students while the Stewart Hall renovation takes place. After that work is finished, the old Battell Hall will eventually be demolished and replaced with a new art museum.

College officials said design, permitting and selection of a construction team for the art museum is scheduled to get underway this year. Construction of the museum is expected to begin in 2027 and finished in 2028.

Cost of Midd College over 90K

MIDDLEBURY — The Middlebury Board of Trustees last month increased the comprehensive fee for the undergraduate college by 4.5%, bringing the total undergraduate cost of attendance for the upcoming academic year to \$90,756.

Trustees approved the new comprehensive fee during their Feb. 7-8 winter meeting. It brings tuition up to \$70,120, room and board to \$20,116 and the Student Government Association fee to \$520.

At the meeting, Executive Vice President for Finance and Administration David Provost shared

data "showing that the College's cost of attendance remains in the middle of its peer institutions," and the board reaffirmed the institution's commitment to offering students significant financial support, according to a Feb. 20 press release summarizing the meeting.

College officials stated in the release that the average net cost of attendance after financial aid was \$31,483 last year, with the average financial aid offer over \$65,000. All of the college's financial aid is need-based and about 46% of students are receiving aid, according to the college's website.

Don't open toll collection texts — they're scams!

According to a recent story by the Associated Press, officials in several states are warning citizens "not to respond to a surge of scam road toll collection texts."

The texts are impersonating state road toll collection agencies and "attempt to get phone users to reveal financial information, such as credit or debit cards or bank accounts," the report said.

Even states like Vermont that don't charge drivers tolls have noticed an uptick in the scam emails. In a March 7 Instagram post, Vermont Attorney General Charity Clark warned Vermonters that while "we do not have tolls roads in Vermont... travelers may mistake these scams for actual toll operators in other states," and provide the scammers with information they will use to

illegally extract money from those accounts.

Vermonters can report scams to the AG's Consumer Assistance Program at 1-800-649-2424.

The AP reported that a warning last April from the FBI said "the texts used nearly identical language falsely claiming that recipients have an unpaid or outstanding toll. Some threaten fines or suspended driving privileges if recipients don't pay up." If you get such texts, the AP cautioned, don't open it and definitely don't contact the scammers or provide any personal or credit card information.

While the FBI alerted the public about such scams last year, the AP reported the FBI under Trump has not responded to a request for updated guidance, nor has it issued any alerts to such scams this year.



Addison County Solid Waste Management District's

Repair Fair!

Bring in your broken items to be repaired for free!

When:

Saturday, April 5th, 2025

10 AM - 2 PM

Where:

American Legion Post 27

49 Wilson Rd, Middlebury, VT 05753

Register an item:

Visit www.AddisonCountyRecycles.org, email eco@acswmd.org, call 802-388-2333 or scan the QR code.

Hope to see you there!



SPRING WILL COME (EVENTUALLY!)



W

E

R

E

P

A

S

I

T

I

V

E

MIDDLEBURY, VT

VERGENNES, VT

WWW.HARE.DOG

Find Us On:



For breaking news & updates wherever you are!

@addisonindependent



VERMONT Trade Winds Farm

2025 Maple Open House

March 22nd, Saturday (9-5 pm)

All-You-Can-Eat Pancake Breakfast (9-12pm)

with fresh maple syrup, sausage, homemade home fries and more!

Ol' time music

March 22nd, Saturday (11 - 3 pm)

• Maple Sap Hot Dogs & chips and Ol' time sap boiling

• Maple sap boiling demonstration in our new outdoor evaporator.

Maple Cream Donuts, Maple Walnut bars, Maple Popcorn & Maple Cotton Candy

Outdoor Affair, Please Dress Warm!

2025 Vermont Maple Syrup is available!

Don't forget to bring your own container to fill up with Syrup-On-Tap!

884 Route 74E, Shoreham, VT • 802-897-2448 • vermonttradewinds.com

New this year!



"Be the Sugarmaker"

Scan code to sign up!

City Council looks to fill positions

By ANDY KIRKALDY
VERGENNES — The Vergennes City Council on March 11 reelected its deputy mayor, welcomed its newest member, made a slew of appointments, and said there were positions that remained open.
Councilor Dickie Austin faced no opposition for another stint as the council’s deputy mayor. He was nominated and quickly, unanimously voted to the position by his peers on the council.
Those peers included the council’s newest member, Carson Harder-Hyde, who was elected a week earlier without opposition.
Mayor Chris Bearor at the March 11 meeting listed the openings: Vergennes is short two civilian auditors, a lister and Vergennes/Panton Water District Board member, all of which the council can fill by appointment now that no

one ran for the positions.
Later in the week Bearor told the *Independent* the Vergennes Parks and Recreation Committee is also looking for as many as four more members.
Bearor said those interested in serving in any of those positions should email both him and Redmond at mayor@vergennes.org and manager@vergennes.org by March 24 at 5 p.m. The council could consider making appointments and conducting interviews as soon as its next meeting.
APPOINTMENTS
Finally, the council made a series of appointments to city committees and as city representatives to county organizations.
• To one-year terms on the Police Community Advisory Committee: James Dunn, Joel

Galvin, Linda Harmon, Jess Horner, Allison Rimmer, Grace Williams, Ruth Williams and Jon Zimmers.
• To one-year terms on the Vergennes Energy Committee: Cheryl Brinkman, Sid Bosworth, Al Harder-Hyde, Maggi Shadroui, Jeremy Francis, Grace Williams, and Anthony Severo, Northlands Job Corps representative.
• To one-year terms on the Vergennes Parks and Recreation Committee: Ben Hatch, Nancy Ambrose, Julian Cesner, Mike Daniels, James Dragon, Matt Hawes, Cory Glover, Amy Barr, Sue Rakowski (Council representative) and Robyn Newton, (school district representative).
• Cheryl Brinkman to the Addison County Solid Waste Management District Board of Supervisors for a one-year term.

Volunteers

(Continued from Page 1A)
And those were *elected* positions. Communities like Middlebury, Vergennes and Bristol each maintain several other committees that carry out key functions, and selectboards are having a difficult time filling those panels with appointees.
“Everyone is looking for the perfect solution that brings everybody out. It’s an ongoing issue, trying to find the best way to reach folks to get them engaged, to offer meaningful ways for them to get involved with the town,” said Middlebury Assistant Town Manager David Sophrin.
Local officials said the dearth of volunteers is in large part a sign of the times. It’s much more common for a family to have two outside-the-home workers, than not. There are more diversions and distractions — mainly electronic — than there were 30 years ago. And those scrolling their phones aren’t actively searching for civic volunteer opportunities.
All of this has made it harder to fill spots on municipal development review boards, planning commissions, energy committees, conservation commissions and a host of other panels that help shape the neighborhoods, scenic beauty, diversity and overall quality of life in our communities.
Last year, Middlebury sought applicants for 17 vacancies across

14 boards, commissions and individual posts like tree warden and grand juror. Only 13 people applied for those posts, according to Sophrin, and several of them were incumbents and/or the same folks who’ve been civically engaged for years.
In addition to those municipal posts, Middlebury last year advertised vacancies for eight delegates on six regional boards, including the Addison County Regional Planning Commission and Maple Broadband Communications District. Only five people threw their hats into the ring for those appointments.
This spring, Middlebury is looking to fill eight posts on eight town boards/committees, three spots on regional organizations, and six individual town positions, ranging from fence viewer to town service officer.
Appointments to the regional agencies would need to involve a Middlebury resident, as would the DRB & planning commission spots. The other town groups do not have such a requirement, according to Sophrin.
Go to your town’s website to find out more about public service opportunities. Appointments for most of the vacancies range from one to four years. Many of the committees meet monthly, for an hour or two.
The search for volunteers has been a little easier of late in Vergennes,

where Major Chris Bearor said the search is on for four recreation committee members, a lister, and auditor and a Vergennes-Panton Water District representative.
“We’re not hurting, but we’re definitely looking,” he said.
So what’s the answer?
Boosting outreach, according to Sophrin.
“We want to go beyond some of the traditional outreach efforts and try to reach new circles,” he said. “The town staff and selectboard want to see if we can reach a wider audience and see if we can get more applicants and interest from our citizens.”
He and Middlebury Town Manager Mark Pruhenski this year are supplementing traditional newspaper, town website and Front Porch Forum blasts with shout-outs to area civic groups, such as the American Legion, Rotary and Lions clubs, and the Mary Hogan Elementary School PTA.
“We’ve gotten a favorable response from them so far,” he said of the civic groups, which are already well-versed in service to others.
Future plans call for Middlebury to expand its social media footprint to such platforms as Instagram, which would allow the town to spread its volunteerism message to a younger demographic. Plans call for the selectboard to nominate applicants on April 8, with appointments slated for April 22.
Those interested in serving in Middlebury, or who’d just like to learn more about this opportunity, should call Beth Dow at 802-388-8100 ext. 202, or email her at bdow@townofmiddlebury.org.
“We’re trying to be hopeful and creative,” Sophrin said.

By the way

(Continued from Page 1A)
15, the Rattlesnake Cliff Area (Salisbury) and the Mount Horrid/Great Cliff Area (Rochester) are closed until Aug. 1. Please adhere to the closure signs posted on the trails leading to the cliff overlooks. Information regarding the specific locations for the closure areas is available on the Forest Service website (fs.usda.gov/gmfl). Disturbance of peregrine falcons and/or these nesting grounds is a violation of federal law and may result in a fine up to \$5,000 and six months in jail. Please report any harassment of nesting peregrine falcons to 1-800-75ALERT. The Forest Service works with Audubon Vermont, the Vermont Department of Fish & Wildlife, and other nonprofit organizations to protect peregrine falcons.
Addison County’s January unemployment rate was 2.9%, up from the December rate of

2.3%, according to the Vermont Department of Labor. The county in January had a total labor force of 22,000, of which 631 were seeking jobs. For comparison, the county’s jobless rate was 2.2% in January 2024. The statewide jobless rate for this past January was 2.6%, reflecting a bump of one-tenth of a percent from the prior month’s estimate. The January jobless rates for Vermont’s 14 counties ranged from 2.3% in Chittenden County to 5.7% in Orleans County. Meanwhile, the comparable national rate in January was 4%, down one-tenth of a percent from December.
The Vermont Department of Health (DOH) has confirmed the first measles case in Vermont in 2025. Measles is an extremely infectious, airborne illness that can cause severe illness and even death. Babies, young children, and people with weak immune systems are at higher risk of getting very

sick from measles. Here are some important facts to keep your family safe: Symptoms usually start with high fever, cough, runny nose, and red/watery eyes. The characteristic rash usually appears 3-5 days after first symptoms. Call your healthcare provider with any symptoms. Measles is one of the most contagious diseases. It is airborne and spread through direct contact with infectious droplets. Vaccination is the best way to prevent and protect your family against serious illness, according to the DOH. Two doses are about 97% effective at preventing measles; one dose is about 93% effective, according to DOH. Learn more about measles symptoms, spread and prevention at HealthVermont.gov/measles.
Gov. Phil Scott’s office recently announced a range of appointments made to various Vermont boards and commissions, a list that includes



Addison County
Solid Waste Management District

THINKING
OUTSIDE THE BLUE BIN

What can I do with items that can't go into my blue bin but can be recycled elsewhere?
What's banned from the landfill?



Refreshments provided!



IN-PERSON WORKSHOP:
Russell Memorial Library
March 25th, 5:30 PM
Register on our website:
www.AddisonCountyRecycles.org
or contact eco@acswmd.org

2025 is Porter Medical Center's Centennial Birthday

Help Us Celebrate 100 years!
Visit our Centennial Web Page to...

- Wish Porter a Happy 100th Birthday
- Learn about our community party on Saturday, June 14 – you're invited!
- Contribute to our new Patient Support Fund. Help us reach 100 donations in the next 100 days.



[PHOTO: Porter archives]

You don't say - Porter is 100!? Well, I'll be!

THE
University of Vermont
HEALTH NETWORK

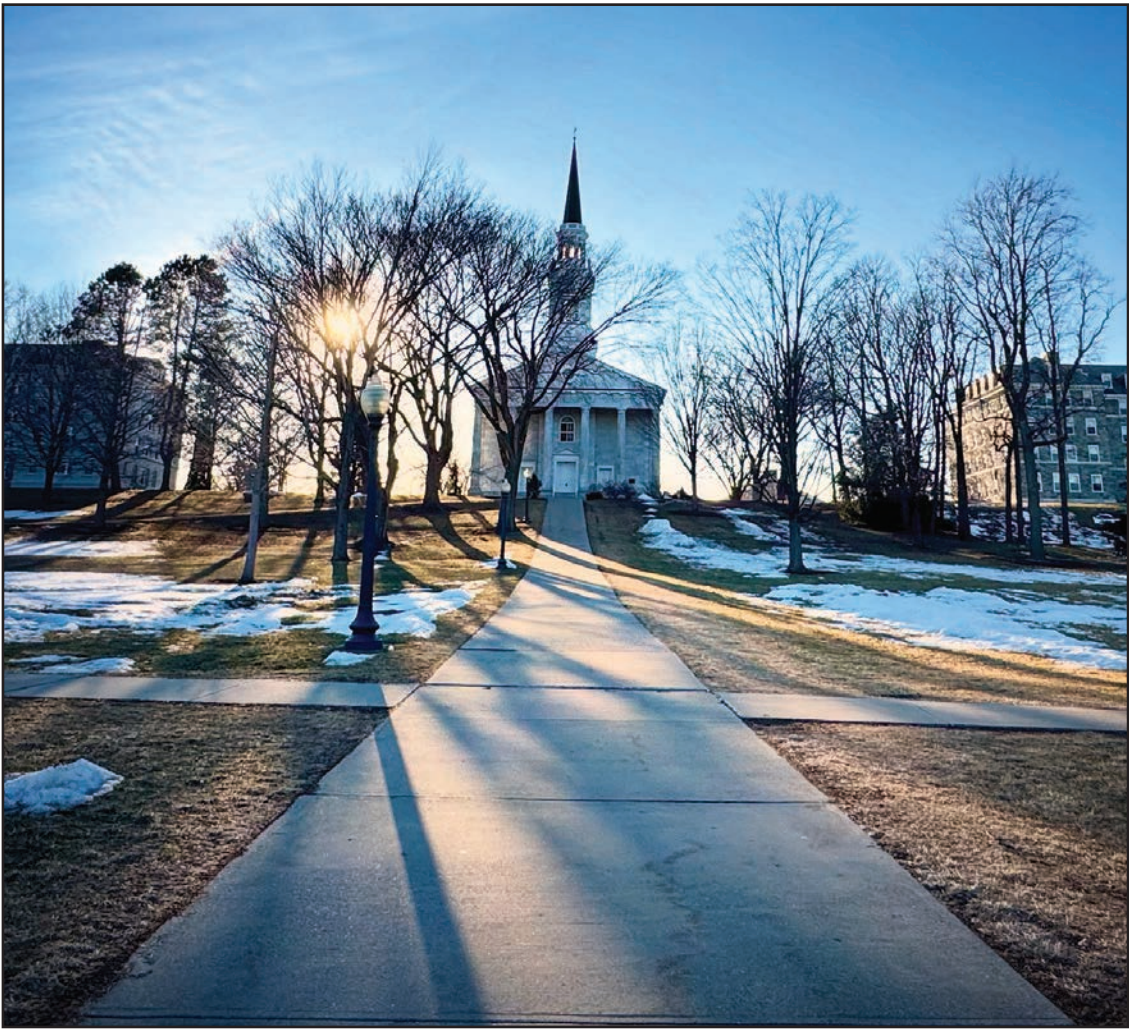
Porter Medical Center

Providing 100 Years of Compassionate Care
1925 - 2025

Scan the QR code with your mobile phone camera, or use this URL



bit.ly/Porter25



Feels like spring

THE SUNS SETS behind Middlebury Chapel in the early evening post daylight savings time. Shadows and clearly melting snow are a reminder that warmer weather is on its way.

Photo by Elizabeth Burrows

Midd man receives several citations

Middlebury Police Log

MIDDLEBURY — Middlebury police cited Nathan L. Paquette, 46, of Middlebury for driving under the influence (second offense), two counts of driving with a criminally suspended license, and resisting arrest, following an investigation in the Munson Road area on March 13.

Police said they measured Paquette’s blood-alcohol content at 0.114%, the legal limit for driving is 0.08. Police said Paquette was lodged at Marble Valley Correctional Facility following his arrest.

In other action last week, Middlebury police:

- Helped defuse a domestic dispute in the Valley View neighborhood on March 10.
- Helped Vermont Fish & Wildlife officials screen a driver for driving under the influence on Seminary Street Extension on March 10.
- Arrested Tanya M Brace, 35, on an active warrant on March 10.
- Loaned Middlebury’s K9 team to Vermont State Police to help determine whether there were illegal drugs in a vehicle that authorities had stopped on Route 7 on March 10.
- Responded to a domestic dispute in the North Pleasant Street area on March 10.
- Helped a local resident who was being verbally abused by a man downtown on March 10.
- Assisted Fish & Wildlife with a traffic stop on South Main Street on March 10.

- Located a runaway youth (from Winooski) at a Case Street address and turned them over to a family member on March 10.
- On March 10, and again on March 12, checked on a homeless person who’s been living in a tent off Merchants Row.
- Gave a ride home to a discharged Porter Hospital patient on March 10.
- Enforced the town’s overnight winter parking ban on College Street on March 10.
- Helped state police execute a search warrant on a vehicle on Route 7 on March 11.
- Were informed of the possible theft of jewelry from a Woodland Park home on March 11.
- Served a no-trespass order on a man who was causing a disturbance on a Tri-Valley Transit bus on Creek Road on March 11.
- Were informed on March 11 of a recent theft from Middlebury College campus.
- Intervened in a domestic dispute and an alleged case of threatening involving two people who had been driving on College Street on March 12.
- Assisted state police and Salisbury fire officials at the scene of a motorcycle crash on

Route 7 in Salisbury on March 13.

- Responded to a report of five people “arguing and threatening each other” in a parking lot off Court Street on March 14.
- Helped defuse a property-related argument among some people in the Benedict Lane area on March 14.
- Assisted Middlebury Regional EMS on a medical call to the Case Street area on March 14.
- Took a drunken man in the Court Street area into protective custody on March 15.
- Searched in vain for a driver said to be unable to stay in the proper lane on Route 7 South on March 15.
- Intervened in a dispute between Pine Meadows neighbors on March 15.
- Responded to a report of two dogs fighting at the entrance of Mary Hogan Elementary School on March 15.
- Helped sort out a cat-related dispute involving neighbors in the Woodbridge and Jackson Lane neighborhoods on March 15.
- Responded to a family argument in the High Street area on March 15.
- On March 16, checked on the welfare of a person in downtown who had reportedly been behaving “oddly,” but who police determined didn’t need help.
- Helped a driver with a damaged vehicle on Exchange Street on March 16.

Man cited for domestic assault

ADDISON COUNTY — One morning last week, Vermont State Police received a report of a domestic dispute between household members at a home in the Locust Lane neighborhood of Ferrisburgh. Troopers responded to the call at 8:30 a.m. on March 12, investigated and decided that Damian Sulger, 31, of Ferrisburgh had caused injury to a household member and left the scene.

Troopers later received a complaint of a disabled motor vehicle obstructing the roadway in on Route 7 in Waltham, they asked Vergennes police to help out by answering the call and city police found Sulger at the scene

Vt. State Police Log

of the disabled vehicle. They arrested him and took him to the Vergennes Police Department for processing.

During further investigation, police said they discovered that Sulger has multiple prior convictions for domestic assault incidents, and so in this case they cited him for second degree aggravated domestic assault, which is a felony.

Police took Sulger to the Addison County Courthouse,

arraigned him that afternoon, and ultimately held him without bail.

In other recent activity, troopers:

- On March 8 at around 8:45 a.m. observed multiple vehicle violations on Route 7 near Stage Road in North Ferrisburgh and stopped the car.

Police cited the driver, identified as 39-year-old Jason Bushey of Hinesburg, who had had his privilege to operator a motor vehicle on a public highway suspended for a previous alcohol-related incident. They had Bushey’s vehicle towed, seized the vehicle’s plate, took Bushey to the New Haven state police barracks and cited him

for driving with a criminally suspended license.

- On March 10 at a little after 2:30 p.m. responded to a two-vehicle crash involving an on-duty deputy from the Addison County Sheriff’s Department. The crash occurred at the intersection of Route 7 and Leicester Whiting Road/Fern Lake Rd in Leicester. Troopers report that David Moats, 77 of Salisbury as driving a 2016 Honda HRV north in the northbound lane of Route 7 approaching the intersection

At the same time, Ricky Benoit, 28, of Shoreham, driving a 2020 Ford Explorer was stopped at a

stop sign on Leicester Whiting Road before crossing Route 7 to continue east onto Fern Lake Road. As Benoit’s Ford crossed the highway, the front end of Moats’s Honda collided with the rear passenger corner of the Ford. State police said Benoit was at fault for failing to yield the right of way to Moats.

Troopers were assisted on scene by the Brandon Fire Department.

- On March 11 at 4:40 p.m. observed a vehicle traveling at a high rate of speed on Route 7 near Town Hill Road in New Haven and put the radar on it. Police report that Mollee Coddling,

20, of Shoreham was driving 85 miles per hour in a properly posted 50 mph zone, so they cited her for speeding.

- Later that evening, at a couple minutes before midnight, were conducting speed enforcement on Route 22A in Addison when they clocked a vehicle going 88 mph in a posted 50 mph zone, so they stopped the car. Police identified the driver as Darin Bushey, 45, of Ferrisburgh. The officer issued Bushey a speeding ticket that upon conviction carries a penalty of 2 points and a fine of \$572.

VERGENNES

Planning & Environment Linkages (PEL) Study

THANK YOU, ADDISON COUNTY!

Vergennes · Panton · Ferrisburgh · Waltham · New Haven · Addison · Weybridge

The Vermont Agency of Transportation (AOT), in partnership with the Addison County Regional Planning Commission (ACRPC) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), thank the residents of northern Addison County for taking part in the Vergennes PEL Study, a four-year planning and environment linkages (PEL) study of potential solutions to manage the impact of truck traffic on the residents and businesses of the greater Vergennes area.

A special thank-you to everyone who participated in the PEL study process, those who attended public meetings and spoke with us at Addison County Field Days and Vergennes Day, as well as the following organizations and individuals:

Addison Housing Works · Vergennes Partnership · Northlands Job Corps · Collins Aerospace · Bixby Memorial Free Library · Linda’s Apparel · Kennedy Brothers · Malabar · 3 Squares Cafe · Black Sheep Bistro · Stone Block Antiques · Lu.Lu Ice Cream · Ryan Plumbing & Heating · Strong House Inn · Rockers Pizzeria · La Garagista Winery · Comfort Hill Kennel · Basin Harbor Resort · Champlain Valley Christian School · Addison County Legislators · Addison County Chamber of Commerce · Addison County Economic Development Corporation · Vermont Truck & Bus Association · Vergennes and Ferrisburgh Departments of Public Works · the Mayor, City Manager, Planning Commission, and City Council of Vergennes · the Selectboards and Planning Commissions of Addison, Waltham, New Haven, Ferrisburgh, Weybridge, and Panton · Residents of West Main Street, Church Street, MacDonough Drive, Maple Street, Comfort Hill, Route 17, Hopkins Road, and many other locations throughout northern Addison County · and Members of the PEL Study Technical and Policy Committees.

AOT and ACRPC invite members of the public to view the recommended alternatives and ask questions of the PEL Study team members at a final in-person public open house to be held:

Wednesday, April 2, 2025
3 p.m. – 7 p.m.
American Legion

100 Armory Lane, Vergennes, VT 05491
or for more information: www.vergennespel.com





VERGENNES UNION HIGH School thespians are taking on "9 to 5," the story of three working women who live out their fantasies of getting even with their company's autocratic vice president. The play will be staged March 20 and 21 at 7 p.m., and March 22 at 3 p.m., in the VUHS auditorium. Rehearsals have been going great guns. Pictured clockwise from bottom-left photo: The boss, "Mr. Hart," (played by Grey Fearon) is subjected to some playful humiliation; "Judy" (played by Phoebe Raphael) makes the scene; all hands on stage for a musical number; (left to right) Phoebe Raphael playing "Judy," Gina LaBeau playing "Violet" and Rory Hendee as "Doralee"; Ava "Rizz" Mullin plays "Roz"; and Doralee gets some revenge on Mr. Hart.

Photos by Jesse Brooks





**VERGENNES
GRAND**
SENIOR LIVING
Life is Grand Here

CALL VERGENNES GRAND HOME





Independent Living | Assisted Living | Memory Care

OPENING ON MARCH 18*



LEARN MORE



Located in downtown Vergennes, Vergennes Grand Senior Living offers a vibrant community with engaging spaces and activities to thrive.

**Pending Vermont Assisted Living Residence Provider Approval.*

34 NORTH STREET, VERGENNES, VT  
(802) 877-3562 | VERGENNESGRAND.COM

SUBSCRIBE

LET'S MAKE THIS EASY!

SKIP THE MANUAL RENEWAL PROCESS
& SIGN UP TO AUTO-RENEW.

Questions?
CALL SEAN TODAY!
802-388-4944



Subscriber Name _____ Card # _____

Mailing Address _____ CCV _____ Exp. Date _____

Phone Number _____

Email Address _____

NAME, EMAIL & CREDIT CARD INFO REQUIRED.
We will never share your information, we promise.
Credit card info is encrypted and destroyed after the first payment.

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

☐ **MONTHLY**
\$10/month

☐ **SENIOR**
\$9/month

☐ **YEARLY**
\$120/year

☐ **SENIOR**
\$108/year

THANK YOU!
ADDISON COUNTY
INDEPENDENT

Prefer to send a check or cash? That's great, too! Simply mail your payment with this renewal form to us at 58 Maple Street, Middlebury, VT 05753.
You can also subscribe online at: addisonindependent.com/subscribe



MORE THAN A dozen concerned Ripton residents converged on the town's Community House on Monday evening to hear the latest news on the possible closure of the town's local elementary school. Among those present were local parents Heather Lavalla, left, and Sarah Paquette, who regrettably confirmed plans to send their respective children to other Middlebury-area schools due to Ripton Elementary's uncertain future.

Independent photo/John Flowers

Ripton

(Continued from Page 1A)
that's running afoul of the ACSD's minimum class-size policy.

That policy stipulates classes of at least 10 students, from no more than two grades. Ripton Elementary School (RES) has only three K/1 students confirmed for this fall.

The ACSD policy allows the superintendent to reassign students in underenrolled classes, as a group, to a different ACSD school. Baker has reassigned those three children to Salisbury Community School, after an effort to boost RES's K/1 population with children from other district towns failed to bear fruit.

Still, RES boosters are hopeful the building could still serve children in grades 2-5 for the 2025-26 academic year. The grades 2/3 class, and the grades 4/5 class are both forecast to have 11 students next year.

Baker, in a March 9 email to RES families, had asked for any late-breaking info that might affect Ripton school's enrollment this fall. She set a March 24 deadline for that info.

The response wasn't the kind of news RES boosters wanted to hear.

"I don't want to seem like the mom who just gave up on the Ripton school."

— Sarah Paquette

An unspecified number of Ripton households with children in the school's upper grades have said they want their students to attend a different ACSD school next year, based in part on concerns of the school's ongoing instability and/or a desire to keep siblings together in one school.

District officials declined to share specific numbers of grades 2-5 students that could withdraw next year — except to the Ripton selectboard during an executive session preceding Monday's gathering at the Ripton Community House. They argued that doing so might identify specific students and families due to the small enrollment.

'LOGISTICAL NIGHTMARE'
But representatives of two of those households attended Monday's meeting and spoke candidly about the torturous decision to do what they believed was best for the educational and social-emotional wellbeing of their children, while knowing that their kids' exit from RES could expedite its downfall.

Sarah Paquette has a fourth-grader at RES and a four-year-old daughter attending preschool

at Middlebury's Mary Hogan Elementary School.

"I'm struggling with what's in front of you, because much like you, ever since we've had kids (at RES), it's always been wondering if they'd make it all the way through," she said, acknowledging the angst of seeing that recent PreK and grade 6 program cuts hasten the school's enrollment drop.

"We're in a situation where there'll be no kindergarten or first grade, so what does that mean for my daughter who's now in preschool?" Paquette asked, noting the travel time from Ripton to Salisbury. Paquette said she works in Middlebury, where her two older children attend school.

"It seems like a logistical nightmare to me," she said.

Paquette praised RES for the way it's served her youngest son, who's been overcoming some hurdles. She now believes he might flourish in a bigger classroom setting — but knows his exit would be a blow to RES's broader interests.

"I don't want to seem like the mom who just gave up on the Ripton school," she said tearfully.

Heather Lavalla has two young students at RES. If the school were to stay afloat next year, Lavalla said her children would be among the older students in multi-grouped classrooms during the next few years.

"It's not working for my children," she said.

Lavalla has another child poised to enter kindergarten in 2026, and there's no guarantee RES will have (See Figuring it out, Page 18A)

Education Dept.

(Continued from Page 1A)
officials are keeping a close eye on how cuts and other changes in the Education Department could affect the state's learning communities.

"This is a scenario in which school districts across the country are watching carefully, and that's certainly true for us," Superintendent Baker said.

She said ACSD is working with the state to follow any changes at the federal level.

"Things that we're watching include funds for child nutrition, Title 2 professional development, and where Medicaid funding stands," Baker said. "Those are funding sources that this administration might take a different approach to."

She said another thing school officials are keeping an eye on what the timing will be on how federal dollars will eventually flow to the school districts, especially given staffing changes at the DOE.

Baker noted that ACSD currently receives around \$1.8 million in federal funding that flows through the state. According to the Education Department, funds from federal sources make up about 8% of elementary and secondary education spending in the U.S.

Baker said it takes time — typically 30 to 60 days — to understand the impact of actions such as those directed at the education department.

"We're watching and just seeing what that looks like," she said.

FEDERAL FUNDING

Amy Cole is superintendent of the Lincoln School District, which serves preK-12 students in the Addison County town. She noted that all Vermont school districts receive federal funds in some way, whether through a direct federal grant or federal funds that flow through the state.

"Lincoln SD currently does not have any direct federal funding, but like other districts we do build our budgets with consideration for flow-through funds such as school meal reimbursements and IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act)," she said.

She added that many school districts also rely on consolidated federal grants, "which are flow-through funds and include funds for programs such as Title I, II, III, IV, etc."

"Lincoln, as a new and smaller district, receives minimal Consolidated Federal Grants, so that is less of an immediate concern for our budget. But cuts in those areas would have the potential for significant impacts on many other districts and would impact their capacity to run programming under those title programs," Cole said. "The one of most concern is Title Ia: Improving Academic Achievement of the Disadvantaged, which provides federal funding to support struggling learners in districts based on district poverty levels."

A March 14 letter from the DOE regarding the recent reduction in force announced by the agency stated that the staff cuts wouldn't impact critical functions for elementary and secondary education. A page on the Vermont Agency of Education's website notes that the cuts didn't include staff that support the agency's implementation of IDEA, Perkins, and Elementary and Secondary Education Act programs.

Still, the cuts have raised concerns over how the reductions would impact the agency's ability to carry out key functions.

Patrick Reen, superintendent of the Bristol-area Mount Abraham Unified School District, acknowledged that it's not clear what the impact of staffing cuts within the Education Department might be.

"I can say that if all federal funds are taken from schools that would have a significant impact. School districts around the state would be impacted differently, as each receives a different level of funding based on various factors," he said.

Reen noted that the MAUSD has several positions that are at least partially funded by federal funds. Those include support staff, licensed staff and administrators.

"Timing is important as we are issuing teaching contracts, including those who are funded by federal grants, by April 1. Our plan is to issue contracts to staff as intended when we built the budget," he said. "If federal funds are removed we would look to a combination of actions to close the gap including looking at repurposing construction services funds, reserve funds, and a host of other plans we have to spend our general fund dollars. It is likely this approach would be enough to close

the gap for one year in an emergency situation, and then we would need to account for the loss of revenue in subsequent budget cycles."

In the Vergennes-area Addison Northwest School District, superintendent Sheila Soule said the learning community relies on federal funding to pay for some of its intervention positions and teacher professional development, among other things.

"At this time we have been told that in the short term (FY26) funds seem reasonably stable if not slightly reduced (20%) but things seem volatile so that could change," Soule told the *Independent*.

STATE ACTION

A page on the Vermont Agency of Education's website is keeping track of updates and information on changes at the federal level related to education (tinyurl.com/federalupdates).

On the webpage, state officials note that federal FY25 funding for ESEA, IDEA, and Perkins programs was included in the continuing resolution passed by Congress last week.

"Funding for these programs is, therefore, secure for the remainder of the '24-'25 school year and will continue at essentially the same levels for the next school year ('25-'26)," the webpage reads. "The administration is expected to unveil its proposed budget for federal FY26 (school year 2026-2027) funding in the coming weeks. This is only the first step in the FY26 budget process and proposed cuts are anticipated, though in which programs and in what amounts is not clear."

Last week Vermont Attorney General Charity Clark joined a group of 20 attorneys general from states around the country in suing the Trump administration over its gutting of the Education Department. The lawsuit, filed March 13, seeks "a court order to stop the administration's policies to dismantle the education department."

"The U.S. Department of Education's impact on Vermont's children and young adults is tremendous," Clark said in a press release. "The Trump Administration's reckless disregard for these children and young adults is disappointing. It is wrong to violate the Constitution or federal law in the name of false efficiency."



Chocolate magic

MIKE TEAVEE, AS played by Sam Wooten, is obsessed by the boob tube during a Tuesday rehearsal of the Middlebury Union High School Senior Play, "Willy Wonka Jr." Look for Mike and all of the Golden Ticket winners in performances on Thursday and Friday at 7 p.m. and Saturday at 2 p.m.

Photo by Jason Duquette-Hoffman

Wild Alaskan

SOCKEYE SALMON & HALIBUT

AVAILABLE FOR LOCAL PICK UP ON SUNDAY, APRIL 27TH @ THE MAD TACO

PREORDER AT WWW.PRIDEOFBRISTOLBAY.COM

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

802 . 453 . 2500

BristolElectronicsVT.com

FREE SITE EVALUATIONS



'It's showtime!'

THE SPOOKS WILL be out in force at Mount Abraham Union High School this weekend with performances of "Beetlejuice JR - The Musical" on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Adapted from the hit Broadway musical, "Beetlejuice JR" features catchy songs, outrageous characters, and a heartwarming message about family and belonging. Shown at a Monday rehearsal are, counter-clockwise from above, Charlie Prouty as Beetlejuice and Alina Donaldson as Lydia Deetz; t/he cast completing a big number; Beetlejuice clones; Bailey Antos-Ketcham as Recently Deceased "Death By Toaster"; Nathan Lester as Charles Deetz proposing to Bella Hartwell as Delia Schlimmer; Hazel Stoddard, left, Lila Brightman as Barbara Maitland; Ada Fisher and David Charlebois as Adam Maitland; and Donaldson approached by Girl Scouts Megan Bowers, left, Milo Martinez and Lux Tierney.

Photos by Buzz Kuhns



Spring will be here before you know it.
Let us help you to relax this summer
with an Integrity Awning



Free consultation
with Rene
Beat the spring rush!
Professionally installed

Residential
&
Commercial

802-771-5892

integrityawnings.com



Stay Cozy Year-Round

Heat and cool your home, or heat
your water with lease and purchase
options from VGS!



Snake Mtn.

(Continued from Page 1A)
there, we allow folks to just enjoy the property in its natural state for any kind of low-impact kind of recreation: hunting, trapping, angling for sure, but also hiking, snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, wildlife viewing and birding.”
But F&W officials don’t consider mountain biking compatible with wildlife habitat preservation and don’t allow it in most WMAs. Duane F&W won’t start a general crackdown on bikers, which he acknowledged are permitted on Snake Mountain by default. But at some point, signs and warden enforcement looms.

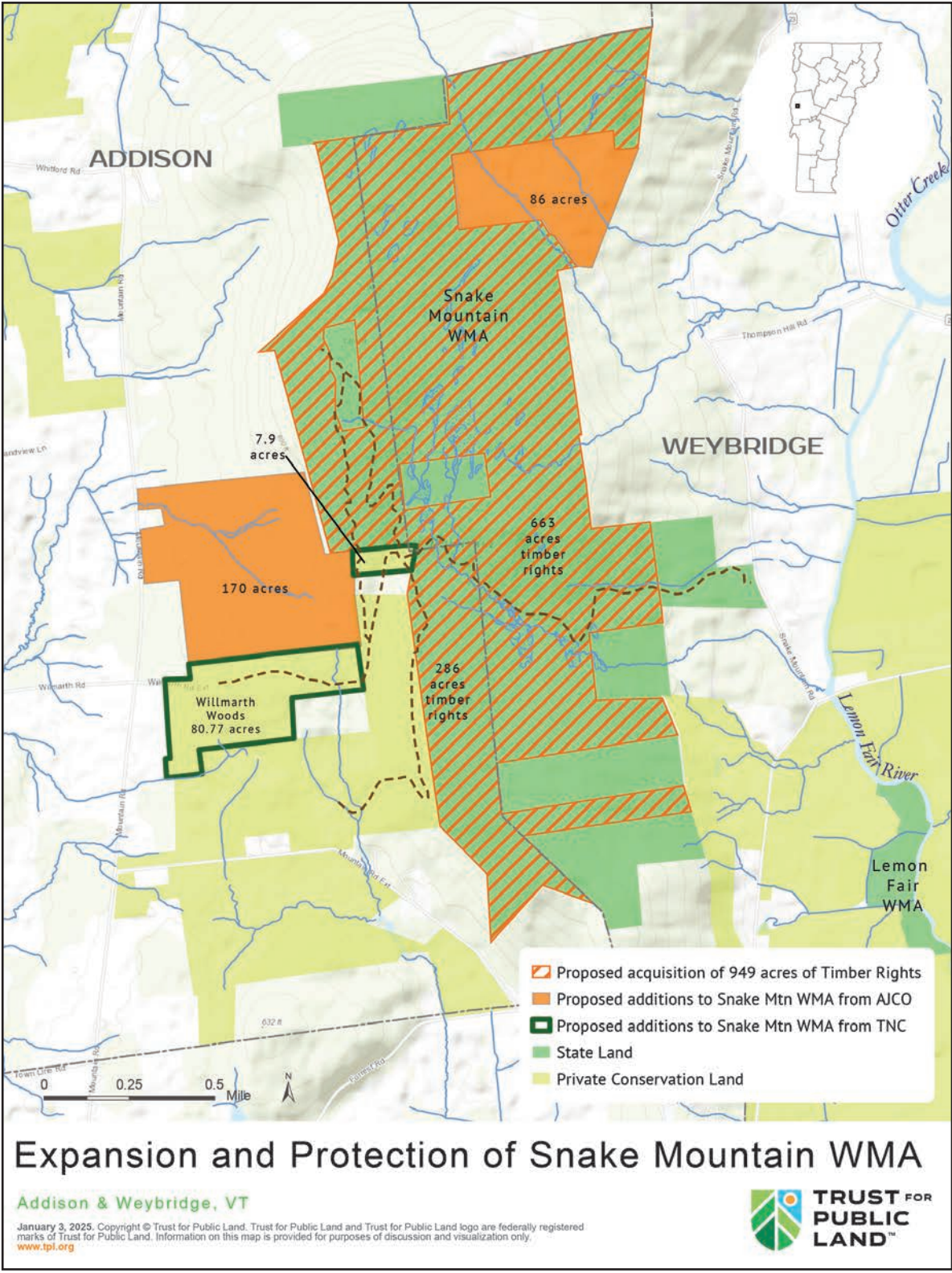
“There won’t be an immediate change to the uses allowed,” he said. “But ... eventually we will need to reevaluate and take stock of all the uses that are going on there.”

SALE DETAILS

Exactly what F&W plans to purchase are:
• two parcels outright from A Johnson, which closed its lumber mill and ended retail sales at the end of 2023. One contains 170 acres in Addison, and the other holds 86 acres in Weybridge.
• 949 combined acres of timber rights from A Johnson, in both Weybridge and Addison. Those rights are on land F&W owns.
• two parcels outright from The Nature Conservancy, both in Addison, one of 80.77 acres and one of 7.9 acres. The larger Conservancy parcel includes the most popular Snake Mountain trailhead, on Mountain Road’s intersection with Wilmarth Road in Addison.
Duane described the funding for the project as roughly 75% federal and 25% state, plus a few private donations.
The rationale for the purchase is that Snake Mountain provides ideal habitat for two species of bats on the Federal Endangered Species Act list. He acknowledged that with the current climate in D.C. nothing is certain, but F&W’s

funding source appears secure — for now.
A sale price doesn’t have to be legally disclosed beforehand, but Duane said F&W doesn’t pay more in any purchase than “fair market value as determined by an appraiser.”
It’s a complicated deal with several entities involved, including The Trust for Public Land, which is doing some private fundraising for the project; the Nature Conservancy; and the Vermont Housing & Conservation Board.
The contract is technically between The Trust for Public Land and the A. Johnson Co., Duane said. The Trust for Public Land doesn’t own property, he added, and will “direct the deed” at closing to F&W.
TOWNS ON BOARD
Technically, Duane said, F&W doesn’t need permission from host towns to establish or expand WMAs. But town opposition can make obtaining funding problematic. And given questions about land being taken off tax rolls or access to parcels, and in some cases philosophical objections to public land ownership, he said F&W officials take care to explain the benefits to town leaders.
“We are required by statute only to notify towns of any purchase of land, but we really seek to be good neighbors,” Duane said. “We give a presentation, and if the selectboards are amenable, we ask them for a letter of support. But anything that is a statement of non-opposition or neutrality, or a vote in the minutes, will allow us to move forward.”
In the case of Weybridge, the selectboard on Jan. 7 voted unanimously to support that town’s stake in the deal — 86 acres of A. Johnson land and most of the timber rights on the existing WMA. The town’s conservation commission made a \$5,000 donation toward the purchase.
Things were more complicated in Addison. According to minutes,

board members on Jan. 7 said there were “already a lot of rules to protect” wildlife, were concerned about “loss of taxes,” and believed their support wasn’t needed for the sale to proceed.
On March 10, however, the board met with a larger contingent of F&W and A. Johnson representatives and heard a more complete outline of the F&W plans and the company’s financial goals. Duane, per meeting minutes, made it clear that opposition, as opposed to neutrality, could jeopardize funding, and one board member said he felt that it was the first time he understood “that an opposing vote would impede (the) sale.”
Duane also reviewed the economics of the Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) the town would receive, an explanation he repeated for the *Independent*:
“In terms of municipal taxes, the state of Vermont will be paying more than the current taxpayers pay annually.”
How? Much of the land F&W will obtain in Addison is now enrolled in Vermont’s Current Use program, which allows land to be taxed on its forestry or agricultural value, not on its higher development value.
And when the state calculates PILOT payments, it doesn’t base them on Current Use values, Duane pointed out. Thus, PILOT payments will be higher to Addison than taxes have been.
Duane and F&W Wildlife Biologist Amy Alfieri, who is based in Addison, addressed access questions. Per minutes, Alfieri assured the board “that foot access would not be lost because funding sources would not allow them to close access to the public,” and Duane added other uses such as hunting and fishing would also be allowed.
After F&W assurances that discussions would continue “over access, parking and usage,” the board voted, 4-1, to remain neutral on the deal.



“We appreciate the Addison selectboard hearing us and respecting where we’re coming from,” Duane said, “We want the community to know we hear their concerns.”
Duane told the *Independent*

that discussions with Addison will include how F&W can compensate the town for maintaining the trailhead parking lot off Mountain Road, something the town has done without payment.
“We’re trying to think of what we can do to make this a better outcome for the town,” Duane said.
PLANS FOR THE LAND
The core rationale for this massive purchase is that Indiana and Northern long eared bats are endangered species, and Snake Mountain provides vital habitat for both.
As Duane explained, those two species come to western Vermont and eastern New York in the summer to raise their pups. And both are fond of nesting in large oak and maple trees — and especially the shagbark hickory trees that offer the bats nesting nooks and are plentiful on Snake Mountain.
Duane added the nearby Lemon Fair and Otter Creek watersheds offer plentiful of feeding grounds for the bats — read mosquitoes.
“It’s really ideal habitat for these bat species,” he said.
Snake Mountain will still be

logged, but it’ll be done keeping the bat population in mind.
“The Department of Fish and Wildlife does do timber harvests to promote diversity of habitat types. We’ll come up with a management plan as we come closer to the acquisition,” Duane said. “Whether it’s the Department of Fish and Wildlife or a private company there are restrictions on cutting these shag-bark hickory trees. There are time-of-year restrictions to help the bat species.”
More than bat habitat will be on F&W’s mind. Logging would be done to create what Duane called “a diverse forest matrix” to benefit “small mammals, upland game birds, migratory birds, and moose, deer and bear.”
He added two-legged mammals would not be left out of the equation.
“I can affirmatively state it’s the most frequently visited Wildlife Management Area that we have” Duane said. “We feel once the dust settles on this transaction it’s going to be really a marquee addition to the Department of Fish and Wildlife and the people of Vermont.”



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

FLEXSTEEL®

Personalized to Perfection

Hundreds of custom fabric options to create a look that's truly yours.

www.woodwarevt.com

Route 7 South • Middlebury VT

Hours: Monday-Saturday 9-5, Closed Sundays

802-388-6297

New Horizons Club

FINE FURNITURE

Bristol

(Continued from Page 1A)
town would have to warn a runoff election within seven days.
However, Lucia told the Bristol selectboard at its March 10 meeting that a runoff election was

no longer needed, as Beckwith had withdrawn from the race. Hewitt will now fill the open spot on the board.

— Marin Howell

Brain Bee draws students from all around Vermont

BURLINGTON — Buzzing back to the University of Vermont for its 16th year, the Vermont Brain Bee (VBB) was held again at the Larner College of Medicine on Feb. 8. As an annual tradition that welcomes high schoolers from across the state, the VBB allows students to showcase their knowledge of neuroscience, neuroanatomical structures, disorders and beyond.
This year, the participants were comprised of 26 driven students from Middlebury Union High School and seven other high schools: South Burlington (SBHS), Champlain Valley Union (CVU), Mount Mansfield (MMU), Colchester (CHS), Essex (EHS), Rice Memorial (Rice), and Saint Johnsbury Academy (St. J).
As is tradition, the VBB kicked off with the participants undertaking a written examination that covers topics from neuronal action potentials to magnetoencephalography and everything in between.
This exam was followed by a practical examination in the UVM

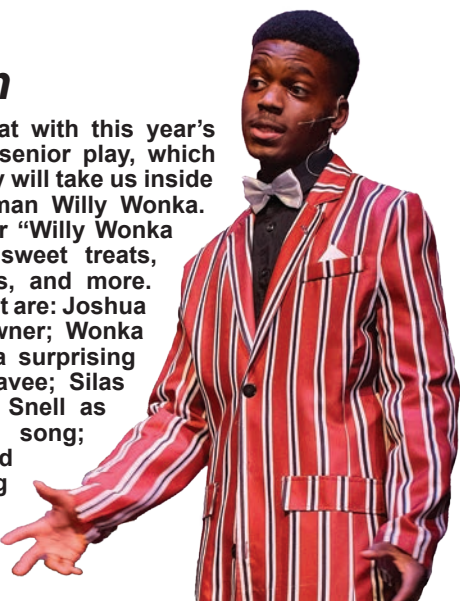
Gross Anatomy Laboratory, where students were asked questions regarding structures observed on real brain specimens. Such an exam is possible thanks to “Our Greatest Teachers,” those who have donated their bodies to science through the Larner College of Medicine Anatomical Gift Program.
The last aspect of the competition comprised of three rounds of oral questions, which progressively got harder as the rounds continued.
Following the completion of the second round, Keynote Speaker Sayamwong “Jom” Hammack, PhD, gave a compelling and informative talk titled: “Stress – What is it? What should we do about it?” Hammack is a UVM psychology professor and interim director of the UVM Neuroscience Graduate Program. He offered insights on the topic of stress by presenting results of numerous research studies along with science-based facts in an uplifting and educational way that engaged high school students and adult mentors (See Brain Bee, Page 18A)



Pure imagination

AUDIENCE MEMBERS ARE IN for a treat with this year's Middlebury Union High School senior play, which on Thursday, Friday and Saturday will take us inside the world of enigmatic candy man Willy Wonka. Seniors will take to the stage for "Willy Wonka Jr.," an adventure filled with sweet treats, golden tickets, Oompa-Loompas, and more. Pictured here clockwise from right are: Joshua Kafumbe as the candy shop owner; Wonka and factory visitors encounter a surprising sight; Bea Hooper as Doris Teavee; Silas Quinn as Charlie and Jacques Snell as Wonka; cast members join in song; Oompa-Loompas entertain; and Wonka leads a group of cowering factory visitors.

Photos by Jason Duquette-Hoffman





STEP UP

IT'S TIME TO SUPPORT ALL-STAR JOURNALISM



BECOME AN **ADDY ALL-STAR** TODAY AND MAKE AN IMMEDIATE IMPACT!



GIVE WEEKLY



GIVE MONTHLY



GIVE YEARLY

Set up your regular donation and help sustain award-winning local journalism in our community.

ADDISON COUNTY
INDEPENDENT
Serving Addison County, Vt. Since 1946

[ADDISONINDEPENDENT.COM/ALL-STARS](https://addisonindependent.com/all-stars)

- School News
- Classifieds
- Legal Notices
- Police Logs



PANTHER DEFENDER MADISON Paylor bolts up the field during the Middlebury women's lacrosse team's 18-1 win over visiting Bates on Saturday.

Independent photo/Steve James



PANTHER SENIOR ATTACKER Hope Shue goes after a ground ball during the Middlebury women's lacrosse team's 18-1 win over visiting Bates on Saturday.

Independent photo/Steve James

Panther womens' lax rolls past two foes, maintains top ranking

By ANDY KIRKALDY

MIDDLEBURY — The Middlebury College women's lacrosse team appears to be picking up where it left off in 2024.

And in 2023 and 2022.

Coach Kate Livesay's program won the NCAA Division III championship in each of those

years, and have not lost a game since May of 2022.

This year the top-ranked Panthers are 6-0, and their latest victims were NESCAC rival Bates on Saturday, 18-1 at home, and on Monday No. 4 ranked Gettysburg on the road, 15-6. That nine-goal margin equals another road win,

at Amherst in the team's March 1 opener, for Middlebury's smallest margin of victory so far this season.

After Saturday's triumph over Bates, Livesay said she has been happy with how the team is progressing and was pleased with their effort vs. the Bobcats.

"I feel like we have a lot of puzzle

pieces to put together, and we've been working on that through the first part of the season," Livesay said. "So it feels good. There are a lot of bright spots."

Bates wouldn't argue that point. The Bobcats stepped onto the Panthers' Kohn Field on Saturday with a 5-1 record, 2-0 in NESCAC

play.

And after 15 minutes of play the game was all but over. The Panthers not only had scored seven unanswered goals with dazzling ball movement and individual quickness, but they also had pressured the Bobcats all over the field and forced eight turnovers.

And the Panthers had not allowed a shot on their goalie, Gina Driscoll.

About four minutes into the second period, Driscoll did have to make her first save, denying Bobcat Caroline Taggart. By then it was 9-0. Shortly afterward Panther senior attacker Hope Shue — who

(See Women's Lax, Page 3B)

Women's hockey to host in NCAAs

By ANDY KIRKALDY

MIDDLEBURY — The Middlebury College women's hockey team will begin its quest for a fifth national championship on Saturday, when the fourth-ranked Panthers (20-6-1) entertain No. 12 Nazareth (21-6-1) in an NCAA Division III quarterfinal.

Game time in Kenyon Arena is 3 p.m., and on Tuesday college officials announced free admission to the event.

The program will be making its 20th appearance in the NCAA tournament and will be seeking its first title since 2022, when the Panthers capped a 27-0 season with an overtime home victory in the championship game.

The Panthers were awarded an at-large bid to the tournament after

(See NCAA, Page 3B)

Panther nine goes 1-3 Baseball team drops to 5-6 overall

By ANDY KIRKALDY

MIDDLEBURY — The Middlebury College baseball team lost three of four recent games, one played at home and three in California on the Panthers' spring break trip. Midway through their journey westward, Middlebury's record stood at 5-6.

The Panthers were set to visit California-Redlands on Wednesday after deadline for this edition, and then head to Chapman for a three-game set on Friday and Saturday before returning to Vermont. Middlebury will host Plattsburgh on Tuesday at 3:30 p.m. before opening NESCAC play next weekend by visiting Amherst for three games.

LYNDON, 6-4

On March 20, visiting Lyndon surprised the Panthers, 6-4. The Vikings scored five times in the fifth inning to key their victory. Middlebury Union High School grad Carter Paquette drilled a go-ahead two-run triple in Lyndon's big inning. Eyon Tembreull, a Vergennes Union High School grad, started at shortstop for Lyndon and had a single and a walk, but didn't figure in the scoring. Nate Bigelow (2-0) earned the pitching win for the Vikings, who improved to 2-5.

Panther hurler Zander Gilmartin surrendered five runs, four earned, to take the loss. Kyle McCausland hit a solo homer for Middlebury, and Brian Olson hit a two-run single in the seventh to

(See Baseball, Page 2B)

MUHS girls' basketball falls to North Country Championship bid ends with loss to No. 1 seed in Barre semifinal

By ANDY KIRKALDY

BARRE — The most successful Middlebury Union High School girls' basketball season in two decades came to an end on the evening of March 12, when No. 1 seed North Country pulled away from the Tigers to prevail, 40-22, in a Division II semifinal played in the Barre Auditorium.

The 22-1 Falcons advanced to the Saturday final in Barre, where they lost to No. 2 seed Fair Haven, 37-31, in a rematch of the 2024 D-II title game, also won by the Slaters.

The Tigers finished with a 16-7 record after winning two playoff

games for the first time since 2011, including a quarterfinal victory at No. 4 seed Mount Abraham to earn

the program's second trip to The Aud. The program reached the D-I championship game four times between 2001 and 2005 and won the title in 2004, but postseason wins have been rare since.

Coach Eric Carter said in an email that the Falcons "jumped out early" behind full-court pressure, possibly also taking advantage of "Middlebury nerves" in the first period.

But he also said the Tigers "battled back" behind a strong

defensive effort and cut North Country's lead to a half-dozen points in the third period.

"We played a very good defensive game," Carter said, in particular crediting the work of Isabel Quinn, Solstice Binder, Cassidy Brown and Louisa Orten.

But not enough of the Tigers' shots were falling, even their good looks, he added.

"We were getting our shots, just not making them," Carter wrote.

Leading the North Country attack were Addie Nelson, 13 points; Sabine Brueck, nine points; and McKenna Rowell eight points.

Binder led the Tigers with seven points, followed by Lexi Whitney, six; Orten, five; and Quinn, four. Also notable, Binder finished with 12 rebounds, Orten recorded five

(See Tiger girls, Page 3B)

Tigers to skate in all star game

ESSEX — Two Middlebury Union High School seniors have been selected to play in the 39th Rotary All-Star Hockey Classic this Saturday, March 22, at the Essex Skating Facility in Essex.

Senior boys and girls are selected from high schools across Vermont to participate in this event. The

(See All-stars, Page 3B)

Score BOARD

HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

Girls' Basketball

D-II Playoffs

3/12 #1 N. Country vs #5 MUHS..... 40-22

COLLEGE SPORTS

Women's Lacrosse

3/15 Midd vs Bates..... 18-1

3/17 Midd vs Gettysburg 15-6

3/19 Midd at TCNJ Late

Men's Lacrosse

3/15 Midd vs Bates..... 17-11

3/18 Babson vs Midd..... 14-9

Baseball

3/13 Lyndon vs Midd 6-4

3/16 Midd vs Cal Lutheran 5-4

3/16 Cal Lutheran vs Midd 16-6

3/17 Cal Lutheran vs Midd 10-1

3/19 Midd at Redlands Late

Softball

Florida Trip

3/15 Midd vs S. Maine..... 12-7

3/15 Montclair vs Midd 12-0

3/16 Chicago vs Midd 9-3

3/16 Midd vs Endicott..... 12-8

3/18 Framingham vs Midd..... 8-5

3/18 Midd vs Knox..... 11-4

3/19 Midd vs Salem Late

3/19 Midd vs Nazareth Late



VUHS JUNIOR RYKER Mosehauer, seen here in action against Winoski, was named the Lake Division Co-Player of the year and a VBCA Outstanding Underclassman.

Independent file photo by Steve James

Local hoopsters get postseason nods

Boys' players and coaches recognized

ADDISON COUNTY — A dozen members of the Middlebury, Mount Abraham, Otter Valley and Vergennes union high school boys' basketball teams and three of their coaches received postseason recognition from either the Lake Division or the Southern Vermont League B Division.

Leading the way was VUHS junior Ryker Mosehauer, who was named the Lake Division Co-Player of the Year along with Missisquoi senior Gavin Nichols.

Joining Mosehauer as a Lake Division First-Team All-Star was Tiger Junior Cooke Riney.

Two Otters made the SVL B Division First team, senior Logan Letourneau and junior Connor Denis.

Local players were well-represented on the Lake Second Team. Two Eagles made the squad, senior Hayden Lutz and junior Charlie Germon. They were joined by Commodore senior Spencer Gebo and Tiger junior Brady Lloyd.

Two Commodores earned Lake Honorable Mention, senior Reese Paquette and junior Ryan Wright. OV senior Drew Pelkey received an Honorable Mention nod from the SVL B Division.

MUHS Coach Chris Altemose and VUHS Coach Eric LeBeau were named the Lake Co-Coaches of the Year. The Tigers compiled

(See Boys' hoop, Page 2B)



MUHS JUNIOR COOKE Riney, seen putting up a shot vs. Mount Abe, was named a Lake Division All-Star and a VBCA Outstanding Underclassman.

Independent photo by Steve James

Cold, clean water flows in (and out) of the national forest

For a long time, I took for granted how fortunate we are in Addison County to be so close to a relatively large national forest: the Green Mountain National Forest (GMNF) comprises more than 400,000 acres. Some of the obvious benefits are the numerous recreational opportunities. I have fished, hunted, hiked, cross-country skied and camped in numerous locations in the GMNF, up and down Vermont, in and near Addison County. Others go up for mountain biking, snowmobiling, backpacking, bird-watching, wildlife viewing, or perhaps just



MATTHEW DICKERSON

sustainable timber harvesting or grazing that directly support the local economy. Of course, bringing people to the state for camping and outdoor recreation also supports local economies.

These are only the obvious, visible benefits. Some of the greatest benefits are invisible. Large, protected and undeveloped forests are vitally important to clean water. Not only the clean, cold water we see flowing down out of the mountains in local streams like the Middlebury and New Haven, but the groundwater that moves down out of the mountains

in our underground aquifers that recharge our rivers and feed our wells. If you live in eastern Addison County, there is a good chance your drinking water originates in the GMNF, where the forests play an important role in creating clean water. Forest land also helps mitigate flooding by absorbing water and also slowing its flow. That's important in a steep state like Vermont, and becomes increasingly important as climate change brings more intense storms.

These undeveloped forests are also vital to many species of woodland birds. Out West the larger areas of contiguous undeveloped forests and long migration corridors are vital to certain large mammal populations such as elk, cougars and brown bears.

For those who have grown up since 1980, it may be easy to take clean water for granted. You might not know about the terrible state of many rivers across the country in the decades before that. It is not only infamous rivers like the Cuyahoga (which was so polluted it caught fire on multiple occasions). Rivers across New England also flowed with raw sewage and industrial waste because the cheapest way for many industries to operate was to use the local rivers as waste dumps. The Clean Water Act of 1972 was drafted by a Maine senator named Edmund Muskie, who grew up

near the banks of the indescribably defiled Androscoggin River in the town of Rumford, Maine, not far from where I went to kindergarten.

As a youth and young adult in the 1960s and 1970s and even into the early 1980s, I would not have let even a small toe touch that polluted water. Thanks to that 1972 law, and the enforcement of it by the EPA, however, decades later the Androscoggin in New Hampshire and western Maine is now a wonderful trout river, and further downstream it supports good smallmouth bass fishing. Canoers will also find abundant wildlife and beautiful scenery along the shores, and water they can safely put their hands into. (Along with the Clean Water Act, the fact that the river flows through the White Mountain National Forest and is fed by numerous clean forest streams helps benefit the river's health.)

Just as we might take clean water for granted today thanks to the work of the EPA and the existence of our national forests, it is also easy to take for granted the national forests themselves, all the benefits we derive from them, and all the important work done by forest service employees to manage, protect, and study the lands where they work.

It was, ironically, time spent in national forests in the Rocky Mountains, the West Coast, and up in Alaska that helped me think more intentionally about their value, and then to pay more attention to GMNF out my own back door in Vermont. Eight years ago, I had the privilege of serving as artist-in-residence at Glacier National Park in Montana, and during my month there I also spent considerable time exploring some of the Flathead National Forest adjacent to the park on both its south and west sides. A year before that, I spent a month doing research and writing in the Bridger Teton and Shoshone National Forests in Wyoming. Over the course of those summers, I had several outings with a variety of folks who worked within those areas: biologist affiliated with the

National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, and USGS, as well as dedicated rangers with the forest service and national parks. I was deeply impressed with the work done by those employees that makes possible the numerous benefits these places offer not only to their visitors but even to many folks who never set foot in them: like people who drink clean water from a well in an aquifer fed by a national forest, or who live downriver on streams flowing out of the national forests and parks.

During my month in Glacier National Park, I learned that the entire budget of Glacier National Park, which spans over a million acres and employs more than a hundred year-round employees and several hundred seasonal employees, was less than the salary of a single good NFL quarterback, or wide receiver, or cornerback, or a starting major league center fielder or shortstop. All while bringing in far more revenue than they cost to run.

Glacier National Park also sits at the crown of the continent: the unique spot in North America where the watersheds of the Arctic Ocean, Pacific Ocean, and Atlantic Ocean (via the Gulf of Mexico) meet at a point. So the protection of the forests by the National Parks and National Forests, which in turns protects its rivers and provides clean water that flows all the way down into three oceans, truly has a continental impact.

As for me, sitting in Vermont as warm March weather quickly melts away what little snow remains, I'm imagining some time in a week or two making my way up into some small stream in our own national forest, and hopefully finding a little brook trout or two, and then maybe writing a thank-you letter to the USFS employees who help make that possible. And maybe also sending them a word of thanks the next time I drink some clean water flowing up from the ground just outside the forest and out of my kitchen faucet.

Baseball

(Continued from Page 1B)

make the game close. **MIDD SPLITS** On Sunday, Middlebury split with Cal Lutheran, winning the opener, 5-4, and falling in the nightcap, 16-6.

Middlebury scored first when Will Ashley drove in McCausland with a double.

Cal Lutheran knotted the contest at 1-1 in the bottom of the third on a Wyatt Crosby single and Alec Garcia double.

McCausland doubled home Anthony Pellagrini in the fifth inning to make it 2-1.

The Knightsmen tied the game in the bottom half of the inning on winning pitcher Owen Tross's wild pitch.

Middlebury broke through in the top of the seventh with two outs. Ashley smacked two-run triple, and Owen Fox singled in Ashley.

Cal Lutheran fought back with a sacrifice fly by Sebastian Smith, and Garcia scored on a wild pitch to cut the deficit to 5-4, but relievers Frederick Wessel and Charlie Kutz shut the door the rest of the way, with Kutz earning his first career save.

The Knightsmen took charge with a 10-run sixth inning in the nightcap.

Boys' hoop

(Continued from Page 1B)

a 9-1 record for the Lake title, edging the Commodores (8-1).

The Otters' Mike Stark shared the SVL B Division Coach of the Year award with Hartford's Mike Gaudette. Both Stark and Goudreau led their teams to the Division II semifinal round.

In addition, the Vermont Basketball Coaches Association named OV's Denis and the Tigers' Riney as two of the eight Division II Outstanding Underclassmen, and the Commodores' Mosehauer as one of the eight D-III Outstanding Underclassmen.

For Middlebury, Olson had two hits, two runs and an RBI; McCausland had three hits and scored a run; Fox had two hits and two RBIs, and Nelson Forrest popped a solo homer. Emmet George (0-2) took the pitching loss.

MONDAY SETBACK

On Monday, Cal Lutheran claimed the third game in the series with a 10-1 victory. The Knightsmen improved to 13-4.

Middlebury's only run came on McCausland's eighth-inning solo homer. That blast extended his program record to 31 round-trippers. Other than that, three Knightsman pitchers limited the Panthers to three other hits.

Christian Zebrowski (1-2) started for Middlebury and took the pitching loss. He struck out four, allowed three hits, walked none and allowed two runs, one earned, in a creditable four-inning outing. But Cal Lutheran roughed up three subsequent Panther relievers.

Schedule

COLLEGE SPORTS	
Women's Hockey	
NCAA D-II Tournament	
3/22 Nazareth at Midd.....	3 PM
3/28&30.....Final Four at Wisc-River Falls	
Women's Lacrosse	
3/22 Conn at Midd.....	Noon
3/29 Midd at Wesleyan.....	Noon
3/30 Midd at Hamilton.....	Noon
Men's Lacrosse	
3/22 Midd at Conn.....	1 PM
3/25 Springfield at Midd.....	4 PM
3/29 Wesleyan at Midd.....	1 PM
Baseball	
3/21 Midd at Chapman.....	6 PM
3/22 Midd at Chapman (2).....	2 PM
3/25 Plattsburgh at Midd.....	3:30 PM
3/28 Midd at Amherst.....	4 PM
3/29 Midd at Amherst (2).....	Noon
Softball	
Games in Clermont, Fla.*	
3/21 Midd vs Wellesley*.....	9 AM
3/21 Midd vs Plattsburgh*.....	11:15 AM
3/25 Skidmore at Midd (2).....	3 PM
3/29 Amherst at Midd (2).....	Noon

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

~ Delicious ~

RADIO

~ fresh brewed ~

the Wake Up Crew

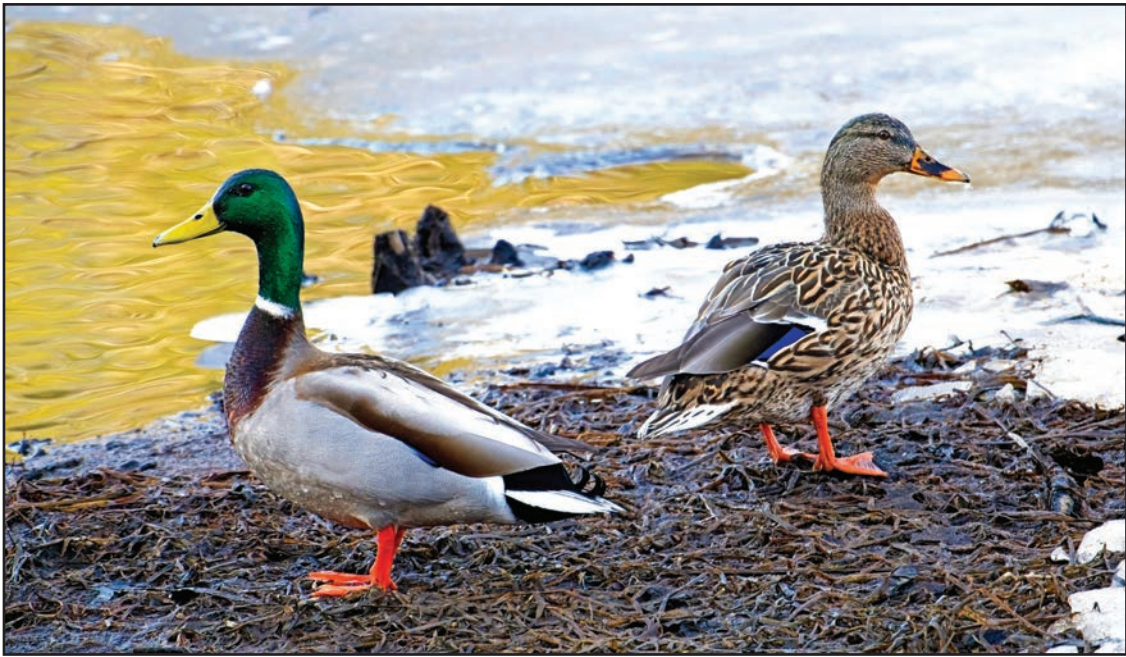
with Ted Richards

weekday mornings from 5 to 10

92.1 WVTK

Addison County's Radio Station

921wvtk.com



Don't duck the problem

THIS MALLARD COUPLE is clearly having some relationship issues. They must quack it over, and soon.

Photo by Dale Cockrell

Farms

(Continued from Page 4B)
waste produced on the Vorsteveld farm from 19.8 million gallons to around 26 million.

Vorsteveld is also proposing to expand existing barns at their Main Farm and Arnold Bay Farm.

While both farms would produce more manure waste, in addition to more milk, the Agency of Agriculture requires that each submits a plan for properly disposing of that waste, and it has an engineer calculate the waste

storage volumes that need to be dealt with.

For context, the farm is required to demonstrate adequate land base to accept the estimated nutrients generated as well as have enough storage to hold onto 180 days of manure.

“Both Gosliga and Vorsteveld have submitted applications demonstrating they will have adequate land base and storage,” said Brittany Cole, the Agency of Ag Water Quality

Division’s Permitting and Nutrient Management Specialist.

The Agency of Agriculture will hold information meetings to share information and gather feedback on these applications. The Gosliga Farm meeting will be held April 2 at 10 a.m. online through the Microsoft Teams platform. Participants can join by phone or video conference. The Vorsteveld meeting is scheduled for April 3 at 11 a.m. at the Pantown Hall.

Hunter education course offered April 5

MONTPELIER — The Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department is offering a New Instructor Training Course for people interested in volunteering to teach Hunter Education courses in Vermont.

The training will take place Saturday, April 5, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Milton Fire Station, at 47 Bombardier Road

Registration for the course is available online at Event - New Instructor Training - April 5, in Milton. All applicants must complete

their instructor paperwork and online homework before attending the course. Instructor application paperwork can be found at: www.tinyurl.com/2pfr7c44 or call 802-828-1193 prior to the course date.

Policies and procedures, field techniques and teaching methods will be covered to give instructors the tools to teach future hunters how to have a safe and enjoyable experience. Lunch will be provided. Be prepared to be outside for at least part of the day.

Applicants are required to pass a background check with a Vermont State Game Warden and apprentice-teach with a chief instructor before they will receive their full State of Vermont Hunter Education Instructor certification.

Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities are available for free upon request. Requests should be made as early as possible. Please call the office staff at 802-828-1193 (voice) or 1-800-253-0191 (TTY).

4-H'ers compete in Foods Day

MIDDLEBURY — It might still be winter in Vermont, but for 49 4-H club members, it felt more like summer when they took part in the 2025 Addison County 4-H Foods Day. That’s because the theme for the event was Picnic.

4-H’ers from several counties participated in the fun-filled day, which was held on Feb. 22 at the Middlebury Union Middle School in Middlebury. Most brought a dish and place setting to be evaluated, although 4-H’ers were

ribbons, prizes, giveaways and facilities.

The results were as follows:
Grades K-2 (appetizers): 1. Harper Raymond, Charlotte; 2. Evelyn Benoit, Shoreham; 3. Eddie Gordon, Bristol;

Volunteers evaluated the dishes while the youth participated in workshops. All participants were presented a 4-H cookie cutter during the awards ceremony.

Grades 3-4 (fruit cobbler): 1. Lucy Bartholomew, Benson; 2. Huxton Joyal, Williston; 3. Corbin Kerr, Shoreham; 4. Case Pope, Shoreham; 5. Clairea Lucas, Orwell; 6. Amelia Tudhope, Orwell; 7. Hannah Stocker, Bridport; 8. Emilee Gordon, Bristol; 9. Addie Farr, Richmond.

Grades 5-7 (salad): 1. Robert Whipple, Bridport; 2. Emma Lucas, Orwell; 3. Tom Allen, Vergennes; 4. Sophia Stocker, Bridport; 5. Tenley Chittenden, Whiting; 6. Olivia Tudhope, Orwell; 7. Autumn Thresher, Salisbury; 8. Annie Farr, Richmond, and Sutton Chittenden, Whiting; 9. Ansley Montgomery,

Addison; 10. Olivia Gordon, Bristol; 11. Ella Pope, Shoreham.

Grade 8 and up (entrée): 1. Hailey Chase, Bristol; 2. Erin Whipple, Bridport; 3. Alexis Whipple, Bridport; 4. Payton Lucas, Orwell; 5. Makayla Warner, Middlebury; 6. Mackenzie Chase, Bristol; 7. Bella Sears-Lewis, Castleton; 8. Merissa Gordon, Bristol; 9. Sophia Welch, Bridport; 10. Ruby Hubbell, Shoreham; 11. Hailee Allen, New Haven.

4-H’ers who attended but did not enter a dish included Caroline Allen, Vergennes; Brianna Bessette and Arya Manti, both from Salisbury; Lucy Bowdish, Weybridge; Wyatt Carter and Fallyn Norton, both from Bridport; Brenna Foran, Lincoln; Beau Joyal, Williston; Casey Lucas, Orwell; and Chace and Summer Petrin, Addison.

In addition, the 4-H’ers donated nonperishable foods and money to the Addison County Emergency Food Shelf in Middlebury.

For information about the 4-H cooking project or Addison County 4-H, contact UVM Extension 4-H educator Martha Seifert at (802) 656-7547 or martha.seifert@uvm.edu.

Celebrating National Ag Week!



We carry these major brands and more!



HUESTIS

FARM SUPPLY, LLC

3877 Crown Point Rd., Bridport, VT • 802-758-2289



DISCOVER AN ENTIRE ORGANIZATION WORKING FOR YOUR SUCCESS.



Nobody serves your ag credit needs like Farm Credit East.

Farm Credit East was made in agriculture. It's all we do. So every product, every service and every person is dedicated to meeting your financial needs and growing your success. We know agriculture, we understand your business needs, and work to achieve your goals.

Discover the difference at Farm Credit East.

farmcrediteast.com
800.562.2235



Loans & Leases
Financial Record-Keeping
Payroll Services
Profitability Consulting
Tax Preparation & Planning
Appraisals
Estate Planning
Beginning Farmer Programs
Crop Insurance



Champlain Valley Equipment
Middlebury | St. Albans | Colchester
Derby | Berlin
(802) 388-4967
www.champlainvalleyequipment.com

Your hometown
Kubota dealer
of choice.



If you're looking for top-rated durability and owner experience, look no further.

Our entire lineup of compact and sub-compact tractors is built for comfort and ease-of-use with ergonomic operator-friendly designs, powerful Kubota diesel engines, and a variety of performance matched attachments.

Visit your Kubota dealer today for a demo!



KubotaUSA.com



* Based on EDA/UCC Data from 01/01/2018 - 12/31/2022 for sales of new compact tractors 0-200 Hp in states defined by the US Census as New England. (Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont.) *Based on EDA tractor sales data of under 40 horsepower models from 2018 to 2022. © Kubota Tractor Corporation, 2025. Your Kubota Limited warranty gives you specific legal rights. You may have other rights which vary from state to state. Kubota Tractor Corporation does not authorize any person to create for KTC any obligation or liability other than that stated in the limited warranty. This material is for descriptive purposes only. Kubota disclaims all representations and warranties, express or implied, or any liability from the use of this material. For complete warranty, disclaimer, safety and product and incentive offer information, consult your local Kubota dealer and the Owner's Warranty Information Guide for the Kubota limited warranty on all products. Visit KubotaUSA.com/disclaimers for more information.

ACSWMD receives grant to address hazadous waste

MIDDLEBURY — Addison County Solid Waste Management District recently received a grant of \$40,589 from the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation. The grant is used to help fund household hazardous waste collection and disposal for the district’s 21 member towns.

Residents of these towns can bring household hazardous waste such as paints, cleaning products, herbicides, pesticides, automotive products, and many other toxic chemicals to the District’s HazWaste Center in Middlebury for safe and proper disposal, at no charge.

These wastes are prohibited from disposal as trash to keep toxic, flammable, corrosive, and reactive materials out of Vermont’s landfills. The District HazWaste Center at 1223 Rt. 7 South in Middlebury is open year-round, every Monday through Friday, 8 a.m.-2 p.m. and –Saturdays from 8 a.m.-1 p.m.

For more information, please contact Ben Eglash at 802-388-2333, or visit www.AddisonCountyRecycles.org. Businesses must make an appointment and pay for hazardous waste disposal.

Shoreham

Have a news tip?
Call Addison Independent
at 802-388-4944

NEWS

SHOREHAM —The Bridport Grange and the Farm Bureau are holding Legislative Breakfasts again this year in several towns. This year the Shoreham Congregational Church will host one of these breakfasts on Saturday, March 22. The organizers are trying to have a few of them on a Saturday to encourage the state legislators to attend.

Come at 7 a.m. for a continental breakfast of coffee and muffins. The formal proceedings start at 7:30 a.m. and will end at 9 a.m. There are several hot topics in the state legislature this year, and this is a good opportunity to make your voices heard.

Leicester

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

NEWS

LEICESTER — Leicester Town Clerk Julie Delphia reminds dog owners that dogs must be registered by April 1. To avoid penalties and fines, bring the immunization papers and register your dog(s) at the office before the deadline.

Leicester Historical Society sponsors Prize Bingo on Saturday, April 12, at 1 p.m. at the Senior Center. Refreshments served and all are welcome.

Monkton

Have a news tip?
Contact Liz Pecor at
rascal0406@gmavt.net

NEWS

MONKTON — The Monkton flag continues to be a popular item. The Monkton Community Coffeehouse has recently ordered a fourth production run of the Monkton flag, which was designed by Linda Reynolds in 2012 and officially christened on June 24 at the Monkton 250th Founding Celebration. Several flag designs were shown and voted on at the March 6, 2012, Town Meeting and Linda’s was the winning pick.

Originally organized by the Monkton Community Coffeehouse in joint cooperation with the Monkton Central School, the Monkton Historical Society, the Monkton Conservation Commission and the Monkton Friends of the Arts, this beautiful Monkton flag can be purchased at the Monkton Town Clerk’s office for \$35 with cash or a check made out to the “Monkton Community Coffeehouse, Inc.”

The Town Clerk’s hours are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., and on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 4 to 7:00 p.m. The office is closed on Wednesdays. Call 802-453-3800 with any questions.

On Tuesday, March 25, there will be a free presentation titled ‘Thinking Outside the Blue Bin’ from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the Russell Memorial Library. This free recycling workshop is presented by the Addison County solid Waste Management. They will inform you of what can and cannot go into your recycling bin, plus inform you of where else it might be recycled. Refreshments will be provided. Register at tinyurl.com/Monkton-blue-bin.

There are several continuing weekly and monthly activities going on at the Library. Call 802-533-4471 for more information. If no answer, leave your name and number and someone will return your call. Library hours are Tuesday and Thursday from 3 to 7 p.m. and Friday and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.



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



Reader Comments

Here’s what one reader has to say about us!

A subscriber from Bristol writes:

“Thank you for this great paper!”

Quotes are taken from reader comments submitted with subscription renewals.



ADDISON COUNTY
INDEPENDENT

community calendar

mar 20

THURSDAY

Dairy forage workshop in Vergennes. Thursday, March 20, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Vergennes American Legion, 100 Armory Ln. To help dairy farmers prepare for the growing season, the 2025 Organic Dairy Days will feature presentations on ruminant nutrition and high-quality pasture and stored forages. Presenters include Kurt Cotanch, a Vermont dairy nutritionist, Sarah Flack, a Vermont independent grazing consultant, and Jen Miller, Farmer Services Director with the Northeast Organic Farming Association of Vermont. \$25 per person includes lunch. Register at go.uvm.edu/2025organicdairy, 802-656-8407 or noncredit@uvm.edu.

Cabin Fever Lecture: Birding Scotland’s Great Glen Way. Thursday, March 20, 5:30-6:30 p.m., Bixby Memorial Library, 258 Main St. OCAS luminary Mike Winslow will tell us about a recent trip to Scotland, and the difficulties of identifying reed warblers.

Beetlejuice JR - The Musical in Bristol. Thursday, March 20, 7 p.m., Mount Abraham Union High School, Airport Rd. Adapted from the smash-hit Broadway musical, “Beetlejuice JR” features catchy songs, outrageous characters, and a heartwarming message about family and belonging. Rated PG for spooky imagery, dark humor, and themes of death, the content is largely presented in a cartoonish, comedic way, with minimal gore or explicit violence. Tickets \$15 adults/\$12 seniors and children under 12, available at tinyurl.com/bjticket and at the door until sold out.

Willy Wonka Jr. in Middlebury. Thursday, March 20, 7 p.m., Auditorium, Middlebury Union High School, 73 Charles Ave. The MUHS senior play this year takes you inside the world of Willy Wonka. Candy, demanding children, Oompa-Loompas and more. All proceeds help to fund Class of 2025 Project Graduation. Tickets \$12, available at gofan.co/app/school/VT15095.

9 to 5 in Vergennes. Thursday, March 20, 7 p.m., Auditorium, Vergennes Union High School, Monkton Rd. Come see VUHS thespians tell the story of three working women who live out their fantasies of getting even with and overthrowing their company’s autocratic vice president. Tickets \$12 adults and students/\$10 seniors, available at the door.

mar 21

FRIDAY

Lenten fish dinner in Vergennes. Friday, March 21, 5-6:30 p.m., St. Peter’s Parish Hall, South Maple Street. This Knights of Columbus event will include a menu of beer battered haddock, zesty wedges, coleslaw, mixed vegetables, roll & butter, chocolate chip brownie. \$13 adults \$7 children 6-12 (cash or checks). For take-out reservations call 802-877-3352 (Parish Hall) and leave a message with your name, phone number and number of dinners, and please speak slowly. This dinner repeats April 4.

9 to 5 in Vergennes. Friday, March 21, 7 p.m., Auditorium, Vergennes Union High School, Monkton Rd. See March 20 listing.

Beetlejuice JR - The Musical in Bristol. Friday, March 21, 7 p.m., Mount Abraham Union High School, Airport Rd. See March 20 listing.

Willy Wonka Jr. in Middlebury. Friday, March 21, 7 p.m., Auditorium, Middlebury Union High School, 73 Charles Ave. See March 20 listing.

mar 22

SATURDAY

Legislative breakfast in Shoreham. Saturday, March 22, 7-8:45 a.m., Shoreham Congregational Church, School Rd. Join Addison County Farm Bureau for a meal with your neighbors, a chance to connect with your local legislators, and an opportunity to learn more about the ongoing topics in Montpelier. Make a donation for breakfast; RSVP to Bill Scott at wjscottjr@comcast.net so they can get a headcount for food.

Beetlejuice JR - The Musical in Bristol. Saturday, March 22, 2 and 7 p.m., Mount Abraham Union High School, Airport Rd. See March 20 listing.


Willy Wonka Jr. in Middlebury. Saturday, March 22, 2 p.m., Auditorium, Middlebury Union High School, 73 Charles Ave. See March 20 listing.

CommuniTEA fundraising event in Vergennes. Saturday, March 22, 2:30-4:30 p.m., Gather Vermont, 135 Main St. A traditional afternoon tea sponsored by the Vergennes Partnership to raise money to create and maintain flower baskets on the Otter Creek bridge, downtown lamp posts and bump out gardens lining Main Street. More than \$600 in door prizes. Tickets \$65, available online at www.VergennesDowntown.org/donate or in-person at Gather Vermont, 135 Main. More info at VergennesDowntown.org.

9 to 5 in Vergennes. Saturday, March 22, 3 p.m., Auditorium, Vergennes Union High School, Monkton Rd. See March 20 listing.

Thinking Outside the Blue Bin workshop in Monkton. Saturday, March 22, 5:30-6:30 p.m., Russell Memorial Library, 92 Monkton Ridge. Curious about items that can’t go into your blue-bin recycling but can be recycled elsewhere? Wondering what programs we offer at the District Transfer Station? Come for a free workshop and free refreshments. Register at AddisonCountyRecycles.org, at 802-388-2333,

WANTED



ROBBIE BLAISE
NEEDS A KIDNEY

A neighbor in need

HELP RAISE FUNDS for Robbie Blaise of Bristol, who is in dire need of a new kidney, by attending the Bristol Masons’ chicken ‘n biscuit dinner, Saturday, March 26, beginning at 5 p.m. All proceeds will be given to Blaise and his family for medical assistance.

Image courtesy of Cecil Foster

or eco@acswmd.org.

Spring Equinox celebration in Ripton. Saturday, March 22, 5:30 p.m., Spirit In Nature Paths, Goshen Road. Celebrate the Spring Equinox and affirm the renewal of life and hope. Follow the lantern-lit path to the Sacred Circle. Activities include sharing hot tea around the fire, seed-planting, offerings of poetry and song, meditation, and read-aloud the story “Gluskonba and the Maple Trees” by Joseph Bruchac. This event will close with the Singing Bowl. All ages are welcome.

mar 23

SUNDAY

“Four Hebrew Prophets: Obadiah” lecture in Middlebury. Sunday, March 23, noon, St. Stephen’s Church, 3 Main St. In the first lecture in a four-part series on four biblical books, Shalom Goldman, Professor of Religion at Middlebury College, will explore the historical and cultural context of these Old Testament figures and delve into the timeless relevance of their messages. Free and open to the public. Come early for refreshments.

Public Bingo in Vergennes. Sunday, March 23, 2-4, American Legion Post 14, Armory Ln. Game packets \$15 each. No limit to the number of packets purchased. Special “Winner Take All” games are extra and will be sold on the floor for \$1 per sheet. Bring your own daubers or borrow one of ours. Payouts depend on attendance. Food available. Doors open at 1:30 p.m. More info contact Michelle Eastman at 802-349-6370 or auxiliaryunit14@gmail.com.

mar 24

MONDAY

Writing-based grief support group in Middlebury. Begins Monday, March 24, 5 p.m., Middlebury Regional EMS, 55 Collins Dr. Group meets for 6 weeks through April 28. Writing Through Grief. Advanced registration required. Must commit to full 6 weeks. Maximum 8 participants. Please send referrals to: Mara.Dowdall@mdowdall@portermedical.org. Hosted by Palliative Support Services at Porter Medical Center.

mar 26

WEDNESDAY

Learn about insurance in Middlebury. Wednesday, March 26, 5:30 p.m., downstairs, 30 Main St. National Bank of Middlebury will host Gretchen Kellogg from The Richards Group in the first of a three-part series to better understand your insurance coverage. Today Kellogg will talk about home insurance. Nothing for sale, just a free educational opportunity.

mar 27

THURSDAY

“Raising Healthy Kids in a Culture of Dependence” in Middlebury. Thursday, March 27, 5-7 p.m., Middlebury Union High School, 72 Charles Ave. Join in a community discussion for parents and guardians of Addison County children. We will hear from special guest Jessica Lahey, author of the *New York Times* bestselling book, “The Gift of Failure: How the Best Parents Learn to Let Go So Their Children Can Succeed” and “The Addiction Inoculation: Raising Healthy Kids in a Culture of Dependence.” More info at unitedwayaddisoncounty.org.

mar 28

FRIDAY

Lenten fish fry in Bristol. Friday, March 28, 5-7 p.m., St. Ambrose Parish, 11 School St. Menu includes all-you-can-eat fried or baked haddock, French fries, cole slaw, dinner roll, beverage and dessert. Adults \$17/children 9 and under \$9/ immediate family of 5 \$50. More info call 802-453-2488.

mar 29

SATURDAY

March Madness crafters market in Middlebury. Saturday, March 29, 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m., VFW, 530 Exchange St. Join the members of the Middlebury Farmers Market: Foggy Meadows, Twin Maple, Breadloaf Kitchen, Frog Hollow, Mellow Brook Unlimited, Green Acres Homestead, and Samosaman. Live music performed by Soop Spoons. Raffles to support our music series. Interested in being a guest vendor, crafter or small business to showcase and sell your wares, goods, and services? Contact mfm.membership@gmail.com.

Chicken ‘n’ biscuit dinner fundraiser in Bristol. Saturday, March 29, 5 p.m., 2 Elm St. Bristol Libanus Lodge is raising funds for lifelong Bristol resident Robbie Blaise, a stroke survivor in need of a new kidney. All proceeds will go to Robbie and his family. Reservations at 802-453-4877 or cecil@gmavt.net.

mar 30

SUNDAY

5 Town Friends of the Arts Awards in Bristol. Sunday, March 30, 1-3 p.m., Holley Hall, 1 South St. Join 5 Town Friends of the Arts as they honor Jen Allred, for her remarkable devotion of time and talent, combining her love of music and theater with her love of working with young people. There will be an opportunity for folks to share their appreciation, and how they have benefited from her generosity. There will be cake and excellent snacks.

mar 31

MONDAY

“Gardening with Climate Change” in Middlebury. Monday, March 31, 1 p.m., the Residence at Otter Creek, 50 Lodge Rd. As our climate continues to change, we expect our summers to be hotter and drier. Quickly falling rain can cause damaging runoff rather than slowly soaking into the soil. Join Sarah Salantino of Full Circle Gardens in Essex for this Middlebury Garden Club program to explore ways we can prepare for droughts. Her talk will give you water-wise ideas, practices, and perennial varieties to keep your gardens gorgeous under drier conditions. Free and open to the public.

Cribbage night in Bristol. Monday, March 31, 7-8:15 p.m., Libanus Lodge, corner of North and Elm streets.

apr 3

THURSDAY

VEEP home energy use workshop in Orwell. Thursday, April 3, 6 p.m., Orwell Free Library 473 Main St. Energy Navigators presents a workshop in partnership with the Vermont Energy Education Program on home energy use. Come learn how to use less energy, save money, and reduce our impact on the environment. This is a free hands-on workshop that will explore how to reduce your energy bills and carbon footprint. Spring into action with the Energy Navigators.

apr 4

FRIDAY

Mom-to-mom group in Bristol. Friday, April 4, 10:30 a.m.-noon, Lawrence Memorial Library, 40 North St. Come to the first meeting of this mom-to-mom support group, a peer-to-peer and open to mamas of all ages and stages of their motherhood journey. A safe space to talk openly and honestly about your feelings, gain feedback from other moms, and learn about local resources. Connect with other local mamas and to share in a safe space. More info contact kbessette09@gmail.com.

Lenten fish dinner in Vergennes. Friday, April 4, 5-6:30 p.m., St. Peter’s Parish Hall, South Maple Street. This Knights of Columbus event will include a menu of beer battered haddock, zesty wedges, coleslaw, mixed vegetables, roll & butter, chocolate chip brownie. \$13 adults \$7 children 6-12 (cash or checks). For take-out reservations call 802-877-3352 (Parish Hall) and leave a message with your name, phone number and number of dinners, and please speak slowly.

BE SURE TO CHECK OUT OUR

CALENDAR
ONLINE

addisonindependent.com

ADDISON COUNTY

School News

MUHS girls’ basketball players **Solstice Binder** and **Louisa Orten** have been named to the list Divison II of outstanding junior players by the Vermont Basketball Coaches Association. The pir were among eight students to be named to the list.

Benefit dinner set to help Blaise with medical needs

BRISTOL — In 2011 Bristol resident Robbie Blaise, who has a hereditary kidney disease, suffered a series of medical events that exacerbated his condition. Blaise, who has lost one kidney, is now losing function in his remaining kidney. To assist Blaise with his ongoing medical needs and to bring awareness to his desperate

need of a kidney, the Masons of Libanus Lodge 47 in Bristol will be hosting a curbside Chicken ‘N’ Biscuit Dinner on Saturday, March 29. All proceeds will go to Robbie and his family.

Blaise is a lifelong Bristol resident in his early 40’s. His troubles began with a brain aneurism in 2011. During the surgery, a clot caused a stroke which left him able to speak, but his left side was nonfunctional. He spent a year in the hospital and then went to an assisted living facility. After another year, he was able to return home, where his parents had made their home ADA compliant.

The Masons invite all to join in their efforts to help Blaise at this critical time. To make reservations for the chicken ‘n’ biscuit supper please call 802-453-4877 or email cecil@gmavt.net.



DAR awards top area students

VERGENNES — DAR hosted its annual American History Essay and Good Citizen awards ceremony on Saturday, March 8.

The essay topic on the high school level was to select a figure from the era of the American Revolution, to discuss how he or she influenced the course of the Revolution, and how that person contributed to the founding of the new nation. Essay winners included Cyrus Clair, who based his essay

on Prince Dunsick — subtitled, “Slave, Soldier, Patriot;” and Scout Jacobson, for her essay “Nancy Hart-Patriot and War Women.” Clair and Jacobsen received a certificate and a monetary award. Georgia Krause also won for her essay on Lydia Darragh, Spy and Patriot. Krause was the chapter winner and received a certificate, medal, and a monetary award.

Middle Schoolers were asked to write about “Enjoying a New Kind of Tea Party: Protests that Hit the King in His Wallet.” Wilder Jacobson was chapter winner and received a certificate, bronze medal, and a monetary award. Wilder was also named Vermont 7th Grade First Place winner of the contest.

The chapter has also chosen its annual DAR Good Citizen. This year’s good citizen in Spencer Gebo. A DAR Good Citizen must demonstrate qualities of dependability, service, and leadership. After the faculty



SPENCER GEBO

screens members of the senior class who meet these qualities, the senior class votes on who receives this award. Gebo received a certificate, the Eleanor Pratt Scholarship, and has his name inscribed on a plaque, which is located in the VUHS Auditorium Lobby.



VERGENNES AREA STUDENTS Spencer Gebo, left, Wilder Jacobson, Scout Jacobson and Georgia Krause received honors at the Seth Warner – Rhoda Farrand Chapter of the DAR’s annual award ceremony on March 8. Gebo was named the Good Citizen while the Jacobsons and Krause were recognized for their essays on influential figures in the American Revolution. Not picture was fellow essayist and awardee Cyrus Clair.

Photo courtesy of Joy Minns

TRITOWN WATER DISTRICT NO. 1
NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR STATEMENTS OF QUALIFICATIONS FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES

TriTown Water District No. 1 (The District) is in the process of obtaining Statements of Qualifications from qualified engineering firms, detailing the firms' qualifications, technical expertise, management and staffing capabilities, references, and related prior experience related to municipal water distribution, storage and treatment. Requested professional services will include, but are not necessarily limited to, preliminary engineering, design, preparation of bidding and contract documents, participation in the evaluation of bids and award of contracts and the administration and observation of construction activities to ensure compliance with plans and specifications associated with improvements to the District's treatment facility, Storage Facilities, and Distribution Networks, including pump stations.

Procurement of said services will be in accordance with elements of the procurement process in 40 U.S.C. § 1101-1104. Qualified firms/candidates interested in being considered for this project must submit **one electronic** copy of:

- letter of interest;
- general information on the firm's history, client base and experience;
- qualifications and experience of key staff persons (project manager, principal designer, resident engineer) who will likely be directly involved with District's projects, including client contacts;
- descriptions and client contacts for projects of related scope completed by the firm.

Submit the requested information to Trish Gordon. Clerk at tritownwater@gmavt.net; no later than the close of business on **Thursday, April 3, 2025**, to receive consideration.

Attention is directed to the fact that the proposed project(s) may be undertaken with a variety of Federal and State funds, including Congressionally Designated Spending and the Vermont Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) Loan Program, and that all work will be performed in accordance with the regulations issued by such agencies and the State of Vermont pertaining thereto.

The District shall evaluate the Statements of Qualifications and references submitted by interested firms and select a minimum of three firms which, in the District's opinion, are best qualified to perform the desired services. The District shall rank, in order of preference, the firms deemed to be the most highly qualified to provide the specific requested services and shall commence scope of services and price negotiations with the highest qualified professional firm for engineering services. Should such negotiations not be favorable, the District will commence negotiations with the next highest qualified firm. Prior engineering planning, design and construction experience related to the District's infrastructure will be considered in the selection. For each proposed project, interviews may be conducted prior to selection of a firm. Interviews may include discussions regarding potential design concepts and proposed methods of approach to the project.

TOWN OF MIDDLEBURY
PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management) and Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) implementing regulations at Title 44 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 9, FEMA hereby provides final notice of its decision to provide Public Assistance Program funding for an action located in the floodway. Funding would be provided through Vermont Emergency Management to the Town of Middlebury to repair the floodwall along the Middlebury River.

The proposed action is located on the Middlebury River in Middlebury, Vermont. The project is to reattach the steel sheathing to the floodwall on the east bank of the river.

The project is within the floodway. The repairs to the floodwall will reduce the risk of future damage adversely affecting the functionality of the structure. A map of the area of available upon request.

Alternatives considered and dismissed included the No Action alternative and re-location. The project must take place within the floodway because the floodwall is functionally dependent on its location along the Middlebury River and acts as a flood control measure for adjacent residential properties along Vermont Route 125. The No Action alternative would leave the affected community at enhanced risk of future flood loss and damages and therefore is not practicable.

The proposed action was determined to be the most practicable alternative because it restores the integrity of the floodwall and extends the structure's usefulness as a flood control measure, minimizing risks to human health and safety.

The project will be conditioned for Local Floodplain Administrator approval, to obtain a "No-Rise" certificate, Clean Water Act permitting, and Stream Alteration Rule permitting from the VT Agency of Natural Resources.

Map requests and comments about this project and potential floodway impacts should be submitted within 15 days of the date of this publication to:

Federal Emergency Management Agency,
Region 1220 Binney St. Cambridge, MA 02142
FEMA-R1-COMPTA-ENV@fema.dhs.gov

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK FROM AREA HIGH SCHOOLS

Mount Abraham Union High School

Hazel Stoddard

Mt. Abraham Union High School introduces Hazel Stoddard, the senior class president, as our Student of the Week. Hazel grew up in South Starksboro and has lived in Bristol for six years.

An honor roll student throughout high school, Hazel's favorite class at Mt. Abe has been American Studies. Both a challenging and fun class, Hazel feels it had the most impact on her education and enhanced her writing skills. In addition, Hazel has personalized her learning by pursuing three Independent Learning Opportunities in which she has explored topics of personal interest, including women's rights, the interconnectedness of mental and physical health, and the history of the Middle East. In addition to her academic pursuits, Hazel has been a member of the soccer team for three years, and track and field for four years. She has held the role of captain in track and field, indoor track, and club soccer and was selected to attend the Athletic Leadership Conference her junior year. Hazel has also participated in the fall musical since seventh grade, and is currently in the spring musical production of "Beetlejuice Jr."

A leader in our school community, in addition to her role as class president, Hazel is the co-founder and chairperson of Model UN, moderator of Community Council, participant in Eagle Leadership Society as well as a member of many other clubs.

Outside of school, she works for her mom's company, Nomadic Chef Catering, and babysits and volunteers at Zeno Mountain Farm in Lincoln. Hazel is an avid downhill and backcountry skier. She loves to hike and hang out with friends, drink tea, dance, and go swimming in the summer.

When asked about one of the most important things she's learned, Hazel's advice: "Always advocate for yourself, it will bring you far in life. By advocating for the education you want, you are setting yourself up for success."

Hazel plans to attend Sauder School of Business at the University of British Columbia after taking a gap year, in which she will travel, work and volunteer in various parts of the world. We wish Hazel all the best as she pursues her passions!



Hazel Stoddard
MAUHS

Otter Valley Union High School

Riley Hanfield

Riley Hanfield is Otter Valley Union High School's latest Student of the Week. Riley, who lives in Brandon with her mother, says she really enjoys Otter Valley, especially her math and art classes. She enjoys going to school and seeing her classmates every day, and has found teachers Ms. Currier, Mrs. Fielder, Mrs. Davio, Mrs. Kimball, and Ms. Senecal particularly helpful and inspiring.

Riley plays Unified basketball and unified bocce. She says Unified basketball is her favorite because she just loves to play. During the school day she volunteers at the Brandon Library, where she loves to mop. While there she also gets to go to the bank, clean and organize the children's space, and help to keep the library clean. She appreciates being able to check out books to take home and read.

In her spare time Riley likes to do jigsaw puzzles, watch SpongeBob, and play card games with her grandmother. She also loves to do laundry and visit with her neighbor Lo. She likes to watch some TV and read books.

For work, she has been sorting and delivering mail at Otter Valley. She hopes this will help her get a job when she leaves Otter Valley. She plans on getting a part-time job once she's done with school, maybe in a store or a restaurant.

One of her favorite teachers, Mrs. Kimball, told Riley she doesn't need to like everyone, but she should try to treat everyone with respect. Riley feels like this is good advice.

The Otter Valley Community looks forward to seeing what path Riley takes in the future, and wishes her all the best.



Riley Hanfield
OVUHS

CONGRATULATIONS STUDENTS!

BTS
BUSINESS TELEPHONE SYSTEMS

Telecommunications Sales & Service
Data Cabling • Fiber Optic Solutions
Security Surveillance Systems

John and Jim Fitzgerald
www.bts-vt.com • 802-388-8999

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!

Vermont Book Shop

Every Student of the Week will be entered in a drawing to win a \$100 Gift Card

VBS Creating a Community of Readers Since 1949

JOHNSON LAW OFFICES

Congratulations!

Affordable & client-focused legal services

- 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

JACKMAN'S OF BRISTOL INC.
SINCE 1930
ENERGY ALTERNATIVES

Way to go, Hazel and Riley

64 Jackman Drive • Bristol
802.453.2381 • JackmansInc.com

Plumbing & Heating
J.W. & D.E. RYAN
Incorporated
Vergennes, Vermont

Keep up the great work, Hazel and Riley

802-877-3118
Vergennes, VT

Great work, students!

Blue Seal Farm & Home

57 Alta Wood, Brandon, VT 05733
802-247-9599

Congratulations, Hazel and Riley

Rainbow Pediatrics
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

Thursday & service
Business & DIRECTORY

auto body restoration
auto repair
auto sales & leasing
carpentry/contractors
cleaning services

computers
construction
duct work & duct cleaning
handyman
lawn care

firewood
flooring
landscaping
masonry

AUTO BODY RESTORATION

HILLTOP WELDING
AUTOBODY RESTORATION



Metal Fabrications
Agricultural Repair
Commercial Repair

Auto Body Repair
Rust Repair
Collision Repair

Custom Restoration
Welding Supply Sales

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

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

AUTO SALES & LEASING

STONE CHRYSLER DODGE JEEP RAM
NEW AND USED CARS AND TRUCKS



Kelsey Treadway
Sales & Leasing Consultant

We will take anything
in trade!

Bus: 802-388-9961
Fax: 802-388-6708
ktreadway@stonecdjr.com
www.stonecdjr.com

2149 ROUTE 7 SOUTH | P.O. Box 748
MIDDLEBURY, VT 05753-0748

CARPENTRY/ CONTRACTORS

RAYMOND
RENOVATION
& NEW CONSTRUCTION, LLC

Handling all phases of residential and
light commercial carpentry since 1992

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

FULLY INSURED

SPRING WILL
BE HERE SOON!

SO GET YOUR SPRING
BUSINESS AD IN TODAY!



CARPENTRY/ CONTRACTORS

Golden Ruler
Construction

AFFORDABLE & HONEST

Residential & Agricultural Construction
Old Home Renovations
Custom Homes • Barns
Interior Painting • General Repairs

Call Jonathan Hescok
2217 Rt. 74, Cornwall
802-462-3737



VERMONT CUSTOM MOLDINGS

www.vermontcustommoldings.com

Quaker Village
CARPENTRY

We have immediate
availability!



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

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

CLEANING SERVICES

Melissa's Quality
Cleaning Services

Residential & Commercial
GREAT RATES • FULLY INSURED
Reliable & Thorough


802 345-6257

DO YOU CLEAN HOUSES?



YOUR AD SHOULD
BE HERE!

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

Vantage
Point
Homes



Salisbury, VT
989-3974

New Construction
Additions
Renovations
Project Design

Like us on Facebook! f

PREMIUM BUSINESS SHOWCASE AD

Stand out from the competition when you upgrade your
B&S Directory ad with our Premium Business Showcase!

Purchase a quarterly B&S ad package
and get one large, full-color ad for only \$200!

Don't miss this special opportunity to promote your busi-
ness. Contact your ad rep today to secure your premium
B&S package: christy@addisonindependent.com
jennah@addisonindependent.com
katyf@addisonindependent.com
tomvs@addisonindependent.com

This ad
space could
be yours!



Premium Business Showcase ads are 6 inches wide x 6 inches tall.
Regular open rate is \$250+.

DUCT WORK & DUCT CLEANING

BOOT HILL
METAL BENDERS

Specializing in
Duct Cleaning
And Duct Work
for Heating, Ventilation
and Air Conditioning
We use 5,000+ cfm HEPA
Vacuum Cleaning Systems

We can design, fabricate, seal, insulate, clean,
anything to do with your ducted systems.

Buy Local! 802.989.0396

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

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
gevyfirewoodvt@gmail.com
or 802-349-0699

Bissonnette
FIREWOOD

Vermont grown & locally harvested



802.777.0031 | nickbfirewood.com

Kiln-dried and delivery available

CHECK US OUT ONLINE AT
ADDISONINDEPENDENT.COM

FLOORING

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!



FLOORING

Chris Mulliss
FLOOR & UPHOLSTERY CLEANING

Stripping - Waxing - Buffing
Carpet Cleaning &
Emergency Water Removal

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



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

HANDYMAN

Creative
Home Repair Services

General Home Repairs
Small jobs welcome!

Decks and Stairways including
Deck Design

Interior Painting including
Sheetrock Repair & Prep

References • Insured



John Forgit
(603) 933-3016 text & voice
Shoreham, VT
johnforgit@gmail.com

LANDSCAPING

Offering year-round
property services

Residential and
Commercial

Small Land
Clearing
Firewood
Brush Hogging



SHEPARD
— LANDWORKS LLC —

(802) 989-3617 | Silas Shepard

MASONRY

FINE DRY STONE MASONRY



JAMIE MASEFIELD
CERTIFIED BY THE DRY STONE WALLERS
ASSOCIATION OF GREAT BRITAIN

802-233-4670
jmasefield@gmavt.net

Thursday & service Business DIRECTORY

painting
pet sitting
plumbing
property maintenance
renewable energy

roofing
rubbish & recycling
siding
snow removal
surveying

taxes
tree service
veterinarians
window treatments

PAINTING

HESCOCK PAINTING

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

PET SITTING

PET CARE SERVICES
DROP-IN VISITS FOR PET CARE
OR HOUSE CHECKS WHILE YOU ARE AWAY!
Coverage within 10 miles of Weybridge.
Email Angela: littlepalspetservices@gmail.com

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

PLUMBING



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

J.D. FULLER PLUMBING & HEATING INC.

MIDDLEBURY
John Fuller, Master Plumber
802-388-2019
Serving Addison County since 1989

RENEWABLE ENERGY

Soak Up The Sun!
Don't spend your hard-earned money
making the hot water or electricity that
you use today—
SOLAR IS MORE AFFORDABLE THAN EVER!
We've been here for you for 43 years —
Let us help you with your solar projects today.
BRISTOL ELECTRONICS
Go Green with us —
Call for a FREE on-site evaluation
802.453.2500
BristolElectronicsVT.com

ROOFING

Michael Doran
as seen at Addison County Field Days!
• Standing seam
• Asphalt shingles
• Slate
Free estimates • Fully Insured
mpdoransr@gmail.com
Phone (802) 537-3555

**THINK
SPRING!**
**ADVERTISE YOUR
LANDSCAPING
BUSINESS WITH US!**

SEPTIC & WATER

**LINCOLN
APPLIED GEOLOGY, INC.**
Celebrating 40 Years
Environmental Consultants — Licensed Designers
Steve Revell CPG, LD#178 BW
Jeremy Revell LD#611 BW
• Water Supply - Location, Development and Permitting
• On-Site Wastewater Design • Single & Multiple Lot Subdivision
• Property Development & Permitting
• State and Local Permitting
• Underground Storage Tank Removal & Assessment
**Toll-Free: 800-477-4384
802-453-4384**
Fax 802-459-5399 • Email: jrevell@lagvt.com
163 Revell Drive • Lincoln, VT 05443
www.lagvt.com

**Grow Your
Business with Us**
Reach
thousands of
local customers
every week
with a B&S
Directory ad.
Low rates, big
exposure!
advertising@addisonindependent.com
802-388-4944

SURVEYING

SHORT SURVEYING, INC.
Serving Addison County Since 1991
Timothy L. Short, L.S.
Property Line Surveys • Topographical Surveys
FEMA Elevation Certificates
135 S. Pleasant St., Middlebury, VT
802-388-3511
ShortSurveyingVT@gmail.com

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

TREE SERVICE

**SARGENT'S
TREE
SERVICE**
349-7459
Over 30 Years Experience
Fully Licensed and Insured
Call for a Free Estimate: 802-349-7459
sargentstreeservice.com
• Tree Removal
• Tree Pruning
• Storm Damage
Clean up
• Stump Grinding
Serving all of
Addison County

**ADVERTISE HERE
ADDISONINDEPENDENT.COM**

VETERINARIANS

**Bringing Essential Veterinary Care
To you and your pets.**
Serving the dogs and cats
of Addison County
Call for an appointment:
(802) 989-3734
MeganSwaseyDVM@gmail.com
addisoncountyvet.com
Addison County
Mobile Veterinary Services
Megan Swasey, DVM
Mobile Veterinarian • Shoreham, VT

WINDOW TREATMENT

Your local source for window treatments
from the nation's most popular brands.
Free in-home consultations!
Vermont Window Treatments LLC
Over 20 years experience!
M-F: 8am-5pm
Hours by appointment only
Visit our Facebook page or
check us out on Instagram!
802-989-1531 | 3333 Case Street, Middlebury
vermontwindowtreatments.com

JACK OF ALL TRADES?
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.

CLASSIFIEDS

Public Meetings

AL-ANON OFFERS HELP and hope to anyone who has been affected by a loved one's drinking. Middlebury hosts an online meeting Sunday night 7:15pm and a face to face one Wednesday at 1:30pm at CVUUS (2 Duane Court Middlebury near the high school) that you can also access by Zoom. Visit vermontalananalateen.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 ANONYMOUS in person meetings are available. For a list of local virtual meetings visit <http://bit.ly/district9aa>. For more information visit <https://aavt.org/> or call the 24 hour hotline at 802-802-AAVT (2288).

VERGENNES FREE THINKERS Founded in 1935 on the principle of one alcoholic helping another to achieve sobriety, A.A. is an effective and enduring program of recovery that has changed countless lives. A.A. has always been committed to making its program of recovery available to anyone, anywhere, who reaches out for help with an alcohol problem. The Vergennes Free Thinkers meeting was created in January of this year to maintain a tradition of free expression, conduct a meeting where alcoholics may feel free to express any beliefs, doubts or disbelief they may have, to share their own personal form of spiritual experience, their search for it, and/or their rejection of it, without having to accept anyone else's beliefs or having to deny their own. Meetings are held with a high regard for compassion and inclusion without judgment or exception. If you think we can help, please join us on Thursdays at 6pm by contacting Vergennes-freethinkers@gmail.com for Zoom and in-person meeting information.

Public Meetings

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS is a 12 step program offering recovery from compulsive eating and food behaviors. For meeting times and general information please visit www.oavermont.org or call (802)863.2655.

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

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

Services

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

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

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

SPRING PROPERTY CLEAN UPS, some landscaping, brush cutting, lawn work, weed flower beds, grocery pick up. Call us today, we do other jobs too. low rates. 802-999-2194, John.

Help Wanted




FINISHER

Addison Residential is seeking to hire a full-time finisher for our busy paint shop. Finisher will be responsible for spraying a variety of projects – cabinetry, siding, trim, etc. along with using a variety of finish products. The ideal candidate will have previous experience with finishing. The job requires repetitive motion and ability to lift-up to 65lbs. The candidate should be able to work independently, as well as be part of a team, and have a keen eye for detail.

Benefits package available.
Pay is based on experience/skill level.
Apply by emailing resume to:
info@addisonresidential.com.

Help Wanted

Help Wanted



Production Team Members

Vermont Soap is looking for attentive, reliable and responsible people to work in our production department.

This position requires basic computer skills, attention to detail, the ability to sit or stand for long periods of time and the ability to lift up to 50lbs. Must be a team player and also able to work independently.

This is a full time position (Mon-Fri 7-3:30) with paid vacation time, paid holidays, 401k with employer match, and more!

Please send cover letter and resume to nichole@vermontsoap.com.

Help Wanted



Full-Time Positions Available

including small equipment operator, roadside mowing & landscaping

Seasonal Positions Available

including lawn care & landscaping

Immediate positions available working Monday – Friday and some Saturdays.
Paid Holidays, partial uniforms
new bonuses available, & competitive pay.

To apply, call 802-352-9088
307 Kelly Cross Road
Salisbury, VT

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

Help Wanted



Cashier - Customer Service

Part-time and Full-time Positions available

Immediate Openings available.

Must be able to work until 6pm.
Days and Weekends a MUST.
Up to 40 hours per week.

Wage commensurate with experience.

Please send Resumes to info@middleburyagway.com or Fill out Application at **Middlebury Agway, 338 Exchange St., Middlebury VT.**

Please no phone calls.

All of our positions offer generous, twice a year bonuses and employee discount on all products.

Middlebury Agway 338 Exchange St. – Middlebury, VT.

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



ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

The Town of Bridport seeks a Zoning Administrator. Responsibilities include issuing building permits within town regulations and assisting with conditional use and variances in conjunction with the Development Review Board. The ZA works in conjunction with the Selectboard to enforce zoning regulations. Strong communication through telephone and email, organization, and computer skills required. Site visits during and following completion of permitted projects also a requirement. Prior zoning or local government experience a plus. Successful candidate need not be a resident of Bridport to apply. Number of hours vary during the year dependent on volume of permit applications.

Hourly rate based on experience.

Send resumes to Town of Bridport, PO Box 27, Bridport VT, 05734.

Opportunities

Opportunities

Opportunities

Opportunities

Opportunities

Opportunities



Spring Cleaning!

Spring is right around the corner and nonprofits across Addison County are looking for volunteer groups to help with spring cleaning. Gardening, reorganizing, painting projects and more!

Great opportunity for team building or grabbing friends to spend some time outside while giving back to the community.

To learn more about the group projects, contact Amy Hoekstra at amyh@unitedwayaddisoncounty.org or call 802-388-7189.



PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Charter House Coalition (CHC) – Everyone deserves a place to call home. Join us and become a positive force in the movement for stable housing and affordability.

At Charter House Coalition our mission is clear. We provide a place to call home for our neighbors during difficult times of transition. We shelter the unhoused, provide nutritious meals for the hungry, and offer crucial social service pathways toward better health and stable housing. Our low-barrier shelter has been a reliable community partner and a critical thread in our social fabric since 2005.

What we're looking for: The Program Director coordinates the daily services of the shelter in alignment with CHC's strategic goals, ensuring service delivery meets guest needs and stakeholder expectations. Responsibilities include overseeing shelter operations, food and nutrition programs, and street outreach. Under the Executive Director, the Program Director leads staff in providing coordinated, professional, and respectful support services to our guests through well-informed practices.

THE RIGHT CANDIDATE WILL HAVE:

- Bachelor's degree in social services related field
- At least 3-years' experience managing direct service residential programs
- Direct experience working in a 24/7 shelter environment or similar program
- Demonstrated experience leading teams of 5 or more
- Strong leadership and system management skills
- Strengths in the areas of empathy, listening, problem-solving, and decision-making

WHAT WE OFFER:

- Annual salary ranges from \$65,000-72,000 based on experience
- Comprehensive medical, dental and vision coverage for our employees
- Paid Time off
- Retirement account with company match

Curious? Visit chcvt.org/careers/ for a full job description. To apply, send a resume and cover letter to info@chcvt.org.

Charter House Coalition represents a diverse community and welcomes qualified candidates who bring a diversity of backgrounds, experience, and perspectives to our organization.



27 North Pleasant Street | Middlebury, VT 05753
(802) 989-821 | info@chcvt.org | www.chcvt.org

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 consecutive issues runs the 4th time for free!

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Or, submit your classified ad on our website: addisonindependent.com

RATES

DEADLINE: Monday at 5 p.m.

- 25¢ per word • minimum \$2.50 per ad
- 50¢ internet listing for up to 4 issues • minimum 2 insertions

- Special 4 for 3 rates not valid for the following categories: Services, Opportunities, Real Estate, Wood heat, Attn. Farmers, For Rent & Help Wanted
- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Notices | <input type="checkbox"/> Work Wanted | <input type="checkbox"/> Att. Farmers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Card of Thanks | <input type="checkbox"/> Help Wanted | <input type="checkbox"/> Motorcycles |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Personals | <input type="checkbox"/> For Sale | <input type="checkbox"/> Cars |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Meetings** | <input type="checkbox"/> Trucks |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Free** | <input type="checkbox"/> For Rent | <input type="checkbox"/> SUVs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lost 'N Found** | <input type="checkbox"/> Want to Rent | <input type="checkbox"/> Snowmobiles |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Garage Sales | <input type="checkbox"/> Wood Heat | <input type="checkbox"/> Boats |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lawn & Garden | <input type="checkbox"/> Real Estate | <input type="checkbox"/> Wanted |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Opportunities | <input type="checkbox"/> Animals | <input type="checkbox"/> Real Estate Wanted |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Adoption | | <input type="checkbox"/> Vacation Rentals |

** no charge for these ads Spotlight with large ✓ \$1

PLEASE PRINT YOUR AD...

Number of words: _____
Cost: _____
of runs: _____
Spotlight Charge: _____
Internet Listing: \$ _____
TOTAL: _____

The Independent assumes no financial responsibility for errors in ads, but will rerun classified ad in which the error occurred. No refunds will be possible. Advertiser will please notify us of any errors which may occur after first publication.

Addison Independent
CLASSIFIEDS

Help Wanted

NOW HIRING!
T L BODETTE LANDSCAPING & EXCAVATING, INC.,
a 40 year old established business, **is seeking experienced, motivated, self starters for landscape labor & lawn maintenance positions.**

Duties include spring clean up, mowing, fall clean up, edging, mulching and all aspects of landscaping & excavating. Valid driver's license required. Starting pay depending on experience between \$20.00-\$22.50 per hour. Shirts and sweatshirts provided. **Please call 802-236-7101 to apply.**
Equal opportunity employer.

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

FERRISBURGH
VERMONT

TOWN CLERK

The Town of Ferrisburgh, Vermont is looking for a full-time Town Clerk.

The Town Clerk is responsible for overseeing town functions in the areas of municipal record keeping, issuance of licenses and official documents, and conducting local, state and federal elections. This position includes a variety of highly responsible duties that require considerable judgment, discretion and initiative in the interpretation and application of laws, regulations and procedure records.

The clerk has many responsibilities, including running local elections; recording town meeting proceedings; recording of land records and issuing birth, death, marriage, dog, hunting, and fishing licenses. Must be able to interact with the public in a professional manner. Interaction with the Selectboard is also a requirement.

Work in a beautiful light filled historic building located in the center of Ferrisburgh, with a friendly and knowledgeable staff serving a vibrant community.

Salary is dependent upon qualifications and experience. Benefits include paid time off, insurance and retirement with the Vermont Municipal Retirement System (VMERS). For a complete list of qualifications direct any questions to Pam Cousino, at 802-877-3429 or townclerk@ferrisburghvt.org.

To apply, please send cover letter, resume and references to Pam Cousino at townclerk@ferrisburghvt.org or mail to:

Ferrisburgh Town Clerk
3279 US Route 7
Ferrisburgh, VT 05456
Must be received by April 10, 2025 at 4 p.m.

The Town of Ferrisburgh is an
Equal Employment Opportunity Employer.

Opportunities

WOODWORKING/FURNITURE MAKING CLASSES in Waltham with furniture maker Timothy Clark. For more information- go to <https://www.timothyclark.com/classeshome.html> or Call or Text (802) 989-3204

Help Wanted

RESPITE CARE BRANDON Currently seeking respite caregiver to provide care for an elderly developmentally disabled individual in your home. Currently daytime hours available and some overnight shifts. This position is per diem with excellent pay. For more information please email me at respite2022@yahoo.com text/call 802-398-5657.

For Sale

2011 38' CAMPER needs little work. \$6500, must sell. Call 802-349-2918.

ENCORE WOOD STOVE porcelain green with glass door. \$1200 or best offer, must sell. Call 802-349-2918.

FIREWOOD STOVE in excellent shape. \$1800 or best offer, must sell. Call 802-349-2918

TWO GOODYEAR TIRES 255/65R17, less than 30k miles. \$100 for both, call 802-352-4338.

For Rent

1000 SQUARE FEET OF RETAIL available with parking on Bakery Lane in downtown Middlebury. 802-349-8544.

3 BEDROOM APARTMENT in Brandon Village. All inclusive, no pets, no smoking. Security required. \$1,000 monthly. 802-247-6829.

5,000 SQUARE FEET available. Exchange Street, Middlebury, VT. 802-349-8544.

For Rent

ALL REAL ESTATE advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 as amended which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, national origin, sexual orientation, or persons receiving public assistance or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertisement for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination, call HUD Toll-free at 1-800-424-8590. For the Washington, DC area please call HUD at 426-3500.

COMMERCIAL/OFFICE SPACE - 3000 sq ft - Middlebury. Loading dock. Tall ceilings. \$2,500.00 p/ month. 802-558-6092.

MIDDLEBURY BRIARWOOD APARTMENTS is currently taking waitlist applications for 2- br apartments. No smoking/ No pets. Income limits apply- rent based on income- 2 person minimum occupancy. Equal Housing Opportunity. Handicapped accessible. 802-247-0165 TTY: 800-253-0191 [www. SummitPMG.com](http://www.SummitPMG.com).

MIDDLEBURY, OFF CAMPUS HOUSING available. 802-388-4831, AJ Neri Property Rentals.

SPACIOUS COMMERCIAL KITCHEN space available on organic farm in Monkton. Includes generous dry storage space and walk in coolers. Fully equipped and ready for new or expanding food business. Access to fresh produce and flowers. \$1100 per month includes all utilities. 802-349-7369

VERGENNES VALLEY VIEW APARTMENTS is currently taking wait list applications. Occupants must be 62+ years of age. No smoking/ No pets. Income limits apply - Rent based on income. Equal Housing Opportunity. 802-247-0165 TTY: 800-253-0191 [www. SummitPMG.com](http://www.SummitPMG.com).

Wood Heat

DRY OR GREEN firewood for sale. Delivery available. 802-349-4212.

Real Estate

BRANDON, 5 ACRE building lot for mobile home or doublewide. Ready to go with well, water, electric, sewer and cement slab. \$115,000. 802-458-1664.

BUILDING LOT approximately 1/2 acre Daisy Lane, East Middlebury, village water, underground utilities, designed septic. Established neighborhood with Little League field. \$105,000. Tel 802-388-2502. Jack Brown.

HOME AVAILABLE \$129K - Owner Financing! 3 bed, 2 bath fixer-upper in Crown Point, NY, just 1 hour from Lake George, Lake Placid & Gore Mountain. New furnace, updated plumbing, workshop basement. Great vacation home or rental! Email: 12928house@gmail.com

More Help Wanted ads can be found on Page 10B.

Animals

If veterinary care is unavailable or unaffordable, ask for Happy Jack® animal health care to treat yeast infections and mane dandruff!
At Tractor Supply®

Att. Farmers

1ST CUT, DRY ROUND bales, 4x5, \$45.00 each. 2nd + 3rd cut balage, 4x4 round bales. \$60.00 Round bales for bedding \$35.00 Quantity discounts available. 802-989-0187.

Att. Farmers

1ST CUT, SMALL square, \$3.25. 2nd cut small square, \$4.25. 802-377-5455.

FOR SALE: SAWDUST bulk dry shavings and green sawdust, pick up or delivered in trailer loads. Call 802-989-0187

HAY FOR SALE Over 1500 square bales of 1st cut hay for sale. \$4 per bale. Also 300+/- bales of 2nd cut hay on tarped wagons - \$4 per bale. Located at 864 Smead Rd, Salisbury, VT. First come, first serve. Call 802-352-4686.

Att. Farmers

WHITNEY'S CUSTOM FARM WORK Pond agitating, liquid manure hauling, drag line aerating. Call for price. 462-2755, John Whitney.

Cars

SUBARU SPORTS LEGACY only 52,000 mi. 2017 and perfect mechanically. \$9,500 or best offer. 802-388-2812.

MARKET REPORT
ADDISON COUNTY
COMMISSION SALES

RT. 125 • EAST MIDDLEBURY, VT
Sales for 3/13/25 & 3/17/25

COST			
BEEF	LBS.	/LB	\$
Vorsteveld	1995	1.66	\$3311.70
Westminster	1970	1.62	\$3191.40
Ethan Allen	1695	1.55	\$2627.25
Rowell Farms	1315	1.54	\$2025.10
Iroquois Acres	1825	1.45	\$2646.25

COST			
CALVES	LBS.	/LB	\$
A. Brisson	95	11.00	\$1045.00
Barnes B&W	87	11.00	\$957.00
M+L Quesnel	81	10.30	\$834.30
Sunderland	105	10.00	\$1050.00
Iroquois Acres	96	10.00	\$960.00

Total Beef - 135 Total Calves - 179

We value our faithful customers.
Sales at 3 pm - Mon. & Thurs.
call 1-802-388-2661



ATTENTION FARMERS!!!
ANNUAL SPRING DAIRY/FEEDER
CONSIGNMENT SALE

WHEN: WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2ND
AT ADDISON COUNTY COMMISSION SALES BARN
RT. 125, EAST MIDDLEBURY, VT

TIAM SHARP

****Something for everybody! Don't miss this opportunity****

ACCEPTING QUALITY CONSIGNMENTS NOW!!!

*** DAIRY TO BE SOLD FIRST - FEEDERS TO FOLLOW ***

**ALSO CONSIGNING BEEF FEEDERS
ANGUS-HEREFORD & BF CROSSES
ALL BF BREEDS WELCOME!!**

**DON'T MISS THIS ANNUAL SPRING SALE
ALL QUALITY CONSIGNMENTS WELCOME**

****CASH IN ON YOUR OVERSTOCK****

A MUST SALE TO ATTEND!!!

For More Info Call 802-388-2661 (ACCS)

**Sale Manager: T.G. Wisnowski & Sons- 802-989-1507
Auctioneer - John Nop www.acccsattle.com**

REMINDER:

***Annual Machinery Sale Will Be Held Saturday, May 10th
ACCEPTING CONSIGNMENTS NOW!**

Public Notices Index

Public Notices for the following can be found in this
ADDISON INDEPENDENT on Pages 7B, 11B and 12B.

Act 250 (1)	New Haven (1)
Addison Central School District (1)	OCW Insect Control District (1)
Bristol (1)	Shoreham (1)
Gosliga Farm (1)	Starksboro (1)
Lincoln (2)	Tri-Town Water District (1)
Middlebury (3)	Vorsteveld Farm (1)

TOWN OF STARKSBORO
REQUEST FOR BIDS

The Town of Starksboro is accepting bids from qualified contractors to manage and build a shaft for a 2-stop vertical lift at the Starksboro old Town Hall located at 2827 Rte 116, Starksboro, VT

Bid specs and submission details available at www.starksborovt.org/bids or email Townadmin@starksborovt.org. Proposals must be submitted to the Town by Monday, April 7th.

TOWN OF BRISTOL
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Bristol Development Review Board will hold the following hearings on April 8, 2025, beginning at 7:00 P.M. The hearings will be held in person at the Town Office, located at 1 South Street. The hearings will also be available via Zoom and login information is below.

Permit #25-401: Rene Carpenter of Ireland Road (Parcel #040104-3) is requesting final plat review for a 2-lot subdivision subject to Bristol Unified Development Regulations.

Copies of the zoning permit applications and decisions are available for review at the Bristol Town Office during regular business hours.

Remote Access: via Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87551027651?pwd=mJnqMmaORm2lufotVEEBidXObjJLJl.1> Phone In: +1 646 931 3860



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 required.

Please contact **Donna Bailey** d Bailey@addisoncountypcc.org

In print or online, find your
dream job with help
from the *Addy Indy*.



addisonindependent.com/help-wanted

ADDISON COUNTY
INDEPENDENT

Help Wanted

MIDDLEBURY UNION
MIDDLE SCHOOL
COACHING POSITIONS

Middlebury Union Middle School
is seeking coaches for the following:

- JV Baseball
- Asst. JV 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:

Dustin Hunt/Activities Director
Middlebury Union Middle School
48 Deerfield Lane, Middlebury, VT 05753
Applications will be accepted until the position has been filled. E.O.E.

Help Wanted

Help Wanted



Experienced Project
Foreman/Lead
Carpenter Wanted!

Are you an experienced Project Foreman/ Lead Carpenter in the Addison-Chittenden County (VT) area and looking for a new opportunity to showcase your skills?

Our leading construction company is seeking a talented foreman to join our dynamic team. With a reputation for excellence and a commitment to quality, we offer a rewarding work environment where your expertise will be valued.

We offer competitive pay and a comprehensive benefits package. Please send a resume and brief cover letter outlining your experience to admin@smithmcclain.com.

**Come
build
with us!**



Public Notices can be found in this
ADDISON INDEPENDENT on Pages 7B, 11B & 12B.

TOWN OF LINCOLN
PUBLIC NOTICE

Wednesday, April 9, 2025, 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 public hearings for:

- Subdivision Application #25-006 as requested by Gillian and Russell Comstock for their property located at 334 Geary Road South (east) in Lincoln, VT, Parcel ID# 27-10-01-16.000. Description: to subdivide one lot into two lots.
- Subdivision Application #25-007 as requested by Gillian and Russell Comstock for their property located at 334 Geary Road South (west) in Lincoln, VT, Parcel ID# 27-10-01-16.010. Description: to subdivide one lot into two lots.

Participation in the local proceedings is a prerequisite to the right to take any subsequent appeals. Please call the Zoning Administrator 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/2025-DRB-agendas-minutes>

Nicole Lee, Lincoln DRB Chair

TOWN OF LINCOLN
WARNING
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

The legal voters of the Town of Lincoln are hereby warned and notified to meet at the Town Office at 62 Quaker St in Lincoln on Thursday, March 27, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. to discuss and transact business not warned in time for the March 3, 2025, Town Meeting.

Agenda for Meeting at Lincoln Town Office on Thursday, March 27, 2025, at 5:00 p.m.

Article 1: Shall the Town of Lincoln vote to exempt the Lincoln Volunteer Fire Company from municipal and state property taxes, per 32 V.S.A. 5404a(a)(4)?

Article 2: Shall the Town of Lincoln vote to exempt the Lincoln Cooperative Preschool from paying municipal taxes for a period of 5 years and to pay the state education tax due as a voted exemption, per 32 V.S.A. 5404a(d)?

Article 3: To transact any other legal and proper business when met.

Dated this 25th day of February, 2025.
/S/ Town of Lincoln Selectboard

TOWN OF SHOREHAM
PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

Shoreham Doolittle Road Culvert Replacement Project TAP TA24(18) Local Concerns Meeting and Alternatives Presentation

Notice is hereby given that the Town of Shoreham Selectboard will hold a special public meeting prior to the scheduled Selectboard meeting on April 9, 2025, at 6:30 PM at the Shoreham Town Office (297 Main Street, Shoreham, Vermont 05770).

Topic of discussion will be:

VTrans Grant Award for the replacement of a hydraulically insufficient 15-foot span open bottom corrugated metal arch culvert approximately 0.3 miles east of VT-22A on Doolittle Road in Shoreham Vermont.

This will be the first Public Meeting to explain the project development process, obtain input on the project purpose and need statement, concerns regarding traffic, project duration, and environmental impacts and to present potential alternatives for replacement structure. Based on local input a project purpose and need statement and preferred alternative will be identified.

Meetings are held in person with options to Zoom or phone in.

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89708838117?pwd=npEOMJT4hxbMXwavBypaXBRq9rLnDf.1>

Meeting ID: 897 0883 8117 Passcode: 883235

Phone (646) 931-3860 (US) (929) 205-6099 (New York)

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kelIP5zjGF>

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO APPLY
MOSQUITO ADULTICIDES

On or after April 20th, 2025, the Otter Creek Watershed Insect Control District (OCW) may be making ground applications of adulticides along the public and private roads in the towns of Brandon, Goshen, Leicester, Pittsford, Proctor, and Salisbury to control adult mosquito populations. Applications of PermaSease (a family of synthetic pyrethroid insecticides) will be made with ultra-low volume truck-mounted sprayers. Zenivex E-4 RTU (a non-ester pyrethroid) may be substituted for PermaSease.

At least six hours in advance of spraying to control adult mosquitoes, specific route information and the pesticide(s) to be used will be posted to <https://ocwicd.com/public-notice>. The OCW also provides email notifications of all planned spraying. To subscribe to the spraying notification email list, please send a request to: ocwicd@gmail.com.

The OCW's published spray routes can be viewed at: <https://ocwicd.com/route-maps>.

The OCW call center phone number is (802) 247-6779; the call center will take requests for treatment during the season.

If you wish to opt out of **all** adult mosquito treatment and not have the road(s) abutting your property sprayed, please send a written request to the OCW. If you submitted an opt out (No Spray Zone) request for your property last year AND there have been no changes in ownership, contact information, or property boundaries, an email to the OCW containing your 911 address and requesting No Spray Zone status again this year will suffice. If you did not submit an opt out request last year and/or there have been changes in ownership, contact information, or property boundaries, please send a letter to the OCW address given below listing the name(s) of the property owner(s), his/her/their contact telephone number(s), the 911 address of the property, and a property map which clearly shows the property boundaries along the public right of way. Property maps can be obtained from Town Clerks or online at <https://maps.vcgi.vermont.gov/ParcelViewer>. Upon receipt of your request an OCW employee will contact you and then will mark your property as a No Spray Zone. Opt-out requests must be renewed annually.

In accordance with paragraph 6.07 (a) of the Vermont Rule for the Control of Pesticides, the OCW has applied for a permit to conduct truck-mounted mosquito adulticide applications from the Secretary, Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets.

Further information can be obtained from:
Jeff Schumann, OCW Board of Trustees Chair
Or questions mailed or emailed to:
Otter Creek Watershed Insect Control District
P.O. Box 188
Brandon, VT 05733
(802) 247-6779
ocwicd@gmail.com
<https://ocwicd.com>

Comments or complaints about OCW adulticide spraying operations should be addressed to:
Director, Public Health & Agricultural Resource Management Division
Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets
116 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05620-2901
(802) 522-6973
steve.dwinell@vermont.gov

TOWN OF MIDDLEBURY SELECTBOARD MEETING
ROOM 116 – LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM
TOWN OFFICES – 77 MAIN STREET
TUESDAY, MARCH 25, 2025 - 7:00 P.M.

Also available via Zoom:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89398577215>
By Phone: +1 646-558-8656 (not toll-free)
Webinar ID: 893 9857 7215

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

7:00

7:05

7:10

7:15

7:30

7:40

7:50

7:55

8:00

1. Call to Order

2. *Approval of Agenda

3. *Approval of Consent Agenda

3a. *Approval of the Minutes of the March 11, 2025 Regular Selectboard Meeting

3b. *Acceptance of Selectboard Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

3c. *Approval of Applications - Renewal of State Licenses/Permits (if any)

3d. Consent Agenda Placeholder

3e. Consent Agenda Placeholder

3f. Consent Agenda Placeholder

3g. Town Manager's Report

4. **Citizen Comments (Opportunity to raise or address issues not otherwise included on this agenda)

5. *Infrastructure Committee - Updates & Recommendations

5a. Chipman Hill Reservoir Construction Contact

5b. Project Updates

6. *Public Hearing - Final Adoption of Proposed Town Ethics Procedure & Enforcement Ordinance

7. *Proposed Changes to Town Capitalization Policy - Follow-Up

8. **Homeward Bound - Fundraiser 'Pet Mayor' Proposal

9. Agenda Placeholder

10. Agenda Placeholder

11. Agenda Placeholder

12. Approval of Check Warrants

13. **Board Member Concerns

14. Executive Session - Not Anticipated

15. Action on Matters Discussed in Executive Session

16. *Adjourn

*Possible Decision

**Discussion

STATE OF VERMONT SUPERIOR COURT
PROBATE DIVISION, ADDISON UNIT
DOCKET NO.: 25-PR-01410
IN RE ESTATE OF: GARY POMAINVILLE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

To the Creditors of: Gary Pomainville, late of Lincoln.
I have been appointed to administer this estate. All creditors having claims against the decedent or the estate must present their claims in writing within four (4) months of the first publication of this notice. **The claim must be presented to me at the address listed below with a copy sent to the Court. The claim may be barred forever if it is not presented within the four (4) month period.**

Dated: 03/11/25

Jaclyn Paolantonio
31 Pine St., Bristol, VT 05443
(802) 391-7698
jaclynp.vt@gmail.com

Publication: Addison Independent
Publication Date: 03/20/25
Name of Probate Court: Vermont Superior Court, Addison Unit, Probate Division
Address of Court: 7 Mahady Court, Middlebury, VT 05753

ADDISON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
SPRING DEVELOPMENTAL SCREENING
FOR PRESCHOOL CHILDREN

The ACSD Early Education team will be offering spring screenings to preschool children from Bridport, Cornwall, Middlebury, Ripton, Salisbury, Shoreham and Weybridge!

The ACSD Early Education Program provides services to children identified as having disabilities or delays in meeting developmental milestones. We also collaborate with area preschool and childcare programs to address the needs of our local preschool children. Screenings help to identify children who would benefit from additional support before entering kindergarten.

If you have questions or concerns about your child's developmental progress, your district early education program is offering screening for children ages 3-5 who are not enrolled in kindergarten. Screening is conducted in a playful environment, and provides information on your child's speech and language development, motor, social and early academic skills.

Two Options to Participate:

Join us at Bridport Central School, 3442 VT 22A, Bridport on Friday, April 4, 2025. For more information or to schedule an appointment, please call Linda Barrett 802-758-2331.

OR

Join us at Mary Hogan Elementary School, 201 Mary Hogan Drive, in Middlebury on April 4, 11, and 18, 2025. For more information or to schedule an appointment, please call Deb Martin at 802-382-1761.

TOWN OF MIDDLEBURY
BOARD AND COMMISSION VACANCIES

Each year at this time the Town of Middlebury Select Board makes its annual appointments to volunteer positions required by State Statute, and local and regional boards and commissions. If you are interested in any of the following positions, please submit an Application for Appointment available on the Town's website https://www.townofmiddlebury.org/government/boards_and_commissions/index.php, or by contacting Beth Dow at bdow@townofmiddlebury.org. Please submit Applications for Appointment to the Manager's Office, 77 Main Street, Middlebury, or e-mail to bdow@townofmiddlebury.org, by Tuesday, April 1, 2025. If you would like to find out more about any of these positions, please contact Beth Dow at 388-8100, Ext 202.

Four Year Term
Conservation Commission

Three Year Terms
Planning Commission
Design Advisory Committee
Development Review Board
Downtown Improvement District Committee (Must own or represent a business in the district.)
Deputy Health Officer (Will require Vermont Health Dept training.)
Parks & Recreation Committee
Infrastructure Committee
Energy Committee

One Year Term
Addison County Regional Planning Commission Delegates
Addison County Regional Planning Commission Alternate
Addison County Regional Planning Commission Transportation Advisory Committee Delegate
Addison County Regional Planning Commission Transportation Advisory Committee Alternate
Fence Viewer
Maple Broadband Communications District Delegate
Maple Broadband Communications District Delegate Alternate
Town Agent
Town Grand Juror
Town Service Officer
Tree Warden

NOTIFICATION OF INFORMATIONAL MEETING
LARGE FARM PERMIT AMENDMENT AND
CONSTRUCTION PERMIT APPLICATION

Notice is hereby provided that Gosliga Farm Inc in the town of Addison, Vermont has applied to the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets for a Large Farm Operation Permit Amendment and Construction Permit.
Gosliga Farm Inc is proposing the following changes at their farm, located at 319 Sunset Ln, Addison, VT 05491:

- Increase permitted maximum number of animals
- Construction of Animal Housing

An informational meeting will be held by the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets on April 2, 2025, at 10:00AM. The meeting will be held virtually through the Microsoft Teams platform. Participants can join by phone or video conference. Participants can remotely call into the meeting with the following:
Call-in Number: 802-828-7667
Conference ID: 657 156 934#

Participants interested in joining through video conference may contact Brittany Cole at Brittany.Cole@vermont.gov or 802-522-7413 prior to the day of the meeting to be emailed a link to join the meeting. The purpose of the public informational meeting shall be to provide an opportunity for the public to learn about the proposed project.

The public comment period regarding the application closes five business days after the meeting date mentioned above. All comments must be submitted by close of business on April 9, 2025. Any questions or comments regarding the project or the meeting may be submitted to:
Brittany Cole
Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets
94 Harvest Lane, Williston, VT
Brittany.Cole@vermont.gov
802-522-7413

ACT 250 NOTICE
MINOR APPLICATION #9A0385
10 V.S.A. §§ 6000 - 6111

Roger Parker, Jr., has filed application #9A0385 for a project generally described as a 3-lot commercial subdivision of a ±17.8-acre parcel and construction of a contractor yard upon Lot 1, as follows: (1) Lot 1 – ±8.80 acres, (2) Lot 2 – ±4.00 acres, and (3) Lot 3 – ±4.90 acres. The subdivision aspect of the project will include: (1) construction of a ±750-foot shared access road; (2) construction of a shared on-site mound septic system; (3) municipal water connections; and (4) utility and stormwater improvements. Development of Lot 1 will include construction of: (1) a ±5,000 square-foot heated shop building; (2) a ±1,500 square-foot barn structure with an upstairs residential apartment; (3) a ±1,500 square-foot pole storage barn; (4) a ±4,500 square-foot pole storage barn; and (5) a ±1,500 square-foot precast concrete "bunker" for landscaping material storage. Lots 2 and 3 are not proposed for further development or construction at this time. Lot 1 will serve as the headquarters for White Falcon Construction, LLC. The project is located off the south side of Tupper's Crossing ±500 feet west of its intersection with U.S. Route 7 in Ferrisburgh, VT. The application may be viewed on the Land Use Review Board's Act 250 Database (<https://anrweb.vt.gov/ANR/Act250/default.aspx>) by entering project number "9A0385."

No hearing will be held, and a permit may be issued unless, on or before Wednesday, April 9, 2025, at 4:30 PM, a party notifies the District 9 Commission in writing of an issue requiring a hearing, or the Commission sets the matter for a hearing on its own motion. Any person as defined in 10 V.S.A. § 6085(c)(1) may request a hearing. Any hearing request must be in writing, must state the criteria or sub-criteria at issue, why a hearing is required, and what additional evidence will be presented at the hearing. Any hearing request by an adjoining property owner or other person eligible for party status under 10 V.S.A. § 6085(c)(1)(E) must include a petition for party status under the Act 250 Rules. To request party status and a hearing, fill out the Party Status Petition Form on the Board's website: <https://act250.vermont.gov/documents/party-status-petition-form>, and email it to the District 9 Office at: Act250.Essex@vermont.gov. Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law may not be prepared unless the Commission holds a public hearing.

For more information contact the District 9 Coordinator listed below.
Josh Donabedian
Joshua.Donabedian@vermont.gov
111 West Street
Essex Junction, VT 05452

Email your Public Notices
to legals@addisonindependent.com
and Jenna makes sure it gets in the paper

TOWN OF NEW HAVEN
DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD NOTICE OF HEARING

Pursuant to 24 V.S.A. §4464, a public hearing before the Development Review Board of the Town of New Haven will be held at the Town Offices, 78 North Street, New Haven, VT 05472 on Monday, April 7, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. to consider the following:

1.

Application #2025-DRB-02-SP: Site Plan Review in accordance with Section 334 of the New Haven Zoning and Subdivision Regulations adopted April 2024. The Addison County Solid Waste Management District requests a site plan review for further development of the residential transfer station located on Lot 6 of a 9-lot commercial/light industrial subdivision off Campground Road in the Town of New Haven; specifically, to redevelop the adjacent lot at 145 Campground Road into a Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) facility as a Public Use Exception.

Please note that participation in the local proceeding is a prerequisite to the right to take any subsequent appeal. The hearing will be held as a hybrid meeting, either in person at the Town Offices, or by remote:
<https://zoom.us/j/98142119190?pwd=U0pFdDQ2a1ZRZzVCRkN4ZGcyYUF3dz09>
Meeting ID: 981 4211 9190
Passcode: 4jYbTA

An electronic copy of the application may be obtained by emailing: newhavenzoning@gmavt.net; a hard copy is available at the Town Offices during normal business hours, and can also be found on the Town's website at: <https://www.nethavenvt.com/>

New Haven Zoning Administrator (802) 453-3516

NOTIFICATION OF INFORMATIONAL MEETING
LARGE FARM PERMIT AMENDMENT AND
CONSTRUCTION PERMIT APPLICATION

Notice is hereby provided that Hans Vorsteveld of Vorsteveld Farm LLP in the town of Panton, Vermont has applied to the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets for a Large Farm Construction Permit and Operation Permit Amendment.

Vorsteveld Farm LLP is proposing the following changes at their farm, located at 4531 Jersey Street and 2066 Arnold Bay Road:

- Increase in permitted maximum number of animals
- Construction of Animal Housing

An informational meeting will be held by the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets on April 3, 2025, at 11:00AM. The meeting will be held at the Panton Town Hall located at 3176 Jersey Street, Panton, VT 05491.

The purpose of the public informational meeting shall be to provide an opportunity for the public to learn about the proposed project.

The public comment period regarding the application closes five business days after the meeting date mentioned above. All comments must be submitted by close of business on April 11, 2025. Any questions or comments regarding the project or the meeting may be submitted to:

Brittany Cole
94 Harvest Lane, Williston, VT
Brittany.Cole@vermont.gov
802-522-7413

ART LEISURE

The Addison Independent

March 20, 2025

ALLRED IS ALL ABOUT THE ARTS

5-TOWN FRIENDS OF THE ARTS
HONORS JENNIFER ALLRED

Jennifer Allred will be this year's honoree at the 5-Town Friends of the Arts annual meeting. Each year the nonprofit recognizes someone who makes a significant contribution to the arts in the five towns the nonprofit serves. All are welcome to come celebrate Allred on March 30, from 1-3 p.m., at Bristol's Holley Hall.

INDEPENDENT PHOTO / STEVE JAMES

Each year 5-Town Friends of the Arts celebrates someone who makes a significant contribution to the arts in the five towns the nonprofit serves: Bristol, Lincoln, Starksboro, New Haven and Monkton. This year, Bristol resident Jennifer Allred will receive the award

during the annual meeting, which will be held at Holley Hall in Bristol, on Sunday, March 30, from 1-3 p.m. All are welcome to celebrate

BY ELSIE

LYNN PARINI

Allred and her "remarkable devotion of time and talent, combining her love of music and theater with her love of working with young people."

5-Town Friends of the Arts elaborated about Allred's work: "Between the fall, spring and Middle School musicals at Mt. Abe, the Expanded Learning Program play, the Red Cedar School play, voice lessons, accompanying school choruses at their concerts, and the myriad other things she is involved in, she nurtures a love of and more importantly participation in the arts for literally hundreds of local youth every year."

"I am very humbled by this recognition," Allred

"I LOVE TO SEE THAT SPARK
**WHEN THEY REALIZE, 'I CAN
DO THIS!'** AND THEIR JOY
WHEN THEY REALIZE, 'I DID
DO THIS!'"

— Jennifer Allred

said. "The 5-Town Friends and their past honorees are people that I look to with deep gratitude as mentors and guides. They have been an incredible support to me and the programs I work with. They embody the belief that it truly 'takes a village,' and they have reinforced that idea in my heart and work."

Allred said that she grew up in a musical household — mostly in Idaho and Utah, though they moved around a bit. "My mom was a piano teacher and accompanist, and my dad was an opera singer," she explained. "Practice and performance, music and theater were the constant rhythm of our lives. I began piano lessons at age five, accompanying the school choirs and musicals in middle school and teaching piano in high school. In college, I

studied music, theater and dance with a focus on vocal pedagogy, where I also accompanied voice lessons for the music faculty."

Allred moved to Addison County in 2000 with her partner Ben and their two toddlers, planning to stay for a few years before returning to Utah.

"At that time, my partner, Ben, was working towards his architecture licensure and was recruited by BreadLoaf Corporation," Allred said. "Although we initially intended to leave, Vermont captured our hearts, and here we are, 25 years and two more children later."

Since moving to Vermont, Allred said she has enjoyed accompanying choral and musical theater students at Mt. Abraham and performing with WomenSing, Middlebury Community Players, and the Committee in Bristol.

Buzz Kuhns has also been working on the musicals at Mt Abe for the past 14 years — "which seemed like a pretty long time, until I started digging into the history of the plays and realized that Jen has been working on them for

SEE HONOR ON PAGE 3

VSO celebrates Women's History Month in Weybridge

The Vermont Symphony Orchestra (VSO) will be coming to Weybridge on March 29, for a special concert series in celebration of Women's History Month, featuring works exclusively by female composers. Performances will also take place in Burlington, Montpelier and Richmond, highlighting the stories and challenges of women who overcame societal barriers to share their music with the world.

This program was developed by VSO violinist and music educator Laura Markowitz, who will perform alongside fellow VSO musicians Kathy Andrew (violin), Ana Ruesink (viola), and Jiwon Lee (cello).

"These concerts are all about honoring the voices of women composers — both past and present — many of whom had to overcome incredible obstacles just to have their music heard," Markowitz said. "This concert isn't just about music — it's about history. Audiences can look forward to enjoying the depth, variety, and beauty of women's compositions, as well as the stories behind them."

Adding to the educational experience, young female musicians from local middle schools will introduce each piece, sharing the history and significance of the works performed.

PROGRAM SELECTIONS:

Barbara Strozzi – "L'amante Modesto:" A piece from one of Strozzi's eight collections of songs. The 17th-century Italian composer is credited with helping to create the cantata genre.

Fanny Mendelssohn – "E-flat Quartet, First Movement:" A Romantic-era composition inspired by works of her brother, Felix Mendelssohn, and Beethoven.

Elena Kats-Chernin – "Pink Breasted Robin:" A



Vermont Symphony Orchestra violinist and music educator Laura Markowitz, Kathy Andrew (violin), Ana Ruesink (viola), and Jiwon Lee (cello) will perform a free concert at the Weybridge Congregational Church on March 29, at 1 p.m.

COURTESY PHOTO

contemporary work originally written for flute, inspired by the nature of the pink-breasted robin.

Alice Chance – "Aloe Vera:" A piece by Australian composer Alice Chance, inspired by her upbringing on the lands of the Eora Nation in Sydney.

Rhiannon Giddens – "At the Purchaser's Option:" A powerful protest song telling the heartbreaking story of a young enslaved woman facing the loss of her child.

Germaine Tailleferre – "Quartet, First Movement:" A 20th-century French composition known for its rhythmic energy and striking harmonies.

Florence Price – "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot:" An arrangement by American composer and pianist Florence Price inspired by African American spirituals and folk influences.

Cécile Chaminade – "Ronde d'Amour:" A Romantic-era piece translating to "Round of

Love," showcasing Chaminade's lyrical style.

Clara Schumann – "Ich Stand in Dunkeln Träumen:" A composition originally created as a Christmas gift to her husband, Robert Schumann.

Caroline Shaw – "Plan and Elevation (Movements 1, 4, and 5):" Contemporary works inspired by architectural sketches, composed by Pulitzer Prize-winning musician Caroline Shaw.

"We are pleased to present this historical program honoring female composers as an educational music experience for Vermonters," said Elise Brunelle, Executive Director of the Vermont Symphony Orchestra. "We are grateful to the Music Performance Trust Fund and Vermont Humanities for their support in making these concerts free and accessible to the community."

CONCERT DETAILS:

March 28: Main Street Landing, Burlington at 7:30 p.m.

March 29: Weybridge Congregational Church, Weybridge at 1 p.m.

March 29: Christ Episcopal Church, Montpelier at 7 p.m.

March 30: Richmond Congregational Church, Richmond at 4 p.m. (TBC)

All performances are free and open to the public; audiences are encouraged to pre-register via Eventbrite.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Weybridge concert marks the start of a collaboration between VSO, Vermont Humanities, and the Henry Sheldon Museum to develop historical programming centered on the story of Charity and Sylvia, one of the earliest documented same-sex couples in America.

IMAGE / HENRY SHELDON MUSEUM



HONOR

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

of her boys have taken part in the plays, often in starring roles, but because she was the music director, she never actually got to watch them perform, because she was always facing away from the stage, leading the pit band," Kuhns said. "As a parent of a son in those plays myself, that is a sacrifice I can't imagine making."

"One of my most memorable moments was during our fall 2021 production of 'Beauty and the Beast,' when we performed while wearing masks," Allred remembered. "Despite the challenges, the students showed incredible adaptability and dedication. At the end of the run, we gathered on stage for a cast photo and asked everyone to hold their breath while removing their masks for just a moment. That fleeting glimpse of their smiling faces after a season of hard work is forever etched in my memory. I felt immense gratitude for our community's support and the reminder of how precious each moment is, even amid adversity."

Allred sees participation in music and theater as a way for young people to learn empathy and gain confidence.

"They learn to pay attention to each other, to walk in another person's shoes; they learn to work hard and that the work toward a common goal is rewarding," she said. "They learn to be dependable, to solve problems, to collaborate, and to watch out for each other. It's a place where they can play, express

10 years longer than that," he exclaimed.

"One heartbreaking, bittersweet fact about the years Jen has dedicated to the shows is that all four

themselves, and have fun without judgment. They develop confidence through these experiences, which carries on beyond the stage."

Allred has been their first-hand to witness young people discover their talent of the first time, and she said it's "incredibly rewarding."

"I love to see that spark when they realize, 'I can do this!' and their joy when they realize, 'I DID do this!' It is profoundly moving to me when young people uplift and encourage one another," Allred emphasized.

Allred counts herself lucky to live in a community that "cares and fosters arts education," but it's certainly not without challenges. The biggest challenge Allred sees is access.

"Families that cannot fit extra private lessons or arts experiences into their time or budget rely on the schools to provide those opportunities," said Allred, who has her own private music studio in her home, where she teaches piano and voice lessons to over 30 students weekly. "Our public school music and art teachers are incredibly dedicated and care deeply about arts education. They see their time with students being diminished, and students who might seek out those avenues in school are not always able to. It is heartening to see local arts organizations and after-school programs in our community working to create pathways for students who are in need."

Allred also has taught musical theater summer camps at Middlebury Community Music Center and worked at Town Hall Theater as the music director for the youth summer musical theater camp with Doug Anderson (which she'll be doing again this summer). She also serves as the Arts & Enrichment Director for the MAUSD Expanded Learning Program, directs the fall and spring musicals at Mt. Abraham Union High School ("Beetlejuice JR" hits the Mt. Abe stage this weekend), the ELP middle school musical, and a summer musical through ELP for third- to sixth-graders. Allred has also led

"THEY LEARN TO BE DEPENDABLE, TO SOLVE PROBLEMS, TO COLLABORATE, AND TO WATCH OUT FOR EACH OTHER. IT'S A PLACE WHERE THEY CAN PLAY, EXPRESS THEMSELVES, AND HAVE FUN WITHOUT JUDGMENT."

— Jennifer Allred

artist-in-residency musical theater programs at Lincoln Community School, Red Cedar School, and Brewster Pierce Elementary School in Huntington. And she enjoys participating in community musical theater whenever she finds the time.

"Thinking about the positive influence she was for my son who was musically and theatrically inclined, and then multiplying that by the hundreds or at this point probably thousands of young people she has worked with, I am in awe," Kuhns said simply.

Come and honor Allred and the enrichment she has given to our communities during the annual meeting on March 30. There will be an opportunity for folks to share their appreciation, and how they have benefited from her generosity. Plus there will be cake and excellent snacks. Free and open to all!



Jennifer Allred accompanies youth singers on the piano.

PHOTO / BUZZ KUHNS



**MIDDLEBURY
PERFORMING
ARTS SERIES**



Isidore String Quartet

Friday, March 28 • 7:30 PM
Mahaney Arts Center, Robison Hall

FREE • In person and streaming



go.middlebury.edu/pas

UPCOMING MUSIC

Champlain Philharmonic concert celebrates 20th anniversary season with local pianist Diana Fanning

On Saturday evening, March 29, the Champlain Philharmonic Orchestra will take the stage in Town Hall Theater's historic hall; followed by a concert at Grace Congregational Church in Rutland on March 30. Both shows will feature Addison County pianist Diana Fanning,



Middlebury's Diana Fanning will perform with the Champlain Philharmonic Orchestra on March 29 at Town Hall Theater in Middlebury, and on March 30 in Rutland.

COURTESY PHOTO

who will perform Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 3.

"I am delighted to play Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 3 with the CPO," Fanning said. "I played this concerto on the CPO's very first concert, when the orchestra was founded by Dieuwke Davydov and David Gusakov, and have been invited to play it again as part of their 20th anniversary season.

"I love playing with this group of passionate and enthusiastic orchestra players, many of whom have been friends of mine for years," Fanning added. "It will be especially meaningful to have another performance of the very first concerto we played together."

Fanning has toured extensively as a recitalist and chamber musician throughout the eastern U.S. and in Europe, concertizing in London, Paris, Geneva, Amsterdam, and Munich. After her first solo concert in Munich, a critic acclaimed

SEE DIANA ON PAGE 12

MORE TUNES



The Isidore String Quartet will perform a free concert at the Mahaney Arts Center on Friday, March 28, at 7:30 p.m.

PHOTO / Jiyang Chen

Isidore String Quartet to perform a free concert March 28 in Middlebury

The Middlebury College Performing Arts Series proudly presents the award-winning Isidore String Quartet on Friday, March 28, at the Mahaney Arts Center. The quartet will make their Middlebury debut in this free concert, an annual gift to the community, made possible by the Sunderman Family Concert Endowment Fund.

The acclaimed young ensemble's concert, entitled "Unrequited," explores the intersection of treasured classics and contemporary perspectives, providing a path into the complicated labyrinth that is human compassion and love. The program includes Mozart's String Quartet No. 19 in C Major, K. 465, "Dissonance"; Beethoven's String Quartet No. 12 in E-flat Major, Op.127; and Billy Childs' String Quartet No. 3, "Unrequited." This concert is free and open to all; no tickets are required.

PRE-SHOW HOURS AT THE MUSEUM

The Middlebury College Museum of Art will be open for special, pre-show hours on Friday, March 28, from 6-7:15 p.m. Visitors can enjoy all the current exhibitions, including "Rania Matar: SHE," a collection of photographs by Lebanese American artist Rania Matar that tell the stories of young women through portraits taken throughout Lebanon, France, Egypt, and the United States. The museum is free and open to all.

PERFORMANCE DETAILS

The Isidore String Quartet will perform at the Mahaney Arts Center's Olin C. Robison Concert Hall on Friday, March 28, at 7:30 p.m. The concert is free; no tickets are required (early arrival is recommended.) For information, call 802-443-MIDD (6433) or visit middlebury.edu/arts.


JESSICA'S
AT
SWIFT HOUSE INN

Drop by and let Ella the Sommelier take you on a tasting journey every Wednesday throughout the winter.

5 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Deep discounts on selections from the cellar.

25 STEWART LANE,
MIDDLEBURY, VT 05753
SWIFTHOUSEINN.COM



WINE WEDNESDAYS

ART ON EXHIBIT

EDGEWATER AT THE FALLS

1 Mill Street, Middlebury

For more info visit edgewatergallery.com, call 802-458-0098 or email info@edgewatergallery-vt.com.

"Translations" presents a collection from painter Dale Najarian and encaustic mixed media artist Dietlind Vander Schaaf. Using photography as a guide to her oil paintings, Najarian depicts the patterns of shadow and light. These highly contrasted images depict the rhythm in quiet moments, much like the encaustic wax paintings of Vander Schaaf. On view March 21-April 26.

EDGEWATER ON THE GREEN

6 Merchants Row, Middlebury

For more info visit edgewatergallery.com, call 802-989-7419 or email info@edgewatergallery-vt.com.

"Shimmer", is Julia Purinton's solo exhibition of new paintings in oil. She presents this body of work at a time that she feels we need to remember the healing abilities of the natural world. On view Feb. 28-April 5.

JOHNSON EXHIBITION GALLERY

78 Chateau Road, Middlebury

For hours and info visit middlebury.edu/events

"Beyond Walls" featuring works made by artist, image maker, and photographer Hannah Smith Allen, reimagining the U.S./Mexico border. This collection was created during Donald Trump's first presidency, including still photographs, unique screen prints, and Borderlands, an accordion book/sculptural object originally published by the VSW Press in 2021. Also included in this exhibition is "Target Practice," a series of military targets fabricated out of acrylic mirror. The work holds a mirror up to current politics and invites viewers to imagine new possibilities in interpreting, interrupting, and engaging with the American landscape and its political systems. Free and open to all during gallery hours: Sun. 1-7 p.m.; Mon.-Thurs. 9 a.m.-7 p.m.; Fri. 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; closed Saturdays.

K. GRANT FINE ART

37 Green St, Vergennes

For more info visit kgrantfineart.com.

"Mortal Coil," featuring works by Misoo Bang, Austin Furtak-Cole, Suzy Spence, Kalin Thomas, Mollie Ward, and Corrine Yonce. This six-person show explores the human experience through the lens of self-possession, connection, and vulnerability, all rooted in the physicality of the body. On view through April 26.

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE MUSEUM OF ART

72 Porter Field Road, Middlebury

For more info visit middlebury.edu/museum/exhibitions

"Rania Matar: SHE." The photographs of Lebanese Palestinian American artist Rania Matar — captured through car windows, in abandoned buildings, snow-

SEE EXHIBITS ON PAGE 15

Cosmic Forecast

ARIES: March 21/April 20. Aries, you may encounter some stubborn people this week and that always has the potential for confrontation. Make yourself scarce if conversations veer in the wrong direction.

TAURUS: April 21/May 21. Things might not be lining up perfectly for a whirlwind trip right now, Taurus. Don't let it get you down. In a few more weeks, an entirely different story may emerge.

GEMINI: May 22/June 21. Gemini, this is a good opportunity to begin clearing up the clutter in your life. Start tackling the mess as soon as possible and enjoy the weight being lifted off your shoulders.

CANCER: June 22/July 22. Try not to sweat the small stuff right now, Cancer. It often is easier said than done, but the little things could be dimming your light unnecessarily. Seek the support of positive people.

LEO: July 23/Aug. 23. Leo, there are plenty of opportunities available to you now whether you realize it or not. Keep an open mind and equally open eyes to see if you can spot chances to learn and grow.

VIRGO: Aug. 24/Sept. 22. Virgo, your mind and heart are simply not able to let something go that happened in the past. Your emotions may feel restricted because of it. It's a passing thing and will resolve.

LIBRA: Sept. 23/Oct. 23. Libra, you are going through a period of evaluation of certain things in your life. This may bring about tension and even some friction, but it's a necessary step for you.

SCORPIO: Oct. 24/Nov. 22. This week there may be a weighty air that puts a damper on your jovial nature, Scorpio. Instead of getting down on yourself, use this time to focus and get a job done.

SAGITTARIUS: Nov. 23/Dec. 21. Sagittarius, you have a chance to make tremendous progress and further your career. It will take hard work, but the rewards will start to roll in soon enough.

CAPRICORN: Dec. 22/Jan. 20. Avoid questioning superiors or those in positions of authority right now, Capricorn. This is a surefire path into hot water. Take a break and sort through negative emotions.

AQUARIUS: Jan. 21/Feb. 18. Aquarius, you might be going through a time of great preparation with a focus on building a major life project. This is not to be taken lightly and will require a lot of attention.

PISCES: Feb. 19/March 20. There may be a sober feeling to the week that leaves you feeling a bit down, Pisces. Focus on finishing projects and these feelings will pass by before you know it.

Adagio Chocolates

Check out our Women-Made Chocolates as we celebrate Women's History Month!

52 Main Street Middlebury, VT 802-382-4000
www.adagiochocolates.com

Middlebury FLORAL & GIFTS

We Deliver!

Spring is Coming... Can You Smell the Flowers?

Flowers, Gifts, Cards, and More

M-F 9-5:30, Sat. 10-2 • Rt. 7 South, Middlebury
802-388-2800 • www.middleburyfloralandgifts.com

Notions, threads & more.

Your LOCAL Store!

Service & repair.

FABRIC

QUILTERS' CORNER

MIDDLEBURY SEW-N-VAC

260 Court Street, Middlebury, Vt. 05753
802-388-3559 www.middleburysewnvac.com
OPEN: M-F 10-5 and Saturday 9:30-4

FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

MARCH 21 — Gary Oldman, actor (67)

MARCH 22 — Keegan-Michael Key, actor and comedian (54)

MARCH 23 — Akira Kurosawa, filmmaker (d)

MARCH 24 — Jessica Chastain, actor (48)

MARCH 25 — Elton John, singer (78)

MARCH 26 — Tennessee Williams, playwright (d)

MARCH 27 — Sarah Vaughn, singer (d)

CALENDAR

MARCH 20-28
2025



THURSDAY, MARCH 20

“HIS GIRL FRIDAY” ON SCREEN IN MIDDLEBURY. Thursday, March 20, 1 p.m., Middlebury Marquis Theater, 65 Main St. Join fellow community film lovers to watch this month’s Middlebury Classic Film Club movie, followed by short discussion of the film. As always, the popcorn is on us.

CABIN FEVER LECTURE: BIRDING SCOTLAND’S GREAT GLEN WAY. Thursday, March 20, 5:30-6:30 p.m., Bixby Memorial Library, 258 Main St. OCAS luminary Mike Winslow will tell us about a recent trip to Scotland, and the difficulties of identifying reed warblers.

9 TO 5 IN VERGENNES. Thursday, March 20, 7 p.m., Auditorium, Vergennes Union High School, Monkton Rd. Come see VUHS thespians tell the story of three working women who live out their fantasies of getting even with and overthrowing their company’s autocratic vice president. Tickets \$12 adults and students/\$10 seniors, available at the door.

BEETLEJUICE JR - THE MUSICAL IN BRISTOL. Thursday, March 20, 7 p.m., Mount Abraham Union High School, Airport Rd. Adapted from the smash-hit Broadway musical, “Beetlejuice JR” features catchy songs, outrageous characters, and a heartwarming message about family and belonging. Rated PG for spooky imagery, dark humor, and themes of death, the content is largely presented in a cartoonish, comedic way, with minimal gore or explicit violence. Tickets \$15

adults/\$12 seniors and children under 12, available at tinyurl.com/bjticket and at the door until sold out.

WILLY WONKA JR. IN MIDDLEBURY. Thursday, March 20, 7 p.m., Auditorium, Middlebury Union High School, 73 Charles Ave. MUHS’ senior play this year takes you inside the world of Willy Wonka. Candy, demanding children, oompaloompas and more. All proceeds help to fund Class of 2025 Project Graduation. Tickets \$12, available at <https://gofan.co/app/school/VT15095>.

RICK CEBALLOS IN STARKSBORO. Thursday, March 20, 7:30 p.m., Starksboro Public Library, Route 116. The 5 Town Winter Into Spring Musical Library Tour continues. Rick Ceballos gathers songs and tunes from France, Ireland, England, Galicia and the United States. His original compositions draw and elaborate on the colorful traditions he studies. Admission is free with donations welcome.

FRIDAY, MARCH 21
GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB HIKE IN MIDDLEBURY. Friday, March 21. Wander on the TAM. Leader’s choice dependent on conditions. We will cover 4-6 miles. Contact Ellen Cronan at 908-595-2926 to sign up and for further information. More at gmcbreadloaf.org.

“CRESTA ALTA” SCREENING AND Q&A IN FERRISBURGH. Friday, March 21, 7 p.m., Ferrisburgh Town Hall, Route 7. “Cresta Alta” by environmental documentary filmmaker and socially-conscious musician Todd Anders Johnson chronicles a journey to Alaska,

Iceland, Chile and Peru to document glaciological research expeditions and sustainability. Discussion/Q&A with producer and director to follow. Tickets \$15, available at unionmeetinghall.org.

9 TO 5 IN VERGENNES. Friday, March 21, 7 p.m., Auditorium, Vergennes Union High School, Monkton Rd. See March 20 listing.

BEETLEJUICE JR - THE MUSICAL IN BRISTOL. Friday, March 21, 7 p.m., Mount Abraham Union High School, Airport Rd. See March 20 listing.

WILLY WONKA JR. IN MIDDLEBURY. Friday, March 21, 7 p.m., Auditorium, Middlebury Union High School, 73 Charles Ave. See March 20 listing.

“THE ABSOLUTE BRIGHTNESS OF LEONARD PELKEY” ON STAGE IN MIDDLEBURY. Friday, March 21, 7:30 p.m., Anderson Studio Theater, Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. In this play by James Lecesne, Andrew Ritter plays every character in a small New Jersey town as he unravels the story of Leonard Pelkey, a tenaciously optimistic and flamboyant 14-year-old boy who goes missing. A luminous force of nature whose magic is only truly felt once he is gone. Leonard becomes an unexpected inspiration as the town’s citizens question how they live, who they love, and what they leave behind. A MACo production. Tickets: Standard \$33/budget \$28/generous \$39.

SATURDAY, MARCH 22
GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB HIKE IN BRISTOL. Saturday, March 22, 9 a.m.,

Bristol Trail Network. This is a great mud season hike because the gravel soils in Bristol drain well so the trail is always open. The 3-mile loop around the village offers a scenic mix of history and geography and takes 2.5-3 hours. The elevation gain is under 100 feet, but there are some steep sections and uneven terrain. Sturdy shoes and poles are recommended. Excellent options for snacks/lunch in Bristol before or afterward. Contact Porter Knight at knight@gmavt.net or 802-343-3920 for more information. More at gmcbreadloaf.org.

GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB HIKE OR CROSS-COUNTRY SKI IN RIPTON. Saturday, March 22, Brooks Rd. Cross country ski, depending on snow cover. 8 miles round trip as a ski and 4 miles round trip as a walk. Contact Morris Earle to register and for more information at [morisearle@gmail.com](mailto:morrisearle@gmail.com) or 802-734-0984. More at gmcbreadloaf.org.

BOOK CLUB ON THE TAM IN MIDDLEBURY. Saturday, March 22, noon-2 p.m., Otter Creek Gorge, Northern Trailhead, Morgan Horse Farm Rd. Join MALT and Ilsley Public Library to discuss “Flight Behavior,” by Barbara Kingsolver. We will meet in Otter Creek Gorge underneath an ancient and beloved oak tree (the large oak with a swing), a short walk away from the northern parking lot on Morgan Horse Farm Rd. All ages are welcome. Light refreshments provided. No bathrooms on site; please plan accordingly. Free. Club continues Saturday, March 22. More info and registration at www.gmcbreadloaf.org.

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 802-388-3062.	
Channel 1071 Through the Night: Public Affairs Friday, March 21 4 a.m. Energy Week 5:05 a.m. Under the Dome: Affordability in VT 7:30 a.m. Congregational Church Service 10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 4 p.m. Memorial Baptist Church Service 5:30 p.m. Energy Week Saturday, March 22 6:30 a.m. Energy Week 10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 4 p.m. Memorial Baptist Service 5:30 p.m. Eckankar 7 p.m. Catholic Mass 7:30 p.m. Press Conferences 9:04 p.m. Affordability in VT 11 p.m. Energy Week Sunday, March 23 6:05 a.m. Affordability in VT 6:30 a.m. Energy Week 7:30 a.m. Press Conf. 9 a.m. Catholic Mass 11 a.m. Memorial Baptist Service	12:30 p.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 4 p.m. Congregational Service 6:30 p.m. Eckankar 7 p.m. Catholic Mass Monday, March 24 4:30 a.m. Energy Week 5:30 a.m. Eckankar 6:05 a.m. Press Conf., Public Affairs 10 a.m. Selectboard, Press Conf., Public Affairs 5:30 p.m. Affordability in VT Tuesday, March 25 5 a.m. Press Conf., Public Affairs 8:30 a.m. Affordability in VT 9:30 a.m. Eckankar 10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 4 p.m. Congregational Service 5:30 p.m. Energy Week 7 p.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs Wednesday, March 26 7:30 a.m. Memorial Baptist Service 9:30 a.m. Catholic Mass 10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 4 p.m. Energy Week 7 p.m. Selectboard 10 p.m. Energy Week, Public Affairs	Thursday, March 27 8 a.m. Congregational Service 12 p.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 8 p.m. Energy Week 9:30 p.m. Eckankar 12 p.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs Channel 1091 Through the Night: Music, Arts and Nature Programs Friday, March 21 6 a.m. Yoga 7 a.m. Tai Chi 7:30 a.m. Sharpe Takes 9:30 a.m. Foltz Studio 10:40 a.m. Author Talk: Kevin Graffagnino - The Other Brother - Ira Allen 12:30 p.m. School Board Meeting/s 6:30 p.m. Exploring the Extremes of Astronomy Saturday, March 22 5 a.m. Foltz Studio (1:00) 6 a.m. Extremes of Astronomy 7:05 a.m. Sharpe Takes 10:35 a.m. Ira Allen 12:30 p.m. School Board Meeting/s	5:35 p.m. Special Olympics 7:45 p.m. Jamtones in Ireland 8:45 p.m. Foltz Studio Sunday, March 23 5 a.m. Jamtones in Ireland 6 a.m. Yoga 7 a.m. Tai Chi 8 a.m. Foltz Studio 9 a.m. School Board Meeting/s 2:25 p.m. Special Olympics 4:33 p.m. Jamtones in Ireland 5:30 p.m. Sharpe Takes 6:05 p.m. Meet the Author, Bill Schubart 7 p.m. All Things LGBTQ 8 p.m. Extremes of Astronomy Monday, March 24 5 a.m. All Things LGBTQ 6 a.m. Sharpe Takes 6:45 a.m. Tai Chi 7:10 a.m. Chair Yoga 9 a.m. School Board Meeting/s 5 p.m. Foltz Studio 6:05 p.m. Sharpe Takes 11 p.m. Sharpe Takes Tuesday, March 25 5 a.m. Sharpe Takes	5:35 a.m. Tai Chi 6 a.m. Chair Yoga 12 p.m. School Board Meeting/s 4:30 p.m. Tai Chi 5 p.m. Sharpe Takes 5:35 p.m. Special Olympics 7:40 p.m. No Nonsense Gardening 8 p.m. Meet Bill Schubart 8:30 p.m. Ira Allen Wednesday, March 26 5 a.m. Ira Allen 6:35 a.m. Tai Chi 7 a.m. Chair Yoga 4 p.m. All Things LGBTQ 5 p.m. School Board Meeting/s Thursday, March 27 5:30 a.m. Foltz Studio 6:30 a.m. Tai Chi 6:55 a.m. Yoga 8 a.m. School Board Meeting/s 4 p.m. Foltz Studio 5 p.m. All Things LGBTQ 6:15 p.m. Ira Allen 8 p.m. Foltz Studio 10 p.m. Sharpe Takes	

TOP PICK

EXPLORE 18TH-CENTURY VERMONT SAMPLERS

History and textile enthusiasts will be interested to know there will be a virtual presentation on March 25, featuring Ellen Thompson and her talk, "This Needle Work of Mine Doth Tell... Samplers of the Vermont Sampler Initiative." This engaging event, hosted by the Rokeby Museum in Ferrisburgh, will delve into the intricate world of 18th-century samplers, revealing the personal stories and educational experiences of the young women who created them.

The event will take place online from 2-3 p.m. Admission is \$5 for non-members and free for members, but registration is required to attend. For more information and to register, visit rokeby.org.

maltvt.org/events.

BEETLEJUICE JR - THE MUSICAL IN BRISTOL. Saturday, March 22, 2 and 7 p.m., Mount Abraham Union High School, Airport Rd. See March 20 listing.

WILLY WONKA JR. IN MIDDLEBURY. Saturday, March 22, 2 p.m., Auditorium, Middlebury Union High School, 73 Charles Ave. See March 20 listing.

9 TO 5 IN VERGENNES. Saturday, March 22, 3 p.m., Auditorium, Vergennes Union High School, Monkton Rd. See March 20 listing.

"THE ABSOLUTE BRIGHTNESS OF LEONARD PELKEY" ON STAGE IN MIDDLEBURY. Saturday, March 22, 2 and 7:30 p.m., Anderson Studio Theater, Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. See March 21 listing.

SUNDAY, MARCH 23

"FOUR HEBREW PROPHETS: OBADIAH" LECTURE IN MIDDLEBURY. Sunday, March 23, noon, St. Stephen's Church, 3 Main St. In the final lecture in a four-part series on four biblical books, Shalom Goldman, Professor of Religion at Middlebury College, will explore the historical and cultural context of these Old Testament figures and delve into the timeless relevance of their messages. Free and open to the public. Come early for refreshments.

"THE ABSOLUTE BRIGHTNESS OF LEONARD PELKEY" ON STAGE IN MIDDLEBURY. Sunday, March 23, 2 p.m., Anderson Studio Theater, Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. See March 21 listing.

MY DENTIST'S SON IN FERRISBURGH. Sunday, March 23, 3 p.m., Ferrisburgh Town Hall and Community Center, Route 7. Ferrisburgh Union Meeting Hall will hold its next storytelling session. The group will explore the joyous moments that appear in our lives with supportive reflections by those who

attend. For more information, visit www.mydentistsson.com.

9 TO 5 IN VERGENNES. Sunday, March 23, 3 p.m., Auditorium, Vergennes Union High School, Monkton Rd. See March 20 listing.

CHORAL EVENSONG IN MIDDLEBURY. Sunday, March 23, 4 p.m., St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 3 Main St. Late 19th and early 20th century English music by Edward Elgar, John Ireland and T. Tertius Noble will be featured in Evensong, a meditative offering by the Choir of St. Stephen's.

TUESDAY, MARCH 25

VERMONT SAMPLER INITIATIVE VIRTUAL PRESENTATION. Tuesday, March 25, 3 p.m., Zoom. Join Rokeby in meeting the young ladies of 18th-century Vermont who tell us of their stories in the samplers they stitched. Ellen Thompson, project manager for the Vermont Sampler Initiative, will

present on these young women, their place in history, their education, and how they expressed themselves in their embroidery. For registration and link visit www.rokeby.org.

"RAUSCHENBERG'S WHITE PAINTINGS (1951): A CATALOGUE RAISONNÉ CASE STUDY" IN MIDDLEBURY. Tuesday, March 25, 4:30 p.m., Room 125, Mahaney Arts Center, 72 Porter Field Rd. On Oct. 18, 1951, Robert Rauschenberg wrote a letter to his gallerist, Betty Parsons, announcing a new series of work "dealing

with the suspense, excitement, and body of an organic silence." Despite an initially negative reception, his White Paintings have since been recognized as a critical precursor to Conceptualism and Minimalism. Free and open to the public.

MILK AND HONEY QUILTERS GUILD MEETING IN MIDDLEBURY. Tuesday, March 25, 6 p.m., American Legion, 49 Wilson Rd. Three of our members will offer different 20-minute demos of techniques and tips, including Bojagi, a traditional Korean textile art; techniques for making multiple half-square triangles and also using new techniques; and "Clammy" rulers by Latifa Saafir and show how to use it and what you can do with them.

THURSDAY, MARCH 27

TRUE CRIME PODCAST CLUB IN MIDDLEBURY. Thursday, March 27, 6 p.m., back room, Mini IIsley, 30 Main St. This month's podcast is S-Town, an investigative look at a man named John who despises his Alabama town and decides to do something about it. Join fellow amateur sleuths for the discussion. Listen to this month's podcast on your own before the discussion. For participants 18+.

FRIDAY, MARCH 28

MUHS STUDENT ART EXHIBITION RECEPTION IN MIDDLEBURY. Friday, March 28, 5-6:30 p.m., Jackson Gallery, Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. Come meet IB Visual Arts students as they showcase their artwork from Middlebury Union High School developed over two years. Live music and light refreshments.

BLOOM & GROW: MCMC STUDENT

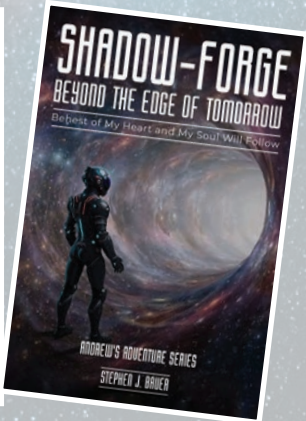
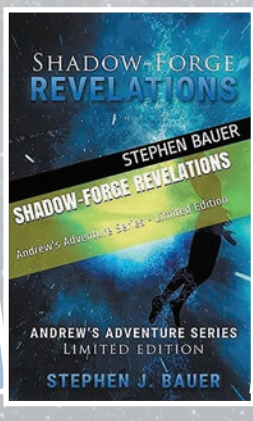
BENEFIT CONCERT IN MIDDLEBURY. Friday, March 28, 6:30 p.m., Champlain Valley Unitarian Universalist Society, 2 Duane Ct. Welcome the season of renewal with an inspiring performance by the students of the Middlebury Community Music Center. Part of a year-long celebration of MCMC's 10th Anniversary. Pay-What-You-Can Tickets, available at tinyurl.com/23mugwk7.

ISIDORE STRING QUARTET IN MIDDLEBURY. Friday, March 28, 7:30 p.m., Robison Hall, Mahaney Arts Center, 72 Porter Field Rd. Making their Middlebury debut, the Isidore String Quartet are winners of a 2023 Avery Fisher Career Grant and the 14th Banff International String Quartet Competition. Their concert program "Unrequited" explores the intersection of treasured classics and contemporary perspectives, providing a winding path into the complicated labyrinth of human compassion and love, featuring works by Mozart, Beethoven and Billy Childs. Free, live and streaming. More info at go.middlebury.edu.

BILLY + THE JETS: AN ELTON JOHN & BILLY JOEL TRIBUTE IN MIDDLEBURY. Friday, March 28, 7:30-10 p.m., Main Stage, Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. Billy + The Jets performs greatest hits of two songwriting and piano-playing legends that will have audience members dancing and singing along (though sitting and observing is welcome too!). This Massachusetts-based band has developed an enthusiastic following for good reason. Don't miss the band's Vermont premiere! Cash bar available throughout the event. Tickets \$20 adult/\$15 student, available at townhalltheater.org.

Science Fiction Books
by Local Vermont Author, Stephen J. Bauer
This book series is about a boy with ADHD and a special connection with the universe, covering ages 13 to 20.

It has a paranormal flare as he is enlisted by a celestial entity to the Guild of the Shadow-Forge, whose mission is to maintain order in the universe. His powers allow him to project himself into the astral realm of existence, where he commits to most of his adventures.

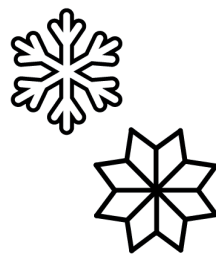


Purchase your copy on Amazon or at Barnes and Noble!

timothyclark.com/classeshome.html
More info

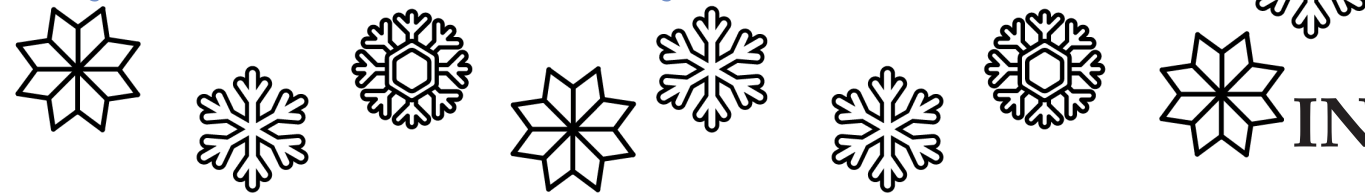


2025 Mid-Winter Coloring & Decorating Contest

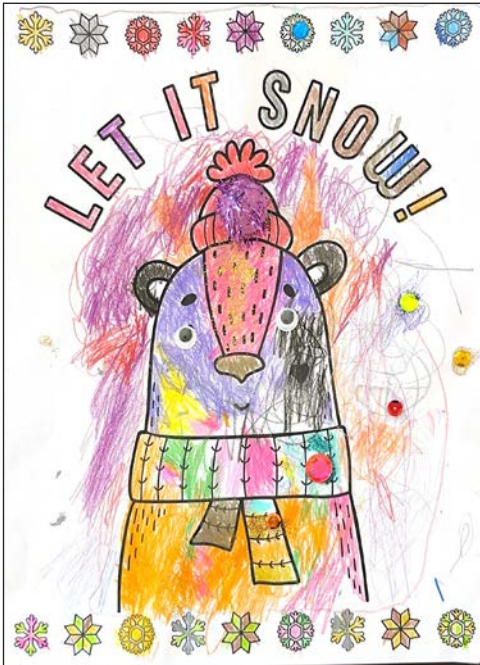


Thank you to all who participated in our Winter Coloring & Decorating Contest! From rhinestones and pompoms to stamps and glitter, we were thrilled to see so many creative entries. As usual, picking just twelve winners was tricky.

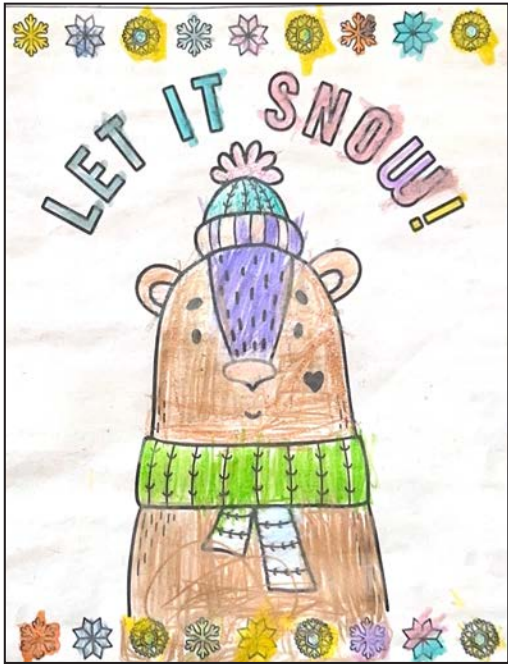
Congratulations to the following winners:



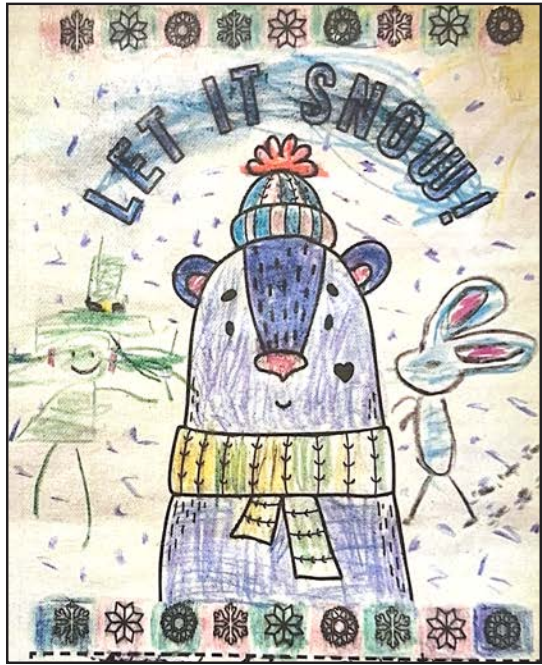
ADDISON COUNTY
INDEPENDENT



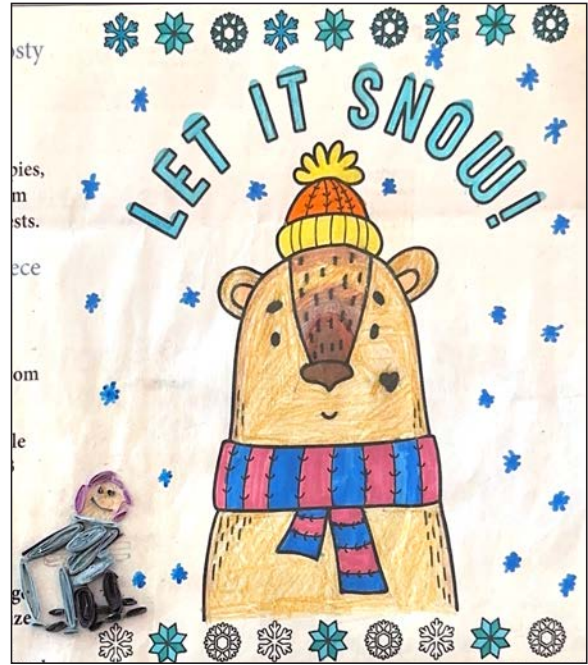
Evander Cseh, Middlebury
Age 4



Josie Deppman, Cornwall
Age 4



Alta Wheland, Middlebury
Age 6



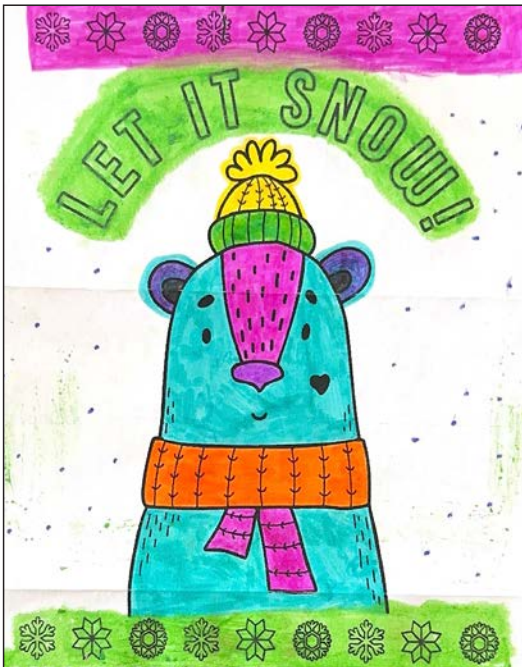
Elka Przyperhart, Middlebury
Age 10



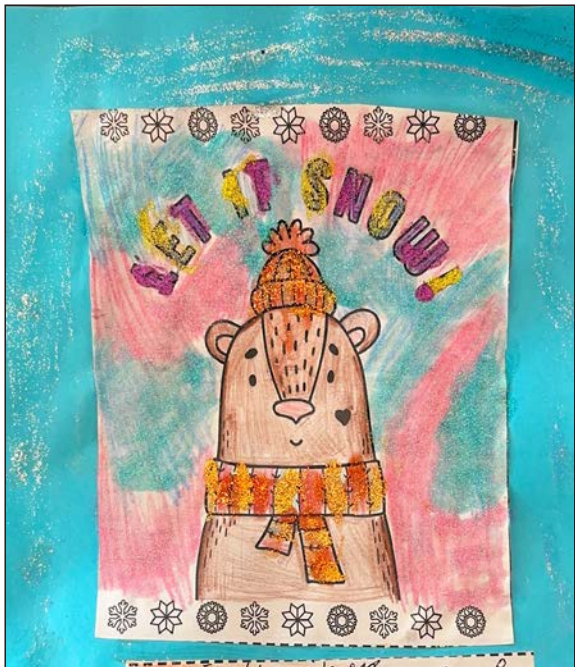
Nora Bergevin, Cornwall
Age 11



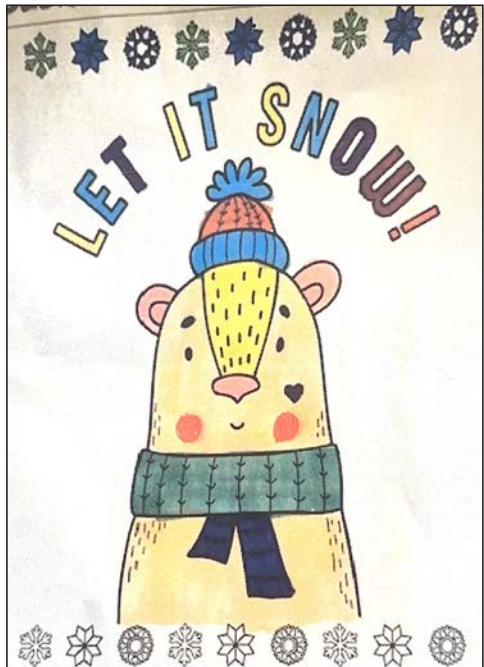
Autumn Spritzer, Middlebury
Age 13



Nora Zeno, Starksboro
Age 6



Evette Wilson, Middlebury
Age 8



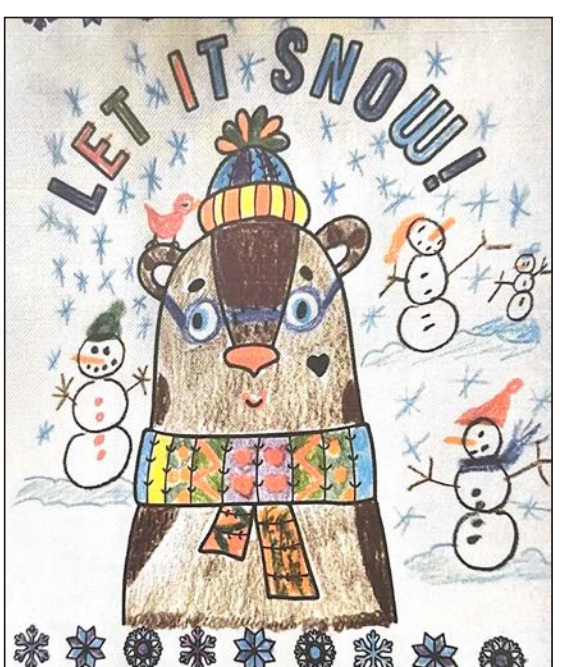
Owen Cash, Ripton
Age 8



Sam Kervick, Cornwall
Age 12



Deanna Willenbaker, Vergennes
Adult



Erin Therrien, Brandon
Adult

Thank you to our sponsors for their support:



Swing by our office at 58 Maple Street,
Middlebury, between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m.,
to claim your artwork and prizes by
Monday, March 31st.



PUZZLES

sponsored by SPARROW ART SUPPLY

ACROSS

1. Take heed

5. One's superior

9. Prepped meat

11. Tighten anew

13. Type of textile fiber

15. Animalistic

16. When you hope to get somewhere

17. Offender

19. Former NYC mayor Ed

21. Type of cryptocurrency

22. Mauna __, Hawaiian volcano

23. Herring-like fish

25. Popular PBS program
26. Congressman (abbr.)

27. Flightless Australian birds

29. Defrosted

31. Prior Yankee sensation Kevin

33. Nasal mucus

34. Some are southern

36. A place to construct

38. Popular beer brand

39. Shouts of farewell

41. Network of nerves

43. Make a mistake

44. Showed old movie

46. Body parts

48. A divisor

52. Congressional investigatory body

53. Papers

54. Most unnatural

56. Judge the worth of something

57. Makes sounds while sleeping

58. Which

59. Hungarian Violinist

DOWN

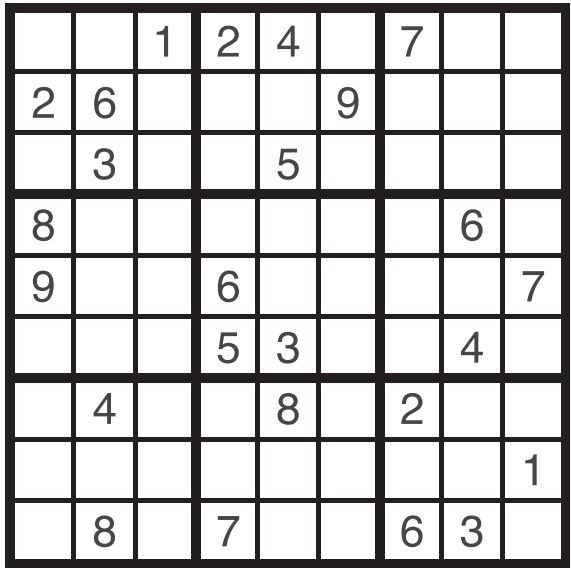
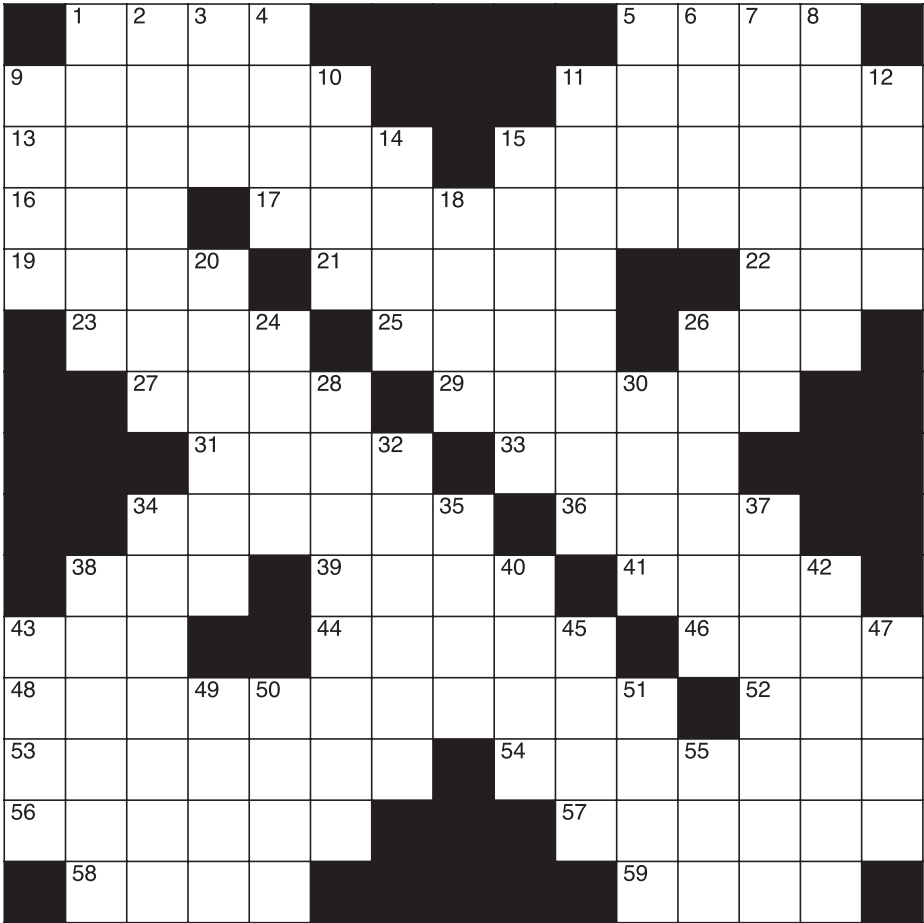
1. Pages

2. Head pain

3. A loud utterance

4. Large brown seaweed

5. Hulu's chef Carmine



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

6. Greek mountain

7. Made final

8. Bar

9. Tai subgroup

10. What you eat

11. Teaches again

12. Small constellation

14. Type of berry

15. Cows fattened for meat

18. A way to hoof it

20. Exaggerated a role
24. About two

26. Long upholstered seat

28. What employees earn

30. Fiber from a coconut husk

32. Digits

34. Polish by rubbing

35. Liquid body substances

37. Furniture with open shelves
38. Edible part of a chicken

40. Satisfy

42. Tool used to remove

43. Icelandic poems

45. Swiss village

47. Drunks

49. Evergreen plant genus

50. Light precipitation

This week's puzzle solutions can be found on Page 12.

SPARROW ART SUPPLY

44 Main St
Middlebury, VT 05753
(802) 989-7225

Tuesday - Saturday
10:30AM - 5:30PM

info@sparrowartsupply.com
sparrowartsupply.com
@sparrowartsupply

VISIT OUR GALLERY FOR

ALL THAT GLITTERS

A dazzling display of shimmer, shine, and sparkle!
Featuring work by nearly 40 local artists

NOW OPEN THROUGH APRIL 5!

Visit sparrowartsupply.com to learn more





Sweet Scooter

This is Scooter our year old, blue-point mitted Ragdoll. She is indeed a very curious explorer and enjoys being carried about in any willing arms. As is typical for Ragdolls, she has a very quiet and sweet temperament. Her long fur is silky soft and she has blue eyes. Scooter also enjoys "zooming" about with her older sister, Frankie, also a Ragdoll.

Mark & Jane Smith
Brandon

Pet of the WEEK

Send us a picture
of your pet!

news@addisonindependent.com

Bringing Essential Veterinary Care to You & Your Pet!



Addison County
Mobile Veterinary Services

NEW HAVEN RABIES CLINIC

With Dr. Megan Swasey, DVM
Peggy Hoare, Veterinary Nurse
Deb Orvis, Client Services Rep.

Sat., March 22 • 9:00 - 11:00 AM

New Haven Town Clerk's Office

Leashed dogs & cats in carriers - \$25 per pet.

Cash, Check, Credit and Debit accepted

Bring proof of prior vaccinations if available.

(802) 989-3734

meganwaseydvm@gmail.com | addisoncountyvet.com



Paws To Consider

with Dr. Bri Letaw, Medical Director,
Bristol Animal Hospital



Q: My dog has never left Vermont. Why is heartworm prevention still recommended?

A: This is likely due to heartworm positive dogs that are brought up from more southern states for adoption. Mosquitos in the environment take a blood meal from an infected dog and then transfer those baby heartworms to another dog. These baby heartworms then get into the blood stream, go into the heart and become adults who then continue the life cycle. We now see positive dogs who have never left Vermont!



Bristol Animal Hospital, 167 Monkton Rd., Bristol
(802) 588-7387 • <https://bristolvtvet.com>

Pets In Need

HOMEWARD BOUND

Addison County's Humane Society

Billy Bob

Billy Bob came to us as a stray and really wants to continue an outdoor lifestyle. He would be best suited as an indoor/outdoor cat or a working barn cat. Billy can be very affectionate and seeks attention but he also can have his crabby moments. He was recently neutered and we are hoping this will help with his rare attitude problems! Billy is okay with some cats but we are unsure about dogs.



Graham



Hi! I'm Graham! I'm a goofy adolescent trying to navigate life with my long legs. At only 1 year old, I'm still working on my manners. I know some basic commands and absolutely love to snuggle. Although I'm 55 pounds, I think I'm a lap dog and will happily sit with you and give kisses. Squeaky toys are real fun and I'm very treat-motivated. I did not get along with the cats in my previous home. I would probably be fine with older teenagers. My history with other dogs is unknown.

Maggie

Hi! I'm Maggie! I may seem shy at first, but I adore people once I've gotten to know them. At only 47 pounds, I'm a perfect petite pittie waiting for a lap to cuddle on. I don't get along with other dogs. My history with cats and kids is unknown. I'm housebroken, and love treats and my toys. Give me pets, and I will be your forever friend.



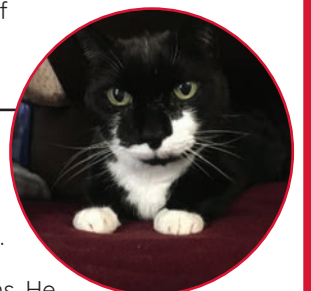
Missy



Hi! I'm Missy! A 1-year-old heeler mix full of energy. I came to the shelter as a stray, so staff has no history of me. I'm a smart, athletic pup and I would love to have a job of some sort or learn to do agility or other training form. I'm a fast learner! I love people but can be stressed around other dogs in the shelter. With the proper introduction, I can warm up to other dogs. My history with cats and children is unknown. I'm still young and need a family that is willing to help me work on my puppy manners. I need a home with a lot of patience and love!

Rockie

Rockie is a sweet old gentleman who is looking for a home where he can get all the love he deserves. He is very affectionate and likes to purr and roll around while being pet. Rockie is in great health for his age and has no current medical concerns. He has lived with other cats but we are unsure about dogs.



Homeward Bound
Addison County's Humane Society



Want to learn more?

Call or check our website. We may have a pet for you!
802-388-1100 | HomewardBoundAnimals.org
236 Boardman Street | Middlebury, VT

An Elton John and Billy Joel tribute takes the stage at Town Hall Theater

On Saturday, March 28, Town Hall Theater presents the live music hits of Elton John and Billy Joel, played by beloved Massachusetts-based band Billy + The Jets. This evening concert, which celebrates the songwriting and piano-playing-genius of two music legends, is sponsored and presented in partnership with WVTK-92.1FM Radio.

This show will have audience members dancing and singing along (though sitting and observing is welcome too!) Find out why this band has developed an enthusiastic following, and don't miss their Vermont premiere.

"There are concerts that showcase the brilliance of THT's baby grand Steinway piano. The work of John and Joel — exceptional piano men — will be on mind-blowing display by Billy + The Jets talented pianist," said THT Executive & Artistic Director Lisa Mitchell. "Sharing the experience of these beloved tunes with fellow audience members is sure to send spirits soaring."

Dance floor and seating available. Cash bar available throughout the event.

The concert will run from 7:30-10 p.m. Tickets range from \$15-\$20 and may be purchased via townhalltheater.org, or at the THT box office from Monday-Friday from 12-5 p.m., or via phone at 802-382-9222.



Billy + The Jets will perform at Town Hall Theater in Middlebury on Saturday, March 28, from 7:30-10 p.m.

COURTESY PHOTO



The Champlain Philharmonic Orchestra will perform at Middlebury's Town Hall Theater on March 29. COURTESY PHOTO

DIANA

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

"the effervescent brilliance and passionate sweetness of her playing" and added that "her virtuoso playing was rich in nuances."

Fanning has performed numerous times as a concerto soloist with the Vermont Symphony Orchestra. Vermont Public Television featured her in a program of works by Scarlatti, Ravel and Chopin. Radio audiences throughout New England and Canada hear her frequently in live and taped performances over Vermont Public Radio, and she has also performed live on "Morning Pro Musica" (WGBH-FM) Boston and on WNYC, New York City.

Also on the program will be a silent film score called "Two Balloons," which is an adaption of a 10-minute animated love story between two Lemurs. The piece will be played to a projection of the silent film. Keeping tradition of showcasing a Vermont Composer at each concert the program also includes "Among the Hidden," composed by Vermont's own Patricia Julian. They will also perform "Ritual Fire Dance" by Manuel De Falla and Borodin's Symphony No. 3, a lesser-played symphony that was unfinished due to Borodin's death and was later completed by Glazunov.

CPO is a resident company of Town Hall Theater. The musicians of the Champlain Philharmonic come from diverse backgrounds, but all share a passionate love of music making.

Tickets to the THT concert range from \$5-\$15 and may be purchased via townhalltheater.org, in person at the THT box office from Monday-Friday from 12-5 p.m., or by calling 802-382-9222.

PUZZLE

SOLUTIONS

MARCH 20, 2025

ADD YOUR PIECE!

BE THE NEXT SPONSOR OF THE PUZZLE PAGE.

EMAIL CHRISTY@ADDISONINDEPENDENT.COM TO FIND OUT HOW.

R	E	C	K			B	O	S	S						
S	E	A	R	E	D		R	E	S	E	A	L			
A	C	R	Y	L	I	C		B	E	A	S	T	L	Y	
E	T	A		P	E	R		P	E	T	R	A	T	O	R
K	O	C	H		T	A	L	E	R		L	O	A		
	S	H	A	D		N	O	V	A		S	E	N		
		E	M	U	S		D	E	I	C	E	D			
			M	A	A	S		S	N	O	T				
		B	E	L	L	E	S		S	I	T	E			
	B	U	D		A	V	E	S		R	E	T	E		
E	R	R		R	E	R	A	N		E	A	R	S		
D	E	N	O	M	I	N	A	T	O	R		G	A	O	
D	A	I	L	I	E	S		E	E	R	I	E	S	T	
A	S	S	E	S	S			S	N	O	R	E	S		
T	H	A	T						A	U	E	R			

5	9	1	2	4	3	7	8	6
2	6	8	1	7	9	4	5	3
4	3	7	8	5	6	1	2	9
8	7	3	9	1	4	5	6	2
9	5	4	6	2	8	3	1	7
6	1	2	5	3	7	9	4	8
7	4	6	3	8	1	2	9	5
3	2	9	4	6	5	8	7	1
1	8	5	7	9	2	6	3	4



THE HOME

A LOOK AT ADDISON COUNTY PROPERTIES FOR SALE

Easy Middlebury living on Fields Rd

Bright and sunny spaces throughout a well-laid floor plan invite you from room to room; there is a simple grace in a home with the rooms in all the right places! Enter into a generous mudroom complete with a guest bath. A semi-formal dining room space welcomes large gatherings around the table. A delightful living room invites you to cozy up near the gas fireplace, and a large eat-in kitchen adjacent to a more casual sitting area round out a variety of spaces to enjoy each other's company. The primary suite offers a private bath with a large jetted tub and stall shower with three additional bedrooms with a bathroom to share between them. The lower level of the home is partially finished, and with natural light from large window wells, your living space has expanded exponentially—make it an exercise room, media or rec room, workspace, or home office (it's even plumbed for a half bath should you wish to install one). With roof-mounted solar reducing your electric costs to just about the monthly maintenance fee, access to the Trail Around Middlebury, playing fields, the Middlebury Recreation Center, fitness studios, and all the amenities you'll need just out the front door, this Fields Road home is ready for living!



*This week's property is managed by IPJ Real Estate.
More info at middvermontrealestate.com.*





MIDDLEBURY NEW LISTING!
70 FIELDS ROAD
MLS #5032355 | \$599,000
4 BD | 3 BD | 3072 SF | 0.37 AC

Bright and sunny days ahead for you in this two-story village home. Semi-formal dining, cozy living room with gas fireplace, and an eat-in kitchen on the main level. Upstairs you'll find a primary suite with a private bath including a large jetted tub and stall shower, three additional bedrooms and a 2nd bathroom. Half of the lower level is finished, currently serving as an exercise/media room. Plenty of natural light through window wells makes this basement ready for hobbies, an office, or workspace (it's even plumbed for an additional bathroom). Roof mounted solar and next door to the Trail Around Middlebury, Recreation Center, and playing fields!



MIDDLEBURY NEW LISTING!
102B COURT STREET
MLS #5032208 | \$220,000
720 SF | COMMERCIAL

Move your office out of the home! Second floor commercial condo with four offices, shared half bath, small kitchenette, attic storage, and three designated parking spaces. Convenient, high-visibility location!



ORWELL NEW LISTING!
OLD SAW MILL ROAD
MLS #5032178 | \$40,000
5.00 AC

Mostly wooded parcel with lovely mountain views to the east looking over protected land. Located 20 minutes from Middlebury—ready for site work and your imagining!

ipjrealestate.com

34 Main Street, downtown Middlebury
info@ipjrealestate.com | 802.388.4242

REAL ESTATE

MAKE A SPLASH!

Our dedicated sales team can connect you with Addison County homebuyers, sellers & professionals.

ads@addisonindependent.com

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY



creative real estate solutions
IRENE POOLE, REALTOR®



802-989-5563 | IreneVTRE.com

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 as amended which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, national origin, sexual orientation, or persons receiving public assistance, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination."

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertisement for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination, call HUD Toll-free at 1-800-669-9777.

the REAL ESTATE COMPANY of VERMONT

Whether you're looking to sell or ready to buy, let one of our professional and knowledgeable agents get to work for YOU!



Jill Fraga
Broker/Realtor®



Danelle Birong
Broker/Realtor®



Tammy Peterson
Salesperson/Realtor®



www.theRealEstateCompanyVT.com

THREE MAIN STREET | BRISTOL, VERMONT 05443
802.452.6161

Edgewater at the Falls opens new exhibit: 'Translations'

A new exhibit will come to Edgewater Gallery at the Falls on March 21. "Translations" presents a collection from painter Dale Najarian and encaustic mixed media artist Dietlind Vander Schaaf. Using vastly different approaches to capturing ephemeral scenes, Dale and Dietlind both translate their everyday observations into visual poetry. Using photography as a guide to her oil paintings, Dale Najarian depicts the patterns of shadow and light. These highly contrasted images depict the rhythm in quiet moments, much like the encaustic wax paintings of Dietlind Vander Schaaf. Dietlind's interpretation of motion and stillness comes through with textural brush strokes and markings, fused together with heat. Through each of these artist's perspectives, we are moved between moments in a visual dance of color, texture,



"Nadar" by Dietlind Vander Schaaf, 36 x 36, mix media will be on view March 21 at Edgewater Gallery at the Falls.

COURTESY IMAGE

and form. On view March 21-April 26, at Edgewater Gallery at the Falls, One Mill St, Middlebury.

"Shimmer," a solo exhibition of new work by Julia Purinton, is now on view through April 5 at Edgewater Gallery on the Green, 6 Merchants Row, Middlebury.

"Shimmer" presents 19 new oil paintings by Julia Purinton. Julia is a regional painter who understands the unique quality of Vermont's open spaces with its shifting seasonal light, varied terrain and changing palette. She captures an emotional response to her surroundings through gentle tones and a hazy painterly application. The result creates a dreamlike impression of the landscape. Julia presents this body of work at a time that she feels we need to remember the healing abilities of the natural world.

EXHIBITS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

strewn fields, or floating in the Mediterranean Sea — tell the stories of young women through portraits taken throughout

Lebanon, France, Egypt, and the United States. On view Feb. 14-April 20.

"MuseumLAB: Teaching with the Collection." Each year, professors in departments ranging from Classics to Economics teach hundreds of students in the largest classroom on campus: the Middlebury College Museum of Art. Discussing art produced throughout history and around the globe offers students perspective on the topic at hand — and space to reflect on their own place in today's

complex world. On view Jan. 17-April 20.

PHOTOPLACE GALLERY

3 Park Street, Middlebury

For more info visit photoplacegallery.com.

"Portraiture: Unveiling Identity" explores portraits that transcend the surface, revealing the often-hidden dimensions of identity. Juror Jeff Curto selected approximately 35 images for exhibition in the Middlebury gallery, and 40 more for the

online gallery. On view March 7-28.

SPARROW ART SUPPLY

44 Main St., Middlebury

For more info visit sparrowartsupply.com

"All That Glitters." Featuring nearly 40 local artists, this New Year showcase highlights eye-catching metallics, iridescence, and the play of light, with works that span subtle, soft glints to bold, radiant statements. On view through April 5.

**BERKSHIRE
HATHAWAY
HOMESERVICES**

**VERMONT REALTY
GROUP**

**the real estate experts
good to know!**

REALTOR DEB HILLMAN'S "GOOD TO KNOW" ADVICE OF THE WEEK A BUYER AGENT REPRESENTS THE BUYER AND THEIR BEST INTERESTS.

In Vermont, real estate agents cannot represent both the buyer and the seller in the same transaction.

Using a BUYER AGENT dedicated to representing you, the buyer, is an advantage for navigating the buying process.

The professional agents at **BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY HOMESERVICES VERMONT REALTY GROUP** provide expert advice for property values and negotiate purchase offers with the best protections and the best terms for our buyers, ensuring full representation and transparency.



DEB HILLMAN
802-989-2962

debhillman@vtregroup.com

32 MERCHANTS ROW
MIDDLEBURY, VERMONT

WWW.VTREGROUP.COM
(802) 388-9836



**PRINT OR DIGITAL
READ THE
ADDY INDY**

SUBSCRIBE

ADDISONINDEPENDENT.COM

FILM SCREENING

Climate-based 'Cresta Alta Film Tour' makes a stop in Ferrisburgh

The "Cresta Alta Film Tour" will make a stop in Ferrisburgh on its multi-state tour. The tour features Risan Media's expedition-based climate change documentary film, "Cresta Alta," which chronicles a journey to Alaska, Iceland, Chile and Peru to document glaciological research expeditions and sustainability.

The Risan Project starts the show with a screening of Risan Media's short documentary film, "Northward," which shares

the origin story of Todd Anders Johnson's socially-conscious, Colorado band, "Salem," while touring and backcountry snowboarding throughout Alaska.

The screenings are followed by a discussion and Q&A with producer/director, Todd Anders Johnson, and will take place Friday, March 21, at 7 p.m., at the Ferrisburgh Town Hall.

This event is hosted by the Friends of the Union Meeting Hall. Tickets are \$15 in advance. To purchase tickets or to view the documentary trailer or website, visit unionmeetinghall.org/programming-and-events.

WHEN: Friday, March 21, 7 p.m.
WHERE: Ferrisburgh Town Hall



A still from the film "Cresta Alta," which chronicles a journey to Alaska, Iceland, Chile and Peru to document glaciological research expeditions and sustainability. This film will screen at the Ferrisburgh Town Hall on Friday, March 21, at 7 p.m.

COURTESY PHOTO

Unique and classic Vermont! Fairview Farm is converted dairy barn that is a real treasure. This property is located on West street in beautiful Cornwall, just a few miles from Middlebury College. The westerly Adirondack views are amazing and the sunsets are spectacular. The property is currently used as two separate units with two bedrooms each but can easily transition to a single unit with ample living space. There are many bonus rooms and storage areas that make the house live large. The smaller barn has a two garage bays and is partially insulated upstairs. You could finish the second floor for additional living space or continue to use as storage. There are many options for this property. We invite you to come and take a look.



1465 WEST ST., CORNWALL
MLS #5032049 - \$635,000

This lovely parcel of land has just been subdivided from a larger parcel. There is a very nice open area closer to the road and a large, wooded area behind. There are lovely Adirondack views! The land is in current use, but owner is redoing the current use plan and will leave a 2-acre building site out of current use. Easy access to Chittenden County and the Middlebury area.



SOUTH ST., NEW HAVEN
MLS #5008036 - \$295,000

This lovely, light-filled condo is in an over-55 community. It is nicely set-up for growing older with everything on one floor, and even includes an attached garage. There are 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, and a sunny office/library, as well as large living area with propane stove. There are walking paths and easy access to all the wonderful features found in a small college town in Vermont. You have access to all the great programs provided in this vibrant Retirement Community.



9 ELIZABETH COURT, MIDDLEBURY
MLS #5031770 - \$395,000

This charming split-level home is situated on a sprawling 2.42-acre lot in the peaceful town of Salisbury, offering both privacy and convenience. Property features 2 bedrooms on the upper level and 2 on the lower level, a full bathroom upstairs and a 3/4 bathroom downstairs, ensuring comfort and functionality for all. The finished basement adds even more potential, perfect for a home office, entertainment area, or additional living space. Outside, you'll find plenty of room for outdoor activities, gardening, or simply enjoying the serene surroundings. Ideally located just minutes from the picturesque Lake Dunmore where you can enjoy many water activities, and a variety of scenic hiking trails. Only 7 miles to Middlebury, this property offers a perfect blend of natural beauty and local amenities.



647 UPPER PLAINS RD., SALISBURY
MLS #5031520 - \$400,000

Champlain Valley Properties

70 Court Street, Middlebury, VT
802-989-7522 | ChamplainValleyProperty.net

